5th International Meeting for the Restoration of the Acropolis Monuments
Athens, 4-6 October 2002
New Administration Building of the National Bank of Greece – Amphitheatre of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture
loose sooty deposits and homogenous compact crusts it causes discoloration in the calcined Pentelic marble. Thus, for these two cases, the simultaneous use of infrared and ultraviolet radiation was tested for the first time, with excellent results.

These observations led to the designing of an entirely new system, developed by the FORTH-IESL, with technical features and ergonomic design specific for the cleaning of the west frieze. The system is able to work on two wave-lengths (infrared 1064 nm and ultraviolet 355), with the possibility of using one or both of the two nodes together, with various energy ratios. For greater speed in the work, the new laser system works in parallel with the laboratory laser of the FORTH-IESL, which has been similarly modified. The first three blocks have already been cleaned and, according to the programme, in October 2003 it will be possible to exhibit the six blocks, numbered W.III, W.IV, W.V, W.VI, W.VII and W.VIII. The conservation of the other blocks will gradually be completed by April 2004. After conservation, the blocks of the west frieze will be exhibited in the New Acropolis Museum.

The cleaning was carried out by the two above mentioned conservators and by the conservator K. Basilaidi together with the physicist Th. Ditas, colleague at FORTH-IESL. The work is supervised for the Acropolis Ephorate by the archaeologist Ch. Vlassopoulou.

Evi Papakostantinou
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The art and architecture of the Athenian Acropolis is part of the curriculum in most schools throughout the world. The interest of pupils, teachers and the general public together with the conviction that the best form of conservation is preventive conservation, which begins with education, formed the impetus for the Committee for the Conservation of the Acropolis Monuments (ESMA) to collaborate with the 1st Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities, to launch educational programmes as early as 1987.

Today the Department of Information and Education of the Acropolis Restoration Service (YSMA) in collaboration for specific groups and in particular for school classes—of around 25 pupils each—on the subject of the Acropolis and its monuments.

1. Conducts seminars for educators and students on classical architecture and art, as well as on the restoration of classical monuments.
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3. Produces educational resources on the subjects of classical art and architecture and also on the Acropolis restoration projects, which is lent or donated to schools.
4. Organizes special symposia for educators and is determined by the age and knowledge of the children. The programmes are accompanied by special "path-finders" and visual material that is relevant each time. They take place on the Acropolis and at the Centre for Acropolis Studies.

Over the years many programmes have been developed and carried out. Special projects have been devoted to the Acropolis and its monuments: the ancient "Peripatos", the path around the Acropolis, the topography of the Sacred Rock through the tents of Plutarch and Pausanias, in addition, through the cult of the goddess Athena, the Parthenon frieze, the construction of ancient temples and the restoration of the ancient monuments. To date, some 62,000 students from schools throughout Greece have participated in these programmes.

The Department collaborates with schools on the basis of the interest of the teachers themselves. Our interest is directed to teachers since they can convey to their students the love and respect they have for the monuments. The order of application by the schools is strictly followed.

The collaboration of the Service with each school has been recorded since 1988 in an archive that contains information pertinent to some 1600 teachers and 1100 schools, their addresses, the programmes and special symposia they attended and the museum kits that have been lent. The processing of this information maps the schools and educators who have taken part in the educational programmes of the Acropolis over the past 15 years. Of great interest is both the periodical and continuous participation of a number of schools in these programmes, particularly from certain areas.

B. Seminars
The collaboration of the Information and Education Department with teachers takes a more specific form in the special seminars that take place regularly at the Centre for Acropolis Studies, throughout Greece and abroad as well. Seminars are held for groups of educators by request. Some 14,000 educators have taken part in the seminars, where the Department’s educational resources are presented, with data from the architecture, art and history of the classical period and its monuments, to be included in the lessons so as to enrich the course being taught. Seminars have been held for archaeologists, undergraduates and graduate students, for librarians of public, municipal, circulating, children’s, university and school libraries throughout Greece and especially for many Greek and foreign educators through various institutions such as the many Directories in the Ministry of Education (in Alexandroupolis, Artica, Ioannina, Kavala, Kalambaka, Patras, Samorini, Thessaloniki), the Institute for Education of Greeks Abroad, the Heilicene Ministry of Education, the Universities of Athens, the Aegae, Ioannina, Patras, Thessaloniki, Thessaly, Thrace, the Union of Art Teachers in Greek Schools, the MELINA Project "Education and Culture", the Greek Section of the International Council of Museums and the National Documentation Centre of the National Research Centre, and others.

A special network has been created between the Department and the Foreign Educational Resources
These comprise educational publications, museum kits, teachers’ packs, books, special itinerary booklets or “path-finders” accompanying the programmes, films, CD-ROMs, posters and games. The Department’s publications cover 20 different subjects and they have been circulated in more than 250,000 offprints in both Greek and English.

The resource material aims to help educators prepare themselves better both for the lesson at school and for the class visit to the archaeological site and the Museum.
Educational model of the Parthenon (scale 1:20) with the Panathenaic frieze in its original position. Photo S. Mavrommatis, 2003

Detail of the Parthenon educational model (scale 1:20) with the Panathenaic frieze in its original position. Photo S. Mavrommatis, 2003

Particular emphasis is placed on the distribution of material to educational institutions. Every school applying receives for its library a file containing educational booklets and posters, to maintain contact of the class with the monuments. Particular care is taken to achieve the best quality in scholarship, educational value and aesthetic appearance of the publications. The Department believes that the publications are of special importance because they are distributed to so many educators and students. Through the diffusion of these resources, the enormous educational potential of the Athenian Acropolis and the era it symbolises, becomes available at a crucial level of education.

Through collaboration with all the above institutions as well as with the Hellenic Ministry of the Aegean, the Hellenic Parliament, many Embassies, the Foundation for Hellenic Culture, the National Technical University of Athens, the various Ephorates of Antiquities and Greek and foreign museums, it is estimated that some 4000 schools have the Acropolis publications in their libraries and the Acropolis posters on their walls. Over the years it has become apparent that in addition to the training of each teacher through the material supplied, the seminars and the special symposia, in order to meet the great demand for participation in the programmes, it was necessary to enlarge the Loan Section, which is now growing continuously and is based primarily on the museum kits.

The museum kits comprise a multi-faceted resource. Each one contains books, transparencies, games, models of monuments and copies of ancient objects. In their entirety they provide a specifically designed educational resource of alternative teaching for use either in the classroom or in some other place of cultural reference. The old-fashioned idea of a closed box full of gifts for the child to open is associated with new technologies and the text is combined with new technologies, text, image and artifact complement each other to provide learning and fun.

The Department museum kits comprise the following subjects:
1) Let’s Go to the Acropolis
2) A Greek Temple
3) The Art of Stone Sculpture
4) Ancient Greek Dress
5) Ancient Greek Musical Instruments
6) The Parthenon Frieze
7) The Twelve Olympian Gods

These museum kits-on-loan have travelled over the years to 2,350 schools in Greece and abroad and they have been used by some 150,000 students.

In 2001, an extensive special programme was completed, with the designing and reproduction of four museum kits in multiple copies. The new museum kits have evolved from their original form of 1990-1993, so that they are now easier to use and can be reproduced in numbers, according to the needs that may arise. They are circulated not only in Greece but also abroad and the publications have therefore been translated into English.

Until 2001, the Department was providing around 200 schools per year with museum kits-on-loan. The new kits have given us the opportunity for the first time to offer them to educational institutions as well as to the primary and secondary schools per year and for a longer period. Most of this material was a standing donation of the Ministry of Culture to a network of educational institutions and educational institutions throughout Greece and abroad. The choice was based on a specific evaluation procedure so that the material would be used by the recipients to full advantage.

The four new museum kits are entitled:
1) “Let’s Go to the Acropolis”, “A Greek Temple”, “The Parthenon Frieze” and the “The Twelve Olympian Gods”. Although the themes are separate, they can comprise an assemblage through which the culture of ancient Greece can be approached in a different way. The picture of a Hellenic sanctuary (museum kit “Let’s Go to the Acropolis”) where the gods are worshipped (museum kit “The Twelve Olympian Gods”), the splendid temples (museum kit “A Greek Temple”) decorated by sculpture of unique artistic quality (museum kit “The Parthenon Frieze”), brings the sanctuaries to life before the eyes of the pupil. In this way they can approach the world of antiquity with pleasure, their intellects, imaginations and creativity activated. The museum kit on the subject of “The Twelve Olympian Gods” was selected in 2001 by the Educational Institute to be given as educational resource-material to the schools in the programme “Versatile Zone” of the Hellenic Ministry of Education. It has been given by the Ministry and the YSMA to 600 schools and educational institutions throughout the country.

Funding by the Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation enabled the Service to produce the museum kit entitled “Let’s Go to the Acropolis” with 100 copies in Greek and 100 in English. Additional funding from the Bodosakis Foundation provided 100 copies in “A Greek Temple”. The assistance of the “Association of the Friends of the Acropolis” has been invaluable throughout. These two kits were distributed to educational institutions in 2001-2002, in 47 provinces of Greece. The choice of the schools and educational institutions was made after a selection process based on a questionnaire sent to 1,100 institutions in all 54 provinces.

The basic criteria for the final choice were:
1. The greatest possible diffusion of the museum kits throughout Greece.
2. The total picture given by each school through the questionnaire (the number of students, school activities, cooperation with other schools, participation in various programmes, the existence of a library in the school).
3. The determination of the teacher to use the museum kit in his school.
4. The final selection of schools and institutions was made by our Service. Following the questionnaire was held on the contents and use of the museum kits in the educational process.

Distribution was spread over the Directorates of Primary and Secondary Education in the Ministry of Education, and the two museum kits by the various institutions. The museum kits have been donated to many places abroad. Twenty museum kits have been given to Cyprus after an in-depth seminar. In cooperation with the Institute for Education of Greeks Abroad of the Ministry of Education, museum kits were given to Educational Coordinators worldwide. Thus, the kits have travelled from Egypt to Australia, from Canada to Scandinavia and to Turkey. They have been given to large Museums, such as the Metropolitan Museum of New York, the Ashmolean in Oxford, the British Museum in London, the Louvre in Paris, the Museum of Venice, the Museum of Pisa and the Museum of Paestum in Italy, the National Museum of Bucharest in Romania and the National Museum of Pancsova in Yugoslavia. The kits have also been presented to important universities such as the Universities of Berkeley California, Fairfax, Florida, Indiana, New York and Yale in the United States, in Germany to the University of Tubingen and to the National University of Kobe in Japan.

They have been given likewise to large schools abroad that have special Greek departments, in Austria, Belgium, Chile,
D. Special Symposia

Symposia have been organised (1991, 1993) and the Acropolis because of its importance character of the reports. The museum kit “Acropolis”, using the Parthenon Frieze”. The Panathenaea was the greatest festival of ancient Athens. Splendid athletic games were held together with competitions in rhythm and music. A great procession, that illustrated on the Parthenon frieze, wound its way up the Acropolis on the 28th of Hekatombeion, around the 15th of August, thus coinciding with the time when the Olympic Games of 2004 will be under way. The Department will be cooperating during the entire school year with selected activity of the department, sharing in the activities of the museum kit “The Parthenon Frieze”. The Panathenaea seen through the text is by C. Hadziaslani. It was published in 2002 in Greek and in English. The CD-ROM was produced in 2003 by our Service (YSMA-1st Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities) in collaboration with the National Documentation Centre of the National Research Foundation. It was composed by A. Choremi, C. Hadziaslani, S. Mavrommatis, K. Antonidis, E. Sachini and I. Kaimara. The children who have benefited from these programmes will participate in a very real way in the time-honoured celebration of the Panathenaea.

E. Exhibitions

In the framework of various exhibitions and meetings, the museum kits and in general the departmental publications have been exhibited in many parts of Greece, such as the Museum of Cycladic Art, the European Cultural Centre at Delphi, the Goelandris Museum of Natural History, the French Institute, many universities and libraries. Abroad, exhibitions have been held at museums in many cities such as Alexandria, Amsterdam, Belgrade, Bucharest, Kiev, Leuko-

ed school and library networks. The project will be launched in November with a special Seminar comprising several workshops. The attending representatives will be given resource-material. During the entire year the department will provide archaeological support and material to the participating schools. In May, shortly before the beginning of the Olympic Games of 2004 in Athens, the department will hold the 8th symposium, at which participating teachers will have the opportunity to present their work. Through their teachers, the children who have benefited from these programmes will participate in a very real way in the time-honoured celebration of the Panathenaea.

F. CD-ROMs and publications of YSMA

The CD-ROM was produced in 2003 by our Service (YSMA-1st Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities) in collaboration with the National Documentation Centre of the National Research Foundation. It was composed by A. Choremi, C. Hadziaslani, S. Mavrommatis, K. Antonidis, E. Sachini and I. Kaimara. It is addressed both to the general public and to specialists. The main menu comprises six units: general introduction, tour of the frieze, in which the user is led around the monument in order to see the frieze in its entirety, from left to right and vice versa, and also a block by block description of the representations on the frieze, in which each block is shown by itself, magnified, with its own descriptive text.

The photographic unfolding of the frieze and the CD-ROM comprise a tool with which you can “read” and understand the frieze, observe the correspondence between the north and south sides, make observations about the composition of a brilliant work of art, a work in which nothing is haphazard, where everything is according to a plan, which serves political, symbolic and religious purposes.

New publications

- C. Parachi-N. Togandis, Study for the restoration of the south wall of the Parthenon, Study for the restoration of the Parthenon, 6, Athens 2002 (in Greek with an English summary).
- T. Tzanakou-M. Ioannidou, Study for the restoration of the superstructure of the central building, Study for the restoration of the Propylaea, 2, Athens 2002 (in Greek with an English summary).
- C. Zambas, Study for the structural restoration of the north facade of the Parthenon, Athens 2002 (in Greek with an English summary).