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### ***Identifying the Erechtheion on the Acropolis of Athens***

#### **ABSTRACT**

The house of the mythical king Erechtheus, sometimes called the “Erechtheion,” appears in ancient sources as a major building on the Acropolis of Athens. It has traditionally been recognized in the west part of the Ionic temple with Karyatids on the north side of the citadel. However, as several scholars have shown, this hypothesis relies on a misreading of Pausanias’ account and disregards many other sources. Hence, they conclude that the Erechtheion must be sought outside the Karyatid Temple. After a review of our sources for the Erechtheion and previous scholarship, I offer support for the view that the Erechtheion was not located in the Karyatid Temple. I then consider archaeological and textual evidence to suggest that the Erechtheion should be identified with the building once carried by the Dörpfeld foundations, where many already locate an earlier, pre-Persian incarnation of the Erechtheion.