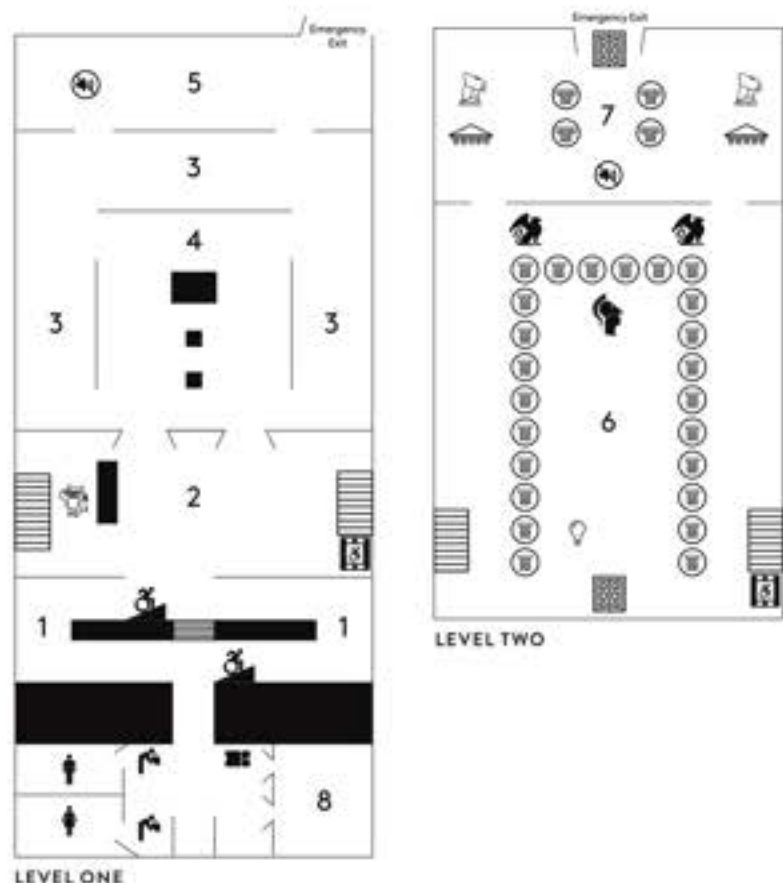


PARTHENON MAP



MAP KEY

- | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|--|---------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| | Ticket Counter | | Athena | | 1 Centennial Exposition Gallery |
| | Restrooms | | Bronze Doors | | 2 Gallery Lobby |
| | Accessible Route | | Doric Column | | 3 Cowan Gallery |
| | Elevator | | Ionic Column | | 4 East Gallery |
| | Stairs | | Gryphon | | 5 West Gallery |
| | Water Fountain | | Parthenon Casts | | 6 Naos |
| | Bright Lights | | Pediment Maquettes | | 7 Treasury |
| | | | Kidsville Activity Corner | | 8 Museum Store |

CENTENNIAL PARK HISTORY

Centennial Park is a vibrant urban green space that is a significant part of Nashville's cultural and recreational history. Though there were no known permanent Native American villages in the area, there were probably small Shawnee, Cherokee, and Chickasaw settlements until several years after the arrival of the first European settlers in the 1780s. In 1783, Centennial Park land was part of a 640-acre farm purchased for \$0.50 an acre by pioneers John and Ann Robertson Cockrill. Eventually the land became a fairground and then a racecourse before serving as the site of the 1897 Centennial Exposition celebrating Tennessee's first 100 years of statehood. At the close of the six-month Exposition all the buildings were dismantled except the Parthenon. In 1901 the newly formed Park Board acquired the property and opened it as Centennial Park in 1903. Centennial Park has been Nashville's iconic setting for concerts, art exhibits, festivals, and the beauty of nature for over 100 years.

SUPPORT THE PARTHENON

You can support the Nashville Parthenon by making a donation to the Parthenon Preservation Fund to help us care for the historic building or by becoming a member of Centennial Park Conservancy, the Parthenon's nonprofit support organization that funds 100% of the museum's exhibitions and educational programming. Members receive free Parthenon admission, Museum Store discounts, and other benefits. Learn more at www.nashvilleparthenon.com/support

MUSEUM RULES

- Food, drink, water, and gum are not permitted in the museum.
- Please enjoy the art with your eyes only; touching will cause damage.
- No pets.

MUSEUM ADMISSION (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Centennial Park Conservancy Members: Free
 Adults: \$10.00
 Children/Students (4-17) & Seniors (62+): \$8.00
 Children Under 4: Free

SCAN TO SEE THE MUSEUM HOURS:



SHARE YOUR VISIT

Photography is encouraged!
 #NashvilleParthenon

- @NashvilleParthenon
- @NashParthenon
- NashvilleParthenon



THE PARTHENON



PROGRAMS

For information about daily, weekly, and public programs visit nashvilleparthenon.com/programs

Free Audio Tours

New! Use your own device at any time to hear from museum experts: nashvilleparthenon.com/audio

WiFi

Network:
 Metro Public Wifi

Provided by:
 Centennial Park Conservancy

Learn More: nashvilleparthenon.com

Additional Information:

General Inquiries: 615-862-8431 or info@parthenon.org
 ADA Information: 615-862-8400
 Field Trips & Group Visits: tours@parthenon.org
 Private Event Reservations: events@conservancyonline.com

Nashville Parthenon is owned and operated by the Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation, John Cooper, Mayor



WELCOME

Welcome to the Nashville Parthenon, the only full-scale replica of the ancient Greek temple in the world. The museum has two levels: Level 1 features four galleries; Level 2 is a replica of the Parthenon interior complete with the tallest indoor statue in the Western Hemisphere. Feel free to explore the museum however you wish, but our suggested route ensures you see all the Nashville Parthenon has to offer.



CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION GALLERY 1

Explore the history of the Nashville Parthenon along the ramps.

Organized to celebrate Tennessee's 100th anniversary of statehood, the Tennessee Centennial Exposition offered more than 30 grand pavilions and themed buildings showcasing new technologies, innovations, and educational content. The City of Nashville designed the Fine Arts Building as a full-scale replica of the Parthenon in honor of the city's moniker "Athens of the South"; this Parthenon was constructed of brick, wood lath, and plaster and housed 1,172 works of art from all over the world. In 1920, faced with crumbling pediments and decaying plaster, the city authorized the reconstruction of the landmark with permanent materials. This time, the city created a complete replica of the original Athenian temple, both inside and out. What had been the basement of the 1897 Parthenon became gallery space in order to continue the Nashville Parthenon's mission of exhibiting fine art. On May 21, 1931, the Nashville Parthenon reopened to the public, attracting over 10,000 visitors from 46 states and 12 foreign countries during its first month.

GALLERY LOBBY 2

Before entering the galleries, browse our interactive displays to better understand the Parthenon's history and architecture. A key highlight is the 1933 Athena maquette by Belle Kinney and Leopold Scholz which was displayed in the naos until 1986. Make sure to stop by our Kidsville Activity Corner, a space dedicated to hands-on learning activities for all ages.

COWAN GALLERY 3

The James M. Cowan Collection of American Art is known as one of the finest in the mid-south. It consists of over 60 paintings donated by James Montgomery Cowan. An insurance executive living near Chicago, Cowan returned to his boyhood home in Tennessee for the 1897 Centennial Exposition. Thanks to the warm welcome by Tennesseans and his nostalgia for the state, Cowan began to make private arrangements to donate a select assortment of paintings to be exhibited in the renovated Parthenon. After his death in 1930, his role as the donor of this impressive collection was revealed.

Gallery Highlights

Benjamin West (1738-1820)

Venus and Cupid c. 1765

A self-taught American artist, Benjamin West spent most of his life in England where he was a historical painter for King George III, and later President of the Royal Academy of Art. Inspired by Roman mythology, *Venus and Cupid* is an example of the neoclassical style and was painted just two years after West's arrival in England.

Winslow Homer (1836-1910)

Rob and the Girls (Over the Hills) 1875

One of the greatest American artists of the nineteenth century, Winslow Homer began his career as a commercial illustrator in Boston. After a stint as a Civil War artist-correspondent, he spent the 1870s experimenting with oil paint to render scenes from everyday life; *Rob and the Girls* is typical of the work from this period. In 1883 Homer shifted his focus to maritime subjects painted at his new home in Maine.

Thomas Moran (1837-1926)

Town Pond-Easthampton 1901

Thomas Moran was famous for his idealized landscapes of Wyoming's Yellowstone region and his work influenced Congress to designate it the first national park in 1872. Thirty years later, Moran chose a scene closer to home; *Town Pond-Easthampton* is the view from his back porch in upstate New York.

Hovsep Pushman (1877-1966)

Rose of Shiraz c. 1919

A native of Armenia, Hovsep Pushman was an award-winning painter at Constantinople's Royal Academy of Fine Arts when persecution led his family to move to Chicago in 1896. Though he made his life and career in the United States, Pushman continued to be influenced by the subjects and themes of his homeland and his mentor, Adolphe Döchenaud, encouraged him to incorporate the images and decorative arts of his childhood into his mature work. James Cowan acquired the painting at a 1926 Aurora, Illinois, art exhibition where he met Pushman, and it was subsequently displayed in Mr. Cowan's dining room.

EAST & WEST GALLERIES 4 5

The East and West Galleries offer a series of temporary exhibitions ranging in content from visual art to history and the classical world.

NAOS 6

The naos or cella was the ancient temple's primary space. It housed the enormous statue of Athena, goddess of wisdom, prudent warfare, and the arts, whom the people of Athens regarded as their patron deity. The statue, double rows of Doric columns, and large doors offer a recreation of the 5th century BCE Parthenon.



Athena

The ancient sculpture of Athena was created by Pheidias in the 5th century BCE and was made of ivory and plates of gold fixed to a wooden frame. The modern copy was sculpted by Nashville artist Alan LeQuire between 1982 and 1990. LeQuire's statue is made of gypsum cement, reinforced with fiberglass, on a steel frame and is gilded with 8 pounds of 23.75 carat gold. Athena stands 4'10" tall, from the floor to the top of the center crest on her helmet. The statue of Nike, goddess of victory, in Athena's right hand is 6'4".

TREASURY 7

The treasury in the ancient temple was the place to store valuable offerings dedicated to the goddess and the spoils of war belonging to the city-state of Athens. Originally, there was no access between this room and the naos; doorways were cut when other alterations were made as the building was converted to a church in the 6th century CE.



Ionic Columns

These four columns are in the Ionic order of architecture, recognizable by the scrolled capitals and decorative base.



Bronze Doors

These 24' tall bronze doors weigh 7.5 tons each. The ancient doors were likely made of wood and decorated with bronze, gold, and ivory.



Parthenon Casts

The plaster sculptures are casts of the Parthenon's pediment figures. Casts such as these, taken before the worst damage from pollution occurred, carry important evidence of the original sculptor's intent and skill. This set was purchased to enable sculptors Belle Kinney and Leopold Scholz to recreate the pediments as accurately as possible.



Pediment Maquettes

Above the casts are the maquettes, or models, that sculptors Kinney and Scholz created to work out the placement and spacing of all the figures in the pediments. Each full-size cast is resting on a color that corresponds to the same figure in the maquette.

MUSEUM STORE 8

Find the perfect items to remember your visit to Nashville's most iconic museum. From local products and art prints to mythological toys and unique clothing, the Museum Store has something for all ages.

EXTERIOR & CENTENNIAL PARK 9

- Climb the center steps to explore the colonnade.
- Look up! Architectural details in the columns, coffered ceiling, pediments, and roof will amaze you.
- Enjoy the walking trails around Lake Watauga, the only other surviving feature from the 1897 Centennial Exposition in the park.
- Breathe in the beauty of the Sunken Garden.
- See what's on view or take an art class at the Centennial Art Center.
- Play on the Centennial Park playground.
- Sign up for music, theater, and dance classes at Centennial Performing Arts Studios.
- Visit conservancyonline.com to learn about upcoming festivals and programs taking place in the park.
- View a map of Centennial Park at: nashvilleparthenon.com/centennial-park

