

GREECE

Monasteries of Daphni, Hosios Luckas and Nea Moni of Chios

Brief description

Although geographically distant from each other, these three monasteries (the first is in Attica, near Athens, the second in Phocida near Delphi, and the third on an island in the Aegean Sea, near Asia Minor) belong to the same typological series and share the same aesthetic characteristics. The churches are built on a cross-in-square plan with a large dome supported by squinches defining an octagonal space. In the 11th and 12th centuries they were decorated with superb marble works as well as mosaics on a gold background, all characteristic of the 'second golden age of Byzantine art'.

1. Introduction

Year(s) of Inscription 1990

Agency responsible for site management

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-1st Ephorate of Byzantine and Postbyzantine Antiquities, Polygnotou 2, 10555 Athens, Greece
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- 3rd Ephorate of Byzantine and Post Byzantine Antiquities, Theopobou 7, 82100 Chios
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- 23rd Ephorate of Byzantine and Post Byzantine Antiquities, Kalamiotou 25, 10560 Athens
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2. Statement of Significance

Inscription Criteria C (i), (iv)

Justification provided by the State Party

(Monasteries of Daphni, Hosios Luckas):

The architectural design of the church and the mosaics which decorate the interior comprise a unique work of art (Criterion I).

The monastery is an expression of the Byzantine civilization in the best possible manner (Criterion IV).

It is one of the most representational samples of expression of the christian Orthodox faith (Criterion VI).

[Monastery of Nea Moni of Chios:] The aesthetic quality of the design and craftsmanship with which it is built, justify its important position as one of the three most important middle Byzantine monuments of its kind and the sole representative of the middle Byzantine School of Constantinople in Greece. Criteria I, IV, VI

As provided in ICOMOS/IUCN evaluation

ICOMOS recommends that the convents of Daphni, Hosios Lukas and Nea Moni of Chio be included on the World Heritage List on the basis of Criteria I and IV.

Criterion I. The monasteries at Daphni, Hosios Loukas and Nea Moni represent, with their admirable mosaics on a gold background, unique artistic achievements. On this basis each one of these indisputable masterpieces of Byzantine art could have been included on the World Heritage List on its own merits.

Criterion IV. These three monasteries are outstanding examples of a type of construction characteristic of the middle period of Byzantine religious architecture. Nea Moni illustrates the most simple expression: an octagonal church with no added spaces. Hosios Lukas and Daphni are more complex. They have a central octagonal space surrounded by a series of bays that form a square. This more elaborate structure defines a hierarchy of volumes and functions and enables the implementation of an extensive iconographic and decorative plan. It is typical of other churches, like Christianou near Kyparissia, Panaghia Lilodimou in Athens or Haghia Sophia in Monemvasie. The two examples included in the proposal are, along with Saint Theodorus of Mistra (included on the World Heritage List in 1989), the most representative by virtue of the perfection of their architecture, the beauty of their mosaics and paintings and their more satisfactory state of conservation.

Committee Decision

Bureau (1990): The Bureau recommended that these properties be included in the List and that the Greek authorities continue to take all necessary measures to ensure the safeguarding of these properties and their environment.

- Statement of Significance does not adequately defines the outstanding universal value of the

site. At the time of initial inscription the WH Committee did not approve a statement of significance for the site, which defined the outstanding universal value.

- Proposal for text has been made by State Party
- Additional change proposed by State Party for the UNESCO's official description of the site. Name change proposed by State Party

Boundaries and Buffer Zone

- Status of boundaries of the site: adequate
Daphni: There is an initial delimitation of the boundaries of the site. However, a revision of the boundaries is needed, and is pending
Hossios Loukas: The revision of the boundaries is pending
Nea Moni of Chios: considers the boundaries of the site to be adequate to reflect the site's significance
- Buffer zone: adequate
Daphni: The initial declaration is inadequate
Hossios Loukas: The buffer zone has been delimited. It extends to the mountain and hill tops surrounding the monastery. However, it is inadequate. Only in the cases of demands for quarrying activities, the buffer zone extends by another 500 meters around it
Nea Moni of Chios: does not have a buffer zone
The delimitation of a buffer zone is not needed to protect the site's significance. The archaeological site of Nea Moni was delimited in the Government Gazette no 1188 / 27.9.2000, and it occupies a wide area; the wider area in which Nea Moni was founded, is a forest area and up until now there hasn't been any residential pressure or any other form of land use, to threaten the integrity / authenticity of the monument or its surrounding area and thus impose the delimitation of buffer zones A and B

Status of Authenticity/Integrity

- World Heritage site values have been maintained
- Nea Moni of Chios: Since 1995 a large-scale programme for the restoration and the enhancement of the buildings in the Nea Moni complex has been carried out. Daphni: 1) Construction activity. 2) Widening works along the national road. 3) Establishment of mobile telephony base stations. Hossios Loukas: The major changes regard restoration and conservation work as well as the management of the site, and they will have a positive impact on the site. Nea Moni of Chios: within the framework of the aforementioned programme, there is a special project in progress for the

restoration of the Catholicon and the conservation of its mosaics. This is a major change that will have a positive impact on the authenticity of the monument

3. Protection

Legislative and Administrative Arrangements

- All three sites are protected in accordance with provisions of L. 3028/02 "On the protection of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage in general".
Daphni: The site is protected in accordance with the provisions of L.3028/02 "On the Protection of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage in general". The following are the specific arrangements for the site: A) "The Monastery of Daphni in Attica (along with the chapel of the Cemetery) is declared an outstanding Byzantine monument". L. 2447; B) "The area to the west of the Monastery of Daphni and between Iera Odos and the torrent extending at 500 meters from the Monastery is proclaimed an archaeological site". Codification of Law 5351/1932, article 52. Government Gazette: A) Royal Decree 19-4-1921 Government Gazette 68/A/26-4-1921; B) Ministerial Decision 35430/2137/29-12-1959 Government Gazette 24/B/22-1-1960
Hossios Loukas: Royal Decree 19-4-1921, Government Gazette 68/v.A'/26-4-1921 designates the monastery as «an outstanding Byzantine monument» Also the Ministerial Decision 70047/1903/9-1-1981, Government Gazette 124/v.B'/2-3-1981 stipulates special state protection
Nea Moni of Chios: There are no specific arrangements for this site. Delimitation of extensive boundaries of the archaeological site, instead of the 150 meters buffer zone around the monument, which was in force until 2000
- The protection arrangements are considered sufficiently effective

Actions taken/proposed:

- Daphni & Hossios Loukas: The revision of the boundaries of the archaeological site and of the buffer zone of the property is under way, on the basis of L.3028/02

4. Management

Use of site/property

- Daphni: Being a monument of particular structure, and following the earthquake of September 7th, 1999, which struck the monument considerably, systematic preservation and rehabilitation works have

been taking place. In consequence, at present the site is not open to the public. Soon, however, part of the site will be open again to the public. Hossios Loukas: paid visitor attraction; religious use; Nea Moni of Chios: religious use

Management /Administrative Body

- Steering group: while the management of the site of Daphni is the responsibility of the 1st Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities, there are also plans in progress for the setting up of a committee in order to assist in the management. As regards the Monastery of Hossios Loukas, the 23rd Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities is in charge of the management of the site regarding the cultural heritage. In parallel, the monastery, being a place of cult, is managed by a board of abbots, which has its seat there. In Nea Moni there are no plans to set up a 'steering group'. The management of the archaeological site of Nea Moni, in accordance with Law 3028/2002 «On the Protection of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage in general», is exercised by the competent Decentralized Service of the Ministry of Culture, the 3rd Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities
- Site manager with responsibilities added to an existing job
- Levels of public authority who are primarily involved with the management of the site: national: State Party, under protective legislation; church (except for Daphni)
- The current management system is sufficiently effective

Actions proposed:

- Daphni & Hossios Loukas: The setting up of a steering committee has been planned in order to assist in the management of the sites, whereas efforts have been initiated for the amelioration of infrastructure
- Nea Moni of Chios: No need for improvements as regards the institutional framework

5. Management Plan

- The management and protection of monuments and archaeological sites in Greece is not based on a concrete management plan. Greece has a system of protection, which is administered centrally by the Ministry of Culture through its regional services, i.e. the Ephorates of Prehistoric & Classical and Byzantine Antiquities. The Ministry of Culture is the competent body supervising the sites and overseeing all works carried out. As far as the

safeguarding of cultural and natural heritage is concerned, there are cases where other competent bodies besides the Ministry of Culture are involved. The Ministry of Culture sets out the guidelines and the general policy for the management of the monuments and sites which is then implemented by the competent Ephorates. In the case of Daphni, of Hossios Loukas and of Nea Moni of Chios, the 1st, the 23rd and the 3rd Ephorates of Byzantine Antiquities, respectively, are responsible for the management and protection of the monuments

6. Financial Resources

Financial situation

- State budget; EU 2nd & 3rd CSF
- Hossios Loukas: additional source: Greek Society for the Protection of the Environment and Cultural Heritage; Nea Moni of Chios: Sponsorship of the Commercial Bank of Greece, A. Chandris Sponsorship and L. Lemos Foundation Sponsorship through the Greek Society for the Protection of the Environment and Cultural Heritage
- Sufficient
- Funding for protection and conservation not adequate: Daphni & Hossios Loukas: Financing is requested. Unforeseen or urgent problems are dealt with accordingly and immediate protection and preservation measures for the site are taken. Nea Moni of Chios: Some of the needs mentioned are being met occasionally while others remain unmet

7. Staffing Levels

- Number of staff: 14

Rate of access to adequate professional staff across the following disciplines:

- Very good: conservation, management, education
- Good: promotion, interpretation, visitor management
- Nea Moni of Chios: Cooperation with the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the National Polytechnic School of Athens within the framework of technical research programmes; work undertaken by specialized craftsmen for the conservation of wall mosaics.
- Staff resources to protect, maintain and promote the site not adequate
- Daphni & Hossios Loukas: Hiring of additional guarding staff is required

Nea Moni of Chios: The existing temporary staff and the permanent staff is not adequate to meet the needs of the site; the property, beyond its particular significance, occupies a vast area

8. Sources of Expertise and Training in Conservation and Management Techniques

- Daphni: Practical training takes place in situ, at regular intervals and the staff often participates in special seminars/workshops, thus gaining knowledge on new preservation techniques and their implementation. These seminars and/or workshops are organized by other bodies, such as the National Polytechnic School, the Directorate for Technical Restoration Research and other parties
- Hossios Loukas: None
- Nea Moni of Chios: continuous training on restoration and excavation research takes place in situ. Training in conservation takes place in situ and in special workshops
- Training needs:
Daphni & Hossios Loukas: There are training needs of the guarding staff regarding the reception of the public and the adequate knowledge of at least one foreign language
Nea Moni of Chios: there are no training needs that have not been met
- Training for stakeholders available

9. Visitor Management

- Visitor statistics: Daphni: 11,250 visitors (tickets) 2003(); Hossios Loukas: 47,500 visitors (tickets) 2004; Nea Moni of Chios: 9,000 visitors on an annual basis (tickets) 2004
- Visitor facilities:
Daphni: a point of sale, a projection hall showing the historical development of the site, creation of visitor paths, explanatory signs, re-operation of the museum, lavatory facilities
Hossios Loukas: Point of sale, ramp at the monastery entrance, lavatory facilities, projection hall showing the historical development of the site, sculpture museum. A ramp for people with disabilities will also be provided
Nea Moni of Chios: A parking lot, a ticket office and a shop in the Museum, 3 WCs
- Daphni: The following are under construction or preparation: a site museum housing the site findings, (sculpture- ceramics), special visitor paths, explanatory signs, plans and maps, a

projection hall, guides, postcards, books on Byzantine art, slides

- Hossios Loukas: A site museum housing the corresponding findings, guides, postcards, books on Byzantine art, slides, projection hall.
Nea Moni of Chios: a museum has been operating since 1992. The Museum's Collection is housed in a cell of the monastic complex, previously derelict and then restored, in order to house the reliquary treasures. On sale at the Museum's shop: books on archaeology, archaeological guide of Nea Moni in Greek, the educational programme "An imperial monastery" kit in English, titled "Nea Moni on Chios", cards and videotapes on the monuments of Chios island. Furthermore, a three-fold leaflet on the archaeological site of Nea Moni is distributed free of charge.
- Visitor needs: Nea Moni of Chios: Ensuring the accessibility for the people with disabilities at the entrance, the lavatory facilities and the monastery complex, explanatory signs on the rest of the monastery buildings, installation of information centers for the visitors, afternoon opening hours at the Museum, creation of visitor paths. The facilities are considered adequate at Daphni and Hossios Luckas

10. Scientific Studies

- Risk assessment; monitoring exercises; condition surveys; archaeological surveys; visitor management; transportation studies
- Nea Moni of Chios: Restoration studies, conservation studies for works of art, mosaics and marble revêtements, a museum study, a landscaping study for the presentation of paths research programme; research programmes
- Studies used for management of site:
Daphni & Hossios Loukas: The conclusions drawn from the above mentioned studies-surveys-research programmes, emphasize the significance of the site and prove the necessity for financing in order for further maintenance, conservation, promotion and protection. All scientific information gathered is to the benefit of the site
Nea Moni of Chios: The results of these research programmes have been used for the restoration of the monastery buildings

11. Education, Information and Awareness Building

- Not enough number of signs referring to World Heritage site

- World Heritage Convention Emblem used on some publications
- Adequate awareness of World Heritage among: businesses, local authorities
- Need for awareness raising: Daphni & Hossios Loukas: Diffusion of information to the public, educational programmes. Nea Moni of Chios: - Through the distribution of an information leaflet free of charge containing information on the UNESCO organization, as well as a list of other sites inscribed on the World Heritage List, presenting the values incorporated by them. - With the active contribution of UNESCO to the enhancement of the site (for example through funding, by recruiting groups of volunteers, or including the site in international cooperation programmes); - Through the promotion of the site, in order to raise public awareness of the international significance of Nea Moni
Daphni: In the east wing of the enclosure, which is under re-construction, there will be a projection hall showing the historical development of the site, the different conservation stages, the uninterrupted historical use of the site as well as its superb mosaics. Also, information material will be provided. In the west wing of the enclosure, the renovated exhibition hall housing the sculptures of the site will open again
Hossios Loukas: Points of information will be established
Nea Moni of Chios: Educational programme for students from 10-18 years of age, under the title: «An imperial monastery». The activity of the programme focuses on how to make a mosaic;
- Nea Moni of Chios: 1) A photo exhibition, a publication and a series of lectures on the World Cultural Heritage sites in Greece. The event took place on the occasion of the 25th anniversary from the signing of the Unesco Convention (1998); 2) Information disseminated to the scientific community through communications at a Congress on the restoration and the conservation works in Nea Moni (2005); 3) Information provided to the local community through lectures on the restoration and the conservation works in Nea Moni (2005)
- Web site available (web pages at the Hellenic Ministry of Culture's official website)

12. Factors affecting the Property (State of Conservation)

Reactive monitoring reports

- N/A

Conservation interventions

- Conservation/restoration works:
Daphni: Conservation of the mosaics in the Catholicon has been initiated. Also in progress is conservation and restoration of the walls of the Catholicon. Consolidation, binding and restoration work of the wings of the enclosure. Conservation and restoration of the Refectory situated to the north of the Catholicon, as well as of the Byzantine bath area and the southern ruins. Conservation of the wall paintings of the Catholicon. Excavation at crucial points in the site area. Consolidation, binding and restoration and enhancement of the Church of Aghios Nikolaos of the Cemetery
Hossios Loukas: Rehabilitation and sustainable use of buildings; restoration and rehabilitation of the West and of part of the North wing of the cells; restoration of Saint Charalambos chapel; excavation work in cells; Setting up of a sculpture exhibition in the refectory of the monastery; Reversal of threats due to human activities, such as establishment of wind parks
Nea Moni of Chios: Projects completed: an exhibition on the Nea Moni Museum Collection; building of lavatory facilities; restoration of the Chapel of Timios Stavros; restoration of the Refectory of Nea Moni; restoration of the Cistern of Nea Moni; restoration of the chapel of St. Panteleimon; excavation research in the Tower and the courtyard of the monastery; projects in progress: restoration of the Catholicon; conservation of the mosaics; unveiling –enhancement of the cells at the east wing
- Present state of conservation: good

Threats and Risks to site

- Development pressure, environmental pressure, natural disaster(s), visitor/tourism pressure
- Specific issues:
Daphni: Establishment of mobile telephony base stations; construction activity; widening works along the national road; natural damages and disasters (earthquakes, floods). The site is situated on the Mount Parnitha fault. The 1999 earthquake damaged the site considerably

Hossios Loukas: Establishment of wind parks. Establishment of mobile telephony base stations. Quarrying activities. Construction activities. Natural damages and disasters

Nea Moni of Chios: Chios Island is situated in a seismic area and the site has suffered damages on several occasions due to earthquakes. Another threat is the eventuality of a forest fire in the wider area of Nea Moni

- Emergency measures taken:
 - Daphni: Revision of the boundaries of the archaeological site and the buffer zone; strict controls of construction activities; cooperation with jointly competent and local bodies to deal with natural disasters; conservation and restoration studies for the site; elaboration of research programmes; establishment of a system for the monitoring of the site with the use of instruments; placement of a lightning rod
 - Hossios Loukas: Revision of the boundaries of the archaeological site and of the buffer zone; strict controls of construction activities and regarding the potential establishment of wind parks and mobile telephony base stations; conservation and restoration studies for the site; placement of a lightning rod at the bell-tower of the monastery; establishment of a system for the monitoring of the static and dynamic behaviour of the Catholicon.
 - Nea Moni of Chios: The intense seismic activity on Chios island has been taken into account in the static studies elaborated and in the proposals put forward for the restoration of the rest of the monastery buildings. As regards the threat from a forest fire, a firefighting unit of the Chios Forestry Service is patrolling the area of Nea Moni.

13. Monitoring

- Formal monitoring programme
- Daphni: A system for the monitoring of the site with the use of instruments and examination of the dynamics of the Catholicon, placement of the corresponding equipment for the measurement of any movement or displacement of the Catholicon (crack identification equipment)
- Hossios Loukas: Establishment of a system for the monitoring of the static and dynamic behavior of the Catholicon
- Nea Moni of Chios: Continuous monitoring and surveillance of the state of conservation of the site

14. Conclusions and Recommended Actions

- Main benefits of WH status: conservation; social; economic; management
- Strength/Weaknesses of management: Daphni & Hossios Loukas: A need for ongoing care and sprucing of the area for the valorisation and promotion of the sites
Hossios Loukas: Dealing with the immediate problems related to the damage of the mosaics and wall paintings
Nea Moni of Chios: Need to increase financial resources and public awareness, inadequate facilities regarding the services offered to the visitors, a patchy status of the conservation of the site

Future actions:

- Daphni & Hossios Loukas: The elaboration of studies is being planned. Vigilance is required for a continuous financing, so that care and protection of the site be adequate and uninterrupted
- Nea Moni of Chios: A prerequisite for meeting these needs is securing adequate financial resources