



Othello tower - Famagusta

Established in April 2008, the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage is dedicated to recognize and protect the rich and diverse cultural heritage of the island.

The Committee is supported in its work by an Advisory Board composed of archaeologists, architects, art historians and town planners from both communities. All its programmatic decisions are taken in line with the agreed principles and the task attributed by the two Leaders.

“The Cultural Heritage Technical Committee believes that it is the primary responsibility of the Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots to protect the endangered cultural heritage of the island, and that it is important for these monuments to be preserved not only because they are important symbols for the Turkish Cypriots and the Greek Cypriots, and for humanity, but also because they have intrinsic values in themselves” (Press Statement of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage 06/05/2009).

Our mandate

Preservation of the cultural heritage of Cyprus

The Committee works to provide a mutually acceptable mechanism for the implementation of practical measures for the proper maintenance, preservation, physical protection and restoration (including research, study and survey) of the immovable cultural heritage of Cyprus.

Education

Education is central to the mission of the Committee. The Committee actively works to create an educational interactive programme that gives the opportunity to the younger generation of Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots to learn about each other and the cultural heritage of the island.



Çerkez Mosque – Phasouri / Çerkez Çiftliği



Evretu / Dereboyu Mosque



Komi Kebir / Büyükkonuk Agios Afksentios Church



Kalograia / Esentepe Melandrina Church

From decision making to implementation Current and future projects

Study of Cyprus Cultural Heritage

In 2009 the Committee agreed to compile a study of the immovable cultural heritage of Cyprus. This European Union funded study was realized in 2010 thanks to the support of the United Nations Development Program – Partnership for the Future (UNDP-PFF). The study resulted in the compilation of a list of more than 2300 cultural heritage sites, the preparation of around 700 inventory charts including historical background, pictures, topographical details and architectural sketches of each monument, and

the carrying out of 121 technical assessments, analyzing the current conditions of the monuments, and restoration costing needs.

Emergency interventions on Cultural Heritage sites in Cyprus

The Study conducted in 2010 resulted in the identification of a list of 10 cultural heritage sites throughout the island in need of emergency measures.

Thanks to EU funds, and the continued support

of UNDP-PFF, a decision was made in 2012 to carry out emergency interventions in the following sites:

- Denia / Denya Mosque
- Philia / Serhatköy Profitis Elias Church
- Komi Kebir / Büyükkonuk Agios Afksentios Church
- Kalograia / Esentepe Melandrina Church
- Syrianochori / Yayla Agios Nicolaos Church
- Mustafa Pasha Mosque - Famagusta
- Çerkez Mosque – Phasouri / Çerkez Çiftliği
- Kato Paphos / Aşağı Baf Bath
- Trachoni / Demirhan Panagia Church
- Evretu / Dereboyu Mosque

The project of “Services for the Survey, Investigation, Assessment and Project Designs for the Othello Tower/Citadel” is also being carried out thanks to EU funding and UNDP-PFF support. The project will be followed by emergency works on this important monument.

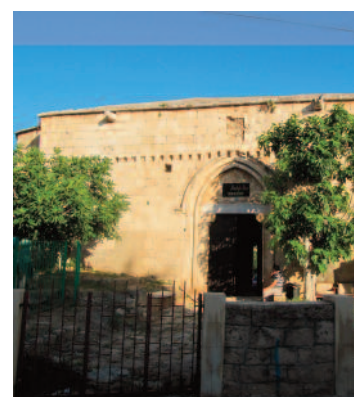
Additional emergency support works

- ◀ Partial support works were recently completed at the Agios Panteleimonas Monastery in Myrtou / Çamlıbel. The Technical Committee is developing the proce-

dures for the actual restoration of this monument.

- ◀ A program for Small Project Activities (SPA) focusing on grass-roots interventions in Monuments requiring low-cost, easy-to-do, small-scale tasks capable of producing early results are being implemented in 10 sites: 5 mosques and 5 churches throughout the island.
- ◀ The Committee is currently working on two restoration projects for the Arnavut Mosque and the Archangel Michael Church.

The Committee has also recently assumed a coordination and facilitator role for the



Famagusta / Mustafa Pasha Mosque



Philia / Serhatköy Profitis Elias Church



Trachoni / Demirhan Panagia Church

Denia / Denya Mosque





Kato Paphos / Aşağı Baf Batha

restoration of the Apostolos Andreas monastery in Karpaz/Karpasia having the support of all interested parties in accordance with internationally recognized modalities and regulations.

The Technical Committee believes that protection of cultural heritage is an integral part of the ongoing process of broadening areas of coop-

eration between the Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots, which can only be achieved through joint efforts.

The call of the Technical Committee to those interested in our work is to give support to our efforts for preserving past heritage so that we can build our future on a culture of peace, tolerance, cooperation, dialogue and respect for differences.

The members of the Technical Committee wish to acknowledge the support and facilitation provided to their work by the Office and the staff of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Cyprus.



Syrianochori / Yayla Agios Nicolaos Church



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The Technical Committee **on Cultural Heritage** in Cyprus

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