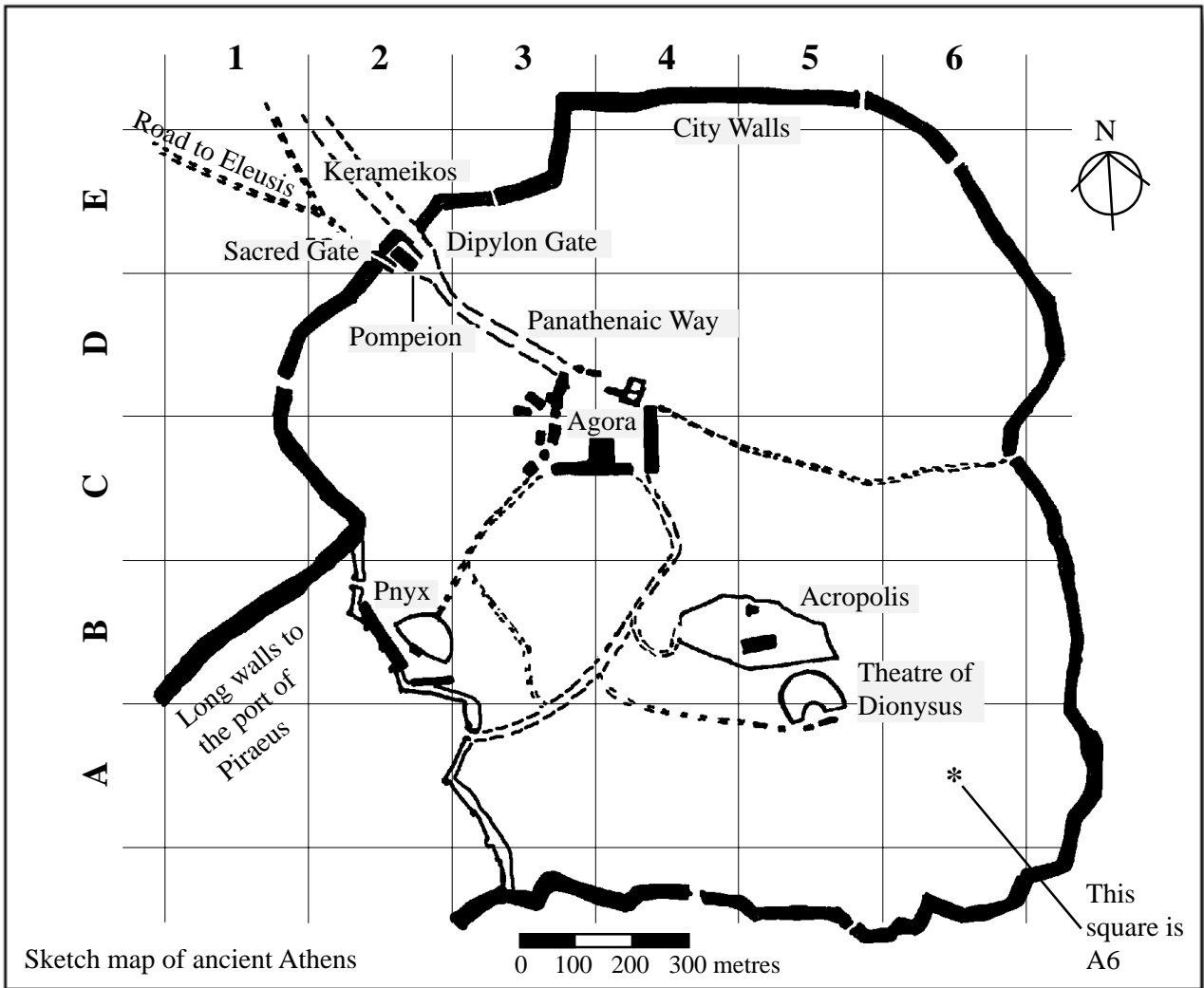


# The Panathenaic Festival



The Panathenaic Festival began at the Pompeion - a storehouse for the heavy vehicles used in the Panathenaic Procession. In which square is the Pompeion?

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What are the names of the two city gates near the Pompeion?

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The procession then headed towards the Agora (marketplace) along the Panathenaic Way. How far is it from the Pompeion to the Agora?

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The procession finished on top of a hill in square B5. What is the name of this hill?

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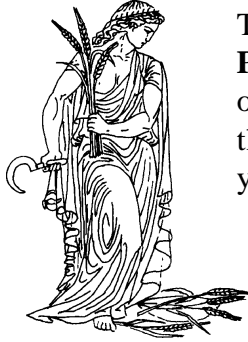
How far, and in which direction, is this hill from the Agora?

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How far did the Panathenaic Procession travel from start to finish?

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# The Eleusinian Mysteries



The myth of **Demeter** and **Persephone** formed the basis of the **Eleusinian Mysteries** that were celebrated every year at the city of Eleusis.

## *The Myth of Demeter & Persephone*

The goddess Demeter loved her daughter Persephone tenderly. One day Persephone was gathering flowers in the fields of Nysa when the earth gaped open and the god of the underworld, Hades, dragged Persephone down into the depths of the earth.

Demeter heard her child's cry for help and a bitter sorrow seized her heart. For nine days the goddess searched the world until she was told that Hades had abducted Persephone. In a rage, Demeter left the home of the gods on Mount Olympus and went to live in the cities of men. For a long time she wandered aimlessly, until at last she arrived at the city of Eleusis.

At Eleusis, the goddess prepared a cruel and terrible year for all people and she ordered that

the earth would refuse to give forth crop. The entire human race would have perished if the chief god, Zeus, had not acted. Sending his messenger to Hades, Zeus ordered that he should release Persephone.

To Demeter Zeus said, "You may have your daughter again, on the single condition that she has not yet tasted the food of the dead". However, just as Hades and Persephone were to ascend to the world of the living, one of Hades' gardeners, Ascalaphus, shouted out, "Having seen the lady Persephone pick a pomegranate from a tree in your orchard, and eat seven seeds, I am ready to bear witness that she has tasted the food of the dead". Hades grinned (as he realised Persephone was his) and returned with Persephone to Demeter.

At Eleusis, Demeter joyfully embraced Persephone; but, on hearing about the pomegranate, grew more dejected than ever and refused to lift her curse from the earth. Finally Zeus ordered a compromise and to this day Persephone spends three months of the year in Hades' company, and the remaining nine with her mother. Satisfied by this arrangement, Demeter lifted her curse from the land and the earth burst forth into fruit.

## Use information above to fill in the missing words:

Demeter's daughter, \_\_\_\_\_, was abducted to the underworld by the god, \_\_\_\_\_ . Hearing her daughter's cries for help, Demeter searched the world for \_\_\_\_\_ days until she learned of Persephone's fate. Arriving at the city of \_\_\_\_\_ Demeter declared that no \_\_\_\_\_ would grow on earth until Persephone was given back to her . Humankind appeared doomed until the chief god, \_\_\_\_\_, ordered Hades to release Persephone on the one condition that she had not \_\_\_\_\_ food in the underworld. It was soon revealed, however, that Persephone had eaten seven seeds from a \_\_\_\_\_ while she was with Hades and, as a result, she had to stay in the underworld . When \_\_\_\_\_ heard of this she refused to lift her \_\_\_\_\_ on the earth. Finally Zeus reached a compromise where Persephone would spend \_\_\_\_\_ months of the year in the underworld and the remaining \_\_\_\_\_ months with her mother.