



Paphos Hamam (near Hasan Aga tomb)

This is a project of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Conservation Study Start Date: November 2015

Conservation Study End Date: February 2016

Type of proposed intervention: Conservation works

Works will start within 2017

The Baths are also known as the Medieval Baths or ancient Turkish Baths. Due to a lack of credible resources, documents and evidence, the period of the construction of the hamam has not yet been determined. However, archaeological evidence have proved that the hamam was in use during the medieval period. It also known that the hamam remained in use until the year 1896. The specific hamam does not follow the typical plan of the ottoman hamams. The existing structure is a result of a series of repairs, renovation activities and a number of alterations throughout the centuries.

In 1949, the west façade of the hamam was restored. During the years 1967 and 1976, also other minor repairs took place. In 2003, the apertures in the domes were restored and the entrance gateway in the west side and the entire masonry surface were consolidated.

In July 2015, a team of archaeologists and excavation workers was commissioned by UNDP to conduct the first phase of excavation works in four rooms of the hamam and the surrounding area. Objective of the excavations at the hamam, is to investigate the use of the building and to detect all its chronological phases and modifications from its original construction through the cessation of its usage as a bath. In October 2016 the second phase of the excavation was initiated. The excavation begun on the 3rd of October of 2016 and was completed on the 15th of November of 2016. According to the new findings of this second phase of the excavation it was considered necessary to proceed with a third and last phase of excavations before proceeding with the planned conservation works. The last phase of the excavation works was completed in January 2017.

A study & condition assessment was commissioned by the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage through UNDP between November 2015 and February 2016.

Proposed interventions for this monument comprise, among others:

- Cleaning of the building and the site
- Conservation works which include:
 - Cleaning and treatment of stone masonry where considered necessary

- Protection of the excavated areas (shelter and water drainage)
- Water drainage for the building, the excavated area and surrounding area of the site
- Restoration works which include:
 - Repair of the existing renderings on roofs/ domes
 - Restoration of the parts of the structure
 - All cement jointing will be removed and replaced with compatible materials
- Structural consolidation which includes:
 - Stabilization of loose stones
 - Repointing, rejoining and grouting
 - Filling stones, which are detached, weathered, decayed or at risk of collapsing, as well as any eroded and cracked mortar joints will be repointed, removed or replaced
- Safety measures (as safety railings and mesh on openings)
- Visitor’s management plan of the interior space with walking corridors and restoration of access in all rooms
- Visitor’s management plan of the outside space with walking corridors and small sitting area
- Internal and external illumination

Conservation works are planned to start in spring 2017 and to be completed by the end of 2017. The project is fully funded by the **European Union**.

More information on on-going projects of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage can be found here: <http://www.cy.undp.org/content/cyprus/en/home/operations/projects/partnershipforthefuture/support-to-cultural-heritage-monuments-of-great-importance-for-c.html>

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The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage - The Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage, established by the decision of the two Leaders, works in line and within the mutually agreed framework for the preservation of the island’s common heritage. The Committee upholds and promotes the view that the protection of cultural heritage is an integral part of the ongoing process of broadening the area of cooperation and confidence building between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, which can only be achieved through joint efforts. Through its work the Committee aims to achieve the best possible results for the stability, survival, cultural and social value and protection of selected Monuments. For this purpose the Committee set up the Advisory Board to act as its executive body to pursue actions for the actual implementation of designs for selected monuments, including research, study, survey and conservation. This framework allows for the practical aspects of preservation to be considered in a non-political manner so that practical measures can be taken to improve the situation on the ground.

United Nations Development Programme – PMO in Cyprus - The Agreement on the establishment of the Advisory Board for the Preservation, Physical Protection and Restoration of the Immovable Cultural Heritage of Cyprus recognizes a special role to **UNDP in Cyprus** as a **politically accepted implementation body** by both communities. For this reason, UNDP-PFF was requested by the European Commission to become the lead coordinator under which the project would be implemented fostering dialogue, cooperation and confidence building between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots.

European Union - Since 2012 approximately **€11.7 million of European Union funds** have been provided by the European Commission to implement the priorities of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage for the preservation of the island-wide cultural heritage in Cyprus. The European Union is the biggest supporter of the work of the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in Cyprus.