Sevens Wonders of the Ancient World (3)

columns designed altars whether marble government ancient temples fabulous

There was actually more than one Temple of Artemis: A series of several _____ and temples was destroyed and then restored on the same site in Ephesus, a Greek port city on the west coast of modern-day Turkey. The most _____ of these structures were two marble _____ built around 550 B.C. and 350 B.C., respectively. “Apart from Olympus, the Sun never looked on anything so grand,” the writer Antipater of Sidon wrote of the Temple of Artemis at Ephesus.

The original Temple of Artemis was _____ by the Cretan architect Chersiphron and his son Metagenes and decorated by some of the most celebrated artists of the _____ world. The building burned on July 21, 356 B.C., according to legend the same night that Alexander the Great was born. It was torched by a Greek citizen named Herostratus, who claimed he burned the marvel so that his name would be known to history. He was put to death and the _____ declared it illegal to utter his name.

About six years later, the building of the new Temple of Artemis was begun. The new building was surrounded by _____ steps that led to a more than 400-foot-long terrace. Inside stood 127 60-foot marble columns and a statue of Artemis, the Greek Goddess of the hunt. Archeologists disagree as to _____ the building had an open-air ceiling or was topped with wood tiles. The temple was largely destroyed by Ostrogoths in A.D. 262, and it was not until the 1860s that archeologists dug up the first of the ruins of the temple's _____ at the bottom of the Cayster River.

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