

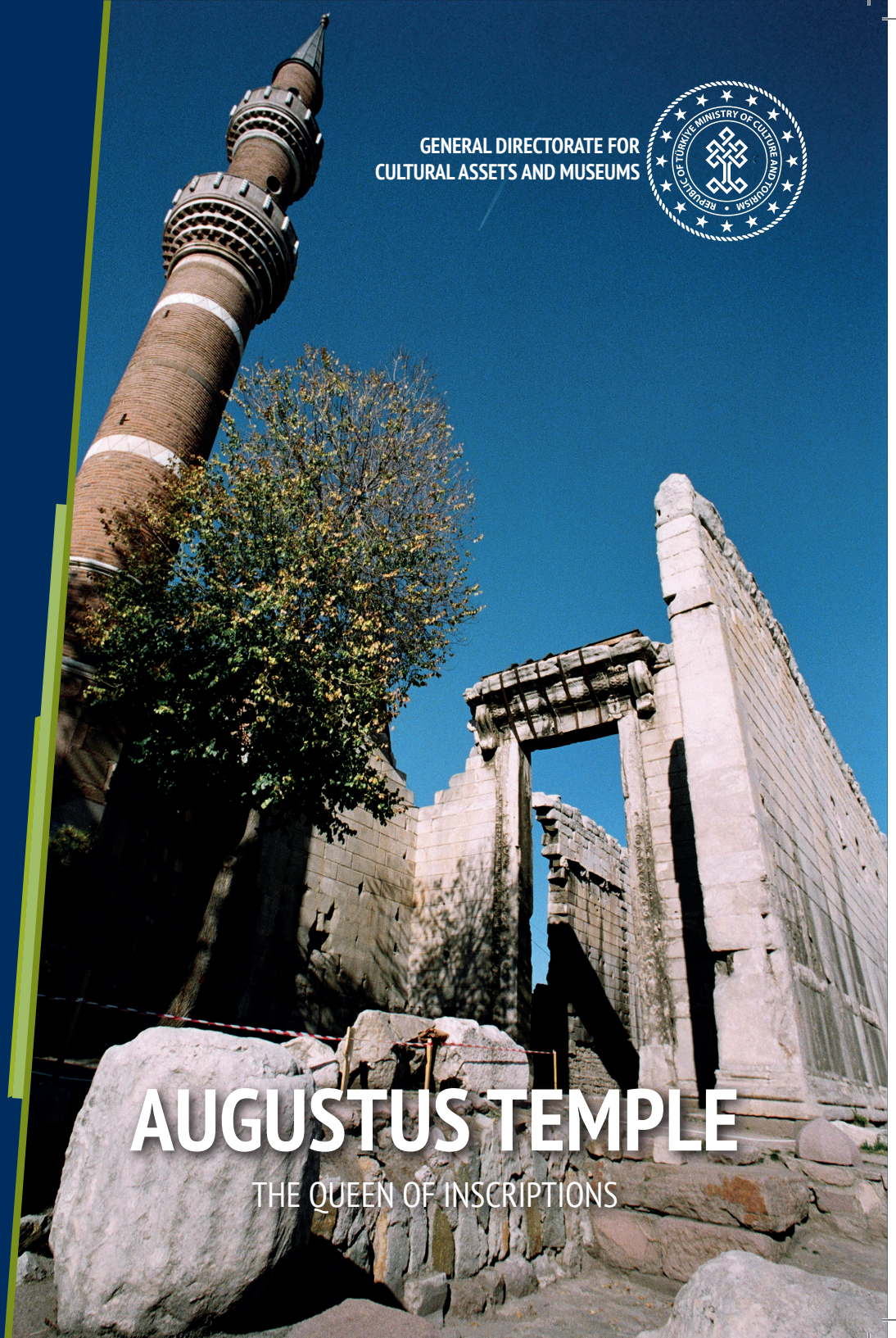
Visiting Hours
 Ankara Augustus Temple is not open to visitors due to security measures. However, viewing it from a distance is possible every hour.
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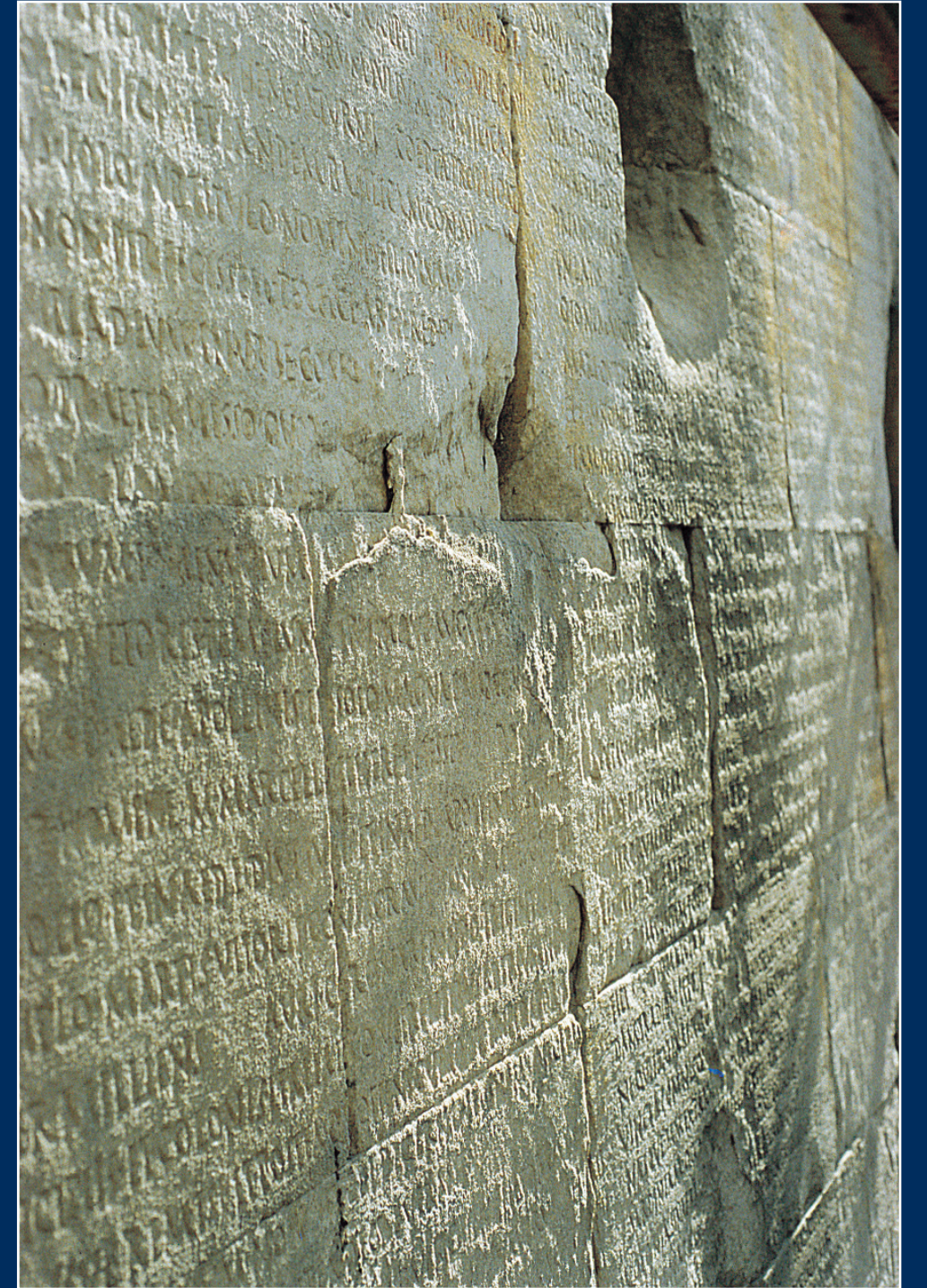
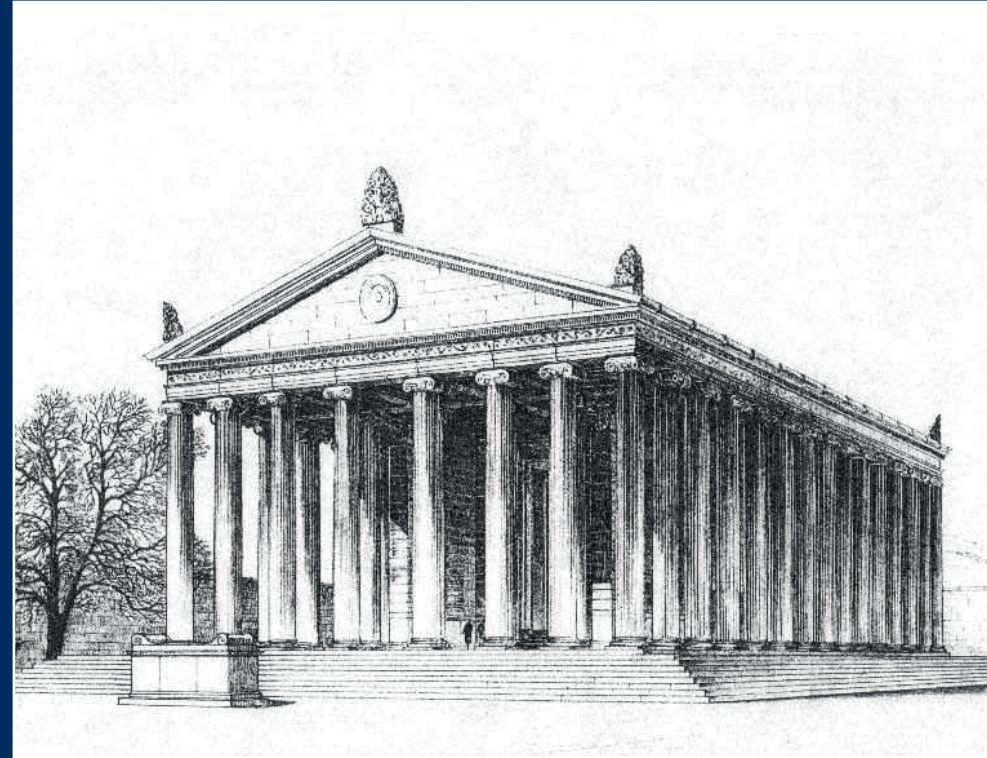
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AUGUSTUS TEMPLE
 THE QUEEN OF INSCRIPTIONS



Roman Augustus Temple, one of the most important buildings of Roman Era in Ankara, was erected in honour of Emperor Augustus and Roma, the local city goddess, in Anchyra (Ankara), the new state capital, after the annexation of Galatia Province by Emperor Augustus (27 BCE-14 CE).

The temple is oriented southwest-northeast, measures 36x54.82 m, has a Corinthian order and a pseudo-dipteral plan, and sits on a pediment about 2 m high, accessed by eight steps. The temple is surrounded by 8 pillars on short sides and 15 pillars on long sides. There are also 4 pillars in pronaos, 2 in antis pillars between two wall projections in the opisthodomos. A great portion of the foundation structures located to the south and south east of the temple today, belong to the peristasis which was perhaps never completed and the crepidoma (multilevel platform).

It is noted that the architecture of the temple underwent some changes in later periods. The temple was converted into a church by the Byzantines in the early 6th century BC. When it was converted into a church, the lower level of the cella was leveled, the wall between the cella and the opisthodomos was removed, an apse was added to the rear of the temple, and three large windows were opened on the southeast wall of the cella.

Hacı Bayram Mosque was built with a connection to northwest corner of the temple between 1427 and 1428. From the early written documents about the temple and an iwan (a three-walled room) added behind the opisthodomos of the temple, as well as thanks to the graffiti written on the walls of the temple, it is assumed that the temple was used as a madrasa for a while after the construction of Hacı Bayram Mosque. The mosque, which has undergone some changes in the course of time, as well as the türbe (shrine) right next to it, is still one of the most important places of prayer in the capital. This hill, on which Hacı Bayram Mosque was also built, was used as a holy area and a place of worship for millenia.

Although a large part of the northwestern wall of the cella was destroyed in 1834, the temple has been kept to a great extent with its pronaos, great gate and cella.

The "Res Gestae Divi Augusti" (The Deeds of The Divine Augustus) inscription which was posthumously inscribed on the walls of Roman Temple of Augustus after death of Roman Empire Augustus (27 BC and 14 AD), is bilingual and painted in red. The Latin version is on the surface of anta walls facing the pronaos of the building, while the Ancient Greek version is engraved on the outer surface of the southeastern wall of the temple's cella and has survived to the present day. Fragments of two other copies of this inscription, called "The Deeds of the Divine Augustus", have also been acquired in Anatolia.

At the end of the northwestern anta-wall is the list of priests, which tells about the priests of the emperor and their deeds during their term of office, and at the end of the southeastern anta-wall is a small inscription about a priest from a slightly older period.

This bilingual inscription, which tells of the achievements of Augustus, is still preserved on this temple in Ankara, and is of great importance in the history of the world. This inscription is not only the only completely preserved copy of the nowlost original inscription in Rome, is also very important archeologically, as it is one of the most valuable documents describing Roman Era.

W. J. Hamilton, C. Humman, O. Puchstein, and T. Mommsen were the first to examine the inscription in the 1800s. Historian and linguist T. Mommsen called the inscription the "The Queen of Inscriptions."