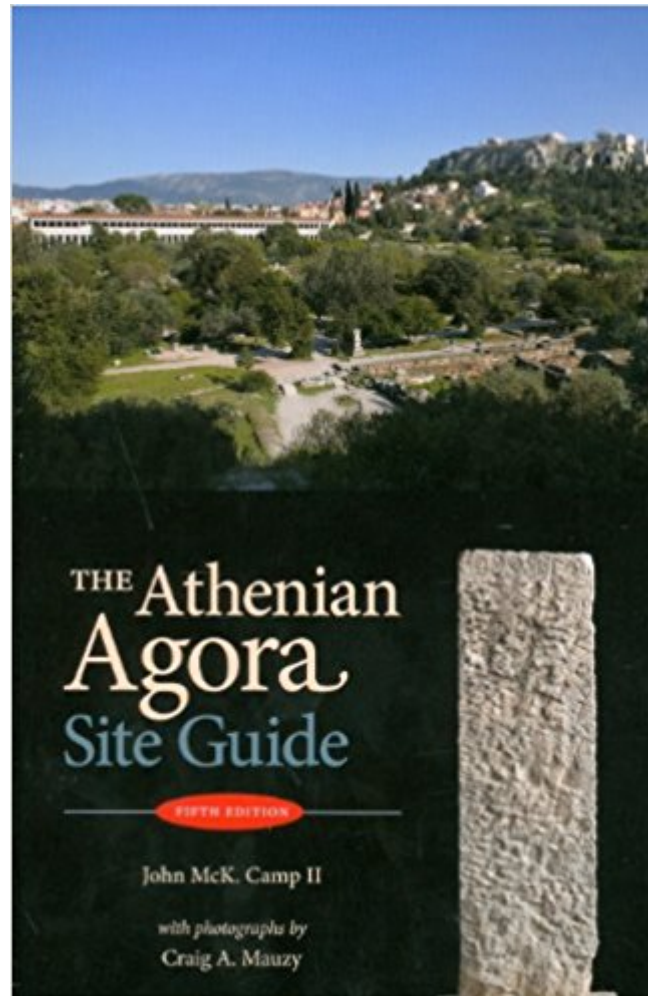




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# The Athenian Agora: Site Guide (5th Ed.)



## Synopsis

This definitive guide to the archaeological remains in the civic and commercial center of ancient Athens is an essential companion to the interested visitor, as well as to students of the topography of the classical city. A large-scale map provides an overview of the site, keyed to descriptions and plans of every monument still visible from the majestic Temple of Hephaistos to the utilitarian Great Drain. The fifth edition retains many of the elements that made the earlier editions so popular, but also takes full account of new discoveries and recent scholarship. It is intended for visitors touring the site, and is arranged topographically, monument by monument. Also included are an overview of the historical development of the site and a history of the excavations. A companion guide to the Agora Museum in the Stoa of Attalos is also available (The Athenian Agora: Museum Guide, by Laura Gawlinski, 2014).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a very useful guidebook to what was once the civic and commercial centre of ancient Athens. The book is well organized and practical. It is small and light, yet it contains all the essential information needed to understand the Agora. The inclusion of maps, photographs (including aerial views), drawings and floor plans renders the identification of monuments easier for the visitor and is truly one of the strengths of this publication. This guidebook is an essential companion to the visitor of this fascinating site.' (Derek T. Irwin Bryn Mawr Classical Review)

John McK. Camp II is Director of Excavations at the Athenian Agora and Professor of Classics at

Randolph-Macon College in Virginia. Craig A. Mauzy is Manager of the Excavations at the Athenian Agora. Craig A. Mauzy is Assistant Director of the American School's Excavations in the Athenian Agora. He is also the project's photographer.

I use this book for my World History class. They are given descriptions of ancient Greek buildings and then have to find them on the Agora map. Challenging, but they all figure it out and they usually enjoy it. Lots of good info about individual buildings.

I have had the pleasure of excavating in Greece (as volunteer slave labor). I spent a good deal of time in the Athenian Agora. I felt that I had come to understand a lot of the layout and history of the location. But this book greatly magnified my understanding of what I had seen. For me, it was WONDERFUL to finally get the full story on the site that I thought I knew. The history of the Agora is very rich. This book will bring it to life for you. I'd give it twenty stars if it were possible.

Written by the director of excavations of the Agora this book excels in a clear overview of what has been discovered about the commercial and social center in ancient Athens, the most important city in ancient Greece. Well known to Archaeologist worldwide John Camp has worked exclusively at this site from his undergraduate days till the present. Not only the best authority. Mr. Camp's writing is lucid and the graphics and reconstructions thru drawings and models allow for easy understanding.

Just as much as the Acropolis was the religious center of ancient Athens, the Agora was its commercial, governmental, and cultural heart. Camp and Renfrew's book finally gives this crucial site the attention and analysis it deserves. The authors draw on the results of over a half-century of archaeological investigation to relate 1500 years of the city's history. From Athens' rise from obscurity in the days of Homer to its flowering as a military/cultural powerhouse in the 5th century, to the Hellenistic Age and the days of the Roman Empire, to the city's slow decline to the status of Byzantine backwater, this book reveals the evolution of the Agora in hundreds of color and black-and-white illustrations which truly breathe life into the ancient stones and the people who knew them. The illustrations are sumptuous, and are the true centerpiece of the book. Scores of photographs illustrate the surviving walls and foundations of the Agora's buildings, and careful, clearly-rendered site plans and architectural elevations enable the reader to readily relate disparate elements of the structures and artifacts to their historical and cultural contexts. Accompanying the illustrations is a clear and lucid text which explains the history and the society that the Agora

reflected and served. I heartily recommend this book to those interested in archaeology, classical Greece, the Roman Empire, and urban planning. Echoing Peter Green's review, it's difficult to conceive that this book could have been done any better, and it is unlikely to be superseded for the foreseeable future.

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