

Lynne C. Lancaster. *Parthian Influence on Vaulting in Roman Greece? An Inquiry into Technological Exchange Under Hadrian*

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Lynne C. Lancaster. « Parthian Influence on Vaulting in Roman Greece? An Inquiry into Technological Exchange Under Hadrian ». *AJA*, 114/3, 2010, p. 447-472.

- 1 In the second century CE, the so-called “pitched brick” vaulting – a technique developed in Egypt and the Near East as early as the third millennium BC – appeared for the first time in Roman architecture in Greece and then spread to Asia Minor. It eventually became a common vaulting technique in Byzantine architecture. The sites of Athens, Eleusis, Dion, Gortyn and Argos are examined to analyze this technique and its variants. The appearance in Greece of Parthian-inspired vaulting techniques – probably introduced by military building experts – during the Hadrianic period should, the author suggests, be examined in relation to the earlier Parthian War under Trajan and the contacts between Rome and the Parthian kings, in particular the new palaces of these kings during the first century CE.

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