Corresponding Links:

1. Eastern Cella
2. Olivewood statue of Athena
3. Ruins of the Old Temple of Athena
4. Porch of the Caryatids/ Maidens (Built over the grave of Kekrops)
5. Olive tree Athena gave as an offering
6. North Porch
7. Hole in the floor that shows the mark in the bedrock made when Poseidon struck the ground and created a spring of salt water
8. Hole in the ceiling where Poseidon’s trident came through; also where Zeus’ thunderbolt killed King Erechtheus
9. Grand stairway leading to the North Porch
10. Outdoor area dedicated to Zeus

Scripts

1. The eastern part of the Erechtheion is known as the Temple to Athena Polias. As the Erechtheion is an Ionic temple, the columns are more slender and decorative than those of the Parthenon, which is a Doric temple. One can see that the columns are glass inlaid, have gold around the bases, and grow slightly more slender as they near the top. Here, one can enter the shallow eastern cella. This room is a shrine to the olivewood statue of Athena.
2. This statue of Athena was said to be dropped from the heavens. It’s made out of olivewood and is simple and harsh. It contrasts with the Athena Parthenos which stands in the Parthenon and is intricate and detailed.
3. The Erechtheion was built between the Old Temple of Athena and the edge of the cliff. Here, one can see the ruins of the old temple that was once destroyed by the Persians
4. The Porch of the Caryatids, also known as the Porch of the Maidens was said to be built over the grave of Kekrops, a legendary king of Athens. It is an enclosed porch and is supposedly the visible portion of the grave. Each of the maidens stands in contrapposto with one locked leg and the other bent showing motion. The locked leg is always towards the outside in order to show stability. Each of the maidens’ hair is also knotted at the back of their necks in order to provide extra stability.
5. Looking at the west side of the Erechtheion, one can see the where the olive tree that Athena once offered to the city still stands. This offering was what won her competition against Poseidon and thus, the city, Athens, was named after her.
6. The North Porch is supported by six columns. Around the top, blue marble friese was used in the original architecture which complemented the white/ cream pentelic marble. It also boasts detailed entablature which created continuity around the building.
7. This is the hole in the floor that shows the mark on the bedrock below that was supposedly left when Poseidon’s trident struck it and created a saltwater spring. This was his offering to the city in his contest with Athena, which he lost, to be the patron of the city.
8. Here is the hole in the ceiling where Poseidon’s trident came through to strike the bedrock. It is also where Zeus’ thunderbolt came down and struck and killed King Erechtheius.
9. This is the grand stairway that leads to the north porch and a large outdoor area dedicated to Zeus.
10. This is a large courtyard type area dedicated to Zeus which is in front of the North Porch.