

# Locations in North America Of Greatest Significance To Epicurean Philosophy

**Post by “Joshua” of June 12, 2019 at 3:53 PM**

I'm curious, Cassius, whether you've been to the Parthenon in Nashville? It's been on my list for some time.

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**Post by “Godfrey” of June 12, 2019 at 6:32 PM**

I just Googled larping; I'd never heard of that lol 👍

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**Post by “Cassius” of June 12, 2019 at 7:10 PM**

1 - My main LARP is my avatar -- that is from the movie "The Last Legion" 😊 One day I am going to have to buy a Roman helmet like that! My real life is excruciatingly boring in comparison. Anyone like to read some insurance policies with me? But it pays the bills and allows me the time to pursue Epicurean philosophy. 😊

2 - YES I have been to the Parthenon in Nashville and it is great! I highly recommend it. I've actually been twice, once about 20+ years ago, and once about three years ago. It is impressive from the outside, and even more impressive inside. That statue of Athena(?) inside is really impressive! If the building is a full scale model of the real thing, the real thing must have been hugely impressive up on top of that hill in Athens.

On the second trip three years ago there was a lot of construction going on around it, which I presume is now complete. It no doubt looks best without those chain link fences around it.

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**Post by “Joshua” of June 12, 2019 at 9:03 PM**

## Quote

On the second trip three years ago there was a lot of construction going on around it, which I presume is now complete. It no doubt looks best without those chain link fences around it.

That's funny; that was my EXACT experience at the Parthenon in Athens! Scaffolding, fencing, etc. for restoration work. Ongoing for decades.

I'll get to Nashville eventually. I drove through every so often, but getting out of the truck to see the sights is easier in some cities than others!

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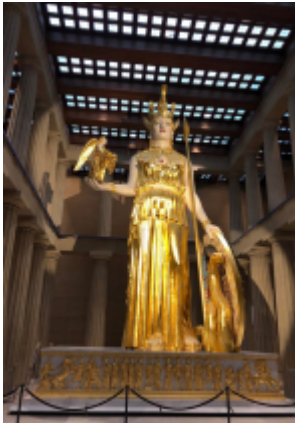
### **Post by “Joshua” of May 13, 2020 at 5:33 PM**

Happened to be in this subforum for another thread, and popped in to this one again. Just an update; my family had planned a trip to Nashville (partly to see the Parthenon mentioned above) in June, but of course the pandemic caused us to cancel. So unfortunately I'll have to make it there another year!

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### **Post by “Cassius” of May 13, 2020 at 8:07 PM**

I wonder if there is any site in the USA that is more directly tied to ancient Greece, and yet is so relatively unknown, as the Parthenon in Nashville. In fact, I wonder if there's any site in the world, even in Greece, that can match this! I doubt the religious nuts in most of the world would allow something like this, even in replica. Quite impressive in person:



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### Post by “Don” of May 14, 2020 at 7:58 AM

There's also the [Getty Villa copied from the Villa of the Papyri in Herculaneum](#). Walk (virtually) in the footsteps of Philodemus?

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### Post by “Cassius” of May 14, 2020 at 8:09 AM

There's an idea! We can have a competition: What locations in North America have greatest connection to / significance for Epicurean Philosophy? I have now split this out as a separate thread.

Let's call for nominations! Here are three:

1. The Getty Museum in California - <http://www.getty.edu/visit/villa/>
2. The Parthenon in Nashville - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parthenon\\_\(Nashville\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parthenon_(Nashville))
3. Monticello (Where Jefferson wrote about Epicurus and met with Frances Wright and presumably talked about "A Few Days in Athens") <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monticello>

Others? (if there are museums like Gottingen or Leipzig that have copies of statues of Epicurus or Epicurean figures that would be good, but I am not sure there are any.)

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### Post by “Cassius” of May 14, 2020 at 8:29 AM

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/1557-locations-in-north-america-of-greatest-significance-to-epicurean-philosophy/>



**Epicurean Philosophy?**

**ave greatest connection to or significance for**

Elli's recent post of herself at an Epicurean shrine spurs me to ask whether we could assemble a list of locations relevant to Epicurus for those of us in North America. Here are three possibilities for a list:

1. The Getty Museum in California - <http://www.getty.edu/visit/villa/> (Obvious connection to Philodemus and his library, leaping pig, statues of the founders, etc.)
2. The Parthenon in Nashville - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parthenon\\_\(Nashville\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parthenon_(Nashville)) (A replica of a building that would have had great significance to Epicurus himself)
3. Monticello in Virginia - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monticello> (Where Jefferson wrote about Epicurus and met with Frances Wright and presumably talked about "A Few Days in Athens")

Others? If there are North American museums like those in Gottingen or Leipzig that have copies of statues of Epicurus or other Epicurean founders that would be good, but I am not sure there are any.

If this turns out to be an interesting topic we can do a separate list for other parts of the world.

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### **Post by "Don" of May 14, 2020 at 9:15 AM**

Consider that Epicurus himself more than likely walked across the grounds of the Acropolis in Athens and around the (real) Parthenon. He said that Epicureans could enjoy public spectacles more than other people (I believe he said that) and so more than likely participated in things like the Panathenaic Festivals and other ceremonies on the Acropolis. And I can imagine him appreciating the view from the summit at least. Think about that if you travel to Nashville and circumambulate the "Parthenon" there.

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### **Post by "Joshua" of May 14, 2020 at 1:24 PM**

Frances Wright's grave is in Cincinnati.

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### **Post by “Don” of May 14, 2020 at 1:50 PM**

[Quote from JJElbert](#)

Frances Wright's grave is in Cincinnati.

Oh my! I didn't realize that! Thanks, [Joshua](#) ! In addition to my other duties at the library, I'm also the coordinator of the Ohio Center for the Book. I'll be adding Frances Wright to our Ohio author mini-biographies now! She was not in our list!

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### **Post by “Joshua” of May 14, 2020 at 1:54 PM**

Yeah, when I was driving long-haul I wanted to make a point of visiting, but I never did get the chance.

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### **Post by “Don” of May 14, 2020 at 2:00 PM**

Here's [her record from Find-A-Grave with a photo of her stone](#).

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### **Post by “Cassius” of May 14, 2020 at 2:18 PM**

Yes it seems to me that Frances Wright's gravesite and/or other places associated with her would definitely be a good addition to this list. "A Few Days In Athens" is not only an excellent book, it probably qualifies as the most unabashedly pro-Epicurean and consistently-Epicurean piece of writing since the ancient world. So many others are sort or / kind of / approximately Epicurean, but I would put AFDIA in a class of its own.

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## Post by “Cassius” of May 14, 2020 at 2:42 PM

Social reformer. Frances Wright's father, James Wright, was a wealthy Scottish linen manufacturer, and her mother died by the time she was three years old. Wright was brought up in the homes of relatives, including James Milne, a member of Scottish school of progressive philosophers. Milne, who encouraged her to question conventional ideas, was to have a lasting influence on her political development.

So this James Milne who brought up Frances Wright was JOHN STUART MILLS' FATHER?

### James Mill

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**James Mill** (born **James Milne**,<sup>[1]</sup> 6 April 1773 - 23 June 1836<sup>[2]</sup>) was a Scottish historian, economist, political theorist, and philosopher. He is counted among the founders of the Ricardian school of economics.<sup>[3]</sup> His son, John Stuart Mill, was also a noted philosopher of liberalism, utilitarianism and the civilizing mission of the British Empire.

James Mill wrote the monumental work *History of British India*. He was the first writer to divide Indian history into three parts: Hindu, Muslim and British,<sup>[2]</sup> a classification which has proved surprisingly influential in the field of Indian historical studies, but which is seen in recent decades as being deeply problematic.

**Contents** (hide)

A Few Days In Athens was published in 1822 in London.

Frances Wright was born September 6, 1795, so in 1822 she was 27 years old.

At that time James Mill was 49 years old.

These are Mills' works and dates of publication:

### Major works

- [An essay of the impolicy of a bounty on the exportation of grain](#), 1804.
- "Lord Lauderdale on Public Wealth", 1804, *Literary Journal* Vol. IV, No. 1<sup>[15]</sup>

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/1557-locations-in-north-america-of-greatest-significance-to-epicurean-philosophy/>

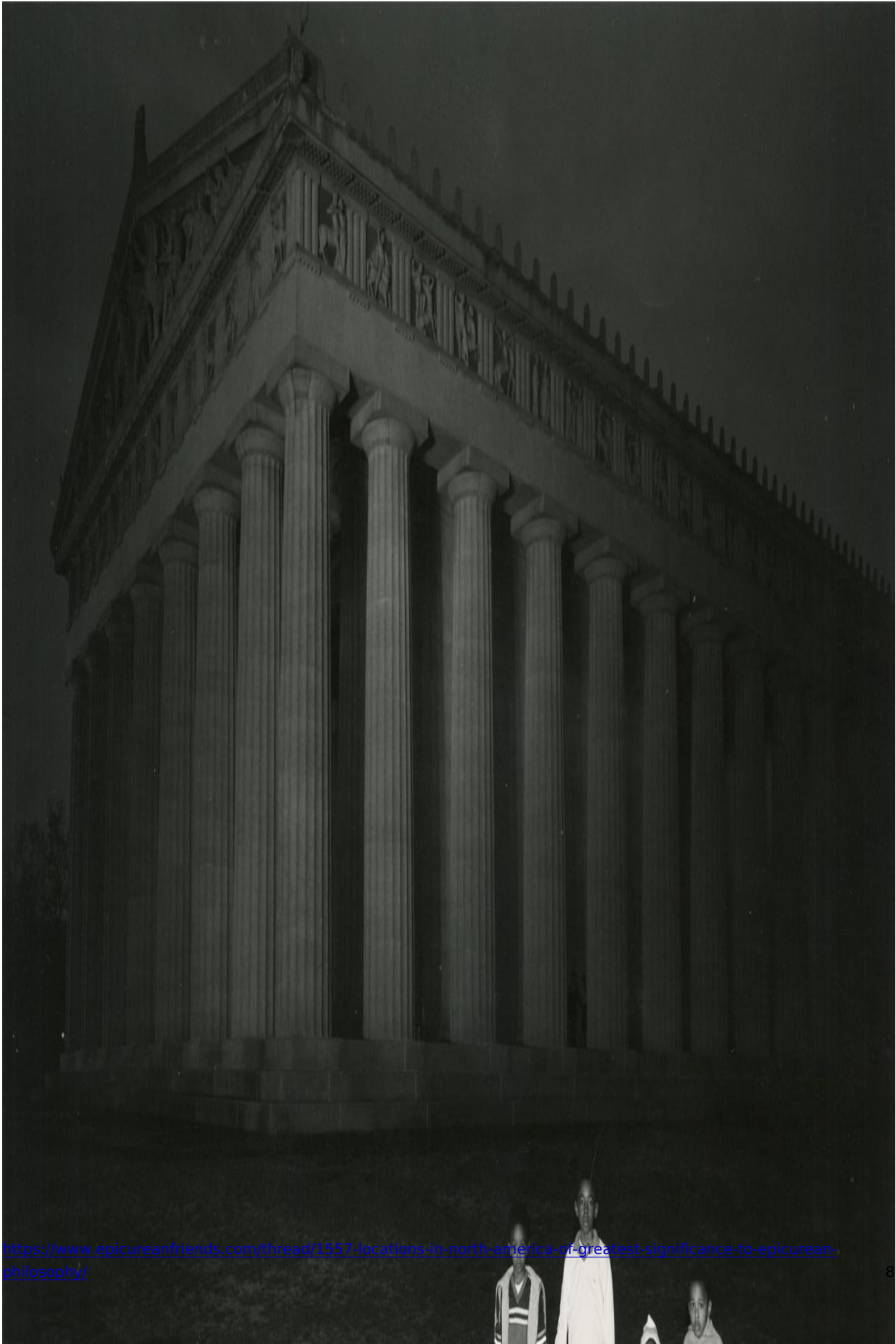
- [Commerce Defended](#), 1808.
- "Thomas Smith on Money and Exchange", 1808, *Edinburgh Review* no. XXV, pp. 35–68[16]
- [The History of British India](#), 3 vols., 1817 (and many later editions)
- "[Government](#)", 1820, *Encyclopædia Britannica*
- [Elements of Political Economy](#), 1821
- "Liberty of the Press", 1825, *Encyclopædia Britannica*
- [Essays on Government, Jurisprudence, Liberty of the Press, Education, and Prisons and Prison Discipline](#), 1823.
- [An Analysis of the Phenomena of the Human Mind](#), 2 vols., 1829.[17]
- [Analysis of the Phenomena of the Human Mind. 1869.](#)[18]
- [Essay on the Ballot](#) [19] and [Fragment on Mackintosh](#) [20], 1830.
- "Whether Political Economy is Useful", 1836, *London Review*, vol. II, pp. 553–572.
- [The Principles of Toleration](#), 1837.

MANY things to consider here but so as not to derail the thread I am going to take the rest of this post elsewhere....

Please take the rest of the discussion on Mill and this aspect of Frances Wright here: [JAMES MILNE / MILL, Mentor of Frances Wright](#)

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**Post by “Godfrey” of October 10, 2022 at 5:41 PM**



<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/1557-locations-in-north-america-of-greatest-significance-to-epicurean-philosophy/>

This classic photo showed up in a blog post the other day.

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**Post by “Cassius” of October 10, 2022 at 7:19 PM**

Ha that's a good one - seems like several of us now have been there!

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**Post by “Godfrey” of October 10, 2022 at 11:03 PM**

This was by Baldwin Lee, shot in c1983.

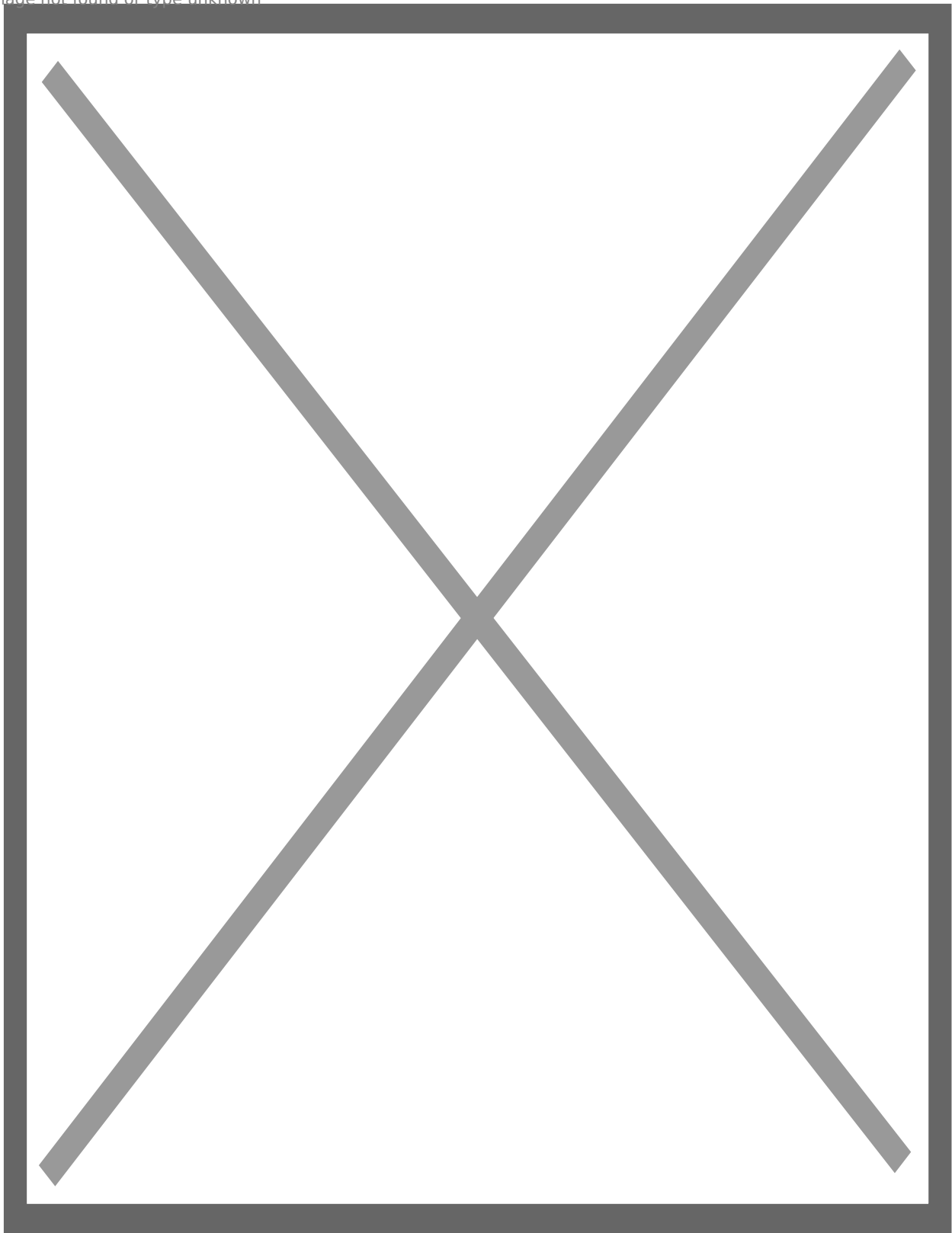
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**Post by “Don” of October 10, 2022 at 11:32 PM**

[Quote from Godfrey](#)

This was by Baldwin Lee, shot in c1983.

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[How Baldwin Lee Saw Ageless Beauty in '80s-Era Black America](#)

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/1557-locations-in-north-america-of-greatest-significance-to-epicurean-philosophy/>

When Lee found himself teaching in Tennessee, he began creating a group of photographs still teeming with life and humanity four decades later.

[www.thedailybeast.com](http://www.thedailybeast.com)

[Baldwin Lee - Wikipedia](#)

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## **Post by “Pacatus” of October 11, 2022 at 4:13 PM**

Re Don's mention of the Getty Villa as a replica of the Villa of the Papyri at Herculaneum, I found this:

[Identifying and Interpreting a Philosophical Garden at the Villa of the Papyri at Herculaneum](#) --

[Identifying and Interpreting a Philosophical Garden at the Villa of the Papyri at Herculaneum](#)

The Villa of the Papyri is one of the most important archaeological sites from Roman antiquity for its preserved architecture, library, and art collection. All...

[trace.tennessee.edu](http://trace.tennessee.edu)

I've only read a bit thus far, but the thrust seems to be that that Villa garden was designed with [Epicurean] philosophical study in mind.