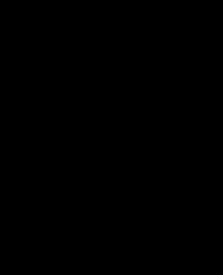

Athena Parthenos in Nashville and Athens



The Parthenon on the acropolis in Athens was an architectural and sculptural masterpiece, with soaring columns, a spacious cella, figured metopes, friezes and pedimental sculptures. Unfortunately, what remains on the acropolis now, after the passage of over 2400 years (with consequent erosion and pollution damage), conversion to a church, a mosque and, most disastrously, an ammunition dump, and dispersion of much of the art to world museums, is a pale image of what once was. The only positive gain as a result of the deterioration of the marble (mainly from the rusting of iron reinforcing rods) is that archaeologists working on restorations have had to take the temple apart block by block and have often discovered new facts about the building - e.g., evidence for some windows, a stairwa q ad
