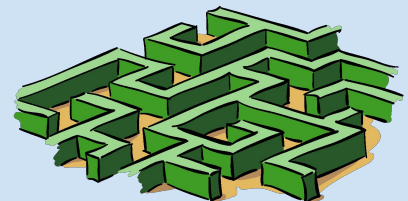
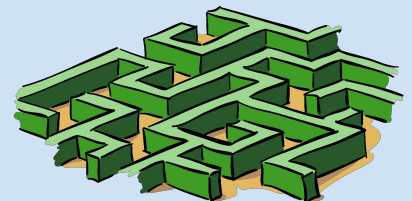


# *The Arch of Galerius and Rotunda in Thessaloniki*



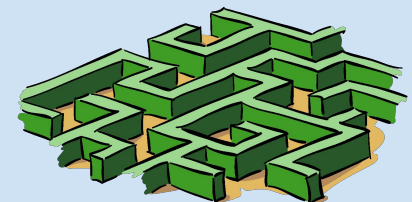
# Where is Thessaloniki?





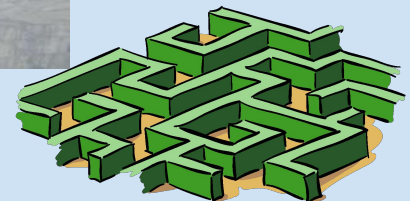
***This is Thessaloniki, where these monuments are located***

*We´re going to show you some photos of these monuments, which are very close to each other*

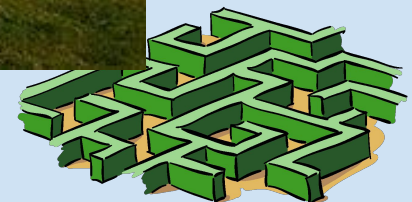




# *This is the Arch of Galerius*



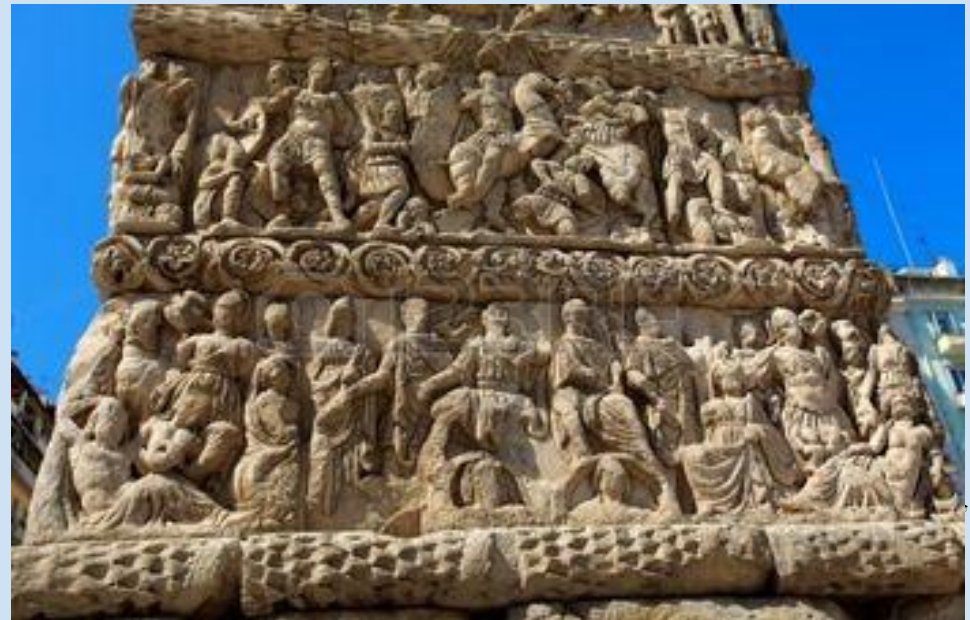
*That's the rotunda*



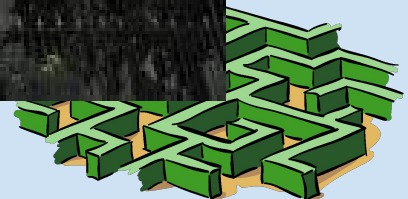


# *HISTORY*

The 4th-century Roman Emperor Galerius commissioned these two structures as elements of an imperial precinct linked to his Thessaloniki palace. Archeologists have found substantial remains of the palace to the southwest.



These two monumental structures were connected by a road that ran through the arch, which rose above the major east-west road of the city.

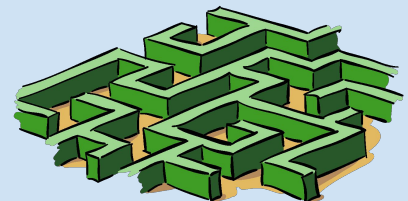




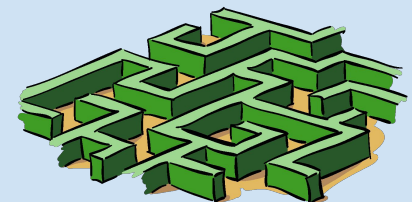
# *Location and description of the Arch*

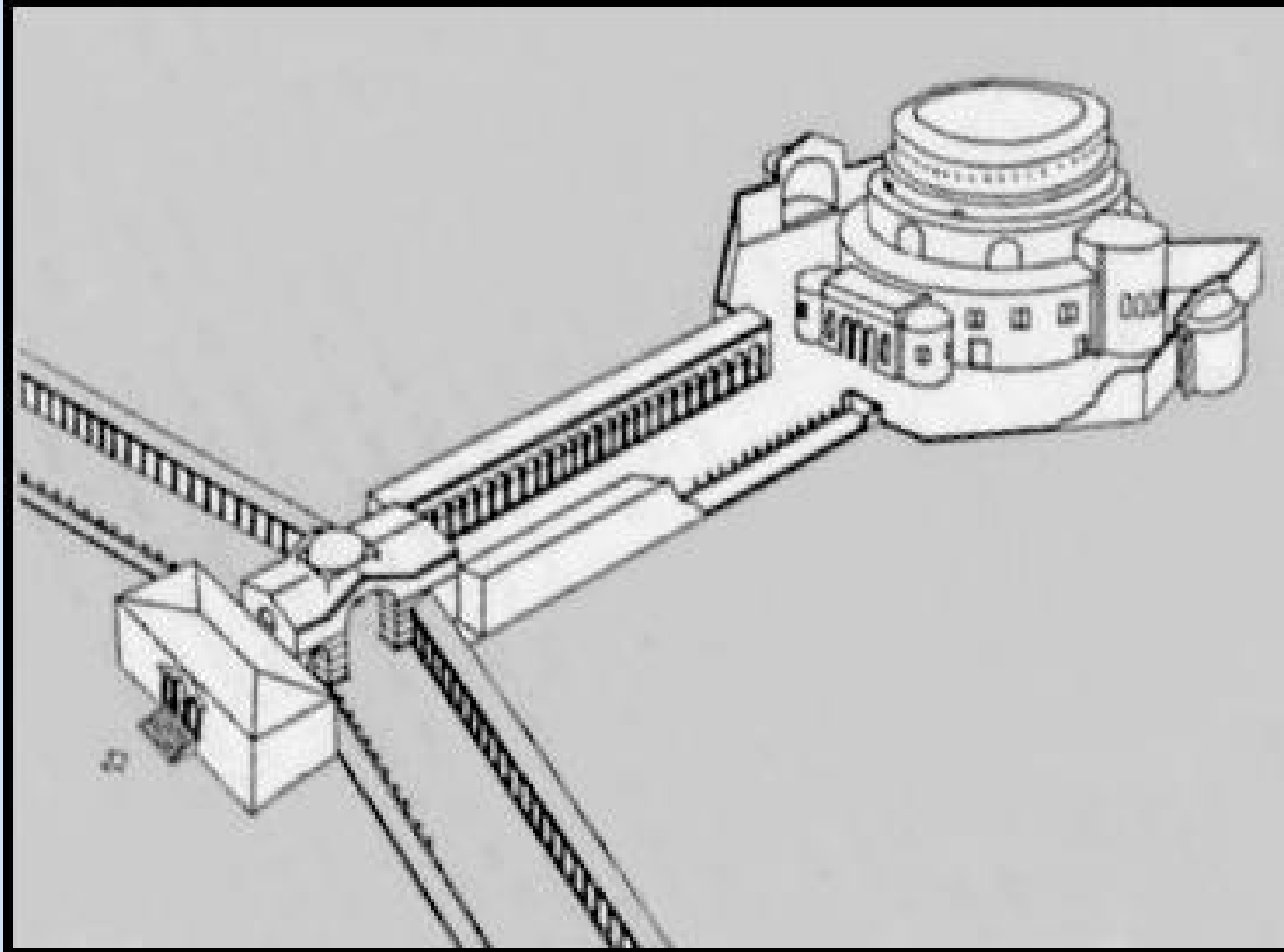
The Arch of Galerius, stands on what is now Egnatia & Dimitrios Gounari Street.

The arch was built in 298 to 299 AD and dedicated in 303 AD to celebrate the victory of the tetrarch Galerius over the Sassanid Persians and capture of their capital Ctesiphon in 298.

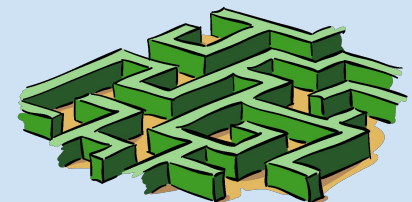


The structure was an octopylon (eight-pillared gateway) forming a triple arch that was built of a rubble masonry core faced first with brick and then with marble panels with sculptural relief.





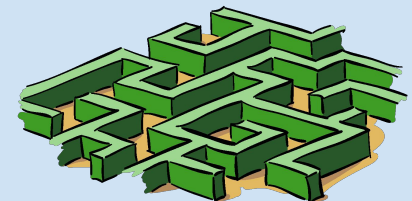
Rotunda and Arch of Galerius  
complex reconstruction



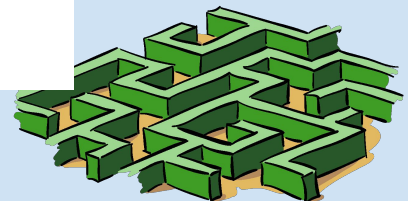
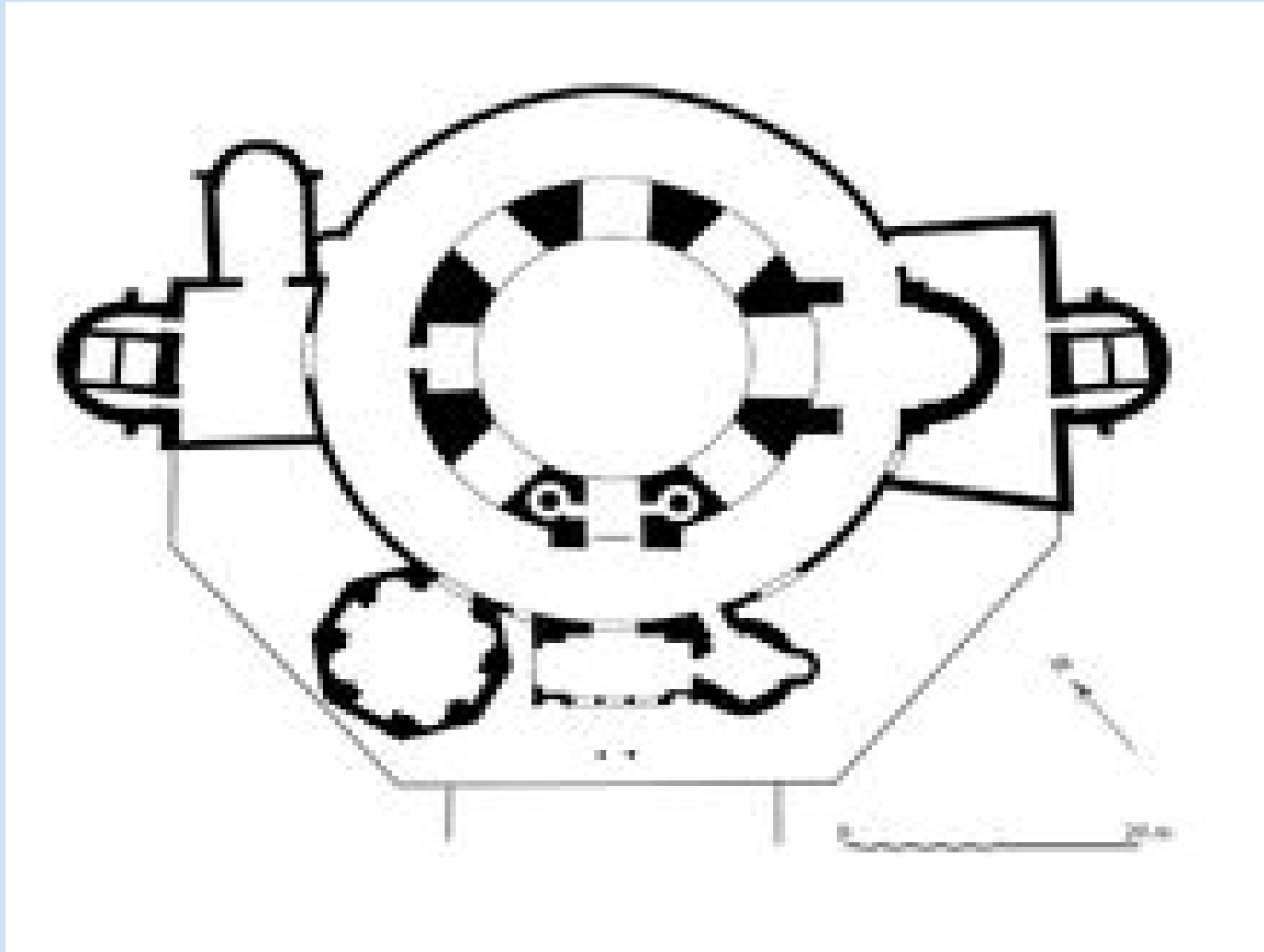


# *Location and description of the Rotunda*

The Rotunda of Galerius is 125m northeast of the Arch of Galerius at  $40^{\circ}37'59.77''\text{N}$ ,  $22^{\circ}57'9.77''\text{E}$ . It is also known (by its consecration and use) as the Greek Orthodox Church of Agios Georgios, and is informally called the Church of the Rotunda (or simply The Rotunda).

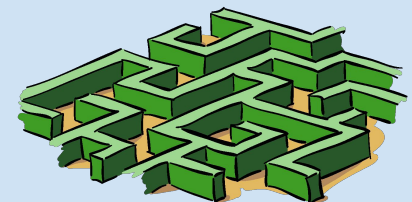


*This is the floor plan of the rotunda.*



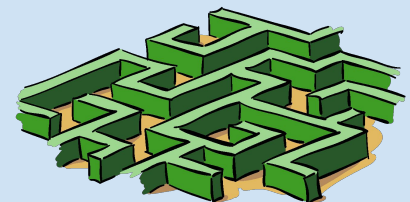
## *Uses of the Rotunda*

After Galerius's death in 311, he was buried at Gamzigrad (Felix Romuliana) near Zajecar, Serbia. The Rotunda stood empty for several years until the Emperor Constantine I ordered it converted into a Christian church in 326.





The church was embellished with very high quality mosaics. Only fragments have survived of the original decoration, for example, a band depicting saints with hands raised in prayer, in front of complex architectural fantasies.



The Paleochristian and Byzantine Monuments of Thessaloniki, including the Arch and the Rotunda, were declared UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1988.

