LIST OF FIGURES

- 1. Ajanta Caves seen from the 'Viewpoint'
- 2. Ajanta caves during the monsoon season
- 3. The waterfall of Ajanta
- 4. Saptakunda (seven tanks) above the waterfall
- Map of India showing rock-cut cave sites (source: Fergusson and Burgess 1880)
- Map of western India: trade routes and centres of rock-cut architecture
- 7. Rock-cut caves of western India
- 8. Map of the Deccan, circa 250-550 CE
- 9. Map of the Vākātaka homelands
- Map of the lands named in Varāhadeva's inscription in Ajanta Cave 16
- 11. A map of the lands named as Anantavarman's feudatories in Viśrūtaćarita, i.e. the eighth chapter of Daņdīn's Daśakumāraćarita
- 12. General Plan of the Caves of Ajanta (source: Fergusson and Burgess 1880) comprising additional compass placed by R. K. Singh on the top left side pointing to the due north
- 13. Plan of Cave 1 (Fergusson and Burgess 1880)
- 14. Plan of Cave 2 (Fergusson and Burgess 1880)
- 15. Cave 1: longitudinal section (Burgess 1883)

- 16. Cave 2: cross section (Burgess 1883)
- 17. Plan of Cave 4 (Fergusson and Burgess 1880)
- 18. Plans of Caves Lower 6 and Upper 6 (Fergusson and Burgess 1880)
- 19. Longitudinal section of Caves Lower 6 and Upper 6 (Burgess 1883)
- 20. Plans of Cave 7. Below: Burgess (1883). Above: conjectural plan by Spink.
- 21. Plan of Cave 8 (Gill 1876)
- 22. Plan of Cave 8 (Jadhav 1987)
- 23. Left: Plans of Caves 9 and 10 (Fergusson and Burgess 1880)
- 24. Plans of caves 7, 11, 14, 13, 15, and 20 (Burgess 1883)
- 25. Left: Plan of Cave 11 (Burgess 1883); right: conjectural plan by Spink
- 26. Plans of Caves 12, 13, and 15A (Fergusson and Burgess 1880; Nagaraju 1981)
- 27. Plans of Caves 16 and 17 (Fergusson and Burgess 1880)
- 28. Longitudinal section of Cave 19 (Fergusson and Burgess 1880)
- 29. Cave 19: side view, plan, and transverse section of the stupa; the capitals; and a panel from the triforium (Burgess 1883)
- 30. Plans of caves 21, 23, 24, and 25 (Burgess 1883)
 31. Plan of Cave 25 (Gill 1876).

- 32. Sketch plan of Cave 27, n.d. by Jadhav (AAA UM, University of Michigan)
- 33. Cave 26-complex: the plan of the stupa with relative dispositions of the various adjuncts (Spink's adaptation of plans by Burgess 1883)
- 34. Plan of Cave 26-complex with the four adjuncts. Spink's first conjectural reconstruction of the disposition of the various components. Here, Cave 27 is facing eastwards to the ravine (Spink 1981)
- 35. Plan of Cave 26-complex with the four adjuncts. Spink's second conjectural reconstruction of the disposition of the various components. Here, Cave 27 is facing northwards, in the direction of Cave 25 (Spink 2009, fig. 30)
- 36. Caves 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 seen from the 'Viewpoint'
- 37. Cave 1, façade
- 38. Cave 1, porch colonnade
- 39. Cave 1, pillared vestibule on the left of the front court
- 40. Cave 1, interior colonnade of the mandapa
- 41. Cave 1, shrine
- 42. Cave 2, porch
- 43. Caves 3, 4, 5, 6U, 6L, and 7 seen from the 'Viewpoint'
- 44. Cave 4, porch colonnade
- 45. Cave 4, porch
- 46. Cave 4 interior, front colonnade

- 47. Cave 4, interior ceiling
- 48. Cave 4, the shrine Buddha
- 49. Cave 4, shrine, *pancavargiya-bhiksus* and the donors as *upāsakas*
- 50. Cave 5 porch, right side
- 51. Cave 5: the staircase leading up to Cave 4
- 52. Cave 5, porch, uncut rock on right side
- 53. Cave 5, right of porch widened in c. 477 CE
- 54. Caves Lower 6 and Upper 6, front view
- 55. Cave 6: the extant remains of the flight of steps from the river bed
- 56. Caves Lower 6, Upper 6, and 7
- 57. Caves Lower 6 and Upper 6, tunnelled staircase
- 58. Cave Lower 6, porch
- 59. Cave Lower 6, porch area with main doorway
- 60. Cave Lower 6, main doorway
- 61. Cave Lower 6, main doorway: the elephant and *yakṣas* lifting the pillars
- 62. Cave Lower 6, remains of the tunnelled staircase
- 63. Cave Lower 6, close up of the tunnelled staircase
- 64. Cave L6, interior, front aisle with the staircase
- 65. Cave L6: constructed staircase for reaching the upper storey
- 66. Cave L6: the cracks, fissures, and crystal formations on the ceiling level

- 67. Cave L6: hall. It was originally planned without any pillar or shrine.
- 68. Cave L6, shrine doorjambs
- 69. Cave L6: the shrine Buddha does not depict the scene of the First Sermon
- 70. Cave L6, shrine doorway: double doors opened toward the interior
- 71. Cave L6, shrine doorway, oblong cubical monolith for door fittings
- 72. Cave L6, shrine painting, ceiling paintings
- 73. Cave Upper 6, viewed from Cave L6 porch
- 74. Cave U6: the seldom-noted yakṣa and nāga dvārapālas as flag bearers
- 75. Cave U6: the monolithic enclosure round the staircase coming up from the hall of the lower storey
- 76. Cave U6: the monolithic enclosure coming up from the hall of the lower storey
- 77. Cave U6, hall: the colonnade with the octagonal pillars with square bases
- 78. Cave U6: right aisle, the uncut floor area
- 79. Cave U6, interior side-shrine
- 80. Cave U6, the main Buddha shrine
- 81. Cave 7, facade: the double portico
- 82. Cave 7, lintel of a portico, yakṣa carrying a stupa
- 83. Cave 7, porch
- 84. Cave 7, porch: traces of paintings on the wall

- 85. Cave 7: the shrine with antechamber
- 86. Cave 7: the shrine antechamber
- 87. Cave 8: front view
- 88. Cave 8, interior, the electric generator machines (date of photograph: August 2013)
- 89. Cave 8, hall: the cave is used like a store room (date of photograph: August 2013)
- 90. Caves 9-10: the Sātavāhana-period caves (circa 2nd-1st c. BCE)
- 91. Cave 9, facade
- 92. Cave 9, interior
- 93. Cave 10, interior
- 94. Cave 10, right outer surface of the great arch with the inscription by the son of Vaśiṣṭha
- 95. Cave 11, front view
- 96. Cave 11, view from the front court of Cave 12
- 97. Cave 11: the left outer cell
- 98. Cave 11, porch: view from right
- 99. Cave 11, porch: view from left
- 100. Cave 11, porch, proper left side: the monolithic enclosure between two pillars
- 101. Cave 11, porch, proper right: the monolithic enclosure between two pillars
- 102. Cave 11, porch, axial pillar bases

- 103. Cave 11, porch, proper left axial pillar base: the multiple tiers of mouldings on the sides of the adhisthāna
- 104. Cave 11, porch, proper right axial pillar base: the single pattern of flat moulding on the sides of the adhisthāna
- 105. Cave 11, porch, proper left side: monolithic bench between pillars
- 106. Cave 11, porch, proper left side: the raised floor level and the steps before the cells
- 107. Cave 11, simha-dvāra: the lions
- 108. Cave 11, right porch window: round pillars
- 109. Cave 11, porch, left porch window: square pillars
- 110. Cave 11, pillared hall with shrine
- 111. Cave 11, pillars and floor-beams
- 112. Cave 11, interior pillar, adhisthāna
- 113. Cave 11, interior pillar, *ghațapallava* motif below the capital
- 114. Cave 11: the step before an interior cell doorway
- 115. Cave 11: the one before the next cell doorway is more skilfully done
- 116. Cave 11: the next cell doorway received an articulated design
- 117. Cave 11: later, the *ćandraśilās* were replaced by square steps

- 118. Cave 11: still later, no-step-at-all was the preferred rule at Ajanta
- 119. Cave 11: the shrine Buddha image is among the earliest; the throne was reworked
- 120. Cave 11, the shrine Buddha with stupa behind, and the double layers of paint work
- 121. Cave 12: this Sātavāhana-period upāśraya probably had a pillared porch.
- 122. Cave 12: the large hall has no pillars, as pillars were rare at the time.
- 123. Cave 12: the remains of the hall's front wall
- 124. Cave 13: a Sātavāhana-period upāśraya
- 125. Cave 14: front view
- 126. Cave 15 in the centre and Cave 15A on the left (rediscovered in 1952)
- 127. Cave 15: remains of the perished porch with the main doorway
- 128. From right to left: Caves 16, 17, and 18.
- 129. .Cave 16, gaja-dvāra
- 130. Cave 16 entrance, the Nāgendra shrine
- 131. Cave 16, porch
- 132. Cave 16, the main doorway
- 133. From right to left: caves 17, 18, 19, and 20
- 134. Cave 17, tunnelled entrance
- 135. Cave 17, porch
- 136. Cave 17, the main door

- 137. Cave 17, shrine
- 138. Cave 17, shrine, the left upāsaka figure (Ravisāmba?)
- 139. Cave 17, shrine: the right upāsaka figure (Upendragupta II?; the king of Ŗṣika)
- 140. Cave 18: pillared cistern chamber
- 141. Cave 19, front view
- 142. Cave 19, the facade with double pillared portico
- 143. Cave 19, the exterior of the prākāra
- 144. Cave 19, the 'intrusive' *padmāsana* Buddhas outside the toraņa-dvāra
- 145. Cave 19, the nāga-dvārapāla
- 146. Cave 19, front court: the passage through the right outer shrine's right inner chamber
- 147. Cave 19, front court: the passage, another view
- 148. Cave 19, extant right pillar of the mostly perished toraņa-dvāra
- 149. Cave 19, the exterior of the torana-dvāra
- 150. Cave 19, *prākāra*: the vertical column on the right is a part of the lost entrance gate.
- 151. Cave 19, the curvature of the facade wall
- 152. Cave 19, interior: nave with the stupa
- 153. Cave 19, the great *ćaitya* arch seen from the interior
- 154. Cave 19, ceiling of the vault, view 1
- 155. Cave 19, ceiling of the vault, view 2
- 156. Cave 19, interior: left colonnade and triforium
- 157. Cave 19, interior: right colonnade and triforium

- 158. Cave 19, interior: the first pillar on the left
- 159. Cave 19, interior: the pillar capitals and the carved triforium
- 160. Cave 19, the right outer shrine
- 161. Cave 19, the right outer shrine: the Buddha panel
- 162. Cave 19, right outer shrine ceiling: the shrine was elaborately and lavishly painted
- 163. Cave 19, right outer shrine: the cell on the right wall
- 164. Cave 19, right outer shrine, right cell: Spink's Bmode door fitting
- 165. Cave 20
- 166. Cave 20: detail of the porch colonnade
- 167. Cave 20, porch ceiling with agrolithic patterns
- 168. Cave 20, shrine, shrine: the monolithic oblong cubical projection for the door fittings
- 169. From right to left: Caves 21, 22, and 23
- 170. Cave 21, facade: most of the pillars are cement reconstructions
- 171. Cave 21, porch
- 172. Cave 21, the left porch-end pillared vestibule with inner cells
- 173. Cave 23, façade with eaves
- 174. Cave 23: the hall
- 175. Cave 23, the shrine with antechamber
- 176. Cave 24, facade

- 177. From right to left: Cave 24, 25, and 26-complex. View from the court of Cave 24.
- 178. Cave 24, interior
- 179. The range of Indhyadri Ghats where the *sanghārāma* of Ajanta have been excavated
- 180. The edifices patronised by monk Buddhabhadra. (Three photos digitally merged; the actual face of the cliff is not as flat as seen here.)
- 181. Caves 24 to 28
- 182. From right to left: caves 25, 26, and 27
- 183. Cave 26-complex: the upper left wings
- 184. The left wings of Cave 26 temple: the pillaredvestibules-with-inner-cells on the western side of the perished porch
- 185. Cave 26-complex, left wings: the vertical line indicates the likely axes of the two storeys. The horizontal line indicates the expectant conjectural width of the hall of the upper floor (Cave 27).
- 186. Cave 27 (26-ULW), hall: extant portions of the rear (southern) wall in the background and the right (western) wall
- 187. Cave 27 (26-ULW), the right (western) wall with the shrine antechamber
- 188. Cave 27 (26-ULW), the cave's right (western) and front (northern) walls

- 189. Cave 27, the remains of the pillars of the porch-end vestibule
- 190. Cave 27: traces of ceiling paintings in the inner cell of the porch-end vestibule
- 191. Cave 25 (26-URW): front view
- 192. Caves 26 and 25: the nineteenth-century photograph by Robert Gill (courtesy of British Library, London)
- 193. Cave 25 (26-URW), a view of the front court
- 194. Cave 25 (26-URW): the ceiling of the front court shows a layer of the volcanic lava flow
- 195. Cave 25 (26-URW): front court showing the monolithic cubical platform on the floor
- 196. Cave 25, the left porch-end vestibule
- 197. Cave 25, detail of fig. 196 showing the hole in an inner cell of porch-end vestibule
- 198. Cave 26-complex, the cistern
- 199. Right to left: Caves 24, 25, and 26 with the right staircase for accessing Cave 25
- 200. Walter M. Spink examining the passage with the remains of the doorway leading to Cave 24 from the front court area of Cave 26
- 201. A loose yakṣa figure
- 202. Kondāņe caityagrha
- 203. Cave 26-complex: Spink's conjectural reconstruction (courtesy of Spink. Line drawing: Ajeet Rao and Nitin Veturkar)

- 204. Cave 26, interior, left wall: *Mahāparīnirvāņa* of the Buddha (3 photos digitally merged)
- 205. Cave 26-complex. View 1: conjectural 3D reconstruction. (Any imperfect or imprecise detailing here and in the subsequent 3D images is regretted. The aim is solely to indicate the dispositions of the various architectural units before the gradual damage.)
- 206. Cave 26-complex. View 2: conjectural 3D reconstruction.
- 207. Cave 26-complex. View 3: conjectural 3D reconstruction. The left wings are seen here. The upper floor is numbered 27, but the lower floor is not numbered.
- 208. Cave 27: conjectural 3D reconstruction of the extant remains; based on the ground plan by Yazdani (1952).
- 209. Cave 27, shrine antechamber: detail from fig. 208. Notice the remains of a step that belongs to the earlier cell doorway.
- 210. Ajanta Cave 19, woodcut, late nineteenth century.
- 211. Cave 19, a nineteenth-century photograph
- 212. Cave 26A: a newly rediscovered cave
- 213. Cave 26A: another view of the newly rediscovered cave.
- 214. Cave 29, front view
- 215. Ghatotkacha cave, view of the porch
- 216. Banoți: a rivulet on the way

- 217. Banoți: the plunge of the waterfall
- 218. Banoțī: the researcher (R. K. Singh) at the site
- 219. Banoți: porch
- 220. Banoțī, porch, left pillared chamber
- 221. Banoți: the shrine with pillared antechamber
- 222. Banoțī: the shrine doorway
- 223. Banoți: the right-end pillared vestibule
- 224. Banoți: right pilaster on the porch showing a Națarāja image
- 225. Spink's time chart; source: Spink, Ajanta: History and Development, vol. 6 (Brill: 2012); drawing: N. Yaguchi.
- 226. Spink's classification of the four types of Ajanta cell door modes; source: Spink, Ajanta: History and Development, vol. 4 (Brill: 2005), fig. 36; drawing: N. Yaguchi.
- 227. Spink's 'Defining Features for the Vākāţaka phase of Ajanta'; source: Spink, Ajanta: History and Development, vol. 4 (Brill: 2005), fig. 40.
- 228. Month calendar showing the sunrise angles at Jalgaon (60 km from Ajantā) in June. From 1 June to 30 June, the angle changes up to 2°. (Source: Time and Date.com,

www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/astronomy.html?n=1664&m
onth=6&year=2012&obj=sun&afl=-12&day=1; accessed on 25
January 2012)

- 229. Year calendar of 384 Saka Era or 462 CE. Āṣāḍha māsa spanned from 19 May to 13 June of Julian Era. The month in red indicates the first month. Clicking on the month button of the calculator returns the calendar of that month in a new screen (fig. 230). (Source: L. Gislen & J. C. Eade, Suryasiddhanta HIC 1.0, computer application)
- 230. Month calendar of Āşāḍha 384 Śaka Era. Clicking on 14 Āşāḍha returns the calendar of that day in a new screen (fig. 231).
- 231. Day calendar of 14 Āşāḍha showing the various divisions and units of the day relating to the coordinates of Ajantā (20.33N-75.41E). It shows the month-end of Āşāḍha and beginning of Śrāvaṇa māsa. The hour of the end of pūrṇimā, (full moon) is also seen.
- 232. Moon phases from 461 to 463 CE. Note that 27 June 27, 462 CE is a pūrņimā (full moon). (Source: 'Moon Phase Predictions by Fred Espenak, NASA/GSFC', NASA Eclipse Website,

www.eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov./phase/phase0401.html; accessed on 25 January 2012)

233. Full moon days in 462 CE at Jalgaon. Notice June 27, 462 CE as the date of full moon. (Source: Time and Date.com, www.timeanddate.com/calendar/moonphases/html?year=0462 &n=1664; accessed on 25 January 2012)

- 234. Year calendar of 462 CE, India also showing the moon phases of the year. Notice June 27, 462 CE as the date of full moon. (Source: Time and date.com, www.timeanddate.com/calendar/?year=462&country=35; accessed on 25 January 2012)
- 235. Month calendar, June 462 CE, India showing the moon phases. Notice June 27 as the date of full moon. (Source: Time and Date.com, www.timeanddate.com/calendar/custom.html?year=462&mont h=6&country=35&df=1; accessed on 25 January 2012)