
Archaeological site of Philippi (Hellenic Republic of Greece) No 1517

Official name as proposed by the State Party

Archaeological site of Philippi

Location

Municipality of Kavala
Regional Unit of Kavala
Region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace
Greece (Hellenic Republic)

Brief description

Founded on a former colony of Thasians by Philip II in 356 BCE, the archaeological remains of the Walled City of Philippi lie at the foot of an acropolis on the ancient route linking Europe with Asia, the *Via Egnatia*. Following the victory led by Octavian and Mark Antony at the Battle of Philippi in 42 BCE outside the city's western walls, the Hellenistic monuments such as the great theatre and the Funerary Heroon were supplemented by Roman public buildings including the Forum and a monumental terrace with temples to its north. Remains of Christian basilicas and the octagonal church testify to the city's importance as a metropolitan see as it became a centre of Christian faith and pilgrimage deriving from the visit and mission of the Apostle Paul in 49/50 CE.

Category of property

In terms of categories of cultural property set out in Article I of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, this property was initially submitted as a serial nomination of 3 *sites*. At the recommendation of ICOMOS the State Party withdrew the nomination of 2 serial components by letter of 27 February 2016. The property accordingly remains a nomination of 1 *site*.

1 Basic data

Included in the Tentative List

16 January 2014

International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund for preparing the Nomination

None

Date received by the World Heritage Centre

30 January 2015

Background

This is a new nomination

Consultations

ICOMOS consulted its International Scientific Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management and several independent experts.

Technical Evaluation Mission

An ICOMOS technical evaluation mission visited the property from 14 to 18 September 2015.

Additional information received by ICOMOS

A letter was sent by ICOMOS to the State Party on 23 September 2015 requesting additional information on the serial approach, comparative analysis and conservation. A response was received from the State Party on 2 November 2015 and the information has been incorporated below. A second letter was sent on 21 December 2015 requesting further information regarding removal of the battlefield sites, extension of the buffer zone, extension of the Management Plan, and use of the road through the property. A response was received from the State Party on 27 February 2016 and the information has been incorporated below.

Date of ICOMOS approval of this report

11 March 2016

2 The property

Description

The nominated property comprises the walled city of Philippi, including within it the fortified acropolis as one component of 87.545 ha, and comprised the battlefield of Philippi as two further components to the west - the two hills from which the protagonists fought each other - 2a being 9.669 ha and 2b being 2.902 ha. Component 1 is surrounded by a buffer zone of 161.228 ha and Components 2a and 2b were surrounded by a shared buffer zone of 40.444 ha.

The Walled City of Philippi (Component 1)

The walled city includes the fortified acropolis above the city where evidence of habitation dates back to the Early Iron Age (1050-700 BCE) and rock sanctuaries with carvings and inscriptions have been dated from the 5th century BCE. The walls of the acropolis and the city date to the 4th century BCE period of the Macedonian King Phillip II and were extensively repaired during the Byzantine period. There were four gates to the walled city; 'Neapolis' in the centre of the east wall, 'East' in the east wall south of the theatre, 'Krinides' in the centre of the west wall, and 'Marshes' south of this. Segments of a large aqueduct which carried water to the city from the springs to the north-west survive on the southern and western slopes of the acropolis. The 535 mile long Roman highway *Via Egnatia* joining Dyrrachium with Byzantium crossed the city from the Krinides gate to the Neapolis and was the main east-west street (*decumanus maximus*) of the city. Sections of the paving remain today, with large rectangular slabs of marble showing traces of cart wheels. Today the city is entered by the east gate south of the

theatre, through which the modern road (now closed) from Kavala (ancient Neapolis) to Drama passed across the city.

The theatre, dating originally from the period of Philip II is built into the south-east slope of the acropolis abutting the eastern city wall. It was reworked during the Roman period with construction of a three-storey scene building which has recently been restored for modern use. A Macedonian type Funerary *Heroon* (temple) dating from the 2nd century BCE and bearing the inscription *Euephenes Exekestou* on its pediment is located in the centre of the city. It was later incorporated into the first Christian place of worship in the city, the 'Basilica of Paul'. Remains of the Roman Forum dating from the 2nd century CE have been excavated along the *decumanus maximus* and are bounded on the south by the commercial road. The forum comprised monumental temples and the *curia* (senate), library and law court surrounding a large central square. On the north side were monumental fountains and a public podium was located in the centre, with the colonnaded *stoa* running long the south side. South of the commercial road are remains of the *Macellum* (commercial market) contemporary with the forum. This had a portico colonnade of six Corinthian columns and a central peristyle courtyard. To its west was located the *Palaestra* (sports complex) of which the latrines are notable remains. Much of this area was subsumed into the later construction of a large church known as Basilica B. To the south-east are the remains of an extensive Roman villa known as the 'House of the Wild Animals' due to the pictorial design of the mosaic floors.

Today the ruins of the walled city of Philippi apart from the theatre are most notable for the remains of several substantial churches which together illustrate the development of Christian liturgical practice and architectural symbolism from the Early Christian to late Byzantine period.

The earliest was apparently the 'Basilica of Paul' dating from the early 4th century CE; a simple hall type church with an inscribed eastern apse, located to the east of the forum. It is dated by the inscription in its mosaic floor dedicating it to 'Paul, in Christ'. This was succeeded by an octagonal church c 400 CE which in turn was succeeded by the monumental octagonal Cathedral of Philippi dedicated to the Apostle Paul. This was an elaborately decorated structure with mosaic and marble *opus sectile* floors which became the focus of pilgrimage to Philippi. During the reign of Justinian I it was enclosed by walls and included a richly decorated baptistery and fountain court as well as the Hellenistic funerary monument. The remains of the Episkopeion (bishop's residence) are to its east.

The higher level terrace north of the forum contained the temple area, including another possible *Heroon*, the *cella* of which was converted to a cistern and incorporated into the atrium of the large church known as Basilica A in the late 5th century CE. This was a three-aisled, timber-roofed basilica with transept, projecting semi-circular apse to the

east, atrium to the west and further west a peristyle courtyard. Following the destruction of Basilica A (post 7th-8th C) the cistern, traditionally identified as the 'Prison of the Apostle Paul' was converted to a place of worship.

Basilica B, built over part of the commercial market area south of the forum was a domed basilica dating from the 6th century CE with an almost square, three-aisled nave and a second dome over the sanctuary containing the altar. The sanctuary had a semi-circular apse to the east and was flanked by two liturgical annexes with semi-circular annexes. Remains of elaborate sculptural decoration and marble finishes reflect influence from the Constantinopolitan churches S. Sophia and S. Eirini. Following its destruction a small church was constructed in the 9th-10th century CE which incorporated the standing remains of the west entrance and narthex.

Basilica C, located on the slopes of the acropolis west of Basilica A was built in the early 6th century CE as a three-aisled basilica, with galleries, narthex and atrium. In the later 6th century a transept was created at the east end with annexes to the north.

The Battlefield of Philippi (Components 2a and 2b) (withdrawn by letter of 27 February 2016)

According to the Roman historian Appian, two hills about 2.5 km south and south-west of the walled city mark the Battlefield of Philippi. Component 2a, the larger hill is known today as the Hill of Alexander the Great. Here in 42 BCE took place the Battle of Philippi between opposing forces in the Roman civil war that marked the end of the Republic. Rising out of large expanses of fertile, cultivated fields with low-standing annual crops, the hills bear traces of built constructions (recorded photogrammetrically) that have been interpreted as defensive works. Traces of a possible Roman fortification have been identified west of the Gangites River, together with remains of an arch that may have been part of this or a commemorative/triumphal arch on the *Via Egnatia*. These latter remains are not included within the property. Inscriptions, coins and parts of iron weapons found in the vicinity of the battlefield are held in the Archaeological Museum of Philippi.

ICOMOS considered that the two components could not together satisfy the nominated criteria, and there were issues with the integrity of the battlefield. Following discussions with the State Party, Components 2a and 2b have been excluded from the nomination.

History and development

The first settlement in the area known as Krinides due to the abundant springs was founded by Thasian colonists in 360 BCE. Located on the route from the coast to the hinterland, with good water sources, access to agriculture, timber, and gold and silver mines, the colony was taken over by Philip II of Macedon in 356 BCE. He installed Macedonian settlers and renamed it Philippi. An inscription records that disputes about the boundary of the colony's *chora* (hinterland) was settled by special decree of Alexander the Great (336-323 BCE). Following the

success of Octavian and Marc Antony in the Battle of Philippi, the city was re-founded by Octavian Augustus in 31 BCE as *Colonia Iulia Augusta Philippensis* and received new settlers from Italy and from Asia, including Jews. The first Christian church was founded by the Apostle Paul in 49/50 CE as recorded in his Epistles to the Philippians. The recognition of Christianity by Constantine as the Empire's new official religion and establishment of the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire at Constantinople in 330 CE revived the Greek character of Philippi. Greek replaced Latin as the official language. Philippi became a Metropolitan see in the 4th century CE with 5-7 dioceses in its jurisdiction. Churches succeeded Roman public buildings in defining the city, which became a centre of Christian faith and pilgrimage in the name of the Apostle Paul. However the city began to decline in the late 6th and early 7th centuries CE following a series of earthquakes.

The city's fortunes revived with the repair of the city walls by Nikephoros II Phokas (963-969 CE) and during the following two centuries the transfer of cemeteries to within the city walls marked its transition from ancient to medieval organisation. In the 14th century the region was incorporated in the Ottoman Empire. European travellers noted the ruins between the 15th and late 19th centuries and scientific research of the area and the city's monuments began in 1861 under Napoleon III. Following the end of the Balkan Wars and incorporation into the Greek State in 1912, the Hellenic Archaeological Service became responsible for antiquities. The French School at Athens began systematic excavation in 1914, at which time the city walls, the towers of the acropolis and the pillars of Basilica B were still visible, and research has continued almost uninterrupted until the present. The property was classified as an 'archaeological site' in 1962.

3 Justification for inscription, integrity and authenticity

Comparative analysis

The nomination dossier compares Philippi with several sites in Greece, Asia Minor and the Balkans, including those on the World Heritage and Tentative Lists, which like Philippi were either Roman colonies or at their zenith in the Roman and Early Christian period due to their strategic location, or were connected with important historical events, or formed a symbolic point of reference in the dissemination of Christianity. It is a comprehensive discussion and makes clear that these many sites all contribute to understanding how urban areas were formed during the Roman period and how they evolved with the establishment of Christianity and the move of the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire to Constantinople. Greek cities located on the sea and land routes of the Roman Empire were transformed by the erection of major public buildings and later following the mission of the Apostle Paul, who visited most of the cities under discussion, by the addition of churches. Cities such as Thessalonika (World Heritage List, Palaeochristian and Byzantine Monuments of

Thessalonika 1988, criteria (i), (ii) and (iv)), Archaeological Site of Nikopolis (2014) (Greece's Tentative List), Beroia, Amphipolis, Nea-Anchialos (Thebes), Corinth and Gortyn in Crete all contain the remains of a number of early churches. The analysis concludes that Philippi stands out because it suffered far less from later habitation and has been the subject of many years of research and study since the mid-19th century. The comparison with Roman/Early Christian cities in Asia Minor including Pergamon and its Multi-Layered Cultural Landscape, Turkey (World Heritage List 2014, criteria (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and (vi)) and Ephesus (World Heritage List 2015, criteria (iii), (iv) and (vi)) is less convincing in this respect as they also are intact archaeological sites of the period.

The State Party argues that Philippi is primarily distinguished from all the other sites covered in the analysis by the documented connection between the archaeological remains and epigraphic and historical testimony with two significant events: the Battle of Philippi that sealed the end of democracy in Rome, and the founding of the first Christian community on European soil by the Apostle Paul, who is honoured in the area to the present day.

Regarding the battlefield, the Battle of Philippi is compared in the nomination dossier in terms of historical importance with the Battle of Pydna 168 BCE, the Battle of Pharsala 48 BCE, and the Sea Battle of Actium 31 BCE. The additional information from the State Party includes a comparison with additional battlefields including Marathon 490 BCE, Thermopylae 480 BCE, Plataea 479 BCE, Chaeronea 338 BCE, Gaugamela 331 BCE, Cynoscephalae 197 BCE, Milvian Bridge 312 CE and Adrianople/Chrysopolis 324 CE including comparison of the physical remains of all these battlefields with those at Philippi, as well as discussion of the relationship of the battlefields with any subsequent settlements. It is stated that only the Battle of Philippi can be identified accurately in its landscape in a manner that can be verified both by the topographic data as well as by historical accounts. This uniqueness is due to the presence of the two hills that dominate the landscape and formed the central point of the area where the battle was fought. It is stated that the only analogous case in which a military conflict influenced the history of a nearby city to such an extent as at Philippi was Nikopolis in Epirus, founded following the Sea Battle of Actium. But whereas Nikopolis remained a free Greek city, Philippi developed as a Roman colony, representing the incorporation of regions into the Roman Empire.

ICOMOS however considers that the most important and durable evidence of the role of the battle of Philippi in shaping the future of the town to become an important Roman colony and subsequently a centre for the spreading of Christianity is the archaeological site of the ancient city of Philippi itself and not the field where the battle took place.

The serial approach is not justified and the two components together could not satisfy the criteria. ICOMOS considers that only the walled city of Philippi can be justified as an archaeological site in terms of the criteria.

ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis justifies consideration of Philippi, the walled city alone for the World Heritage List.

Justification of Outstanding Universal Value

The nominated property is considered by the State Party to be of Outstanding Universal Value as a cultural property for the following reasons:

- The property represents the form and function of a Roman colony as a “small Rome” in the Balkans;
- Philippi was the first Christian community in the West where the first church on European soil was founded by the Apostle Paul;
- The early Christian remains are excellent examples of the early development of architectural church types;
- Philippi is associated with Philip II of Macedon who conquered the original Thasian settlement, promoting its Hellenistic development;
- The Battle of Philippi determined the course of the Republic towards the Roman Empire which conquered the then known world.

ICOMOS considers that also other archaeological sites inscribed or not on the World Heritage List exhibit associations with the Apostle Paul, therefore this aspect does not appear specific to Philippi.

ICOMOS also considers that the historic consequences of the battle at Philippi are best represented by the archaeological remains of the walled city rather than by the Battlefield.

ICOMOS finally considered that the serial approach is not justified by the comparative analysis in relationship to the criteria and therefore, in its interim report of December 2015, ICOMOS proposed the State Party to remove the Battlefield from the nomination.

In its response to ICOMOS' interim report, the State Party has deleted the Battlefield (Component 2) from the nomination.

Integrity and authenticity

Integrity

The Walled City includes all elements necessary to convey its values, and is not subject to development or neglect. It does still contain the asphalted modern road, closed in 2014, which passes through the site at a higher level than but essentially following the route of the ancient *Via Egnatia*. However in its response to ICOMOS' second letter the State Party has confirmed that this road will be used only for access within the site, and short-term

planning includes for its dismantling east of the west entrance near the museum.

ICOMOS considers that the proposed works will satisfy conditions of integrity for the Walled City.

ICOMOS considers that the integrity of the Walled City has been justified.

Authenticity

The Walled city was subject to major destruction in the earthquake of 620 CE. Many stones and elements of the buildings of the Walled City including inscriptions and mosaic and opus sectile floors remain in situ from that time, although some stones were subsequently reused in later buildings. Modern constructions and interventions at the site have generally been limited to archaeological investigations and necessary measures for the protection and enhancement of the site. However major restoration-anastylosis has been carried out at the Theatre and the Octagon, Basilica A. and B, and erection of shelters over mosaic floors. In the 1950s the lower cavea of the Theatre was restored and the upper cavea reconstructed to accommodate the Theatre Festival of Philippi-Thasos. Further work was carried out to the *paradoi*, restraint walls, arches, scene building, post *scaenam* wall and orchestra, with improvement of the drainage system and conservation of the underground chambers for animals and gladiators in the 1990s -2000s.

ICOMOS notes that for the most part the principle of reversibility has been respected and considers that the Walled City is authentic in terms of form and design, location and setting.

ICOMOS considers that the authenticity of the Walled City has been justified.

ICOMOS considers that the conditions of integrity and authenticity have been met for the Walled City.

Criteria under which inscription is proposed

The property is nominated on the basis of cultural criteria (ii), (iii), (iv) and (vi).

Criterion (ii): *exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;*

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that due to its long period of occupation, Philippi bears witness to the transition of a Hellenistic city into a Roman colony, and then into a centre of Christianity, preserving architectural and artistic features from each epoch. The city's plan, its buildings, artworks, languages and written testimonies reflect the interchange of cultural concepts, traditions and institutions between Greece, Rome and Christianity.

ICOMOS considers that the reflection of many influences at such a location is not unusual and there is no evidence of what these influences signify in terms of an important exchange of human values. Additionally, the justification does not apply to Component 2, the Battlefield.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has not been demonstrated.

Criterion (iii): *bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilisation which is living or which has disappeared;*

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that Philippi is an important milestone for the spread of Christianity in Europe, since it is the place where evangelism first began, spreading the word of the new religion from the eastern provinces westwards. In Philippi Paul the Apostle founded the first Christian church/community and baptized the first Christian in Europe. The site is still today a destination for pilgrimage.

ICOMOS considers that this justification applies to Component 1, the Walled City, but not to Component 2.

Philippi through the remains of its churches is exceptional testimony to the early establishment and growth of Christianity.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has been justified for the Walled City (Component 1).

Criterion (iv): *be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;*

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that the monuments of Philippi belong to various architectural types and represent in an exceptional way important stages in the development of monumental architecture during Roman and Early Christian periods. The Forum is the most characteristic example of such a public space in the eastern provinces of the Roman Empire and echoes the Roman architectural tradition. The Early Christian architectural remains are excellent examples of the early development of architectural types such as the octagon church, the transept Basilica, and the domed Basilica. The *Via Egnatia* was one of the most important routes of the ancient world.

ICOMOS considers that the monuments of Philippi exemplify various architectural types and reflect the development of architecture during the Roman and Early Christian period. The Forum stands out as an example of such a public space in the eastern Roman provinces. The Octagon Church, the transept Basilica, and the domed Basilica stand out as types of Early Christian

architecture. However the justification does not apply to Component 2.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has been justified for the Walled City (Component 1).

Criterion (vi): *be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance;*

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that Philippi is directly and tangibly connected to major personalities and events that affected the course of history including Philip II of Macedon who made Philippi an important economic and political power in his kingdom, and gave it his name. The Battle of Philippi involving major political figures such as Brutus, Marc Antony and Octavian determined the course of the Republic towards the Roman Empire that would conquer the then-known world. Important Roman emperors (Claudius, Antonius Pius and Marcus Aurelius) adorned it with monumental public buildings. Literary works describe the Battle of Philippi. Apostle Paul founded the first Christian church in Europe at Philippi, inaugurating a new religion in the West that would later exert global influence.

ICOMOS considers that association with important personalities does not fulfil this criterion, therefore this aspect of the proposed justification does not meet the requirements of the *Operational Guidelines*. ICOMOS further notes that the part of the justification related to the association between the Battle of Philippi and the subsequent thriving of Philippi as a Roman colony lies in the tangible evidence of the archaeological ruins of the walled city and is therefore more convincingly demonstrated by criterion (iii).

ICOMOS also considers that the use of criterion (vi) for negative events, as in the case of wars and battles, could be acceptable only in extremely exceptional cases.

Therefore, in its interim report, ICOMOS requested the State Party whether they were ready to remove Component 2, the Battlefield.

The State Party agreed to remove this component from the nomination.

The other aspect of the justification of this criterion for Philippi is that it is associated with Paul the Apostle. In this regard, ICOMOS considers that this association is not peculiar to Philippi, as there are several other early Christian sites that were associated to the Apostle.

ICOMOS considers that this criterion has not been justified.

ICOMOS considers that the serial approach is not appropriate.

In conclusion, ICOMOS considers that criterion (iii) and (iv) have been justified for the archaeological site of the walled city of Philippi.

4 Factors affecting the property

The property is not subject to development pressure. Peat and lignite deposits exist in the area and in 2008 a proposal for a new power plant in Kavala was rejected. Future mining pressure is possible. Seismic risk is a serious hazard and is countered to the extent possible by systematic monitoring. Grass fire risk is mitigated by provision of fire extinguishers at the museum and guard houses and cooperation with the local fire services. Expansion of the water supply network is proposed to augment fire protection. The management of rainwater runoff is part of the maintenance system. Rare vandalism has occurred on the acropolis foothills and battlefield hills. This is mitigated by regular inspection by the authorities. Property Component 1 is partly fenced. The Archaeological Museum is fitted with modern protection and surveillance systems. Philippi is the third most popular archaeological site in Greece, but it is not expected that visitor numbers will increase beyond the site's carrying capacity should the property be inscribed on the World Heritage List. There are no permanent residents or facilities for temporary stays within the nominated property or buffer zone.

ICOMOS considers that the main threats to the property are seismic activity and fire.

5 Protection, conservation and management

Boundaries of the nominated property and buffer zone

The property boundaries of the Walled City, follow along 10-30 m outside the city wall but are not defined on the ground.

The buffer zone of the Walled City includes the property's immediate surroundings, as well as important landscape features: the entire hill to the north, the plain to the south and the Lydia Baptistery, where a part of the western portion of the ancient cemetery of Philippi is still preserved, with sarcophagi and inscriptions. The buffer zone is not recognisable or defined on the ground.

In response to ICOMOS' second letter, the State Party has extended the buffer zone at the south-eastern corner of the walled city where it previously aligned with the property boundary.

ICOMOS considers that the boundaries of the Walled City and its buffer zone are now adequate. The boundaries of the nominated property and of its buffer

zones should be clearly and permanently marked on the ground.

Ownership

The Archaeological site of the walled city of Philippi is owned by the Greek State except for around 20 plots in the southern part of the property that are still privately owned, comprising around 10 ha.

Protection

The nominated property and buffer zone are protected at the highest level under the Antiquities Law 3028/2002 'On the Protection of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage in General' as re-designated in 2012 and as protected zone A in 2013. This covers both State and privately owned land and except for the buffer zone extension in the south-east corner which covers part of the adjacent town is a 'non-construction' zone. The area of the adjacent town is covered by planning requirements to report archaeological finds during works. There is monitoring of farming activity; only shallow-till farming and grazing are allowed and earthworks are completely banned.

ICOMOS notes that the sites are not fully fenced.

ICOMOS considers that the legal protection in place is adequate. ICOMOS considers that property should be fully fenced.

Conservation

Research publications date back to 1861. Records of excavation carried out by the French School of Archaeology in Athens and the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki are kept by the Regional Services (Ephorate of Antiquities of Kavala-Thasos) of the Ministry of Culture and Sports. The inscriptions and architectural elements around the site have been inventoried. Artefacts are on display in the Philippi Museum on site or in storage at Kavala. There is apparently no overall database/inventory for the property. The history of past excavation and conservation programs at the site is set out in the nomination dossier. In response to ICOMOS' second letter, a research plan which co-ordinates the work of all participants has been provided. Archaeological remains have been consolidated with mortar and mosaic floors where not on display under shelters are protected by layers of geotextile and covered with earth.

ICOMOS notes that ongoing maintenance is carried out at the site but considers that this should be increased all over the site. Special attention must be paid to some wall surfaces, floor sections and mosaics, which need to be continually protected, using shelters or other devices in accordance with an overall site conservation strategy.

In response to ICOMOS' second letter the State Party has provided a conservation strategy which identifies the priority projects and shows the allocation and sources of funding for these.

ICOMOS considers that an overall database/inventory should be compiled. Site maintenance should be increased and special attention is required to wall and floor finishes within the overall site conservation strategy.

Management

Management structures and processes, including traditional management processes

The nominated property is managed at the local level by the Ephorate of Antiquities and Special Regional Services of the General Directorate of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage, within the Ministry of Culture and Sports. Nine staff are engaged at the site, co-ordinated by the Director of the Ephorate of Kavala-Thasos and the site director/archaeologist. Up to ten temporary personnel are engaged during the summer season. Specialist expertise is available when required from the Ephorate, the French School in Athens and the University of Thessaloniki. Funding is provided by the Ministry of Culture for staff, maintenance and site works. Additional financial resources are available through the Regional Operational Programme of the Partnership Agreement 2014-2020.

ICOMOS considers that in the event of World Heritage inscription it would be necessary to increase the number of permanent staff at the site and the availability of funds for conservation and maintenance.

Policy framework: management plans and arrangements, including visitor management and presentation

A Management Plan has been prepared for the property within the context of the World Heritage nomination, with the collaboration of agencies involved in the site's management at various levels and building on the previous proposal drafted in 2010 and completed in 2013 by the Municipality. It will be implemented by a seven member committee including representatives of government and municipal agencies and co-ordinated by the head of the local Ephorate of Antiquities. The Action Plan is provided as a table and covers risk preparedness, conservation, provision of shelters over excavated areas; and in the short term, creation of an entrance on the west side of the archaeological site, creation of a network of visitor paths and additional visitor amenities, improvement of fencing, and expropriation of privately-owned lands within the walls. Visitors enter the site at the east gate where a ticket office and small bookshop provide information. From the west they enter via the Museum, where artefacts are displayed and information is available. The site is explained by non-intrusive information panels and tour guides are available.

Involvement of the local communities

The nomination of Philippi was instigated in 2002 by the efforts of the local community of Kavala and Kavala-Thasos Ephorate. Local people are involved in awareness-raising and educational projects, as well as the

various events held at the site including the Festival of Philippi.

In conclusion, ICOMOS considers that the management system and plan for the property should be extended to include increased site maintenance and protection of wall and floor finishes. Furthermore, ICOMOS recommends that the property should be fully fenced.

6 Monitoring

Monitoring arrangements are set out in a table in the nomination dossier for the Walled City and include general indicators, method and frequency and location of records. ICOMOS considers that the monitoring system needs to be applied to the database/inventory.

ICOMOS considers that the monitoring system should be applied to the database/inventory.

7 Conclusions

The State Party argues that Philippi is primarily distinguished by the documented connection between the archaeological remains and epigraphic and historical testimony with two significant events: the Battle of Philippi that sealed the end of democracy in Rome, and the founding of the first Christian community on European soil by Apostle Paul, who is honoured in the area to the present day. The nominated property included both the walled city and the battlefield as a serial nomination. However the ICOMOS Panel found that the justifications for the criteria do not apply to all components of the series as they mainly focus on the ancient city of Philippi. The ICOMOS Panel also found that the most important evidence of the historic importance and durable outcomes of the battle of Philippi is represented by the archaeological remains of the city of Philippi, rather than by the field where the battle took place. Additionally, the ICOMOS Panel considered problematic the inclusion within a World Heritage property of a battlefield, which preserves only slim tangible evidence of the associated event. Therefore, in its interim report, ICOMOS suggested the possibility to remove component 2, the battlefield and the State Party agreed to remove the battlefield. Therefore, the conditions of integrity and authenticity have been justified for the archaeological site of the walled city of Philippi. The buffer zone has been extended where it previously aligned with the property in the south-east corner.

ICOMOS found that the maintenance of such a large archaeological site would benefit from a comprehensive conservation strategy that prioritizes the interventions and the channelisation of resources.

In response to ICOMOS's second letter the State Party has provided a conservation strategy which identifies the

priority projects and shows the allocation and sources of funding for these, as well as a co-ordinated archaeological research plan aimed at better understanding and interpretation of the site.

8 Recommendations

Recommendations with respect to inscription

ICOMOS recommends that the Archaeological Site of Philippi, Hellenic Republic of Greece be inscribed on the World Heritage List on the basis of **criteria (iii) and (iv)**.

Recommended Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief synthesis

The Archaeological site of Philippi lying at the foot of an acropolis in eastern Greece on the ancient route linking Europe with Asia, the *Via Egnatia*, is the remains of the walled colony which developed as a “small Rome” with the establishment of the Roman Empire in the decades following the Battle of Philippi. The Hellenistic theatre and funerary *heroon* (temple) were supplemented with Roman public buildings including the Forum and a monumental terrace with temples to its north. Later the city became a centre of Christian faith and pilgrimage deriving from the visit of the Apostle Paul in 49/50 CE and the remains of Christian basilicas and the octagonal church testify to its importance as a metropolitan see.

Criterion (iii): Philippi is exceptional testimony to the incorporation of regions into the Roman Empire as demonstrated by the city’s layout and architecture as a colony resembling a “small Rome”. The remains of its churches are exceptional testimony to the early establishment and growth of Christianity.

Criterion (iv): The monuments of Philippi exemplify various architectural types and reflect the development of architecture during the Roman and Early Christian period. The Forum stands out as an example of such a public space in the eastern Roman provinces. The Octagon Church, the transept Basilica, and the domed Basilica stand out as types of Early Christian architecture.

Integrity

The walled city includes all elements necessary to convey its values, and is not subject to development or neglect. The modern asphalted road, closed in 2014, which essentially follows the route of the ancient *Via Egnatia*, will be dismantled east of the west entrance to the site near the Museum.

Authenticity

The walled city was subject to major destruction in the earthquake of 620CE. Many stones and elements of the buildings including inscriptions and mosaic and opus sectile floors remain in situ from that time, although some stones were subsequently reused in later

buildings. Modern constructions and interventions at the site have been generally limited to archaeological investigations and necessary measures for the protection and enhancement of the site. For the most part the principle of reversibility has been respected and the walled city can be considered authentic in terms of form and design, location and setting.

Management and protection requirements

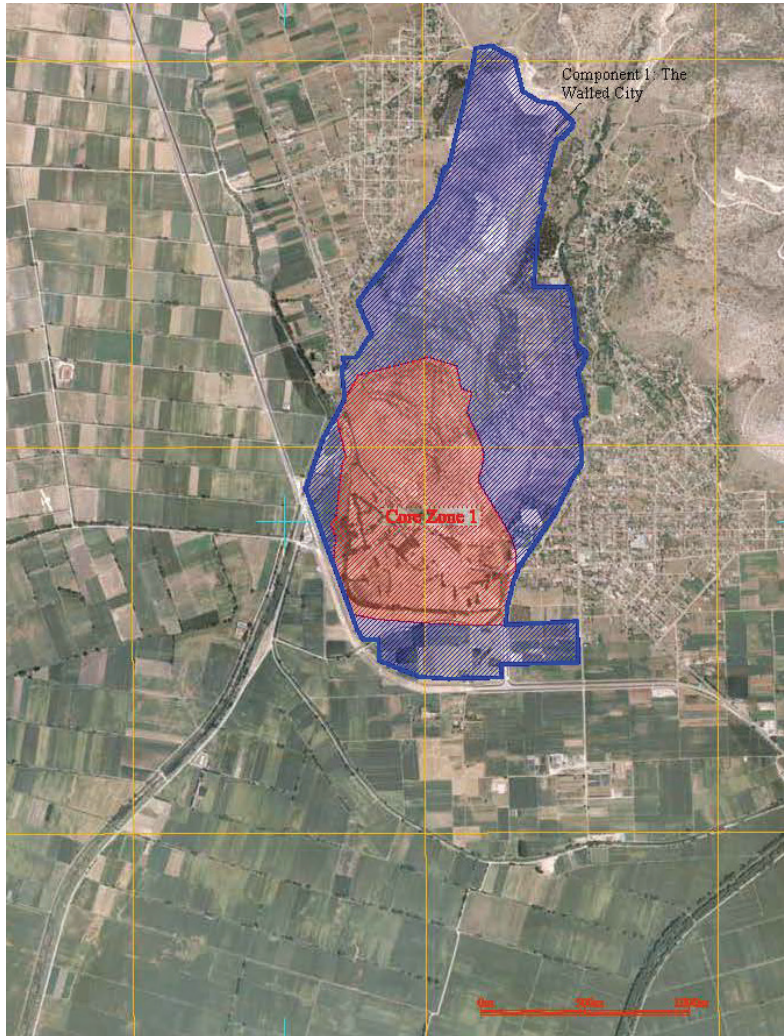
The property and buffer zone are protected at the highest level under the antiquities Law 3028/2002 ‘On the Protection of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage in General’ as re-designated in 2012, and as protected zone A in 2013. This covers both State and privately-owned land and except for the buffer zone extension in the south-east corner which covers part of the adjacent town is a ‘non-construction’ zone. The area of the adjacent town is covered by planning requirements to report archaeological finds during works. The boundaries of the property and buffer zone will be clearly and permanently marked on the ground and the property will be fully fenced.

The property is managed at the local level by the Ephorate of Antiquities and Special Regional Services of the General Directorate of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage, within the Ministry of Culture and Sports. The Management Plan was completed in 2013 and will be implemented by a seven member committee including representatives of government and municipal agencies and co-ordinated by the Head of the local Ephorate of Antiquities. A conservation strategy aimed at unifying and upgrading the property and identifying the priority projects and funding sources will be included in the Management Plan, together with a co-ordinated archaeological research plan aimed at better understanding and interpretation of the site and an overall database as a basis for monitoring and conservation.

Additional recommendations

ICOMOS further recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:

- Extending the management plan to include:
 - the conservation strategy identifying the priority projects and showing the allocation and sources of funding for these;
 - the co-ordinated archaeological research plan aimed at better understanding and interpretation of the site;
 - an overall database as a basis for monitoring and conservation;
 - increased site maintenance and protection of wall and floor finishes.
- Marking clearly and permanently on the ground the boundaries of the property components and buffer zones; and fully fencing the property.



Map showing the boundaries of the nominated property



Aerial view of the Archaeological site of Philippi



Aerial view of the Theatre



Theatre



General view of the Octagon complex



View of the Macellum and Basilica B



Basilica C. Marble pavement in the north transept