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Europea

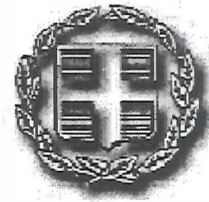


Educación y cultura

Cultura 2000

LABORATORIO DEL PAISAJE Y DE LOS RECURSOS CULTURALES Y
ECONÓMICOS DE LOS SITIOS ARQUEOLÓGICOS EUROPEOS

GRECIA: PRESENTACIÓN



**REPUBLIC OF GREECE
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
EPHOREIA OF BYZANTINE ANTIQUITIES OF THESSALONIKI**

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"Research centre for the landscape and economic resources in European Archaeological Sites"**

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EUROPEAN PROJECT
"RESEARCH CENTRE FOR THE LANDSCAPE AND CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC RESOURCES IN EUROPEAN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES"

PRESENTATION OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE IN GREECE:
THE ACROPOLIS OF THESSALONIKI

Introduction (Fig. 1)

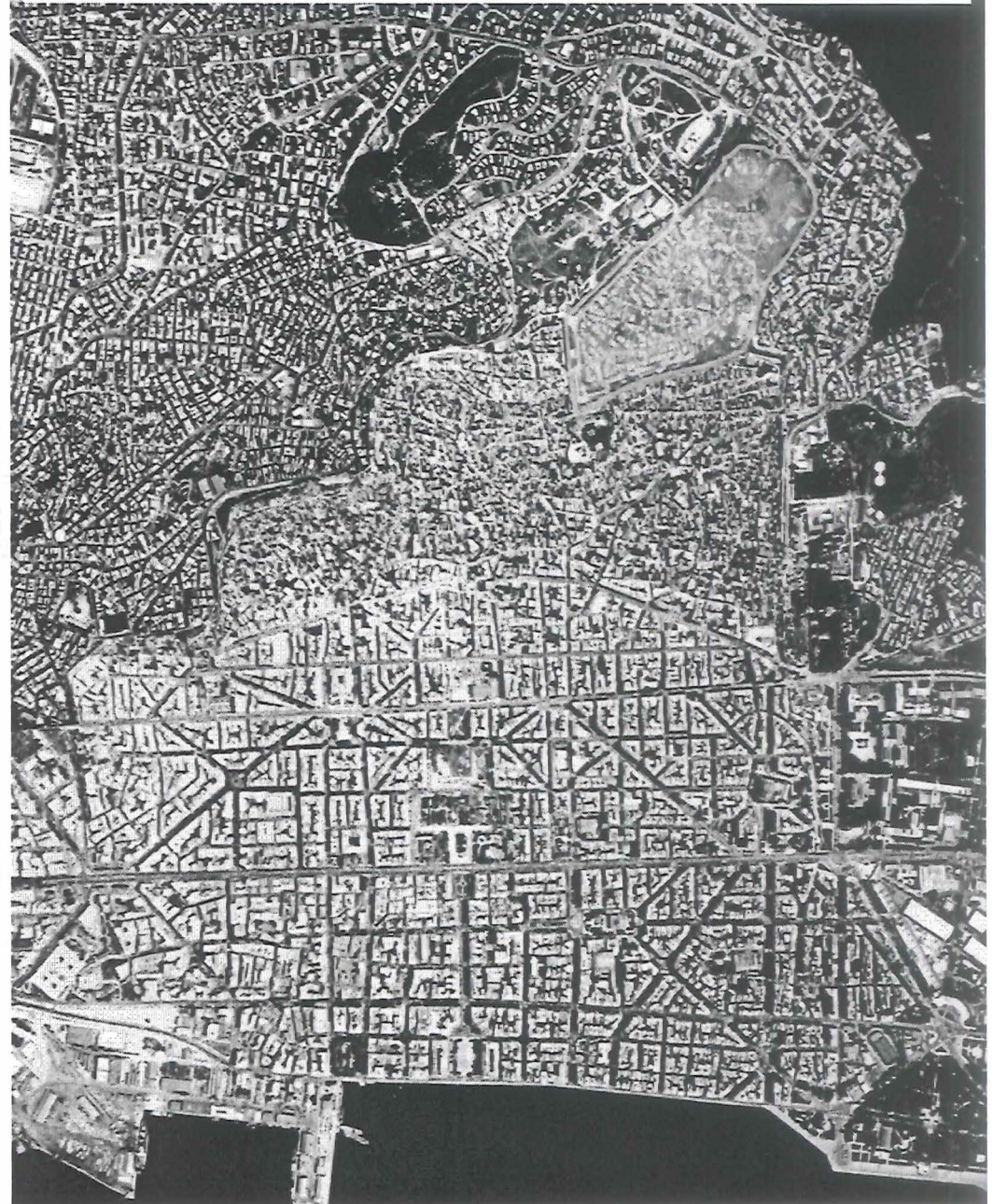


Part of the map "The Mediterranean", Fisher, Son & Co, Paris & London 1840.

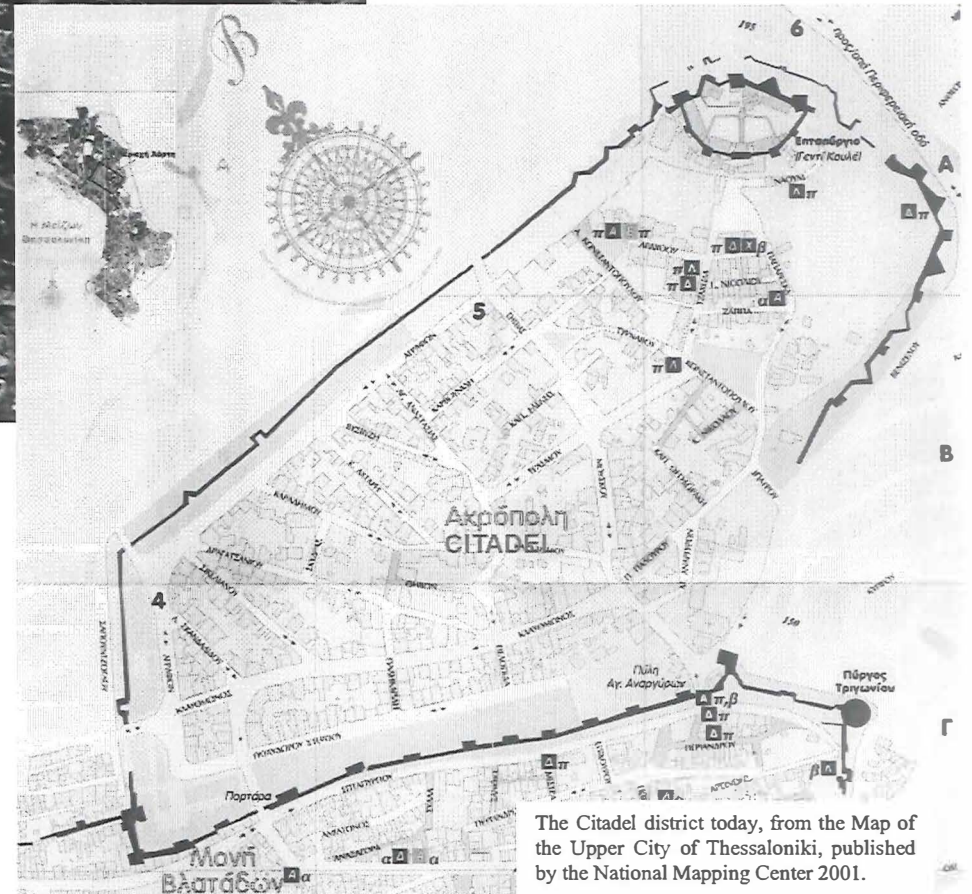
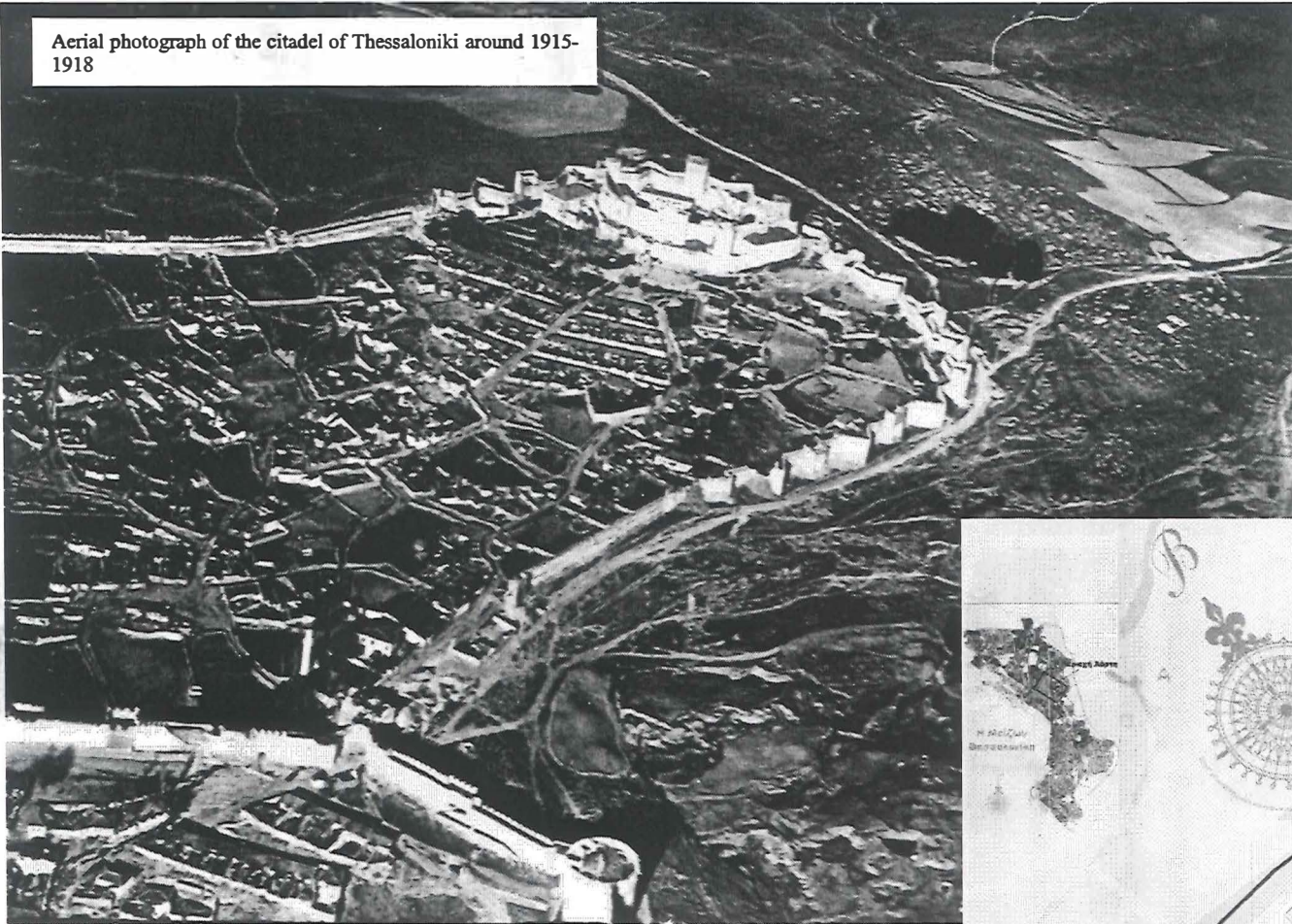
In the framework of the EU program Culture 2000 - Laboratorio Europeo del Patrimonio-, the Ephoreia of Byzantine Antiquities intends to pursue the design project for the restoration and *mise en valeur* of the Early Christian, Byzantine, and Postbyzantine monuments located within the Thessaloniki citadel (Fig. 2, 83, 84). The aim is to redesign the wider area of the citadel with a view to investigating the cultural and social potential of the district and improve the relationship between the monuments and their environment.

The citadel district, which was isolated for many years and occupied by underprivileged social groups, was selected with a view to re-assessing the use of the existing open spaces and their relationship with the archaeological sites, and at the same time encouraging the local residents to play a more active part in the social life of the district.

Contemporary aerial photograph of the city of Thessaloniki, from the Geographical Army Service. The citadel district is marked yellow.



Aerial photograph of the citadel of Thessaloniki around 1915-1918



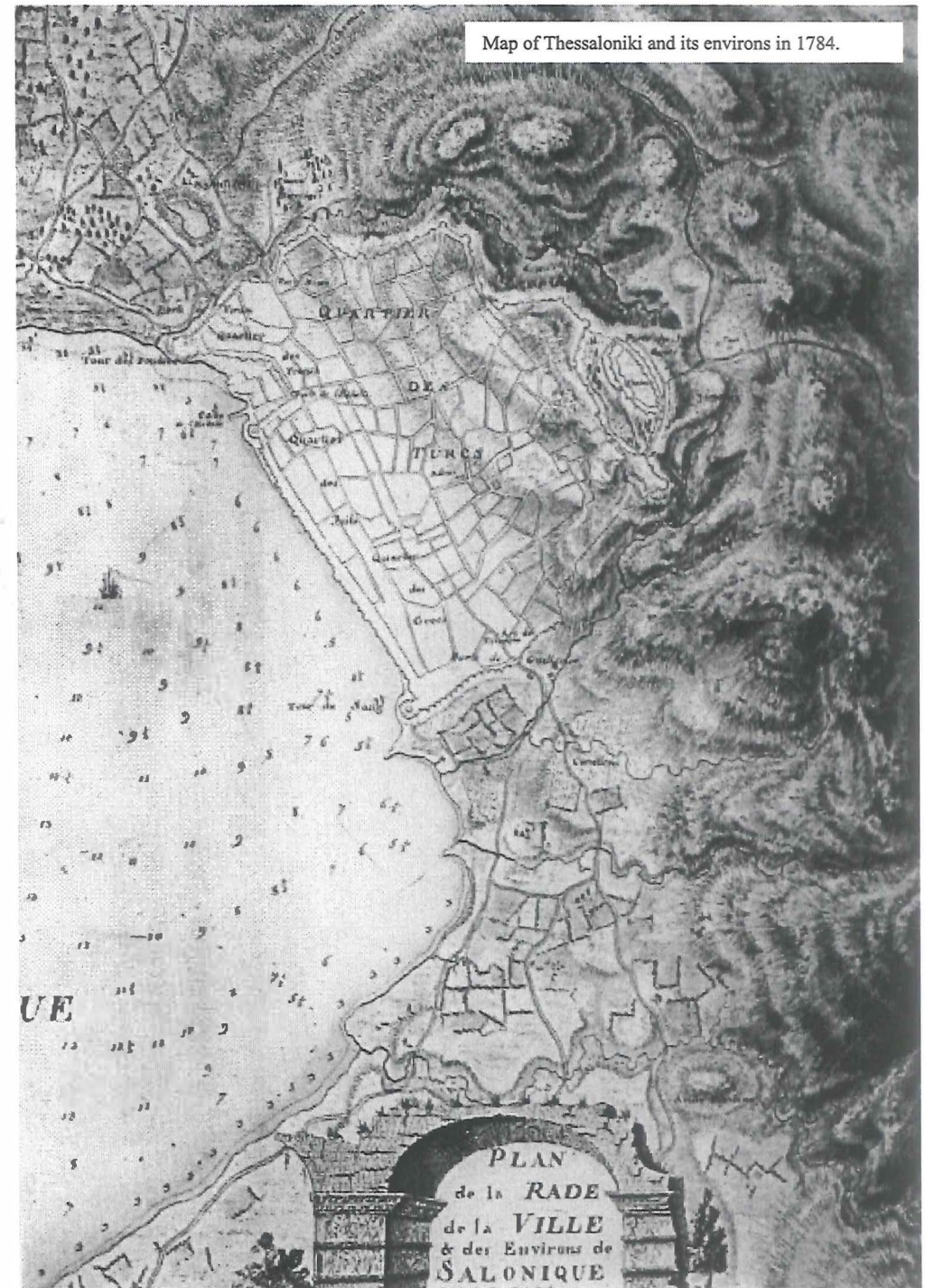
The Citadel district today, from the Map of the Upper City of Thessaloniki, published by the National Mapping Center 2001.

ACTIVITY 1

ACTIVITY 1

Historical analysis

Due to a combination of historical circumstances, economic necessity and geographical factors, the city of Thessaloniki was born. (Fig. 3) Its founding in 315 BC was not without historical consequences. Thanks to its favourable geographical position and successful commercial operation, Thessaloniki rapidly rose to distinction as the economic and organisational capital of Macedonia, the political and military seat of the Roman tetrarchy, the second capital of the Byzantine Empire for a thousand years, and a great city and vital port in the Ottoman Empire, serving the vast Balkan hinterland for a further five centuries. As the second city of the modern Greek state, since 1912 it has continued to enjoy steady growth and development with two large universities, an extensive industrial area, a harbour, and a population of over one million. (Fig. 5)



Map of Thessaloniki and its environs in 1784.



Contemporary map of Central and East Macedonia. In the input map the main axis of the modern city of Thessaloniki are marked.

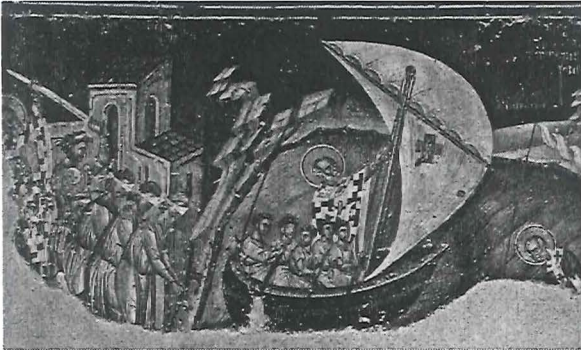
The urban landscape is dominated by the city's relationship with the sea, and its long history has enriched it with monuments representing many eras and successive cultures. (Fig. 6, 7, 8, 9) In 1917 while Greece was still engaged in the First World War, the historic city centre was destroyed by fire, and in 1922, following the compulsory exchange of populations between Greece and Turkey, Thessaloniki's Moslem population left and was replaced by vast number of Greeks from Asia Minor. The complex mosaic of religions in the city received its final blow during the Second World War, when 45,000 local Jews vanished into the German concentration camps.

The replanning of the city in 1917-21 by an international committee completely transformed the intramural historic nucleus, and provided some general guidelines for the districts outside the walls.



Olf. Dapper. Thessaloniki, a liberal representation . Amsterdam 1688. Copperplate engraving 28X16 cm.

THE LIFE AND EPISTLES OF ST. PAUL.



Fresco of Agios Nikolaos from the church of Agios Nikolaos Orfanos in Thessaloniki.



THESSALONICA FROM THE SEA.¹

Rev. W. J. Conybeare- Rev J. S. Housen "The Life and Epistles of Saint Paul", London 1852. Thessaloniki. A seafront view of the city. 1852. Coloured Woodcut 18X14 cm. K. M. Stamatis collection.

Byzantine Thessaloniki (4th century A. D. to 1430) (Fig. 16)

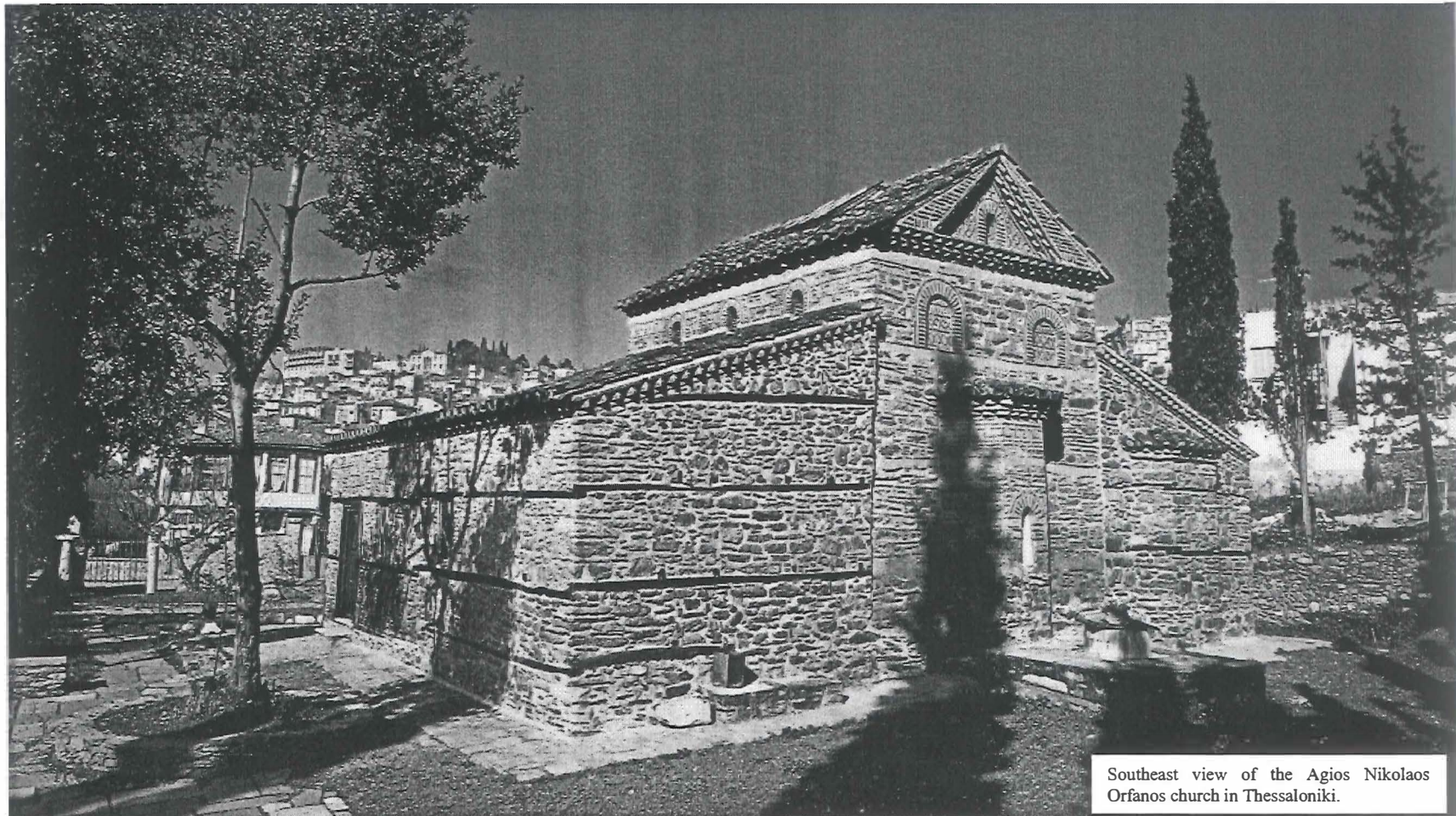
After Christianity became the official state religion at the end of the fourteenth century, Thessaloniki began to change, and was soon one of the greatest centres of Christendom. In the time of Theodosius I and his successors, a policy of local interventions was implemented in the city, chiefly on sites and in buildings under the jurisdiction of the central authority. Changes were made to a number of important public buildings.



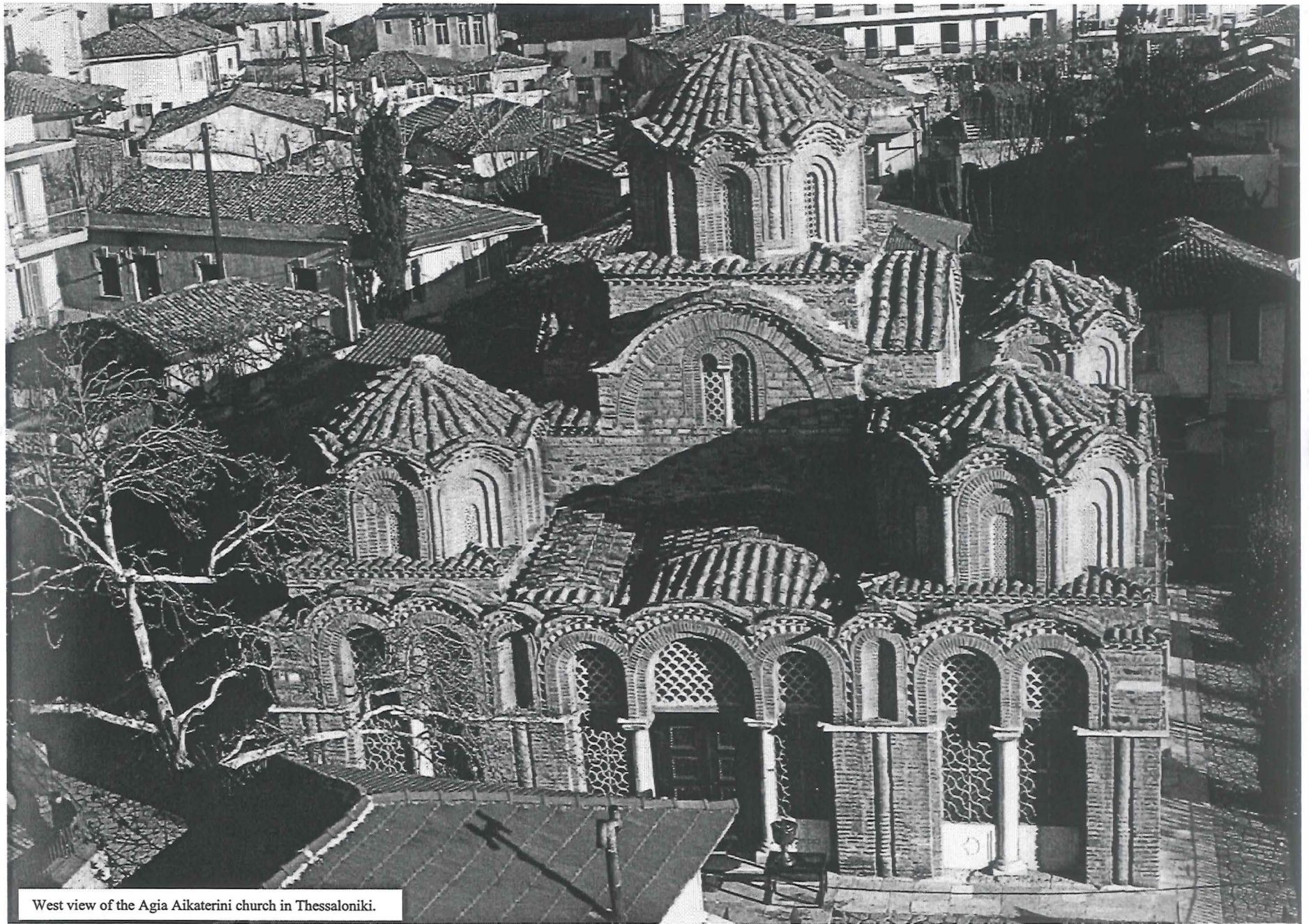
Hypothetical presentation of Byzantine Thessaloniki

The insecurity that troubled Macedonia during the period when Slavs and other tribes were invading the region led to a general urban rush, with Thessaloniki as a favourite goal. Towards the end of the first millennium, the city acquired a new citadel, which enclosed an area of sixteen hectares, at the top of the hill, named until today "Acropolis".

The development of monasticism, mainly after the tenth century, created new needs. Large monastery complexes were built in once open areas. (Fig. 17) Most of them occupied sites near the city walls, and the monks frequently built whole wings right up against the fortified enceinte. By the late Byzantine period (13th – 15th cc.), Thessaloniki resembled nothing so much as a monastic republic. The monasteries were the nuclei around which the city's social life revolved. (Fig. 18). The concept of the local district or neighbourhood was well established by now: each one took its name from the nearest monastery, which also defined the district's spatial identity.



Southeast view of the Agios Nikolaos Orfanos church in Thessaloniki.



West view of the Agia Aikaterini church in Thessaloniki.

During this last phase of the Byzantine era, the walls were strengthened locally. A small fortress, known as Eptapirgio ('seven towers'), was built in the northern section of the Byzantine citadel; and a small triangular area of two hectares was brought within the first westward curve of the north wall, obviously for reasons of security, rather than as living space. Even before this time, monastic complexes were being built outside the walls, mainly on the sloping ground.

Thessaloniki enjoyed a notable economic, spiritual, and artistic flowering in the fourteenth century, as is attested both by the written sources and by the monuments, some of which are classic examples of Palaeologan architecture and art. (Fig. 19) The Macedonian capital had no reason to envy Constantinople. But this golden age was soon cut short. In 1430, the city was captured by the Ottomans, many of the inhabitants fled, and it was many years before Thessaloniki regained its leading role under foreign domination.

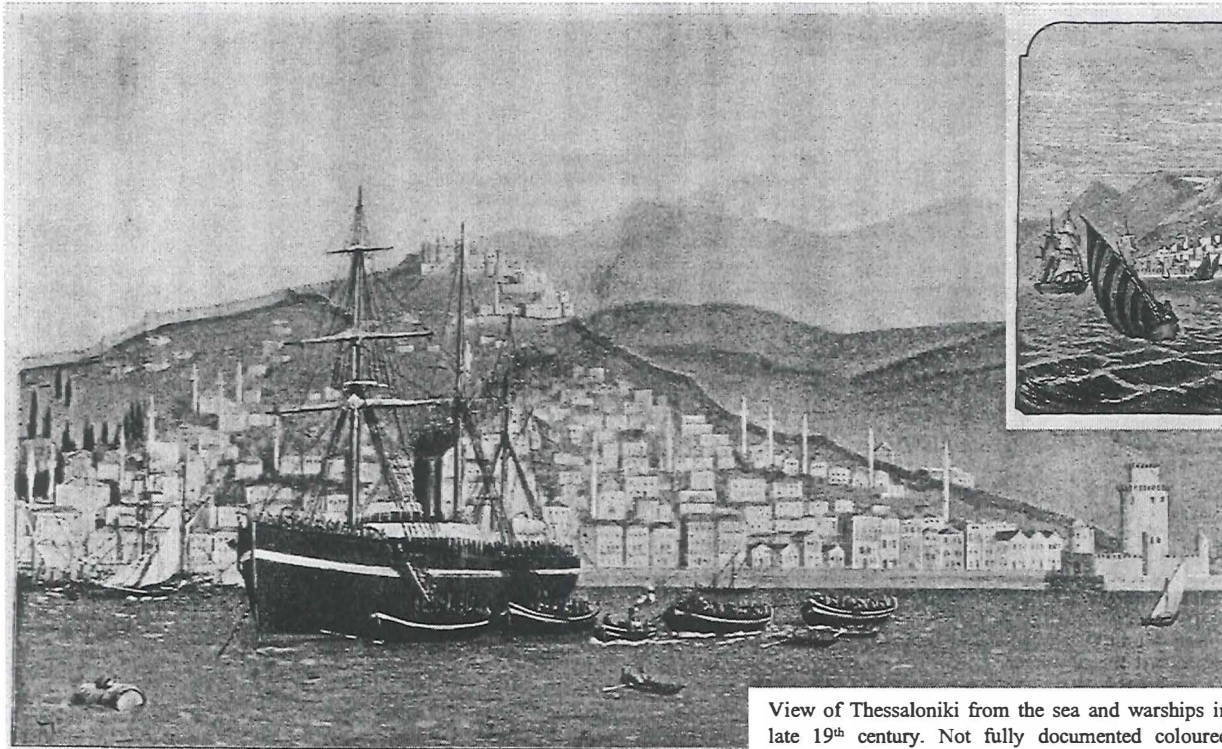
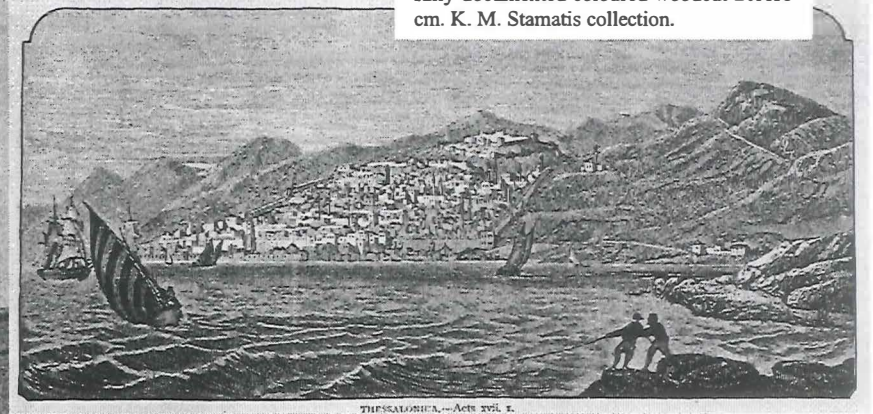


Fresco of the Kana Wedding from the church of Agios Nikolaos Orfanos in Thessaloniki.

The period of Ottoman rule (1430- 1912) (Fig. 20, 21)

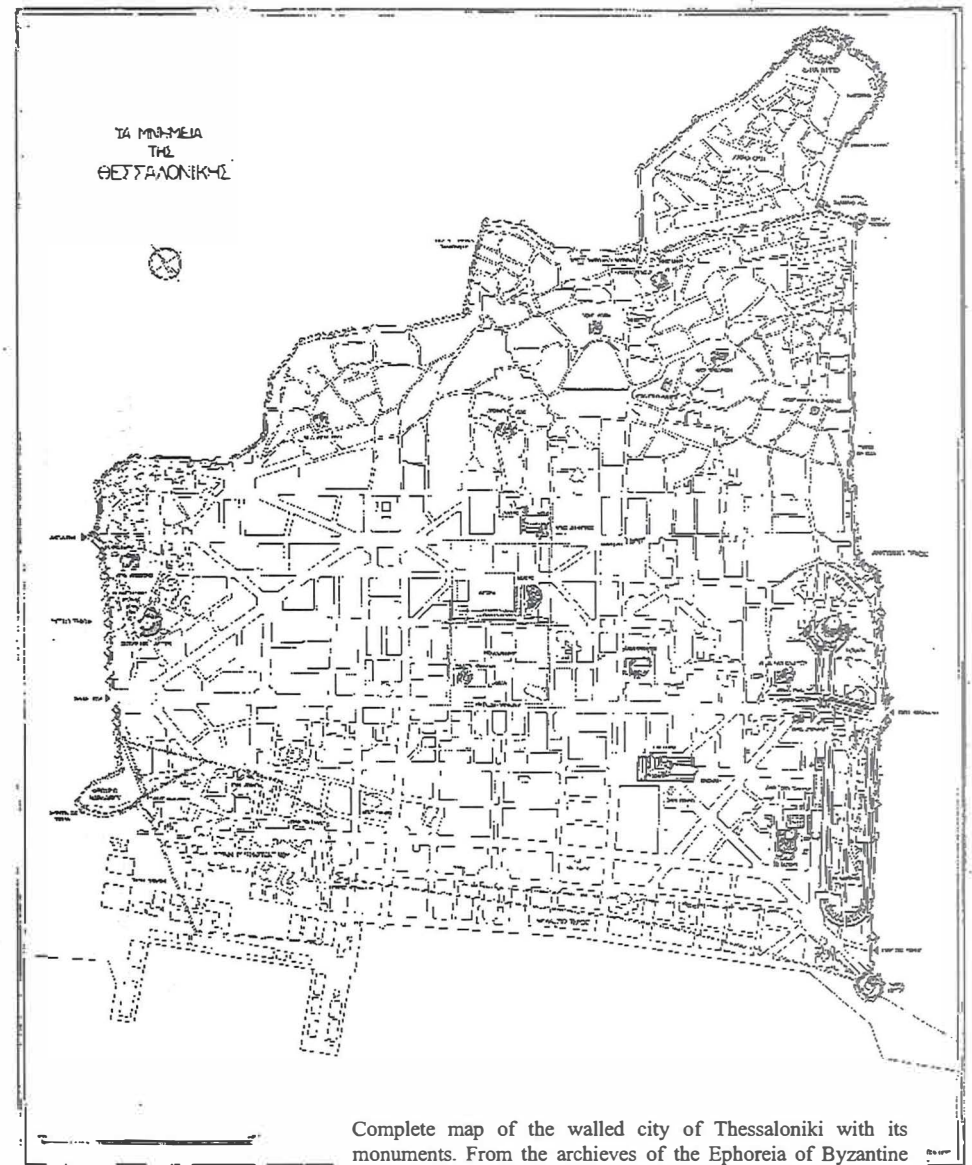
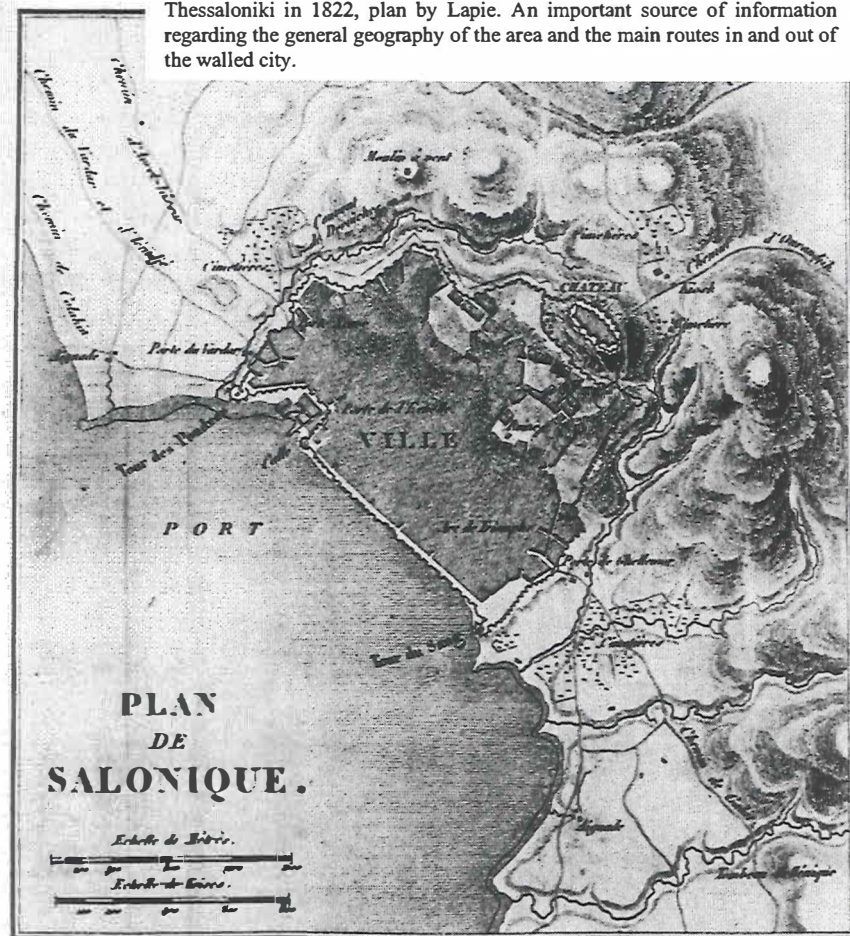
The gradual loss of geometric regularity in the urban fabric of Thessaloniki must have been slow at first. Sixteenth-century travellers still describe squares and attractive streets, and they sometimes state quite categorically that the city was designed from the start on a grid plan. The walled city acquired mosques, baths, and a covered market, and its most important churches were converted into mosques. (Fig. 4) Troubled times repeatedly changed both the form of the city and the varied religious make-up of the population, which was swelled by a large number of Spanish Jews at the end of the fifteenth century. (Fig. 22) In 1545, 1610, and particularly 1620, large swathes of the city were burnt down. It is presumed that it was then that the names of most of the neighbourhoods were changed, and the various districts became increasingly homogenous with regard to the ethno-religious origin of their residents. The Moslems were concentrated in the highest part of the city; the Jews in the flatter parts by the sea, and a single district above Egnatia St, in the site of the ancient Agora; while the Christians were more scattered, along the Via Egnatia, around the Cathedral, around Vlatadon Monastery, in the Vardari district, and in a compact zone alongside the east city wall. The old Greek district around the Church of St Menas dwindled and it was taken over by the Frankish quarter and the market. Locked in the stifling embrace of its walls, the city presented the same picture until the second half of the 19th c., when the Ottoman Empire underwent reform. (Fig. 11)

Thessaloniki, view from Kalamaria. Not fully documented coloured woodcut 20X10 cm. K. M. Stamatis collection.



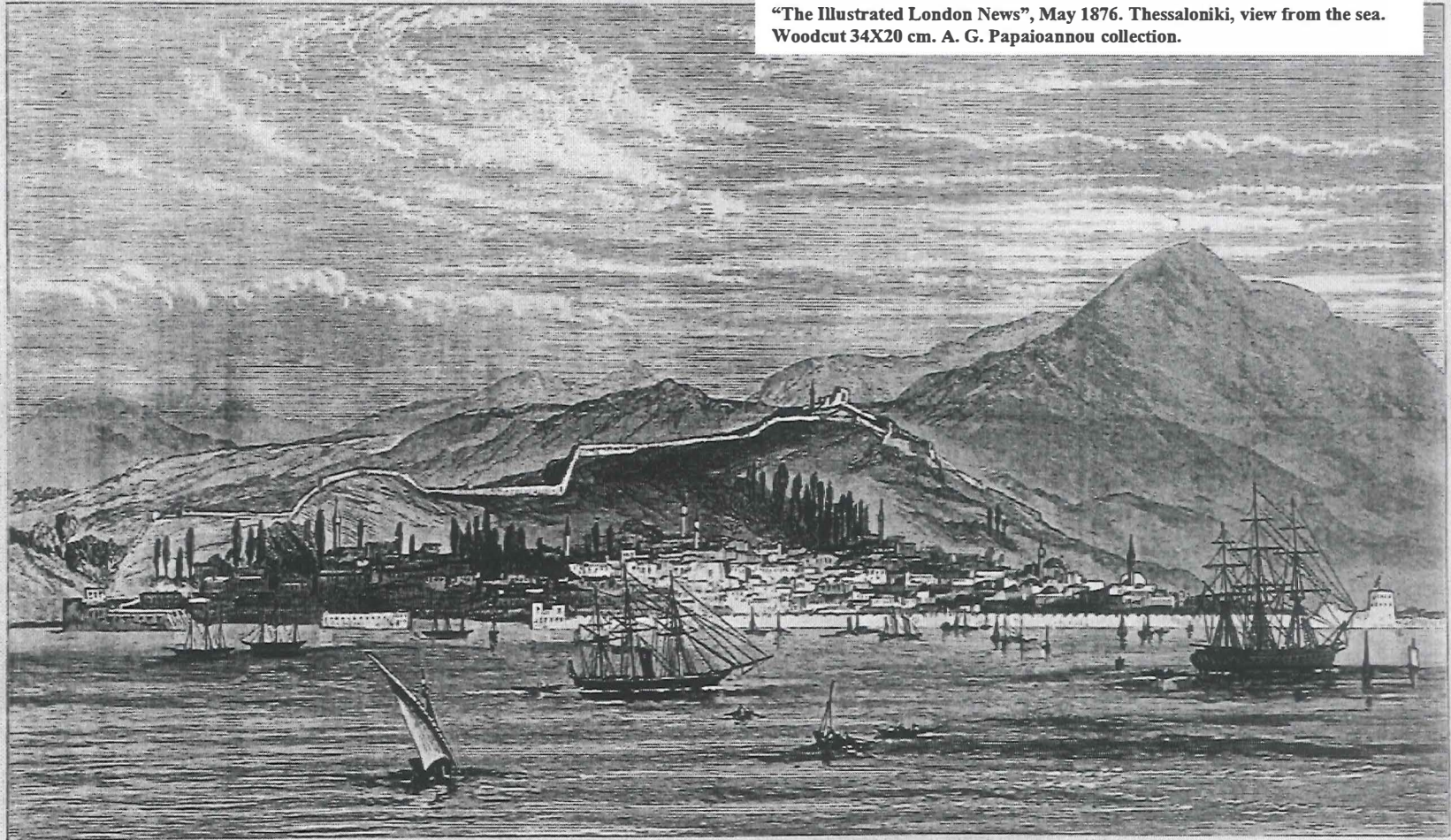
View of Thessaloniki from the sea and warships in late 19th century. Not fully documented coloured woodcut 23X16 cm. K. M. Stamatis collection.

Thessaloniki in 1822, plan by Lapie. An important source of information regarding the general geography of the area and the main routes in and out of the walled city.



Complete map of the walled city of Thessaloniki with its monuments. From the archives of the Ephoreia of Byzantine Antiquities of Thessaloniki.

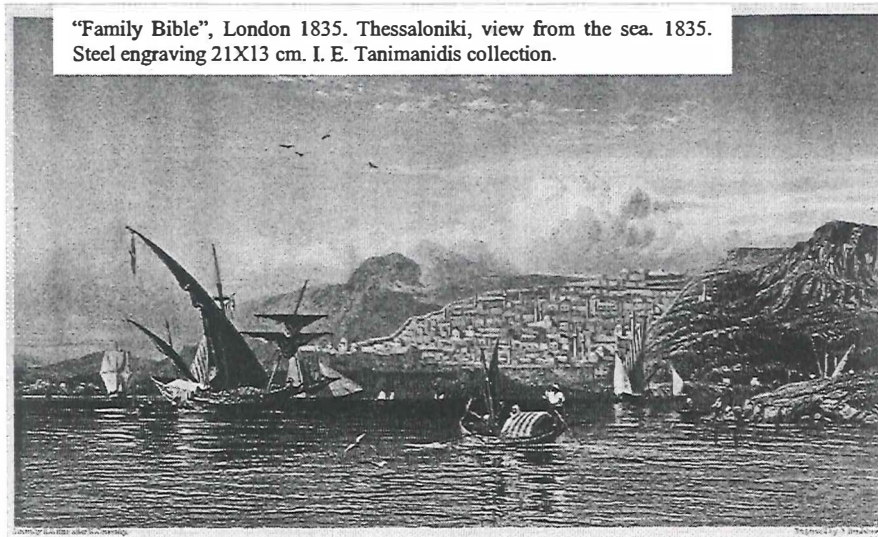
"The Illustrated London News", May 1876. Thessaloniki, view from the sea.
Woodcut 34X20 cm. A. G. Papaioannou collection.



SALONICA, THE SCENE OF THE MASSACRE OF THE GERMAN AND FRENCH CONSULS.

(Fig. 23) The demolition of the wall and the construction of a new mole were the most important planning interventions carried out in the city at the end of the Ottoman period, and the resulting transformation made it possible to connect Thessaloniki with the harbour and the railway stations to the west and to extend the city to the east. This was made imperative by the new commercial developments in the Mediterranean, particularly after the opening of the Suez Canal, and heralded a new era that was characterised by Thessaloniki's new international and local role as the principal port in the Balkans. (Fig. 10, 12) The creation of a strip of building land along the sea front attracted the interest of a number of firms that were arriving in the city and looking for somewhere to establish their premises. At the same time, the sanitation in the historic centre was improved and the way was made clear for its gradual renewal.

The first plan we know of for the whole of the intramural city was drawn up around 1880 on the initiative of the City Hall (Fig. 13). The city's expansion beyond the walls continued apace. The plan of 1889 shows the two 'suburbs' for the first time, covering an area of 90ha to the east and 60 ha to the west. The traditional divisions along religious or ethnic lines, which still characterised the old centre, did not apply here. The residents belonged to all the communities in the city and lived next to each other without let or hindrance.

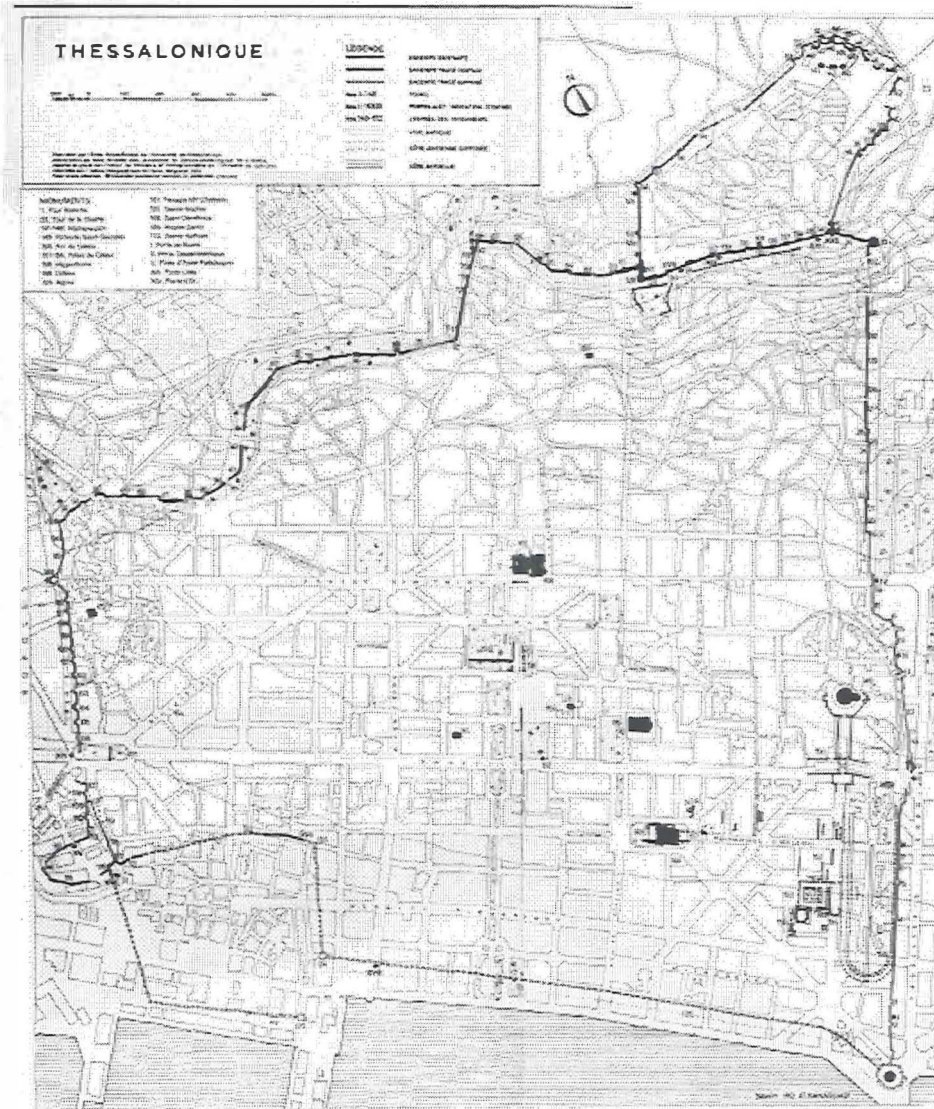
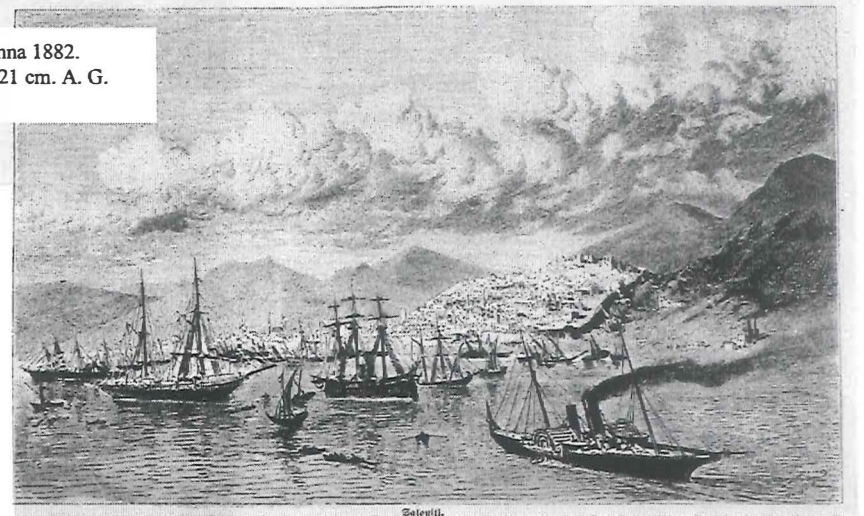


"Family Bible", London 1835. Thessaloniki, view from the sea. 1835. Steel engraving 21X13 cm. I. E. Tanimanidis collection.



Plan de Salonique, 1880, by the municipal engineer A. Wernieski

Amand Freiherr V. Schveiger Lerrhenfeld, "Der Orient" Vienna 1882.
 Coloured woodcut of a panoramic view of Thessaloniki, 18X 21 cm. A. G.
 Papaioannou collection.



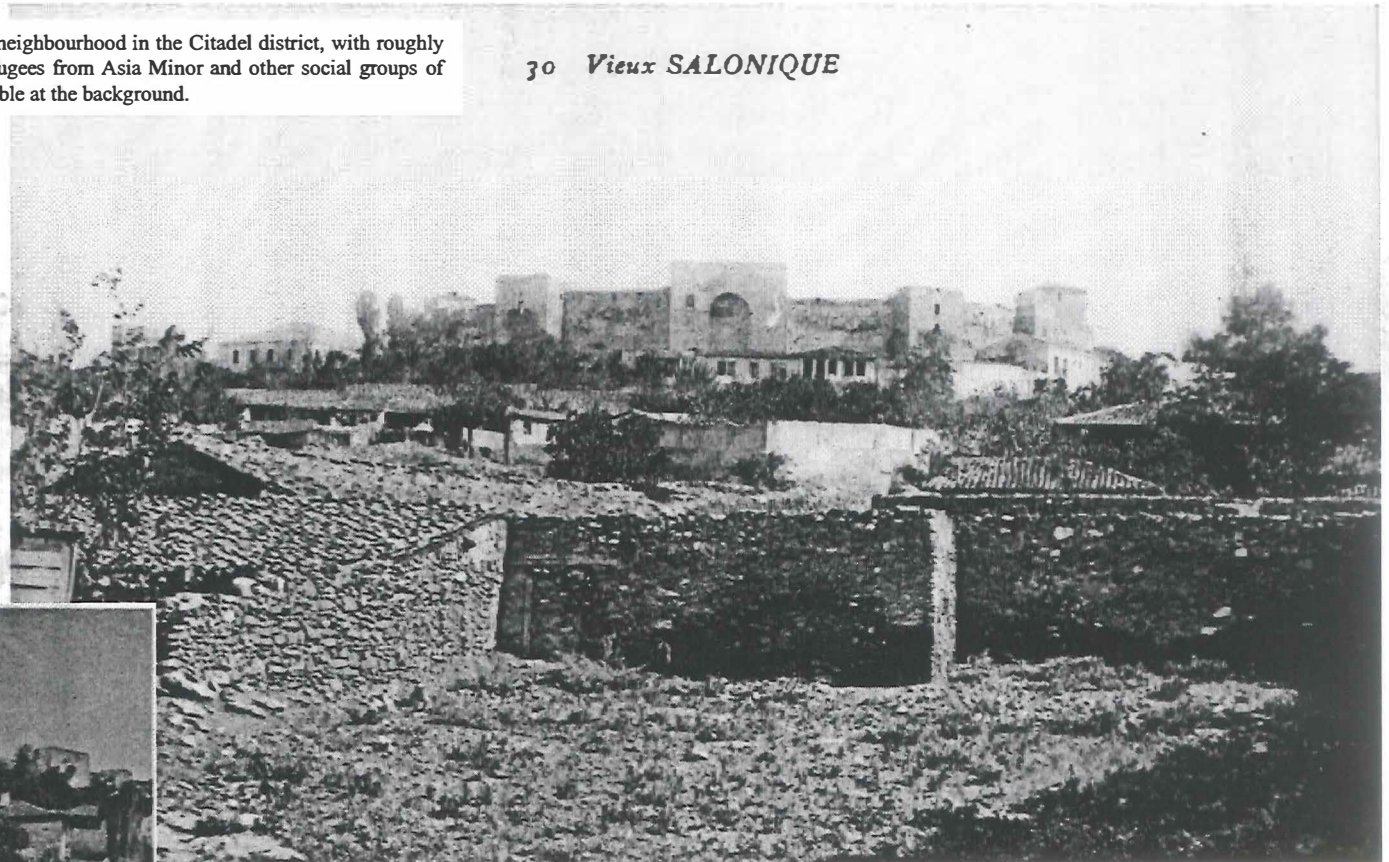
Map of the walled city of Thessaloniki and its monuments,
 by J. M. Spieser

Modern Greek Thessaloniki (1912- 1940)

Thessaloniki acquired its official Greek identity in 1912, after the First Balkan War. (Fig. 24, 25) Equally important landmarks in the shaping of its new profile were the compulsory exchange of populations after the Asia Minor disaster of 1922 and the fire of 1917. In the space of a decade, the city's national character and role and a large segment of its population changed, concurrently with its spatial pattern.

Postcard of the early 20th century. A neighbourhood in the Citadel district, with roughly built housing used mainly by the refugees from Asia Minor and other social groups of low income. The Heptapyrgion is visible at the background.

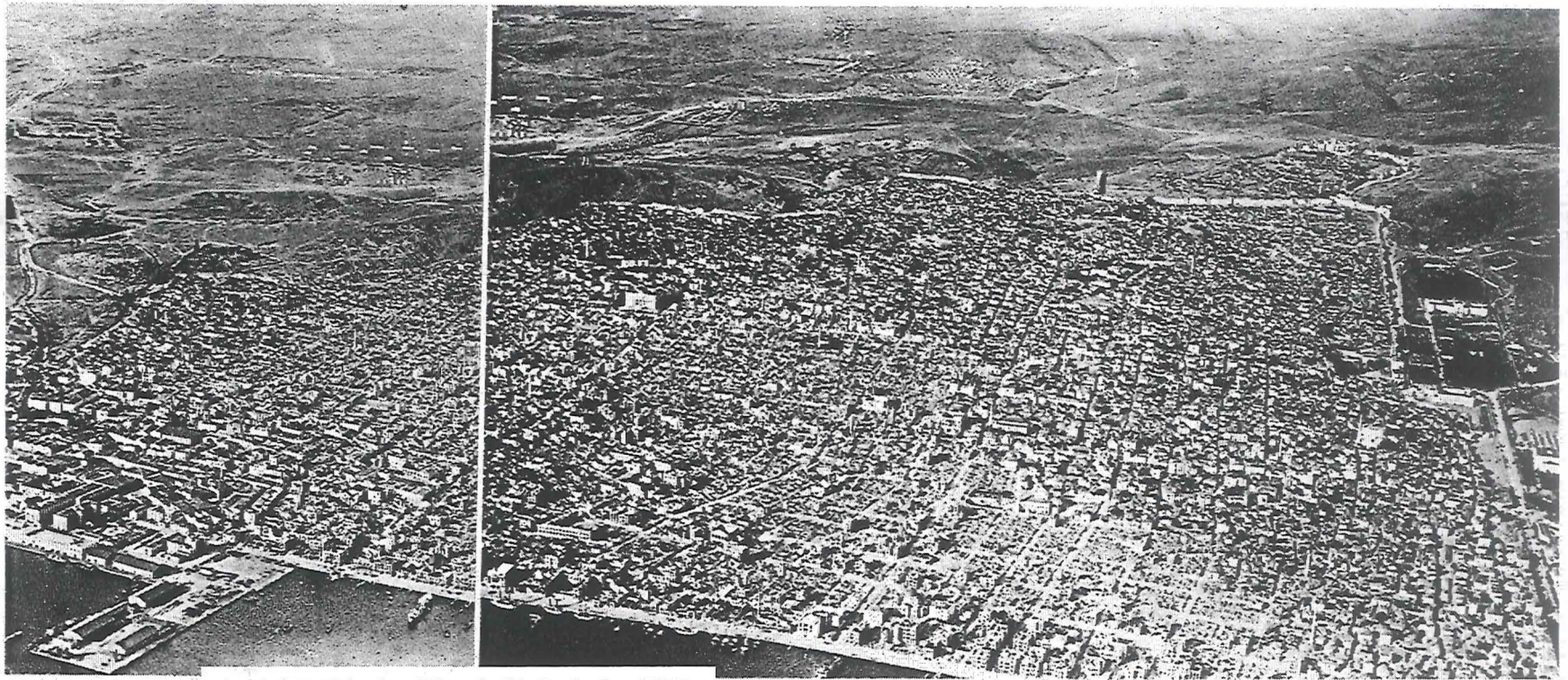
30 *Vieux SALONIQUE*



Postcard of the early 20th century. A neighbourhood in the Citadel district. The Hepatpyrgion is visible at the background.

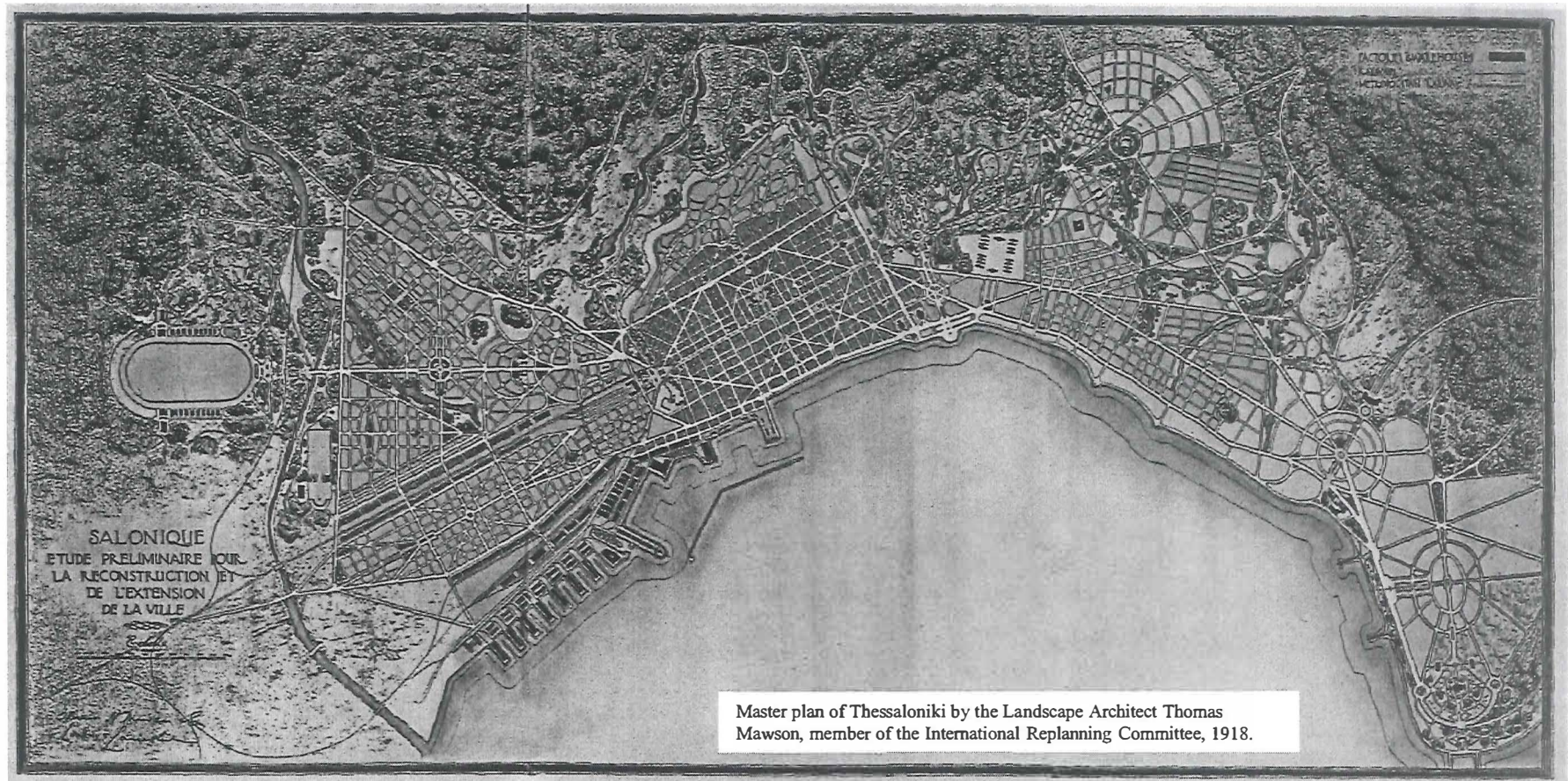


The fire which in thirty-two hours devastated 120 ha of the most important part of the centre (leaving 70,000 homeless, three-quarters of them Jews) essentially wiped out the city's 'oriental' aspect, together with its traditional layout, which had steadfastly resisted all efforts at modernisation (**Fig. 14**). Embracing the very latest ideas and methods in modern town planning, the Greek government, led by Eleftherios Venizelos, decided to ignore the pre-existing ownership and traditional uses of implementation of a reform policy, and boosting the Greek presence and supremacy in the urban space. the land and to use the rebuilding as the basis for the social, economic, and spatial modernisation of the city, the implementation of a reform policy, and boosting of the Greek presence and supremacy in the urban space.



Aerial photo of the city of Thessaloniki after the fire of 1917.

An International Planning Committee headed by the French architect Ernest Hébrard was set up. (Fig. 15) Its members were the British landscape architect Thomas Hayton Mawson, the Belgian engineer captain Joseph Pleyber, Aristotle Zachos and Constantin Kitsikis, two known Greek architects, the Greek harbour specialist Angelos Guinis, and the Mayor Constantin Angelakis. The plan hammered out was an interesting vehicle for the predominant planning views of that time, which were now applied to the specifically Greek local geographical and historical features. The new plan gave the city a classical layout (axial formal geometry, diagonal streets, monuments as focal points), a hierarchical street network, and a civic centre with the public buildings and two squares on the new Aristotelous axis. The Byzantine monuments became the conspicuous generative points of a network of public space (squares, pedestrian areas, tree-lined traffic arteries). The same rationale produced the new breakthrough that linked the Rotunda with the Arch of Galerius and continued, through Navarinou Square, down to the sea, combining this archaeological walk and elements of the urban landscape with a busy work and residential area.



Master plan of Thessaloniki by the Landscape Architect Thomas Mawson, member of the International Replanning Committee, 1918.

Plans were also drawn up for the University of Thessaloniki, which was being established at that time, the workers' districts, the industrial areas, and the port. The city's traditional image was fading and being replaced by a 'modern' homogenous space stripped of its former distinctive features. The plan proposed new extensions so that the city would be adequate for 350,000 inhabitants and cover 2,400 ha. The basic organising element in the urban fabric was the geometrical block, which replaced the irregular labyrinthine neighbourhoods. At the same time, a new type of collective dwelling was being promoted, the apartment block demanded by the perception of a 'contemporary' built-up urban space. Co-ownership of residences appeared for the first time and subsequently became the norm, at the same time bringing the building of homes into the market economy.

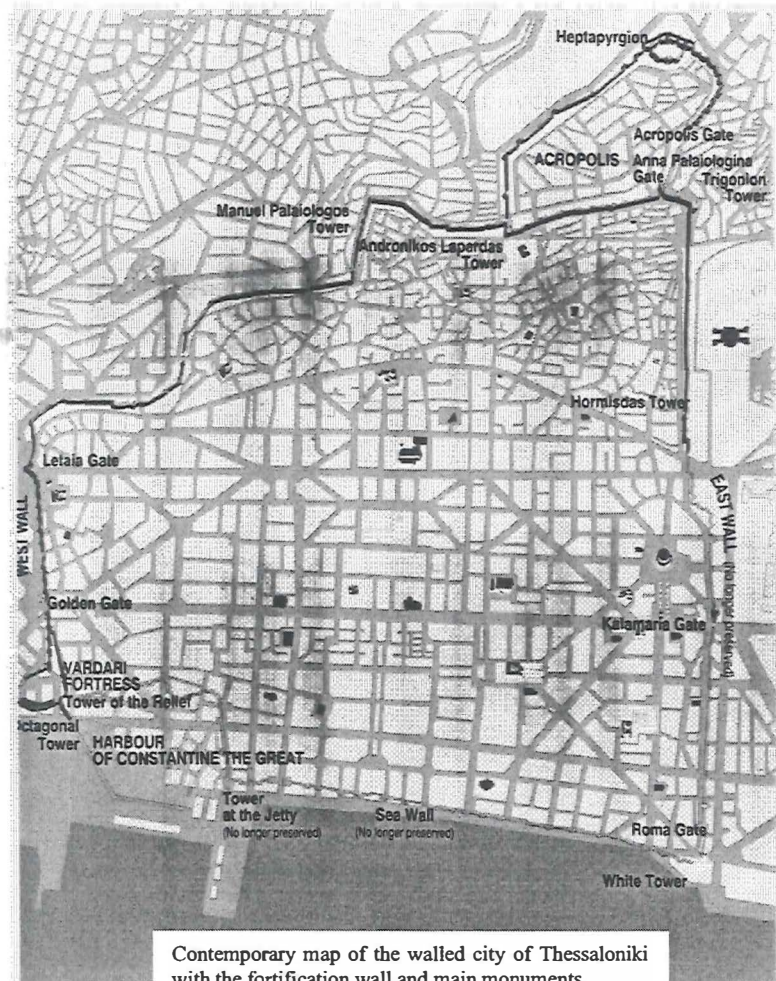
Throughout the inter-war period, Thessaloniki underwent rapid changes and lost much of its cultural complexity, having bidden farewell to its Moslem inhabitants and welcomed over 100,000 refugees from Asia Minor. The 'refugee capital', as the writer Yorgos Ioannou so aptly termed it, had no difficulty in re-directing its drive and vigour, despite the generally adverse conditions produced by the loss of the city's traditional hinterland, the economic crisis of 1930, and the unstable political situation in the country as a whole.

With the outbreak of the War, all architectural and planning activity in the city came to a halt, and it was not until the end of the decade and the end of the Civil War that further changes in the urban space were seen. However, this tragic decade had one very specific consequence, which is not apparent in bare numerical records (the population was 300,000 in 1951). This was the mass extermination in the German concentration camps of virtually the whole of the Jewish community (50,000 people), which had been a major component of the city's profile for centuries.

The pilot plan for the revival of the city's historic commercial centre, which was sponsored by the European union (16th Directorate) from 1992 to 1994, helped to focus interest on the city's old markets, such as the harbour market (Ladadika) and the bazaars. The EU also funded the restoration of the market bath-house (Yahudi Hammam) and the excavation of the ancient agora.

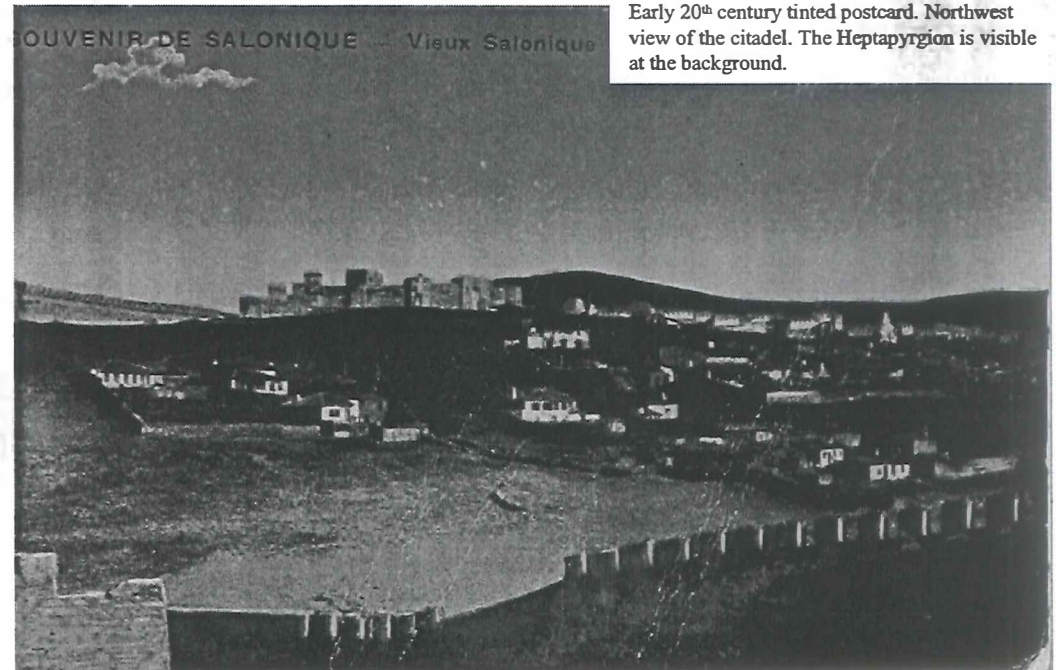
In 1994, a large part of the intramural city, coinciding more or less with the area destroyed by the fire of 1917 (the sea front, Pavlou Mela St., Ayia Sofia St., Kassandrou St., Diikitiriou St., 26 Oktovriou St., and the harbour), was declared a Historical Site. It is therefore essential that a special comprehensive study be carried out for the protection of the entire intramural Thessaloniki. The numerous projects and architectural competitions for pedestrianised areas, squares, archaeological excavations, and redevelopment that are being promoted by the Cultural Capital Organisation originated in the planning framework described above. Their purpose is to restore and improve the latent qualities of a seriously traumatised urban space.

The Citadel



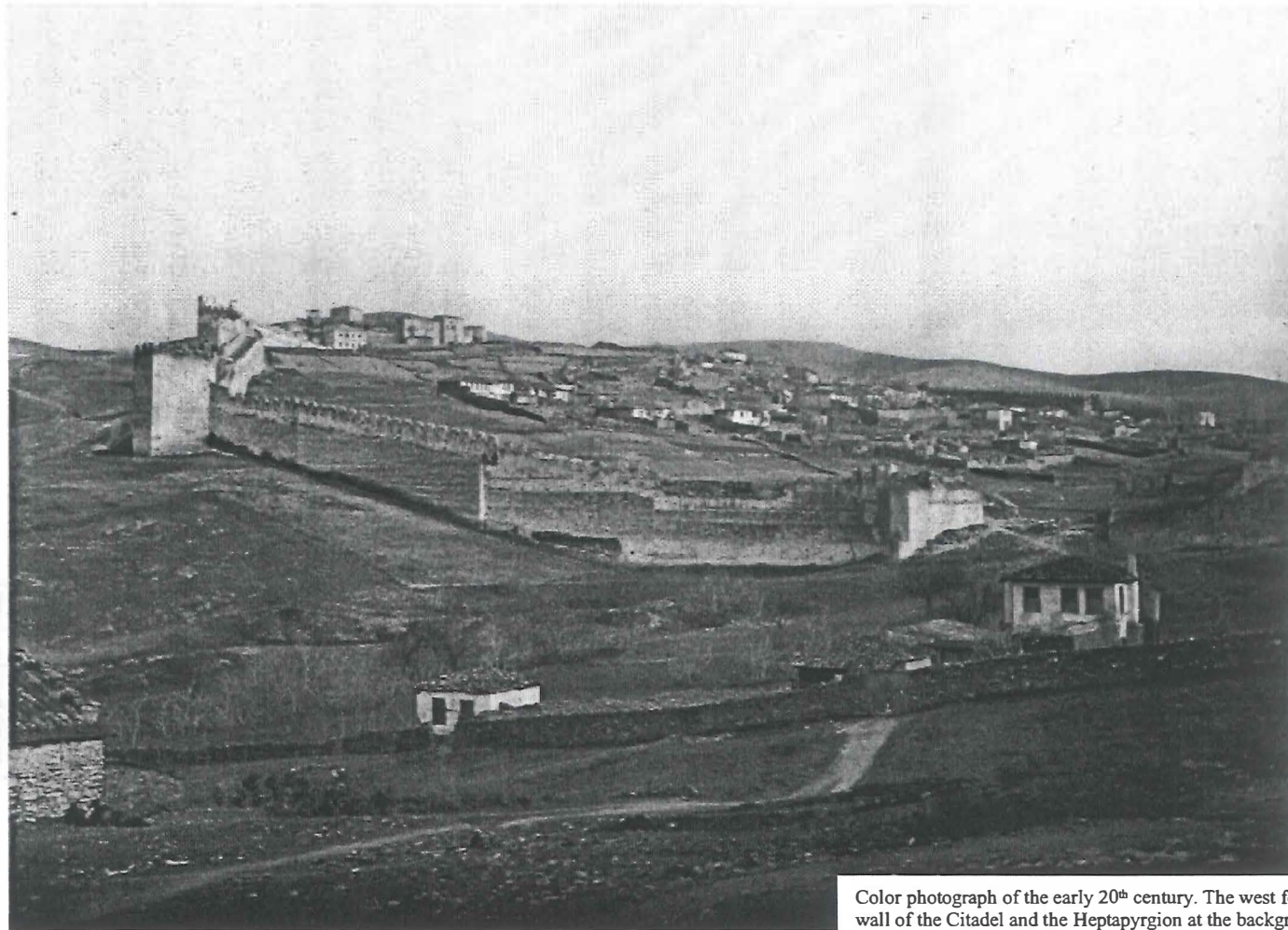
Contemporary map of the walled city of Thessaloniki with the fortification wall and main monuments.

The citadel (Acropolis), which is triangular in shape, occupies the north-east end of the fortifications of Thessaloniki. (Fig. 26) It is enclosed by a stout wall with closely set towers, alternately triangular and quadrilateral. (Fig. 27) The incorporation of the citadel within the city fortifications was apparently connected with the major defense works carried out in the 5th century. It was frequently repaired and reinforced over the centuries that followed.



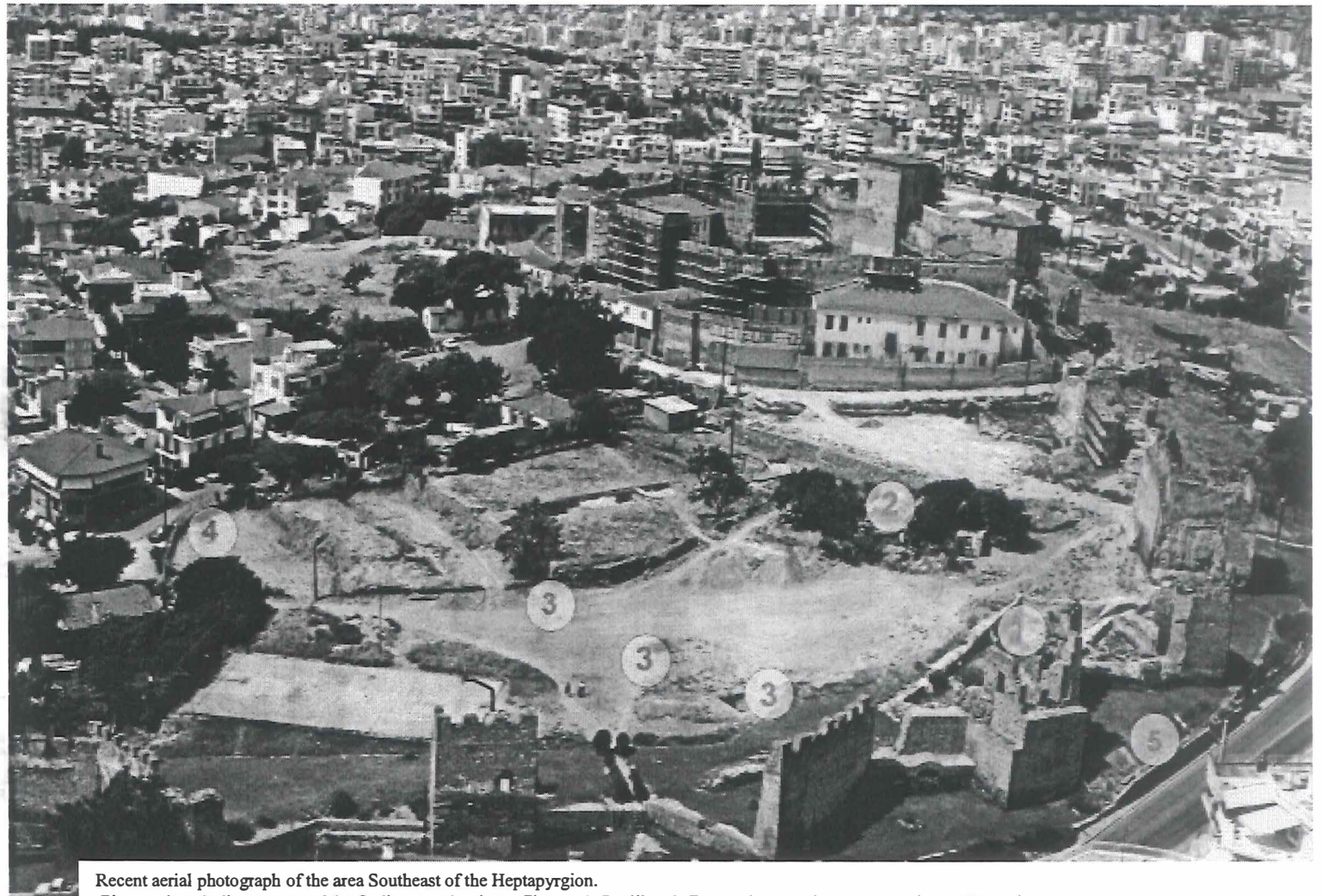
Early 20th century tinted postcard. Northwest view of the citadel. The Heptapyrgion is visible at the background.

The significance of its role in the defense of the city, with its weaknesses and strengths, are described briefly by historians at highly dramatic moments in the city's history -that is, at times of siege or capture, and of religious or political conflicts. (Fig. 28) The first known reference is by John Kaminiates, in connection with the siege of the city by the Saracens in 904. In the middle of the 14th century there seems to have been a settlement inside the citadel. More specifically, John VI Kantakouzenos states: "The people at the citadel (for it resembles a small town and has its own citizens)...".



Color photograph of the early 20th century. The west fortification wall of the Citadel and the Heptapyrgion at the background. Its surrounding area is scarcely built

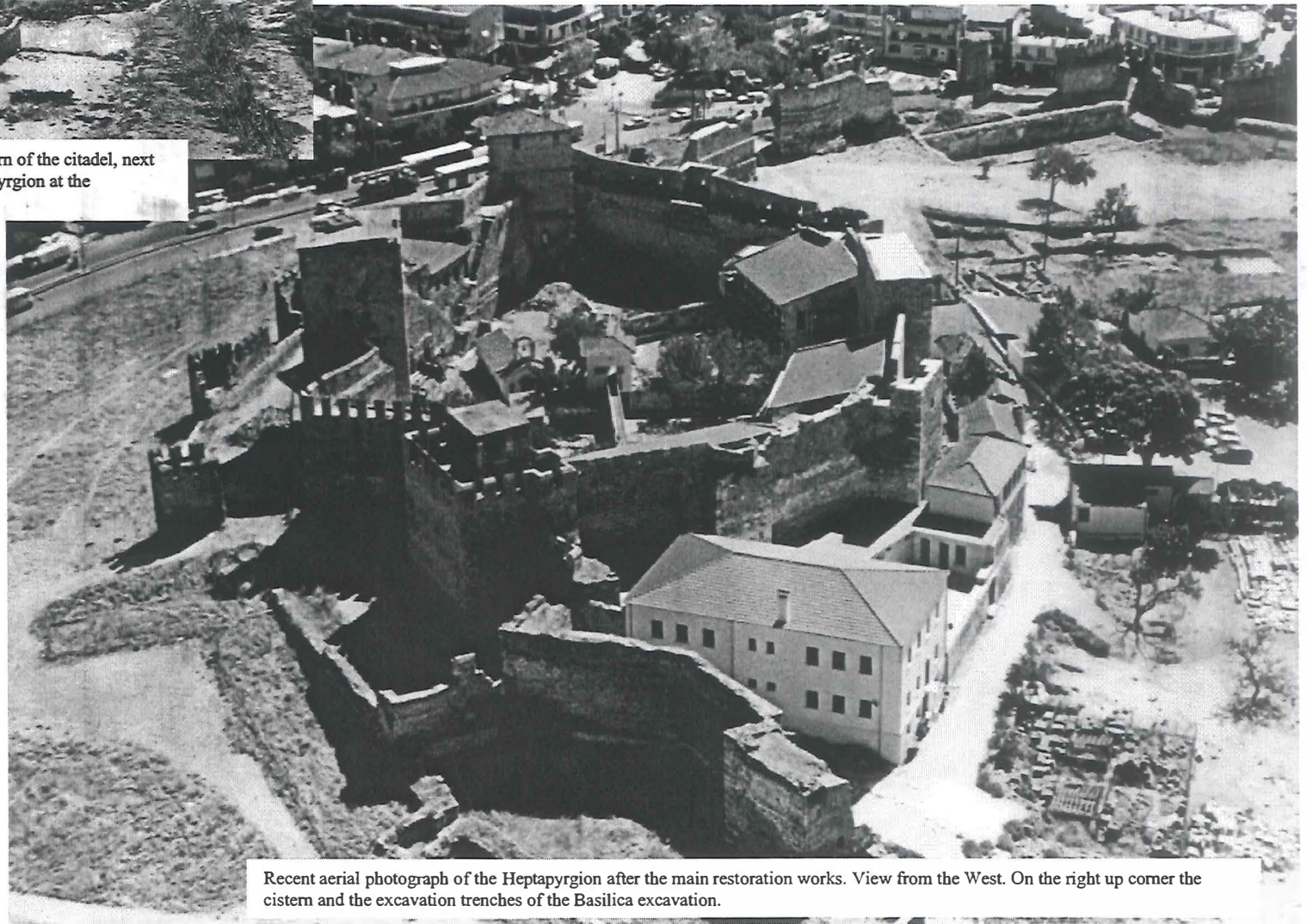
Regarding its Early Byzantine history we have few pieces of evidence from recent excavations attesting to the existence of churches and monasteries in the citadel. (Fig. 29) There is evidence in the literary sources for the destruction of a church of Christ the Saviour here during the capture of Thessaloniki by the Turks at the end of the 14th century. Important infrastructure works are still to be found inside the citadel, including parts of the extensive water-supply system of Thessaloniki, such as the large cistern preserved near the Eprapyrgion, other, smaller ones to the south of it, and water-pipes. (Fig. 30,31)



Recent aerial photograph of the area Southeast of the Heptapyrgion.
The numbers indicate some of the findings on the site 1. Cistern, 2. Basilica, 3. Excavation trenches, 4. Fountain, 5. Water pipes.



Recent photograph of the large cistern of the citadel, next to the fortification wall. The Heptapyrgion at the background.

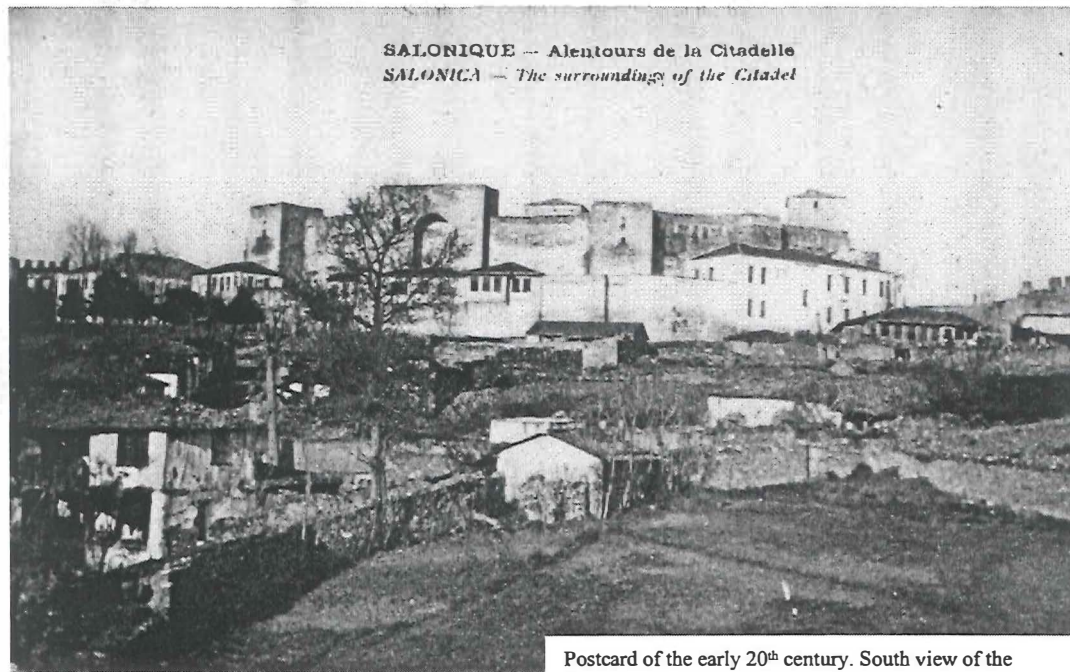


Recent aerial photograph of the Heptapyrgion after the main restoration works. View from the West. On the right up corner the cistern and the excavation trenches of the Basilica excavation.

After the second and final capture of Thessaloniki by the Turks in 1430, the citadel was occupied by settlers and transformed into a Turkish residential area. (Fig. 32) Kal'a-I Balâ, or Yedi Kule, or Küçük Selânik, as the citadel was now known, was for long the seat of the Turkish administration and, as a Turkish quarter, was not inaccessible until the beginning of the 20th century. (Fig. 33)



Postcard of the early 20th century. A neighborhood in the Citadel district. The South side of the Heptapyrgion at the background.

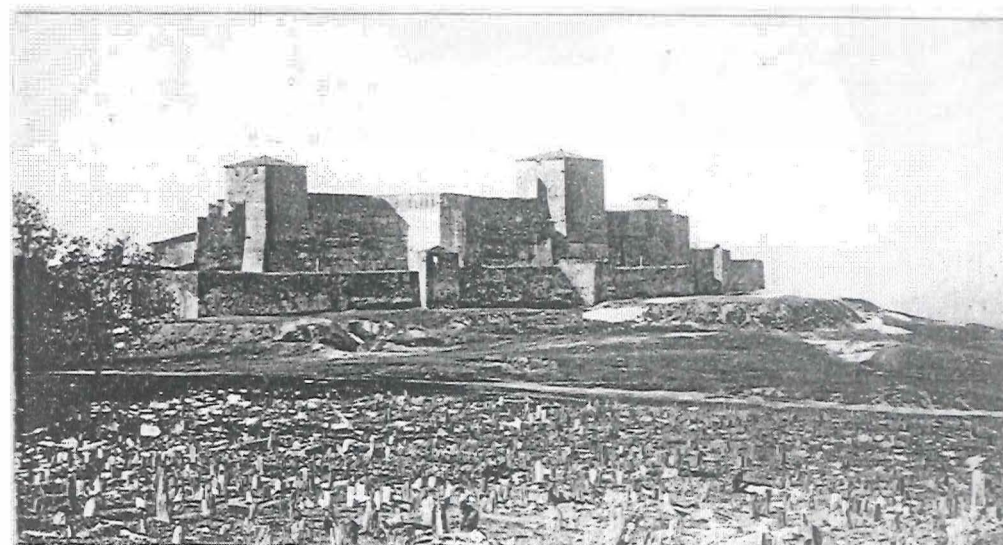
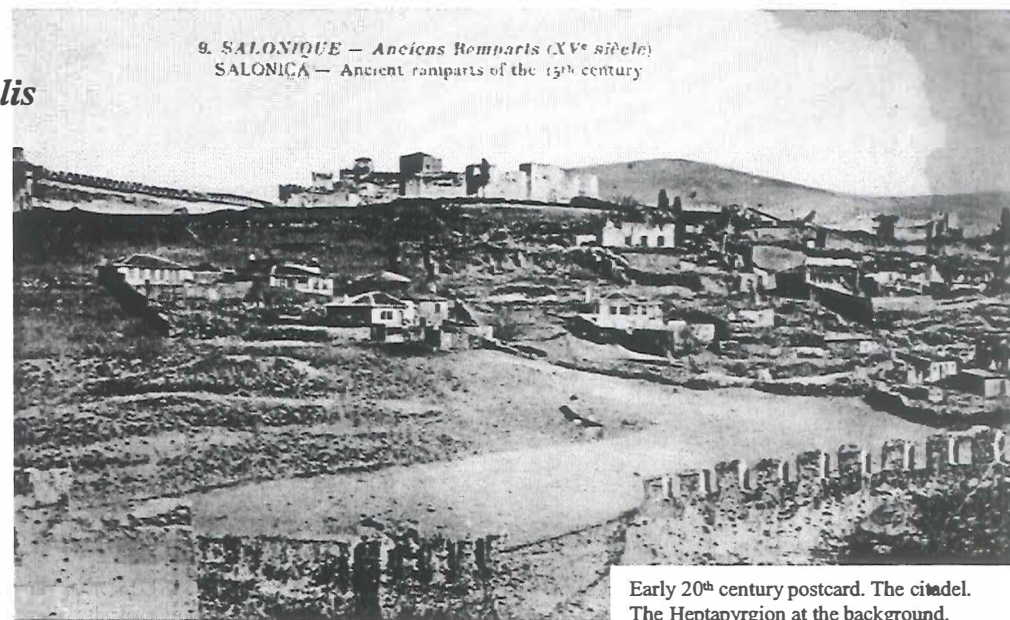


Postcard of the early 20th century. South view of the Heptapyrgion.

Monuments in the archaeological site of the Acropolis

The Heptapyrgion fort, within the Acropolis, the last refuge of the city's defenders, consists of ten towers, three-sided and four-sided, and the walls which join them. (Fig. 34, 35, 36, 37)

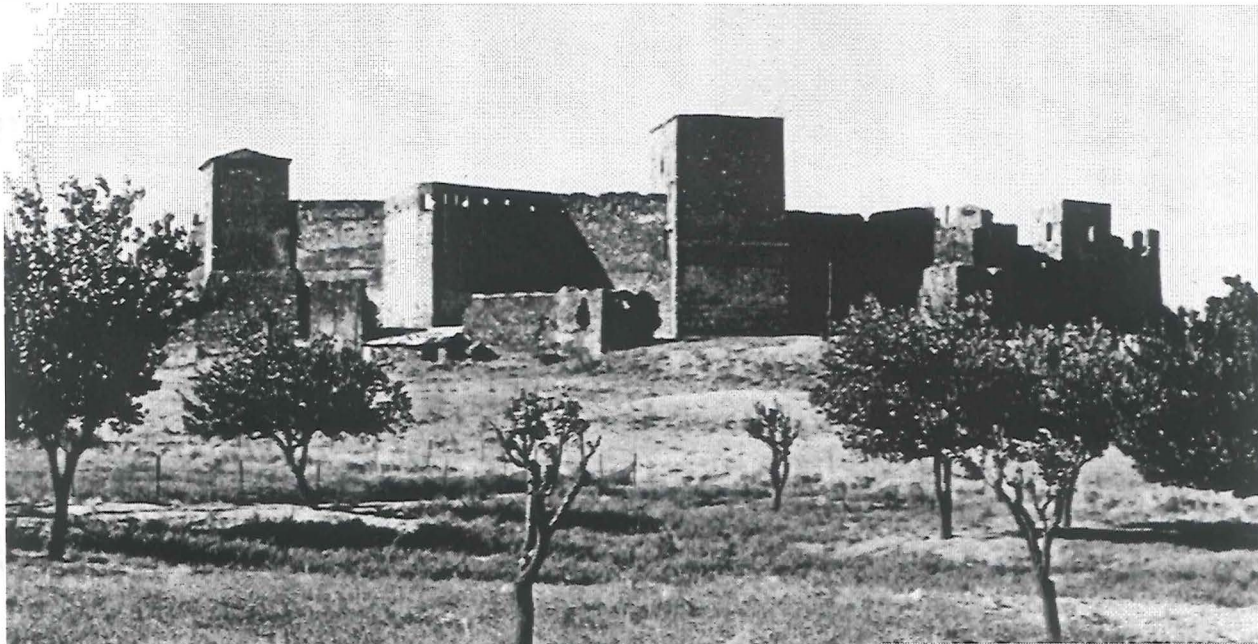
- The first phase of the construction, dating probably from the Early Christian period, forms part of the Acropolis walls and consists of towers P1 to P5 with their connecting walls.
- In the second important phase, which is estimated to have occurred in the 12th c., the five inner towers, P6 to P10, were built and the towers of the earlier stage were reconstructed.
- The third phase completed the work of the second and is assigned to the Palaeologean period.
- In a subsequent stage of construction the defensive character of the Byzantine fort was altered by the Ottomans, a year after their capture of Thessaloniki in 1431. This phase is recorded in the Ottoman inscription on the entrance tower.



Early 20th century postcard. North view of the Heptapyrgion in the foreground the Turkish cemetery.

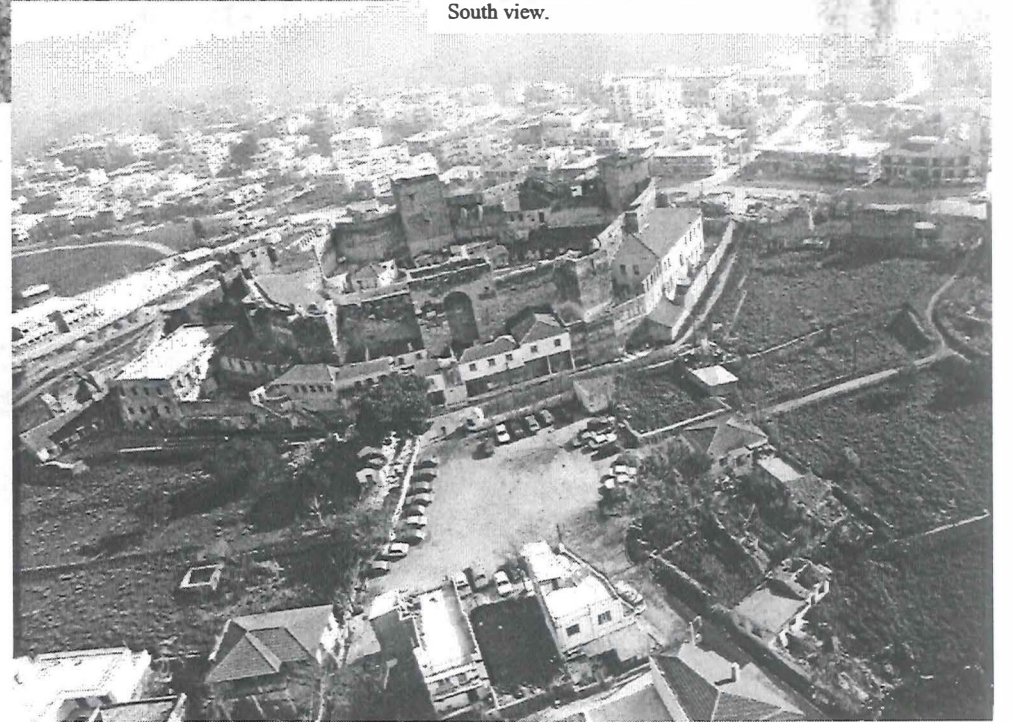
SALONIQUE. — La Citadelle. — SALONIC. — The Citadel.

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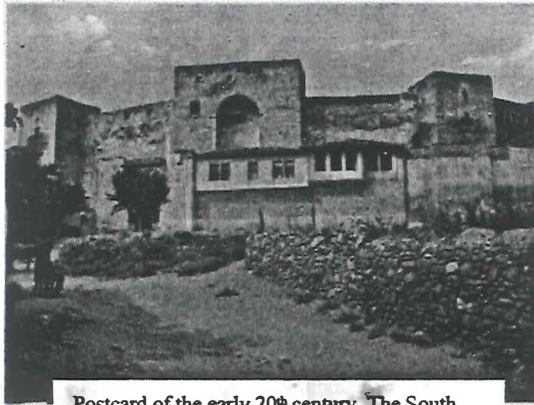


Old postcard. View of the Heptapyrgion from the north.

Photograph of the Heptapyrgion in the early 1990s.
South view.



After the fall of the city the Heptapyrgion was used as the headquarters of the first Ottoman administration (Fig. 38). The construction of the prison complex must have begun in the 1890's. A map that the prison was already in existence at that time. (Fig. 39) From that date the history of the Heptapyrgion becomes the history of the prison. (Fig. 40) In 1989 a joint ministerial decision transferred the Heptapyrgion to the Ministry of Culture and the Ephoreia of Byzantine Antiquities Monuments Service took over the maintenance and restoration of the monument. (Fig. 41)



Postcard of the early 20th century. The South entrance to the fort of the Hepatpyrgion.



Plan of the Acropolis of Thessaloniki in 1899



Aerial photograph of the Heptapyrgion during its last years as a prison. View from the North.



Aerial photograph of the Heptapyrgion during the restoration works of the early 1990s. View from the Northwest.

Restoration is being carried out in such a way as to preserve the authenticity and integrity of the monument. (Fig. 42) Modifications are planned only where they are deemed unavoidable to prevent further damage. There will be the minimum necessary disturbance to individual features such as floors, roofs, apertures and stairways. The materials used in consolidation and restoration as far as possible will be compatible with the original materials.



Recent aerial photograph of the Heptapyrgion after the main restoration works. View from the South.

Study of the Ephoreia proposing a new destination for the complex of Heptapyrgion

Heptapyrgion was dismissed as a prison in 3rd June 1989. (Fig. 44A) The project for the conservation and reinforcement of the whole complex started in 1990 with surveys and documentation at each building, the towers and the walls at the Byzantine fortress. The research for the pathology of the structures and the static study for the reinforcement of the complex was completed in 1995 and then has been presented and approved in 1996 by the Supreme Archeological Council of the Ministry of Culture. The conservation and the first phase of works started in 1994 and lasted till October 1999.



The Heptapyrgion as a prison. The Military prison building and administrative offices in the 1980s.

Then the works continue during 2000 with the national funds.

1. Monument for the public to visit. Cultural activities of small scale.
2. Headquarters of the Thessaloniki Ephoreia installed in the former Prison buildings suitably repaired and organized.

The study concerns the rehabilitation and reinforcement of the former Female Prison building and the installation of the relevant facilities for the new uses (Fig. 44C):

1. Temporary exhibitions' room.
2. Conference-seminar room.
3. Restoration laboratories

Aerial photograph of the Heptapyrgion during the early 1990s. View from the Northeast.

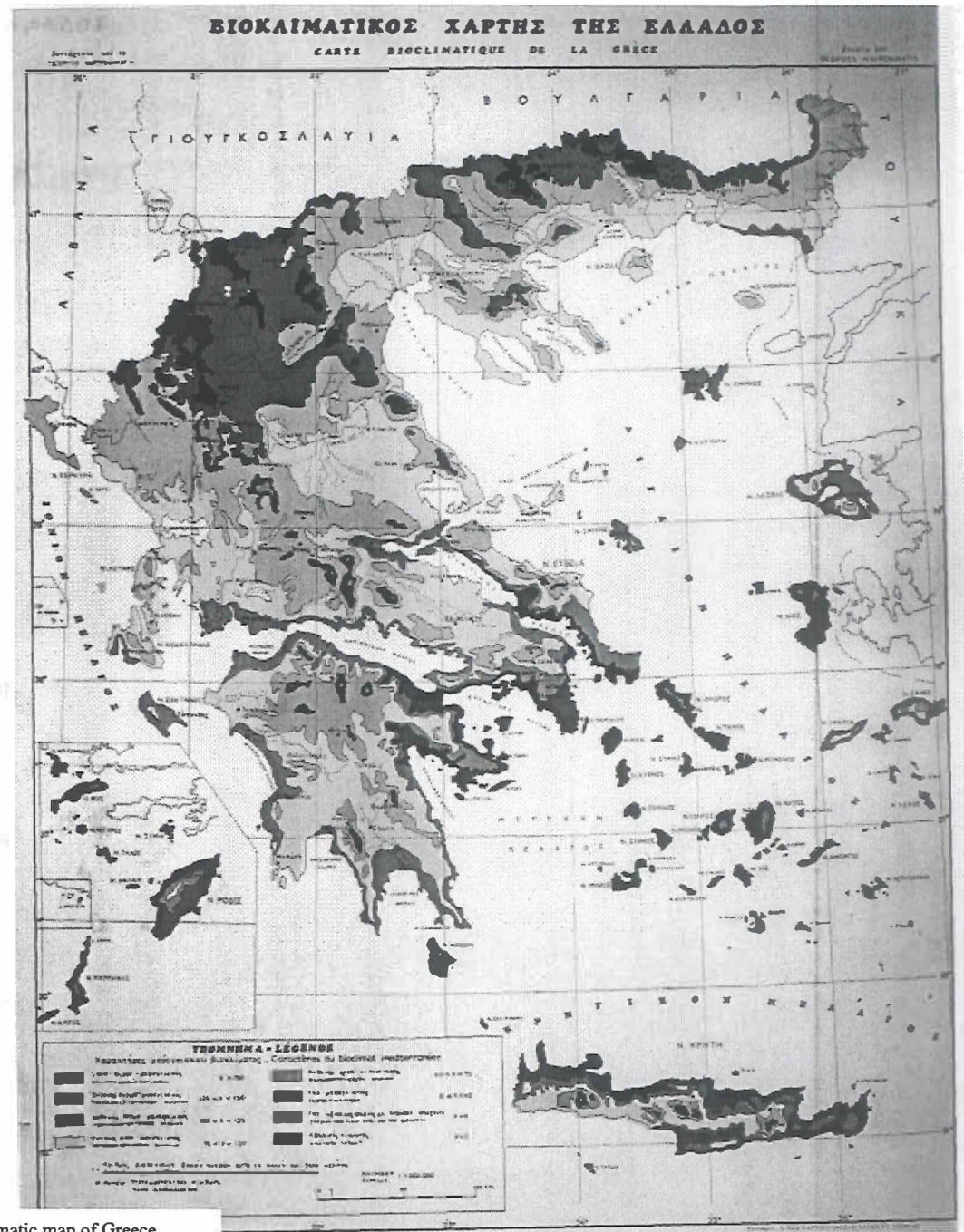


Climate, vegetation and geology

Thessaloniki has a Mediterranean type climate, with northerly winds (18.9%) and easterly winds (9.8%) in winter. (Fig. 51) The most distinctive north wind, which blows down from the Axios/Vardar valley, is known as the *Vardaris* and also blows occasionally in summer, bringing the city much-needed relief. The prevailing winds in summer are southerly (9.3%) and south-westerly (10.5%).

Maximum monthly rainfall is 189.3 mm, with averages of 22.6 mm in July, 14.2 mm in August, and 55.2 mm in December.

The air temperature in Thessaloniki makes the city more 'continental' than the western areas of the Mediterranean. The absolute maximum temperature (41.8 °C) is reached in July, and the absolute minimum (-10.3 °C) in January



Bioclimatic map of Greece

Average humidity in July and August is 60%, though it can fall much lower, to less than 30%.

Sunshine levels are high, with an annual average of 2,645.2 hours. There is most sunshine in July (368.1 hours) and least in December and January (110.3 and 113.6 hours respectively).

The principal crops grown in the wider area of Thessaloniki are cotton (50–25%), wheat (44–38%), vegetables (16–15%), oats, barley, rice, and grapes. (Fig. 52)

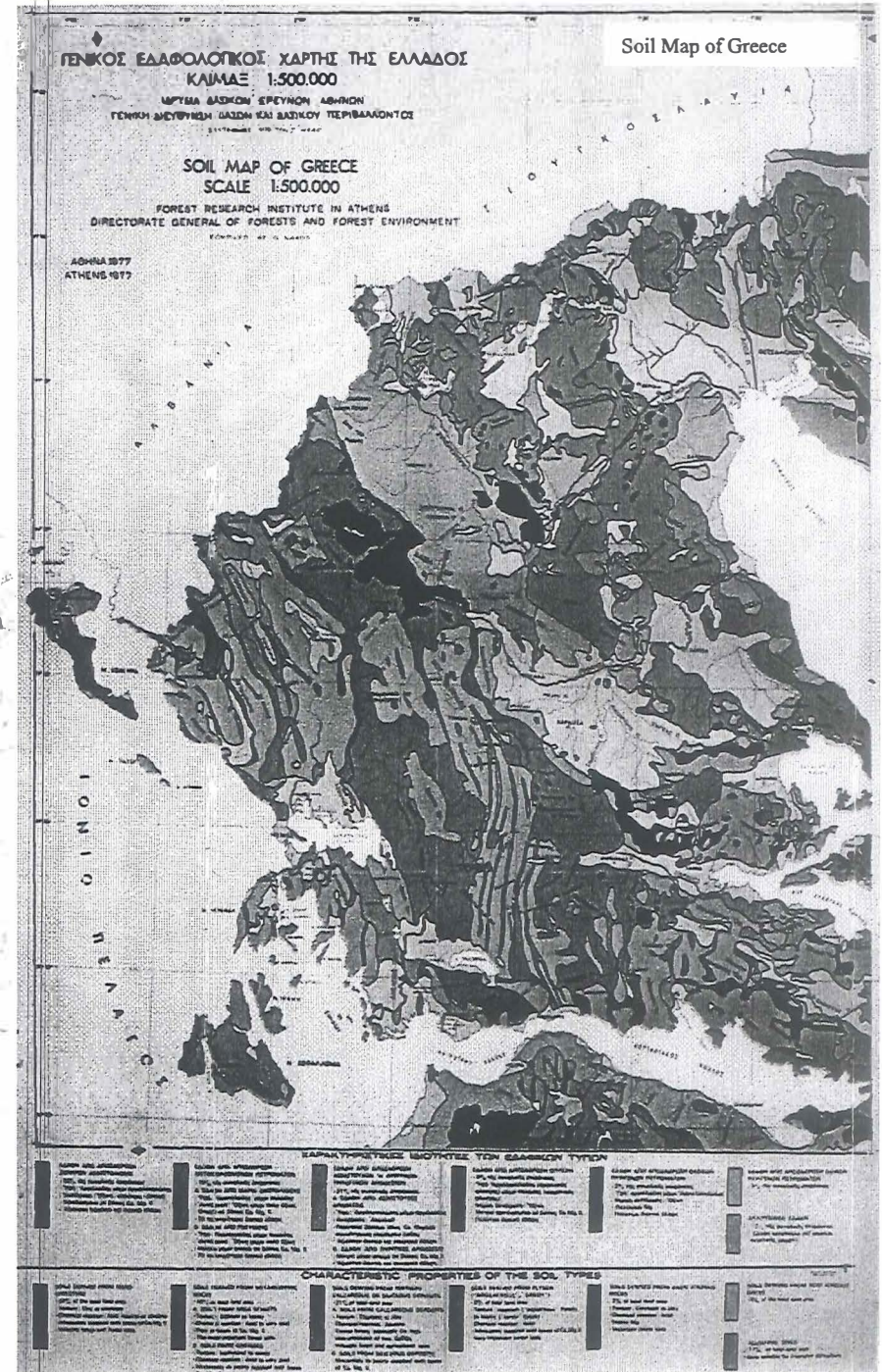
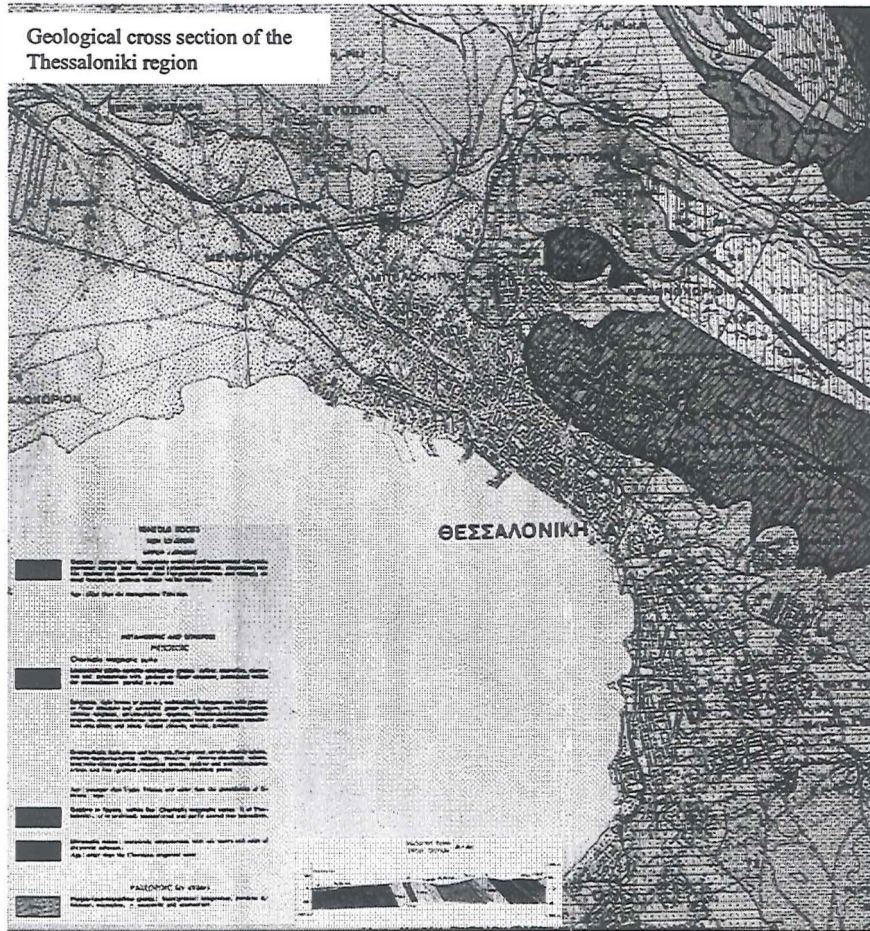
Wider
(25%)
(16-15%)
(Fig. 52)



Vegetation map of Greece

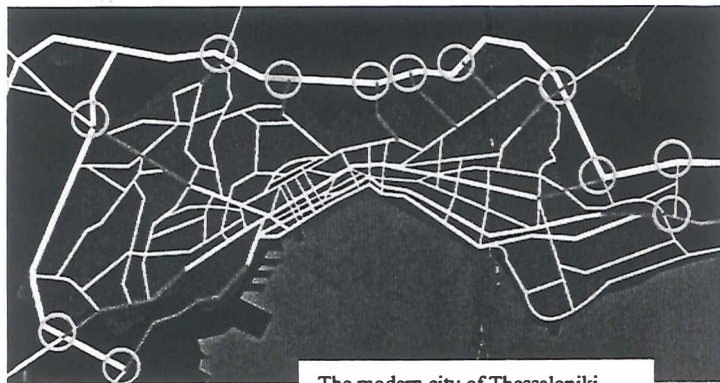
The terrain in Thessaloniki prefecture is mainly lowland. The rivers Axios, Gallikos, and Loudias (marking the boundary with Pella prefecture) flow through an extensive alluvial plain in the west of the prefecture. In the north, between Mounts Vertiskos, Kerdylia, and Hortiatis, is the Lagadas basin, containing Lake Ayios Vassilios (or Lagadas) and Lake Volvi, which discharges its water via the minor River Rihios into the Strymonic Gulf. (Fig. 53, 54)

Geological cross section of the Thessaloniki region

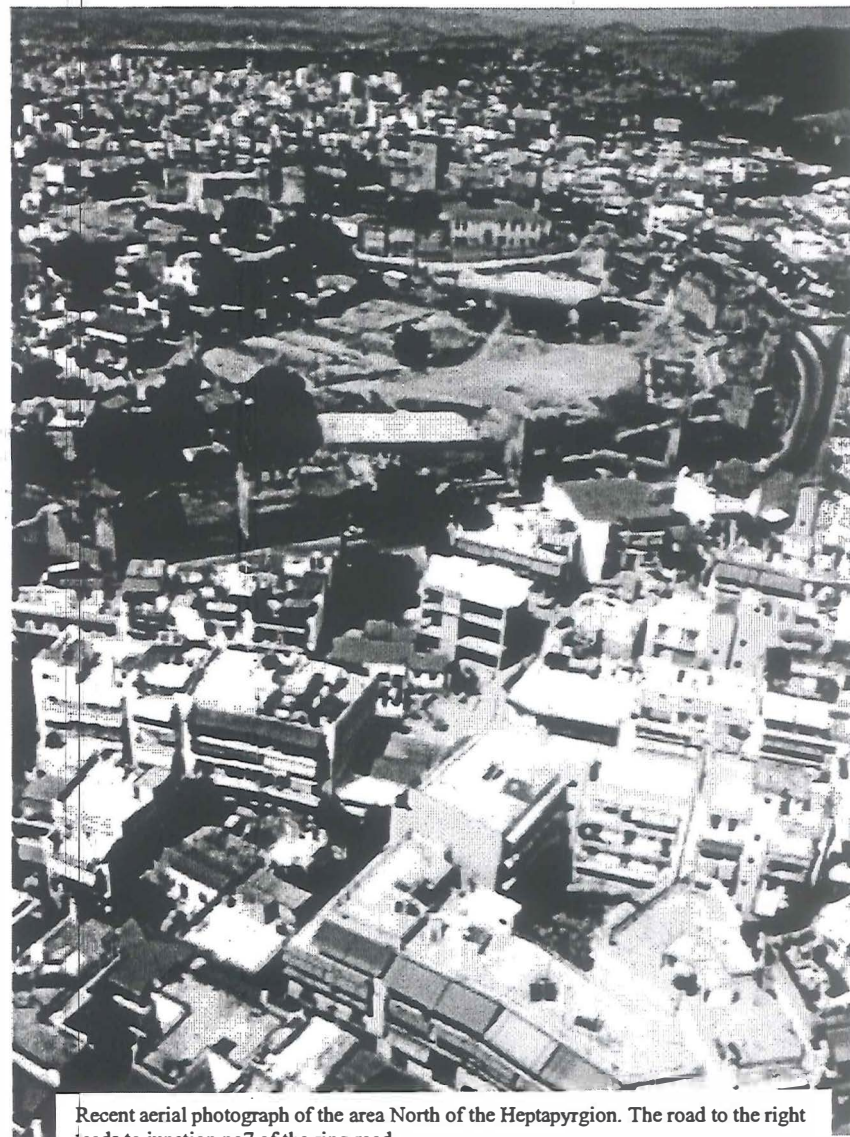


Assessment of the socio- economic impact of the project

The Acropolis district is at the extreme north end of Thessaloniki's Old Town which was formerly isolated and inhabited by under-privileged social groups. The whole area is undergoing rapid development owing to two factors: i) families are moving in, particularly those of young professionals keen to move away from the city centre; ii) the new ring road around the city makes access to the Old Town (junction 7) much easier. (Fig. 44B, 45) The Ephoreia installed in July 1999 its headquarters in the former prison buildings in Heptapyrgion fortress which is open to the general public as an important monument and a centre for cultural events, it will certainly lead to the social rehabilitation of this part of Thessaloniki. Living conditions in the area will improve and the Ephoreia will be able to develop its cultural work.

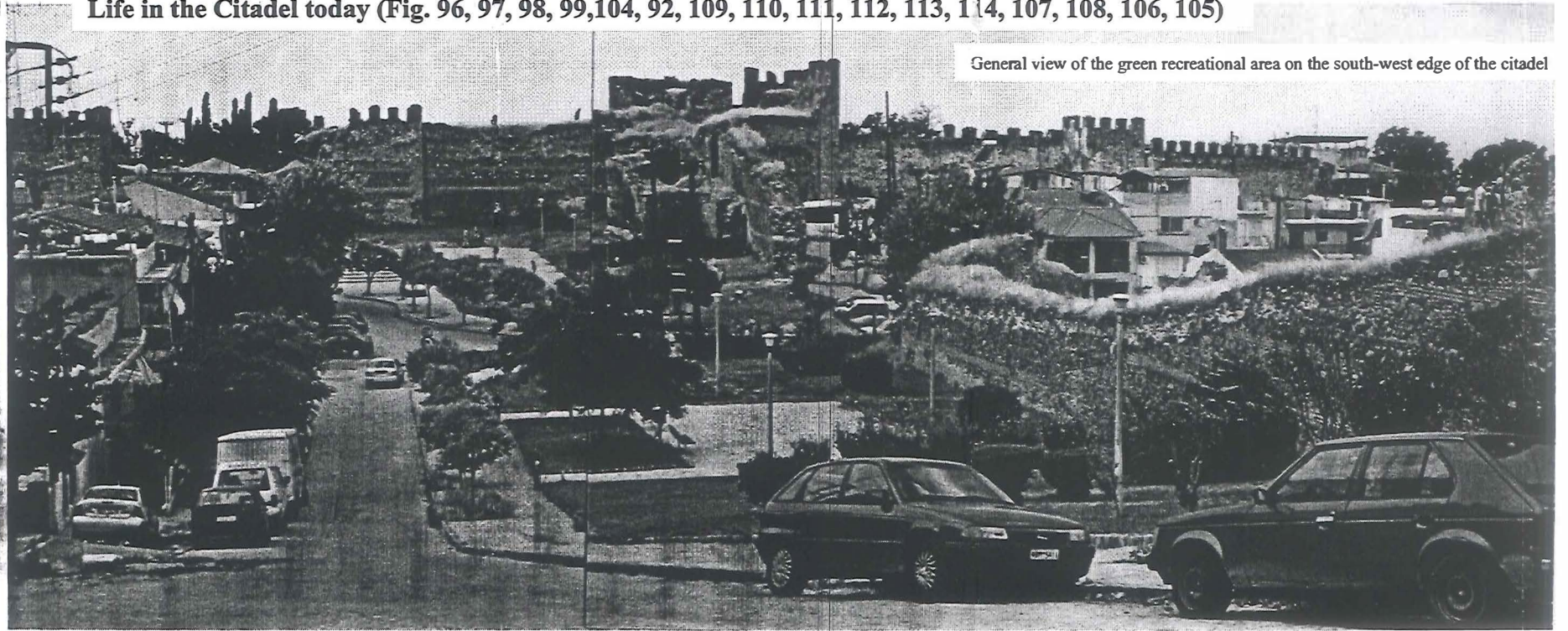


The modern city of Thessaloniki with its main axis and junction no7 marked green.

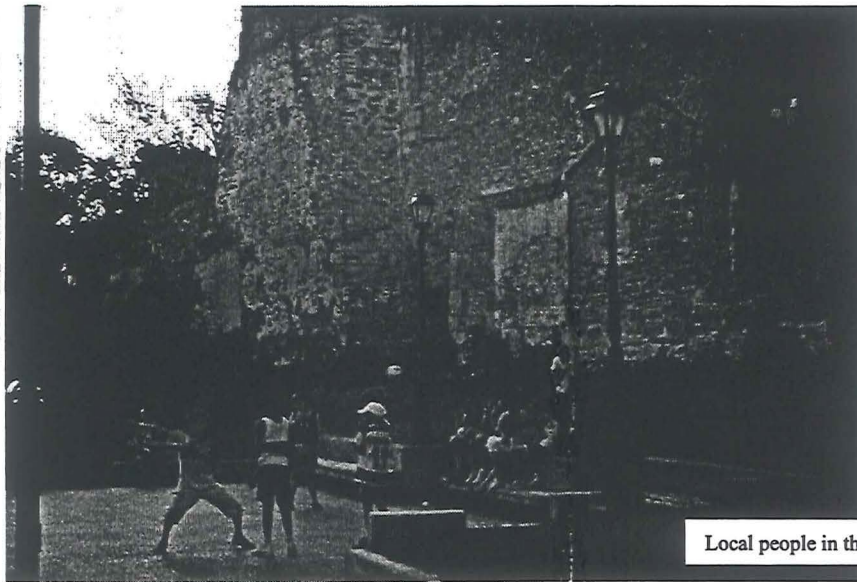


Recent aerial photograph of the area North of the Heptapyrgion. The road to the right leads to junction no7 of the ring road.

Life in the Citadel today (Fig. 96, 97, 98, 99, 104, 92, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 107, 108, 106, 105)

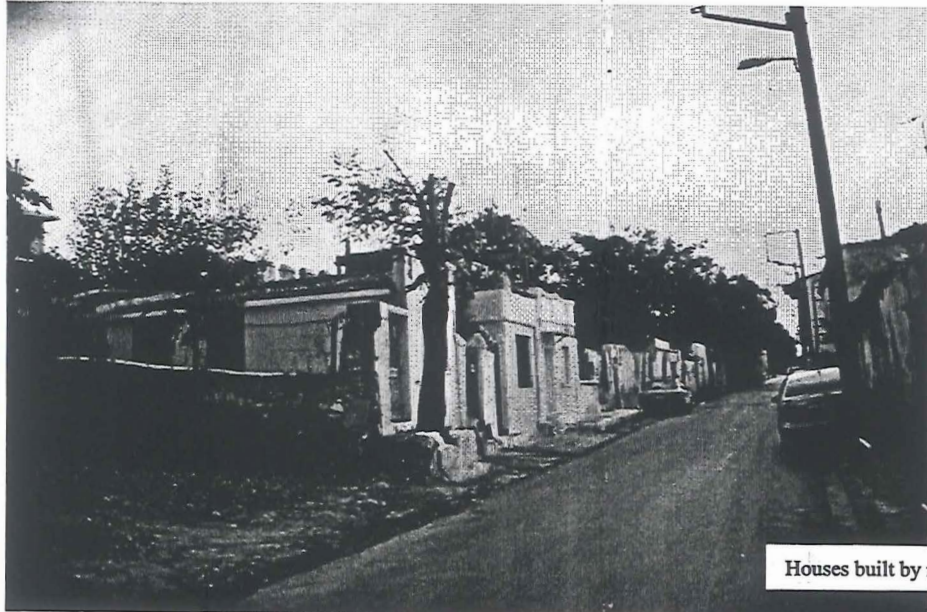


General view of the green recreational area on the south-west edge of the citadel

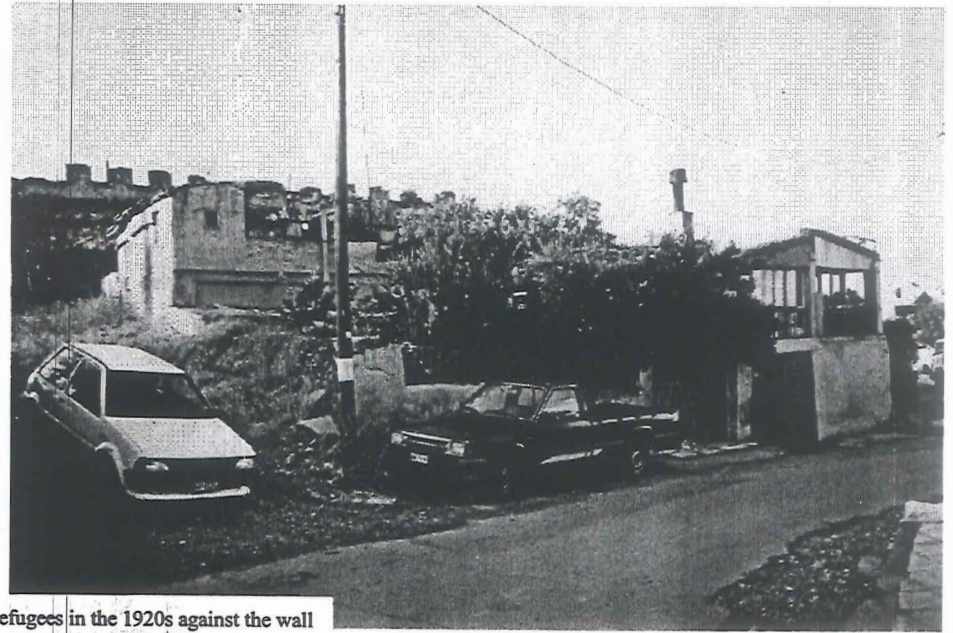


Local people in the green recreational area beside the Citadel wall

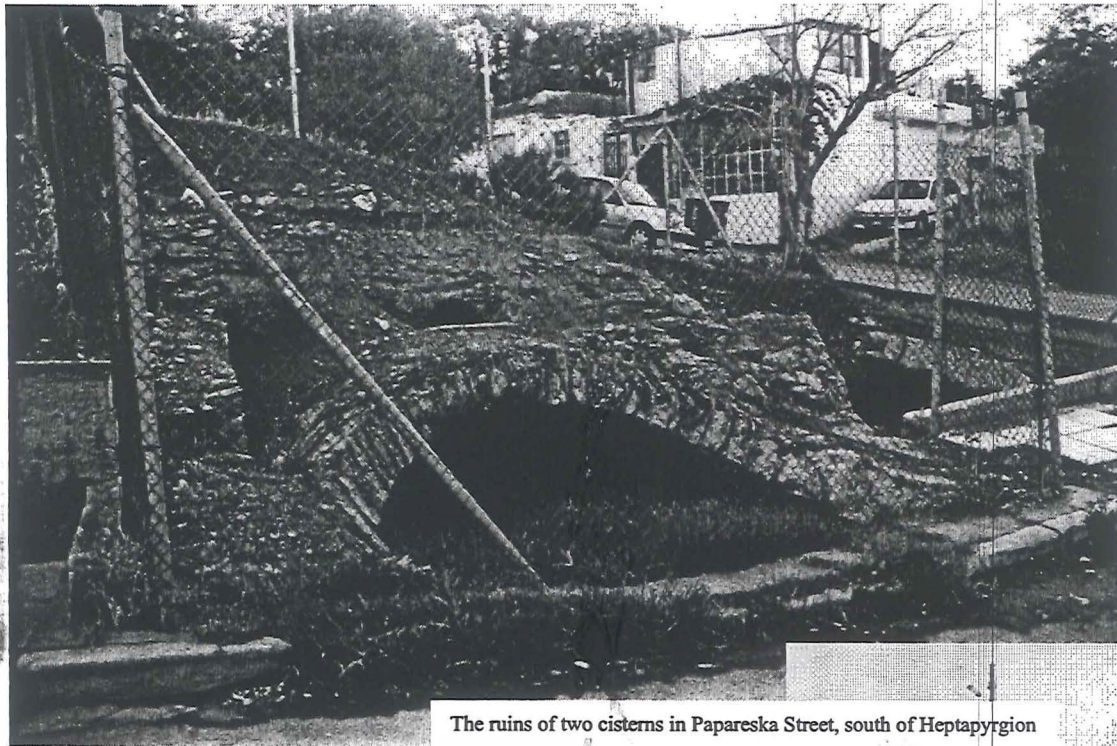




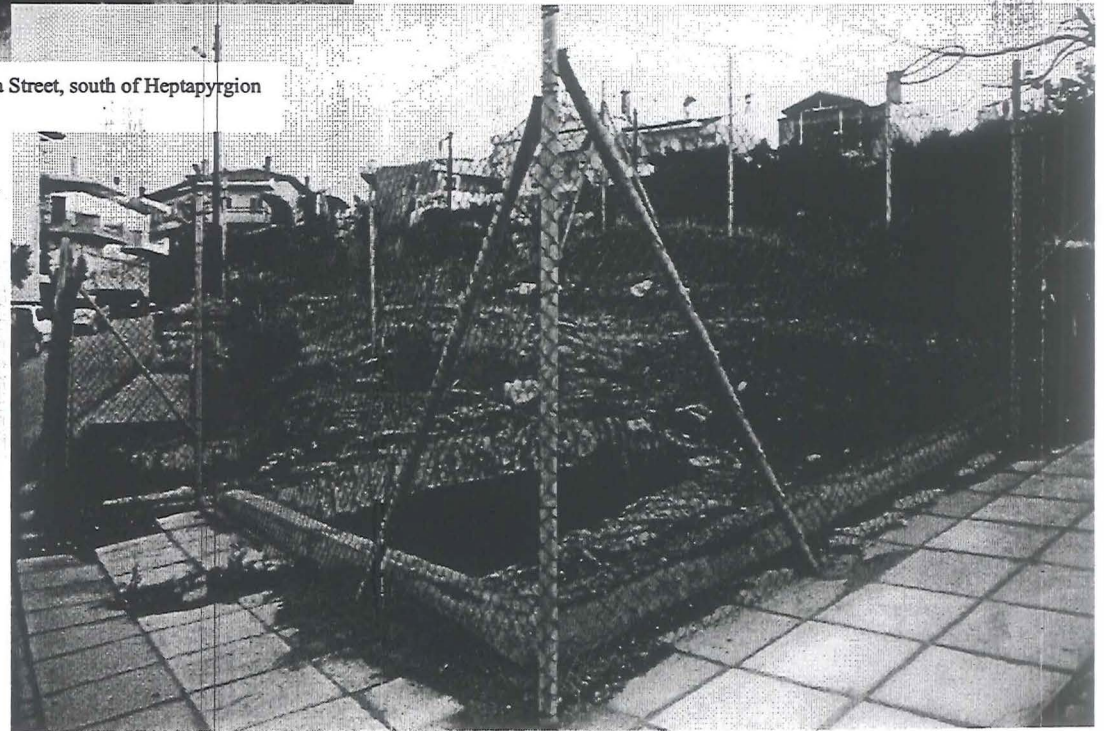
Houses built by refugees in the 1920s against the wall

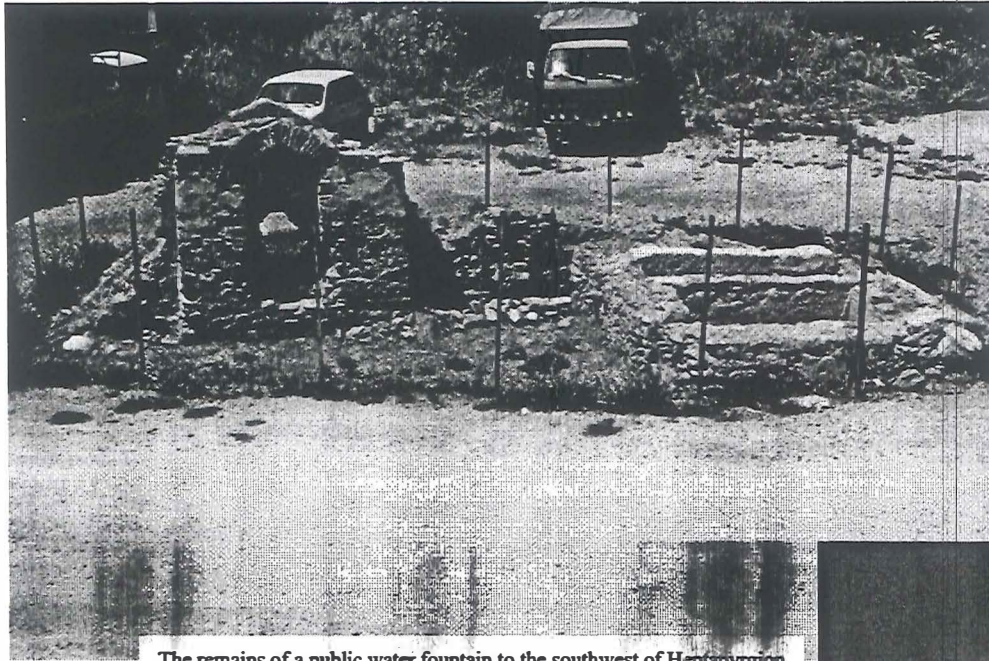


Newly constructed building conforming to the new size and height restrictions



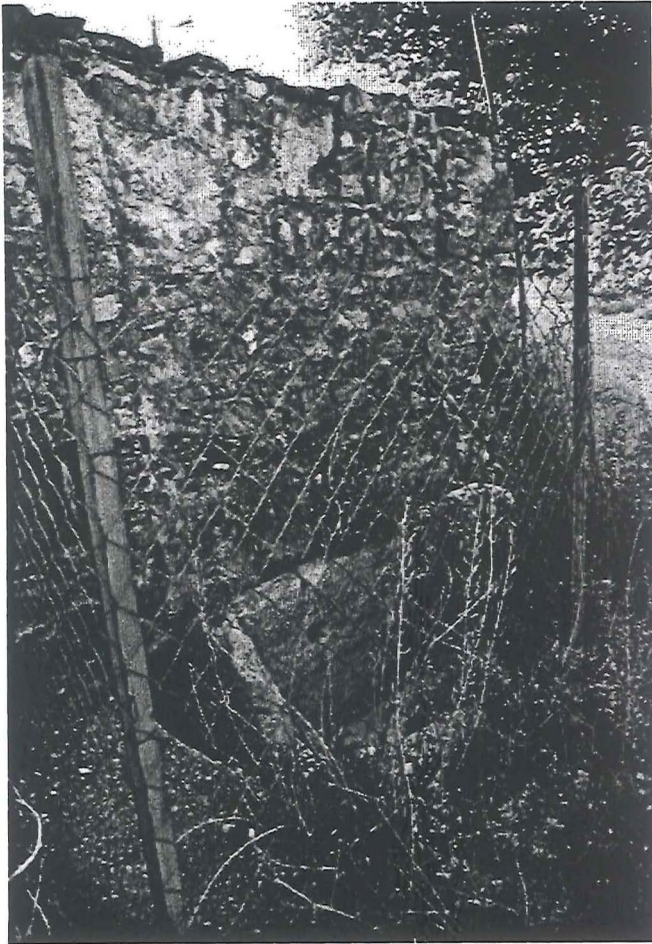
The ruins of two cisterns in Papareska Street, south of Heptapyrgion



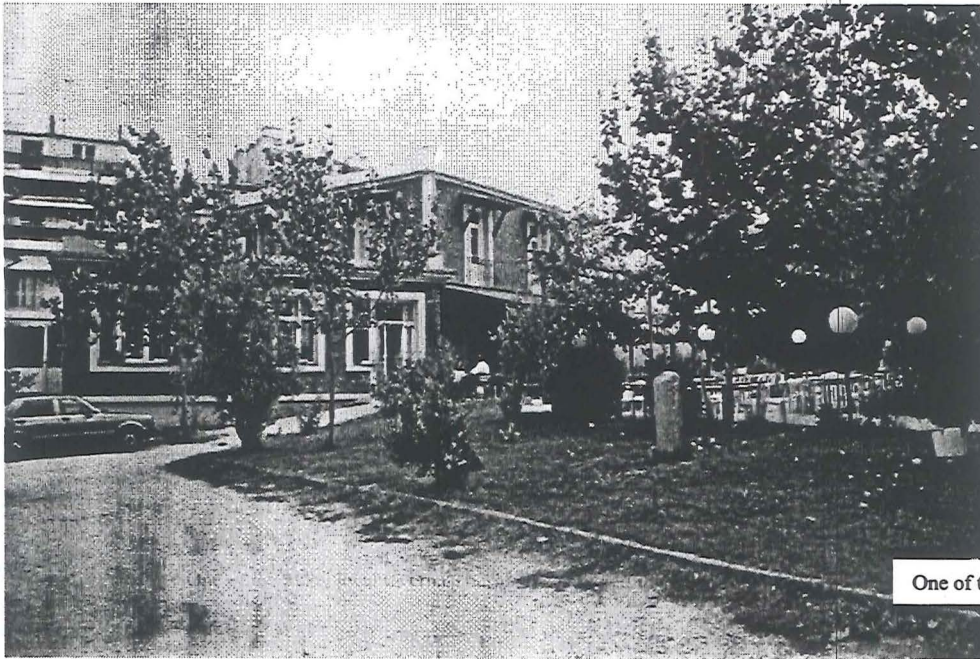


The remains of a public water fountain to the southwest of Heptapyrgion

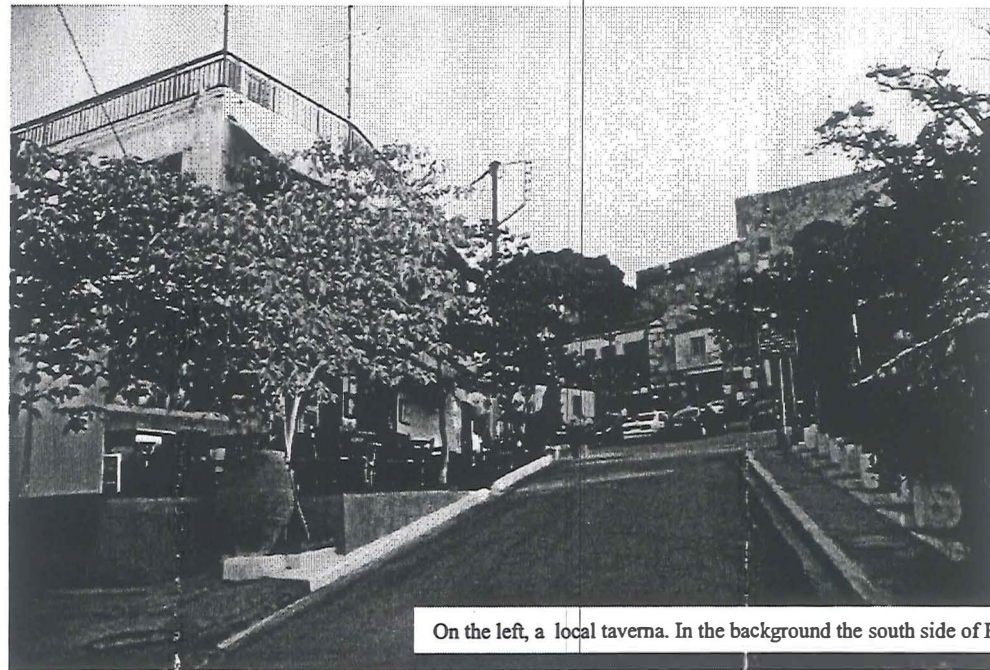




The remains of a public water fountain to the southeast of Heptapyrgion



One of the many local tavernas, beside the wall and the green zone



On the left, a local taverna. In the background the south side of Heptapyrgion and the main entrance

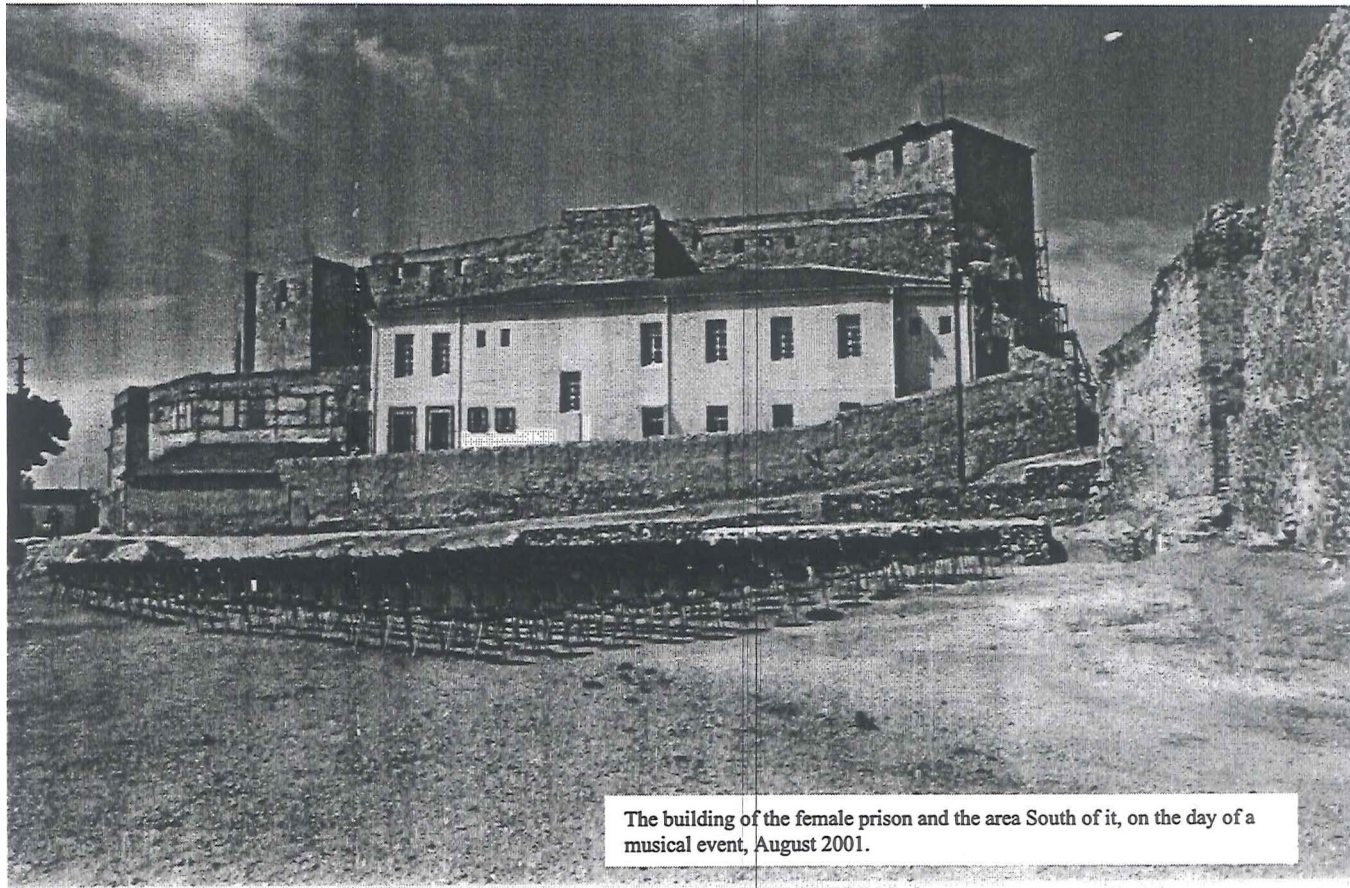


The entrance to Blatadon Monastery beside the wall



Various new activities designed to attract visitors are now going on in the Citadel, like this pottery workshop beside the wall.

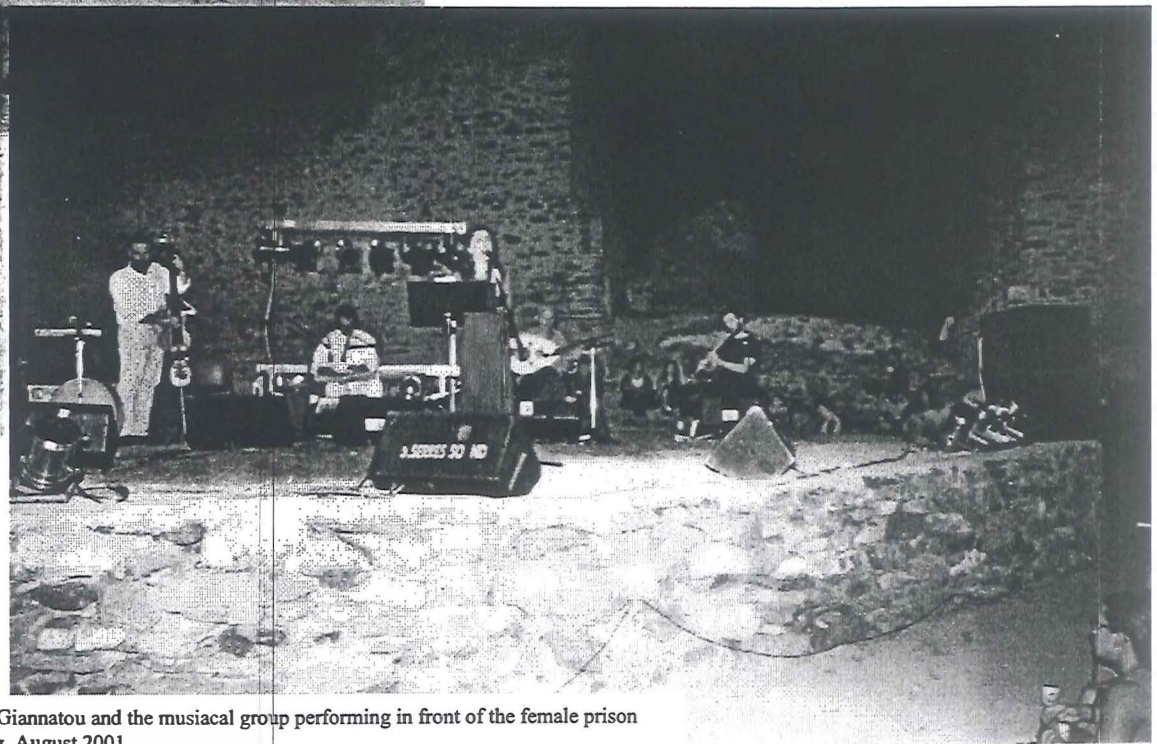
Description of the activities available to the public before and after the interventions: Before: relatively few visitors, occasional, casually organised musical events and theatrical performances. After: integrated archaeological site with facilities for visitors; the two permanent exhibitions on Byzantine fortification in Greece and Heptapyrgion down the ages; room for temporary exhibitions, seminars, and various other uses; library; archives of historical documents, plans, drawings, and photographs of the monuments of Thessaloniki and excavations carried out in the city; small open-air theatre for plays and concerts. (Fig. 46, 47, 48).



The building of the female prison and the area South of it, on the day of a musical event, August 2001.

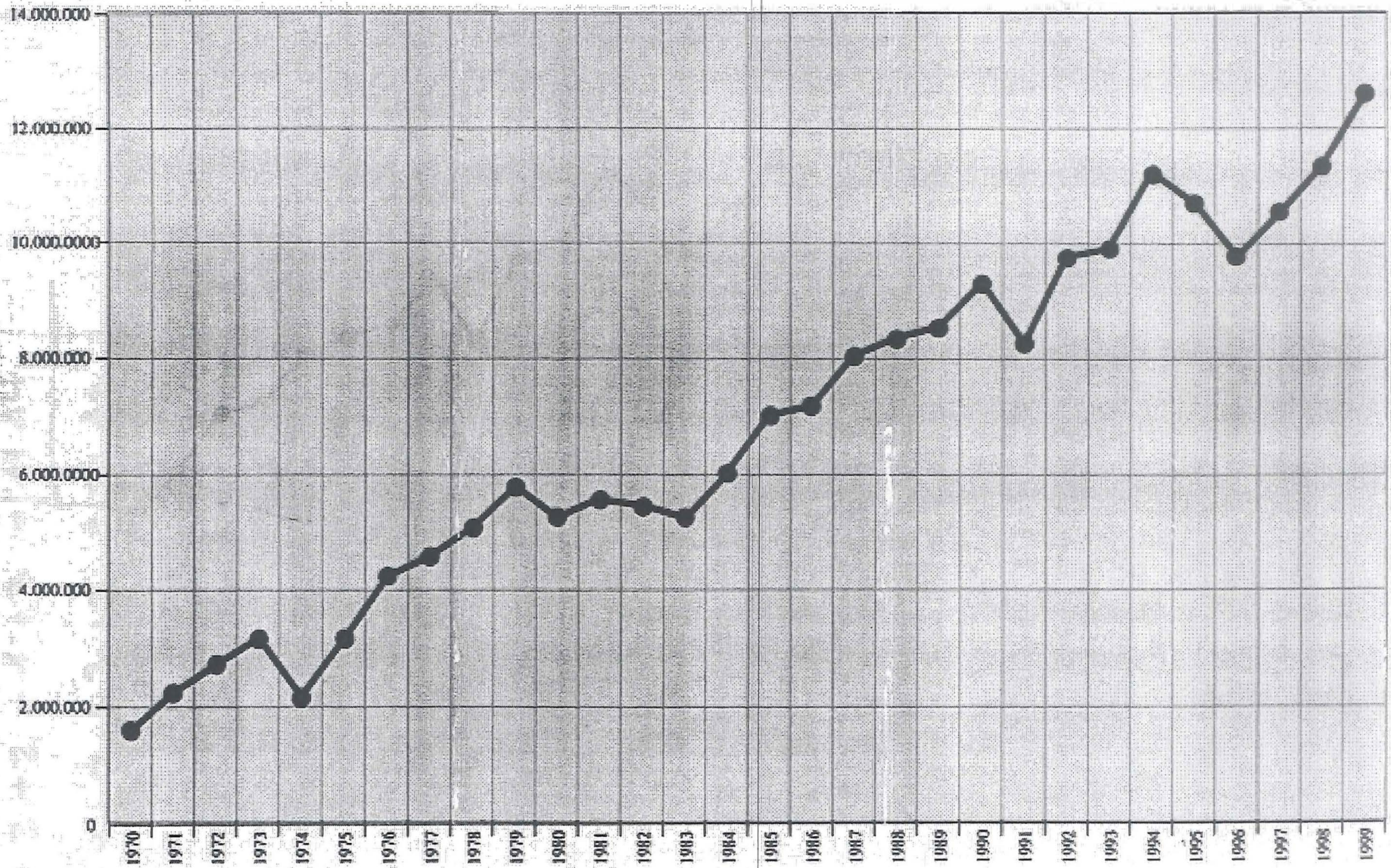


West view of the area South of the female prison building, on the day of a musical event, August 2001.



Savina Giannatou and the musical group performing in front of the female prison building, August 2001.

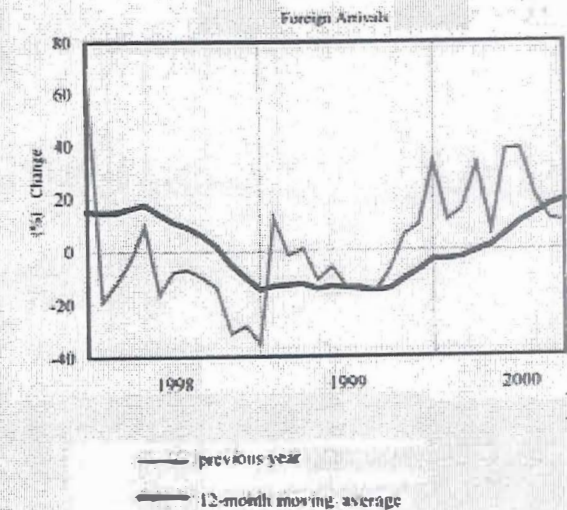
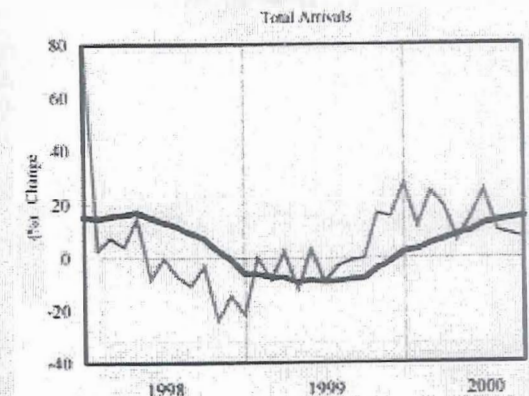
Tourist Activity (Fig 117, 118, 119)
Arrivals of foreign tourists in Greece



Prefecture of Thessaloniki: Tourist Activity

Period	Total Hotel Arrivals				Foreign Hotel Arrivals			
	Persons	(% Change)			Persons	(% Change)		
		Previous year	Cumulative period	12-month moving average		Previous year	Cumulative period	12-month moving average
1995	608096	-4.3	...	...	215102	-5.7	...	...
1996	622511	2.4	...	...	210608	-2.1	...	...
1997	717886	15.3	...	...	242142	15.0	...	...
1998	675387	-5.9	...	...	206924	-14.5	...	...
1999	689902	2.1	...	...	199506	-3.6	...	...
1999 II	171462	-6.0	-3.9	-9.1	56668	-10.3	-5.5	-14.0
1999 III	173888	-1.3	-3.0	-7.8	57743	-12.0	-8.1	-14.5
1999 IV	187298	19.3	2.1	2.1	49006	13.4	-3.6	-3.6
2000 I	186133	18.4	18.4	6.8	43714	21.1	21.1	-0.4
2000 II	197331	15.1	16.7	12.5	71914	26.9	24.7	10.3
2000 III	188743	8.5	13.8	15.1	65658	-13.7	20.5	18.9
1999 Apr.	58325	-11.9	-4.6	-9.3	20965	-11.0	-2.5	-14.4
1999 May	63250	3.2	-3.0	-8.4	19188	-6.2	-3.5	-13.4
1999 June	49887	-9.0	-3.9	-9.1	16515	-13.6	-5.5	-14.0
1999 July	50308	-3.1	-3.8	-8.8	16907	-13.6	-6.8	-14.6
1999 Aug.	55174	-0.9	-3.5	-8.0	19940	-15.3	-8.2	-13.2
1999 Sept.	68406	-0.3	-3.0	-7.8	20896	-7.2	-8.1	-14.5
1999 Oct.	66555	16.7	-1.1	-4.0	19586	5.8	-6.7	-10.7
1999 Nov.	64707	15.4	0.4	-1.4	16163	9.4	-5.5	-7.6
1999 Dec.	56036	27.7	2.1	2.1	13257	33.6	-3.6	-3.6
2000 Jan.	58484	11.8	11.8	3.0	12114	11.0	11.0	-3.6
2000 Feb.	56551	24.8	17.8	5.4	12034	15.6	13.3	-2.7
2000 Mar.	71098	19.3	18.4	6.8	19566	32.5	21.1	-0.4
2000 Apr.	62151	6.6	15.2	8.7	22513	7.4	16.1	1.6
2000 May	72725	15.0	15.1	9.8	26518	38.2	21.6	5.8
2000 Jun.	62455	25.2	16.7	12.5	22883	38.6	24.7	10.3
2000 July	55359	10.0	15.8	13.5	20368	20.5	24.0	13.5
2000 Aug.	59912	8.6	14.9	14.3	22203	11.3	22.1	16.8
2000 Sept.	73472	7.4	13.8	15.1	23087	10.5	20.5	18.9

Source: NTO

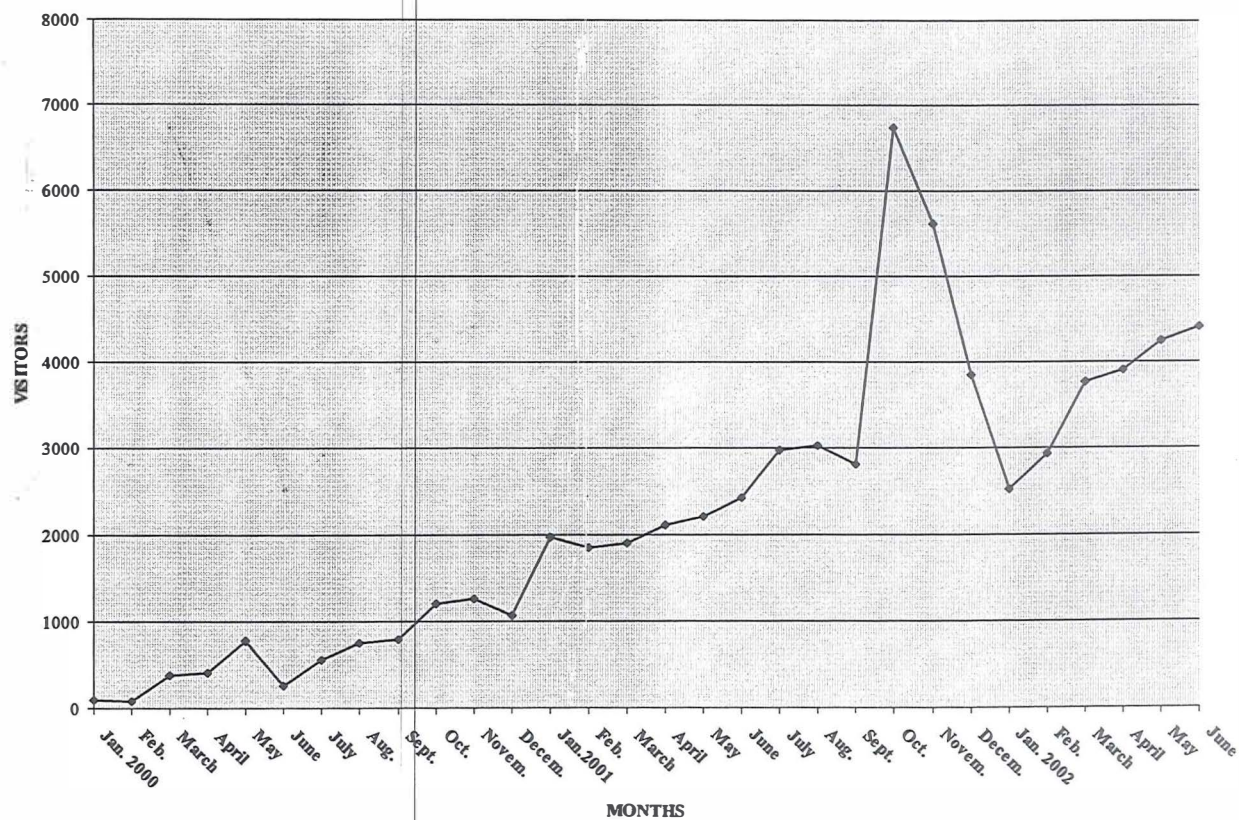


Flow of visitors in the Acropolis of Thessaloniki

MONTHS	YEARS		
	2000	2001	2002
JANUARY	94	1.971	2.522
FEBRUARY	79	1.854	2.927
MARCH	377	1.898	3.773
APRIL	413	2.103	3.908
MAY	786	2.211	4.244
JUNE	267	2.421	4.408
JULY	558	2.972	
AUGUST	750	3.024	
SEPTEMBER	800	2.805	
OCTOBER	1.210	6.733*	
NOVEMBER	1.256	5.621	
DECEMBER	1.070	3.852	

Greeks : 58% , Foreigners : 42%

* An noticeable increase of the number of visitors due to the opening of two exhibitions: "An essay on Byzantine fortification in Northern Greece 4th - 15th c." and "Heptapyrgion: The citadel of Thessaloniki".



Aim of the project to involve young people and access for disadvantaged groups

Young people are showing increasing interest in archaeological sites and museums, particularly those which present authentic aspects of history and also offer facilities for visitors. The monumental complex of Heptapyrgion in the heart of the picturesque Acropolis district, the permanent and temporary exhibitions, and the on-site cultural and professional activities organised by the Ephoreia (conferences, slide shows and films, guided tours, courses, educational programmes, and seminars on archaeological subjects for professionals) will all constitute a focus of interest for young people. The locating of the Ephoreia in a district still inhabited by underprivileged groups will unquestionably have a positive effect upon them.

Existing local/ national financemnt

Estimated budget and existing or expected funds: 1,173,881 euro.

It was considered best to redesign the space and include some aspects of the previous use of the land. The new design had to provide solutions to problems faced by modern visitors to the monument (such as access and parking) and to preserve its authentic image of a Byzantine fortress surrounded by a piece of land with vegetation representative of the Greek landscape, wild on the north side, cultivated on the south, as it had always been: an authentic piece of land within the urban fabric which now surrounds the monument.

The Ephoreia of Byzantine Antiquities has declared the surrounding area a historic listed monument, thus ensuring legal protection for the authenticity of the site.

These, then, were the basic considerations that were taken into account when the site was planned. The original master plan was approved by decision Y . . . /APX/B1/ 34/18-4-1997 and separate plans were drawn up for: i) the extramural area to the north, approved by decision Y . . . / A/APX/B1/ 34/10-10-2001; and ii) the intramural area to the south-west, approved by decision Y . . . / A/APX/B1/ 34/17-10-2001.

When the archaeological site of the Early Christian basilica has been excavated, a plan will be drawn up for the intramural area to the south-east.

More specifically, the individual plans apply the following principles and aims to the sites for development.

The area around Heptapyrgion

North side (Fig. 58, 59, 69, 70, 71)

Development proposal (Fig. 67)

Premises underlying visitors' access to the site

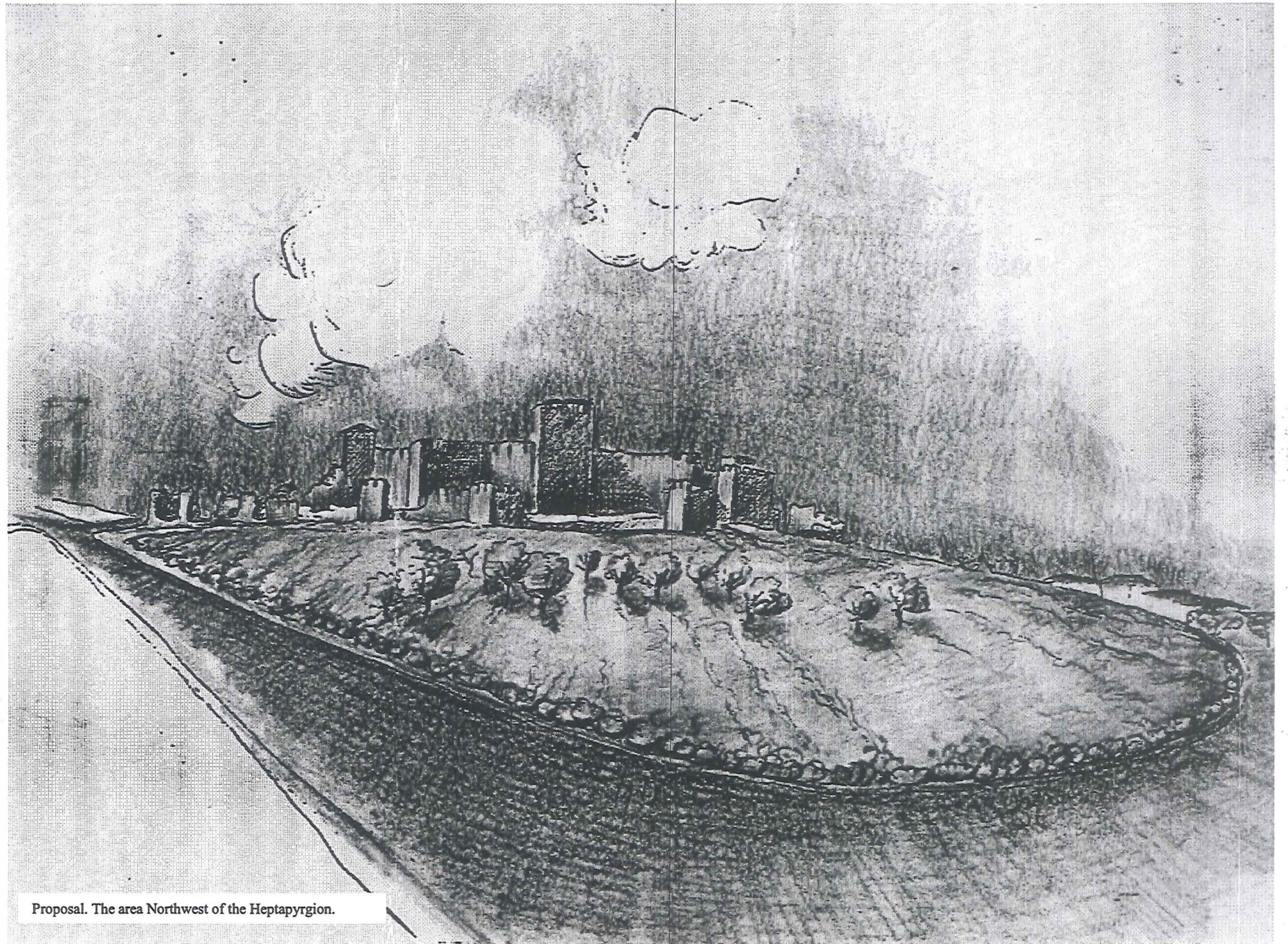
- I. No access for cars
- II. No unrestricted access for the general public
- III. Visitors must keep to the paths around the site



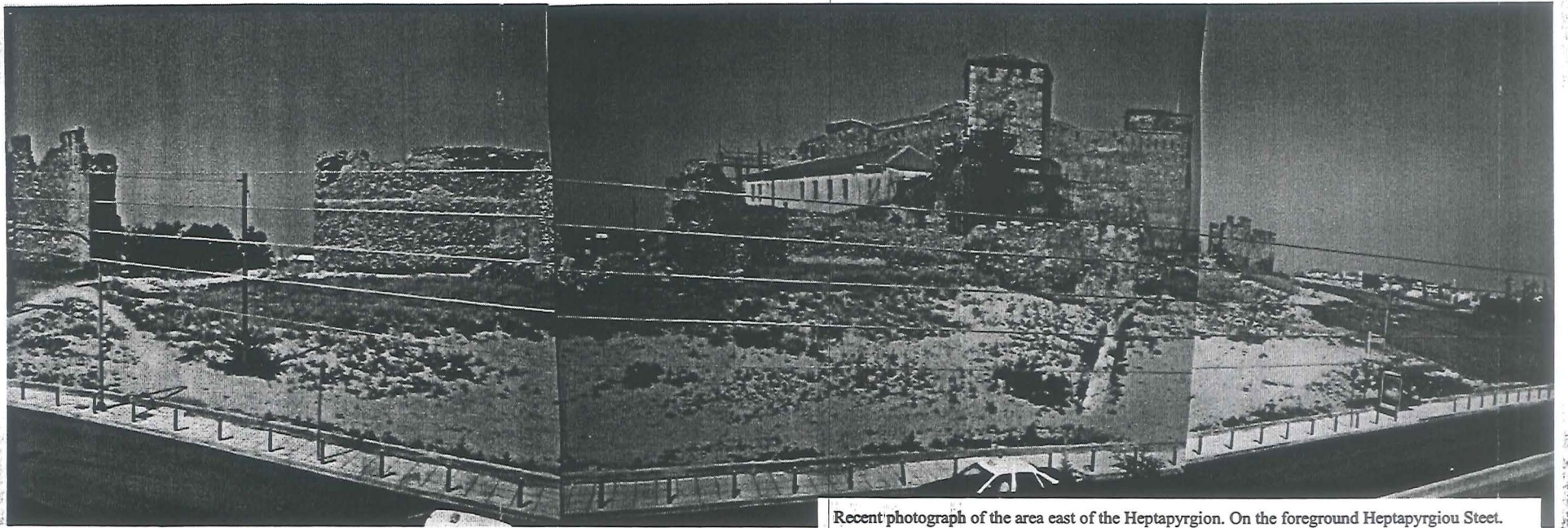
Aerial photograph of the Heptapyrgion during its last years as a prison.
View from the North.



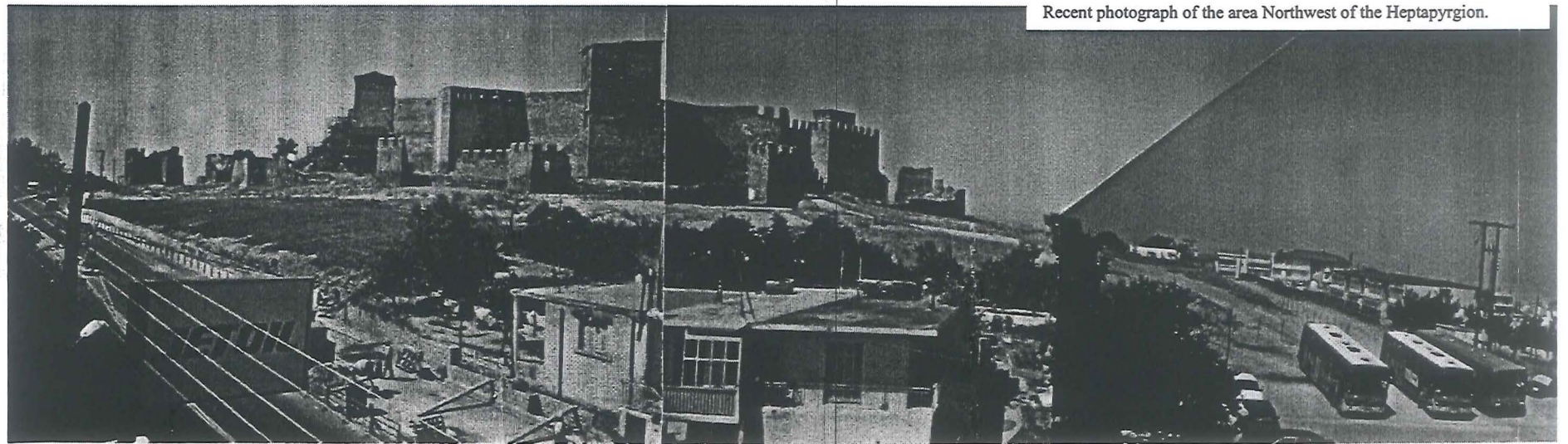
Recent aerial photograph of the area around the Heptapyrgion. View from the East.



Proposal. The area Northwest of the Heptapyrgion.

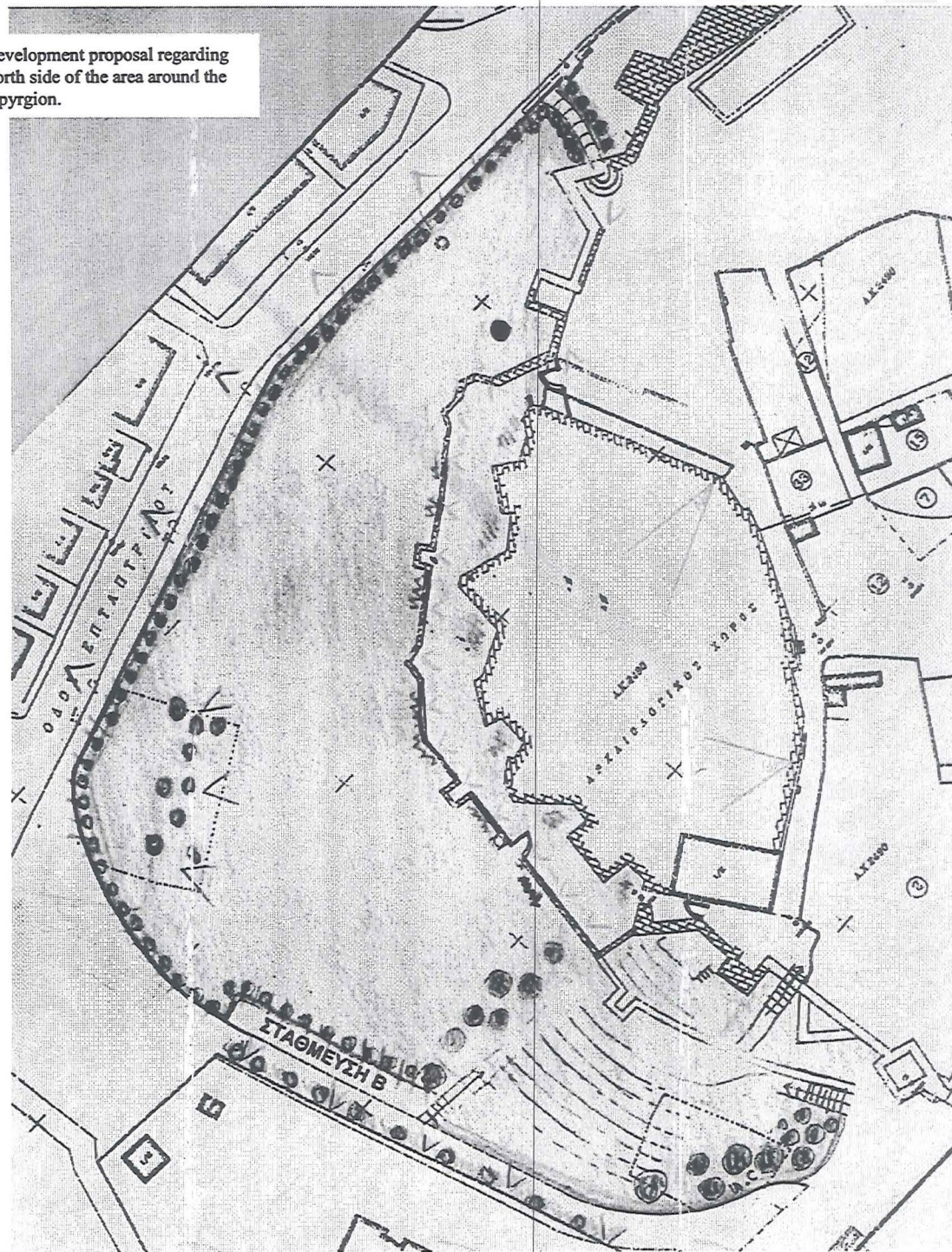


Recent photograph of the area east of the Heptapyrgion. On the foreground Heptapyrgiou Steet.



Recent photograph of the area Northwest of the Heptapyrgion.

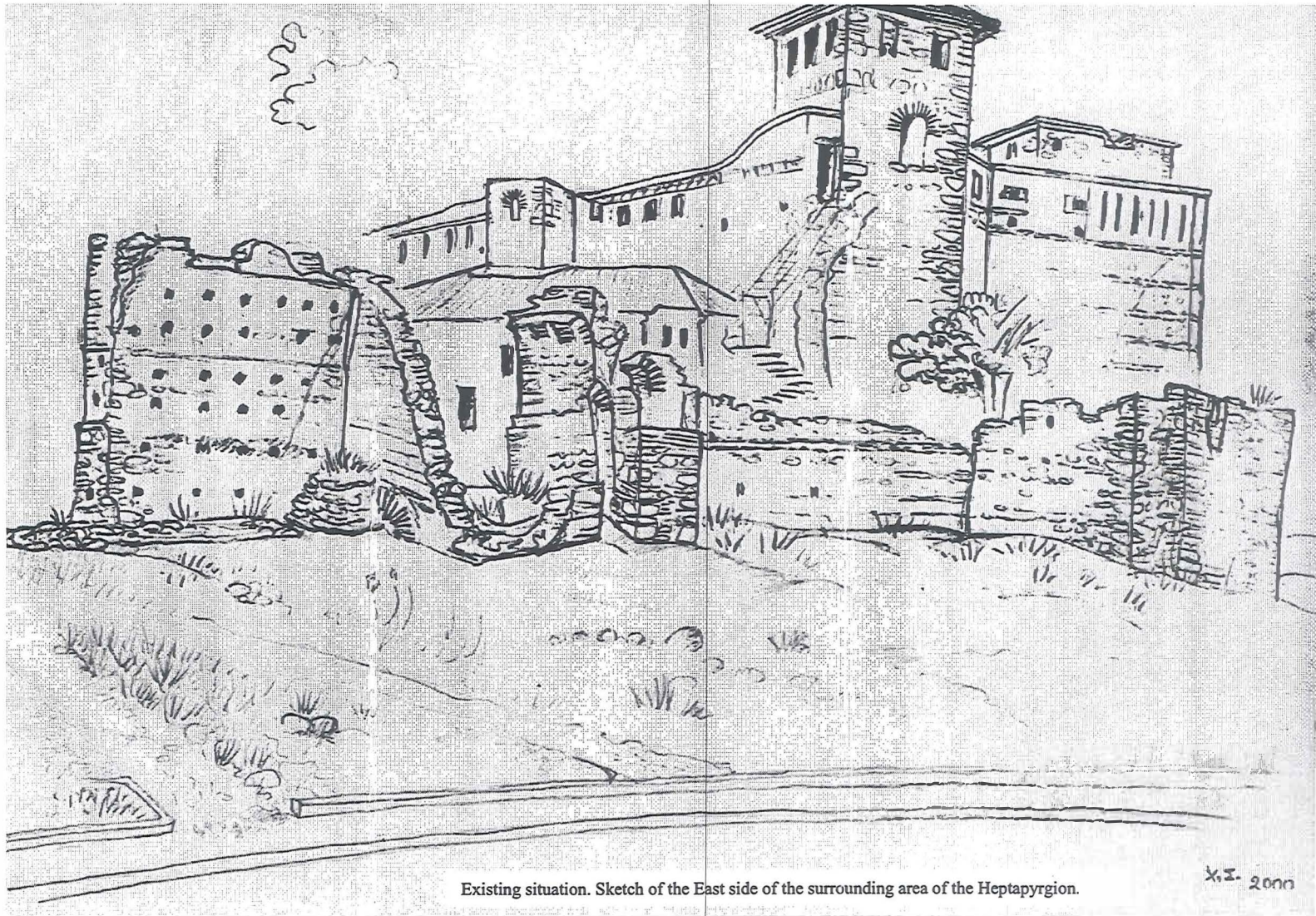
The development proposal regarding the North side of the area around the Heptapyrgion.



I & II Boundaries, fencing, and restrictions (Fig. 72, 73)

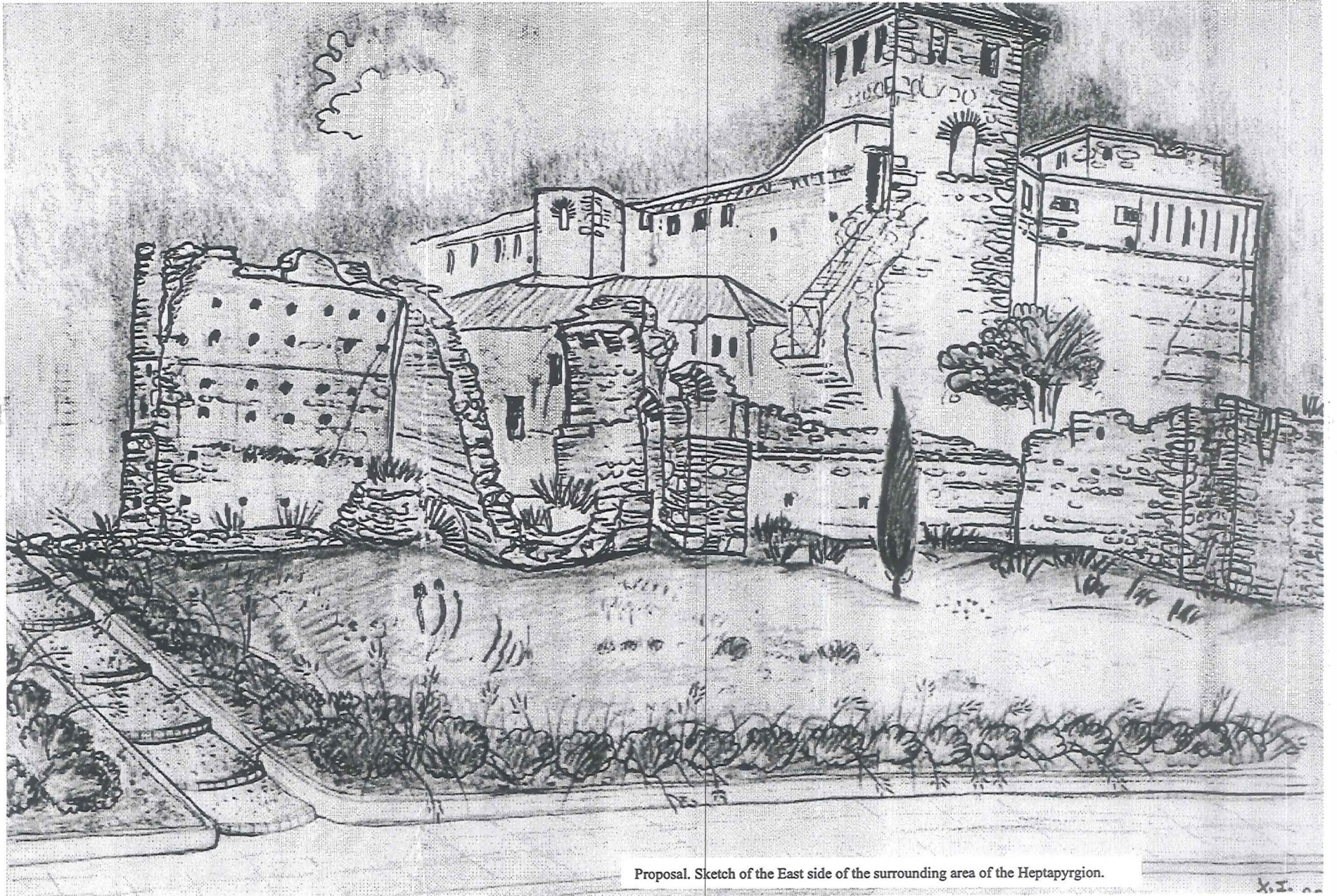
Access to the site is restricted by:

- i. changing the nature of the terrain around the boundaries of the site;
- ii. planting flowers and bushes around the perineter of the site to hinder access.



Existing situation. Sketch of the East side of the surrounding area of the Heptapyrgion.

X.I. 2000



Proposal. Sketch of the East side of the surrounding area of the Heptapyrgion.

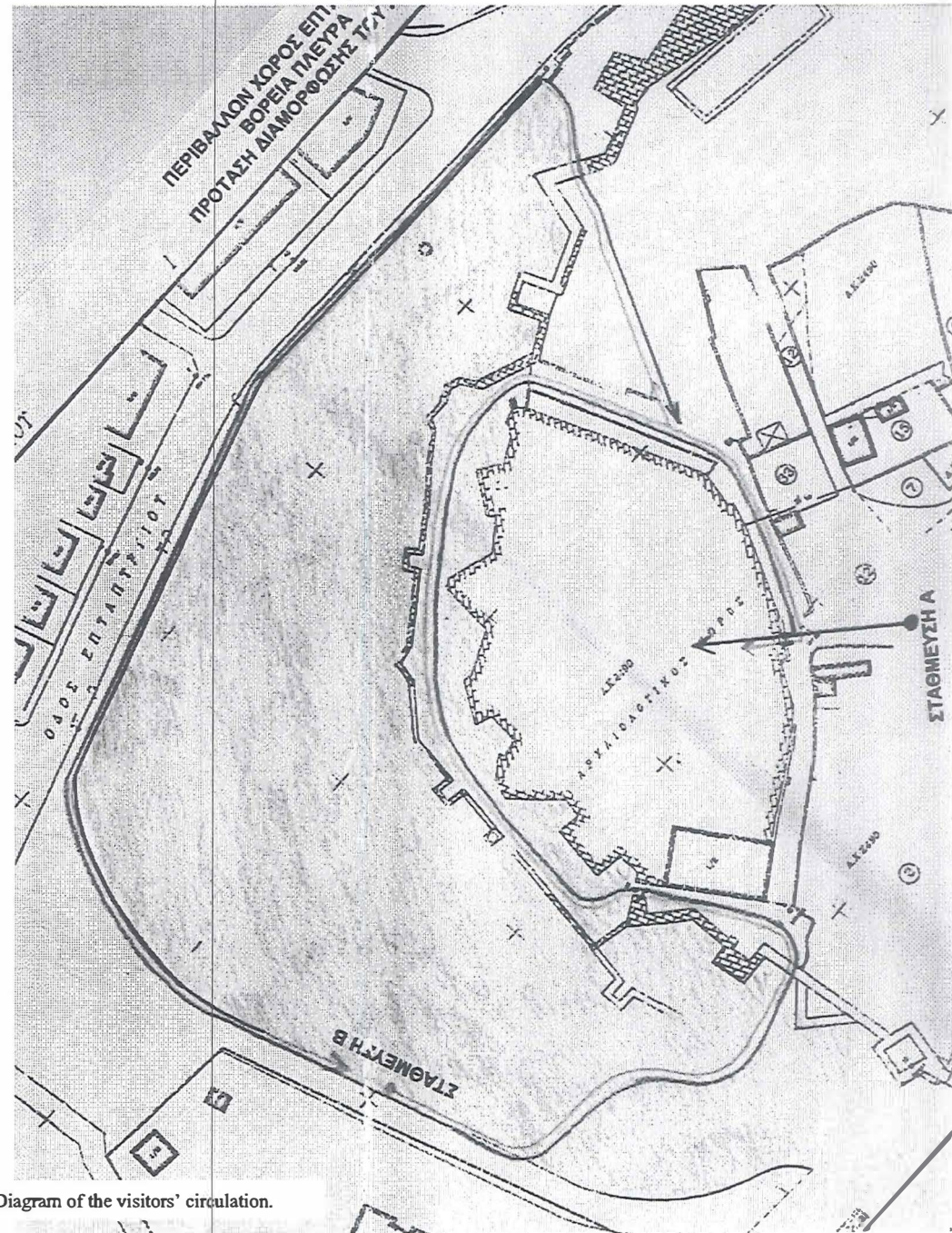
X.I. 00

III. Visitors' movements (Fig. 63)

Within the site, visitors will be restricted to the area between the rampart and the wall by i) fencing covered with climbing plants at the points where the rampart has collapsed, and ii) three entrances to the site.

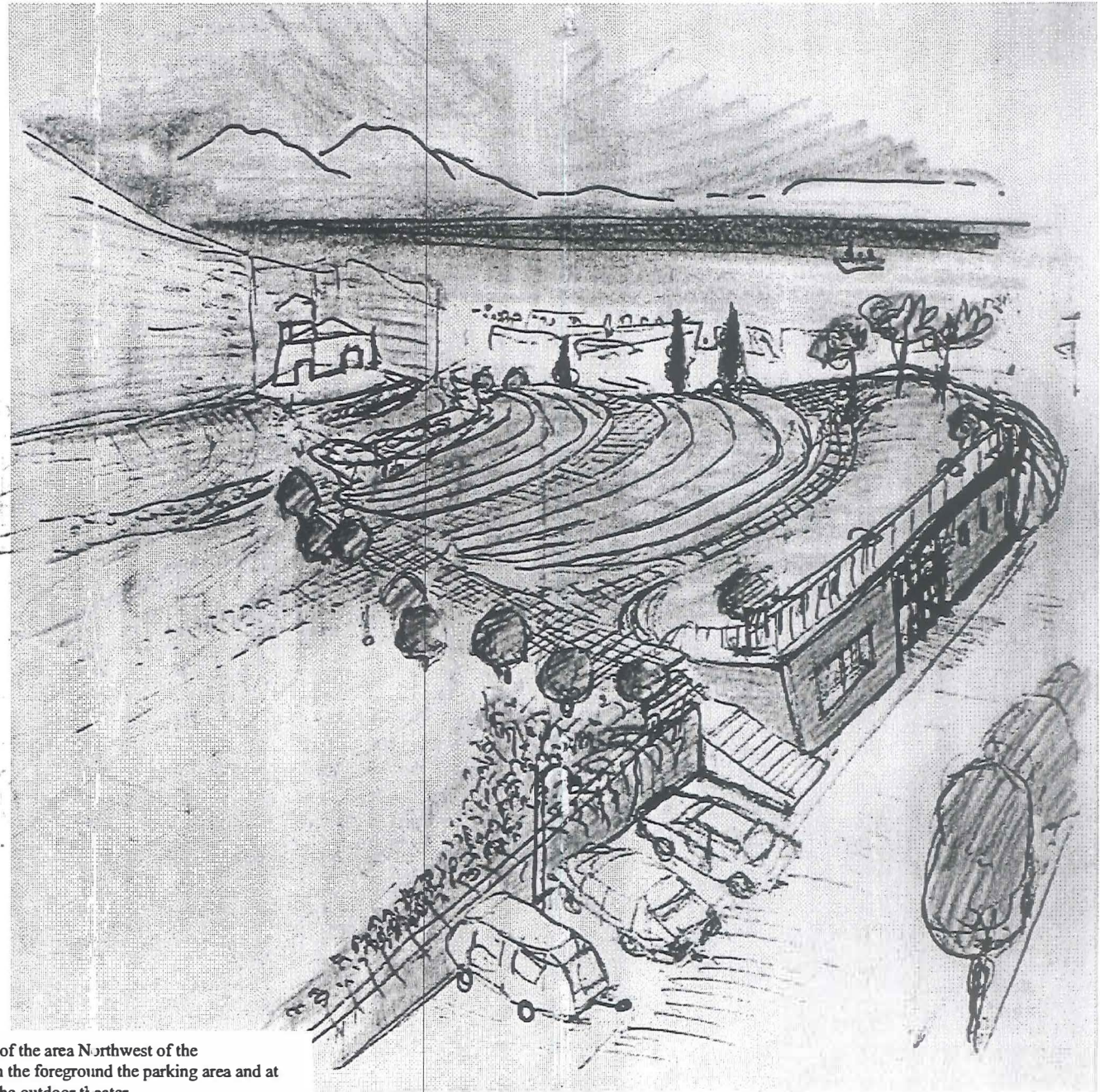
The entrance gates will open and close the site to visitors. No access at night.

Outside the site, visitors may use the pavement and the surrounding streets.



Proposal. Diagram of the visitors' circulation.

Parking (Fig. 78)
Two car parks, A & B.



Proposal. Sketch of the area Northwest of the Heptapyrgion. On the foreground the parking area and at the background, the outdoor theater.

Theatre (Fig. 76, 77)

Open-air, non-permanent theatre on the north-west edge of the site between the school and the monument, in a location which offers a good view and is sheltered from traffic noise. As regards visual protection of the monument, the theatre is in an area where the monument cannot be seen from the school. There is no need to level the ground, because it is flat at this point. The theatre will initially be small; but when the house owned by Mr I. Kambas is expropriated, the site will be further developed and assume its final dimensions. The site of the theatre will be marked off by thinly planted bushes. In its final form, the developed theatre site will also have a belvedere from which to view the monument and the west end of the city. In a cool location under the trees on the Kambas property, visitors will be able to appreciate the geographical relationship between Heptapyrgion and the city.

Public conveniences

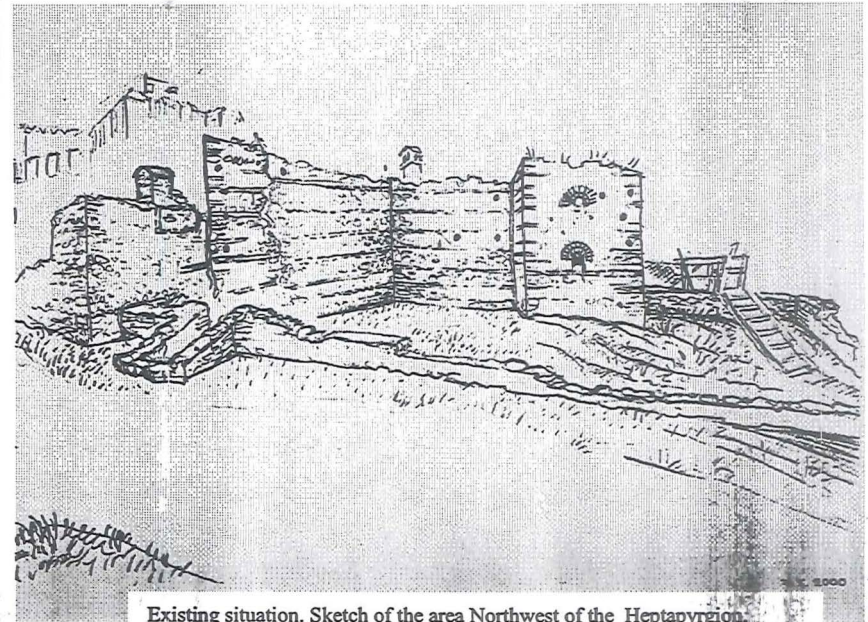
These will not be free-standing, but part of the facilities connected with the theatre and the carpark when the theatre starts operating.

Access to either end of the archaeological site

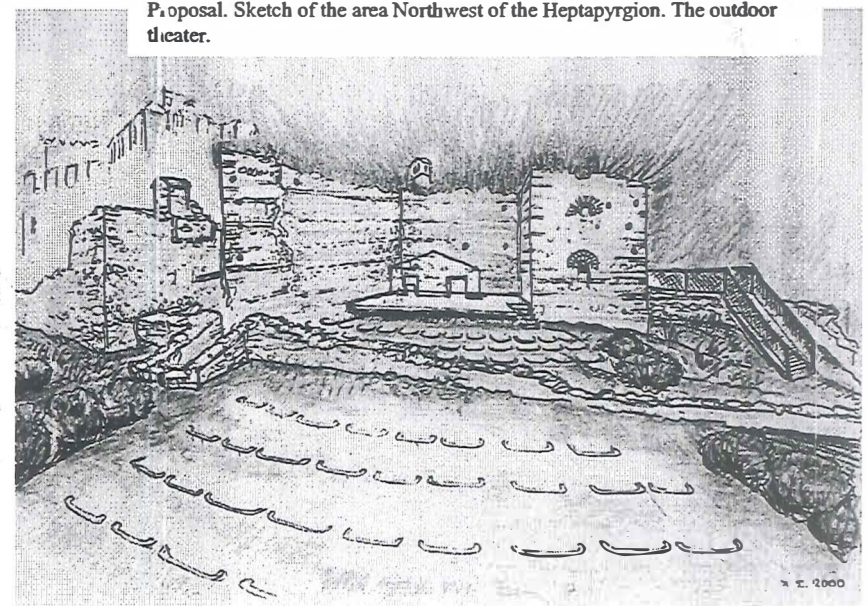
- I. East end: by metal steps
- II. West end: by metal steps

Lighting

The lighting in the surrounding area is not intended to emphasise the monument in relation to the built environment of the city. The lights in Eptapyryiou Street will be used for general illumination. In the north corner of the site, the illumination will be reinforced by additional lights installed among existing trees on the Kamba property. The north-west side will be illuminated by lights installed in the row of trees to be planted along the boundary between the site and the school. A separate lighting system will be installed between the rampart and the wall to recall the low distant lighting used in the days when Heptapyrgion was a prison. Specially positioned lighting within the monument will emphasise its contours.



Existing situation. Sketch of the area Northwest of the Heptapyrgion.



Proposal. Sketch of the area Northwest of the Heptapyrgion. The outdoor theater.

Vegetation

Native Greek bushy species (e.g. *Arbutus unedo*, *Nerium oleander*, *Vitex agnus castus*) around the entire perimeter parallel to the road and the visitors' walkways, with the aim of indirectly discouraging access. The manner of planting is intended to reinforce the natural, 'wild' aspect of the landscape.

The self-propagating low vegetation (*Alyssum saxatile*, *Avena sterilis*, *Calendoula arvensis*, *Capparis spinosa*, *Capsella bursa-pastoris*, *Cardaria draba*, *Chenopodium album*, *Cynodon dactylon*, *Echinops viscosus*, *Galium aparine*, *Hordeum murinum*, *Iris germanica*, *Malva sylvestris*, *Matricaria chamomilla*, *Papaver rhoeas*, *Parietaria officinalis*, *Polygonum convolvulus*, *Sinapis arvensis*, *Sonchus oleraceus*, *Taraxacum officinale*, *Tragopogon* spp., *Verbascum* spp. etc.) on the slope will be preserved: with its range of colours and seasonal variations, it is the dominant, most striking feature of the landscape, especially in spring. It will have to be cut Adown in summer to avoid the risk of fire. (Fig. 62, 63, 64, 65, 66)



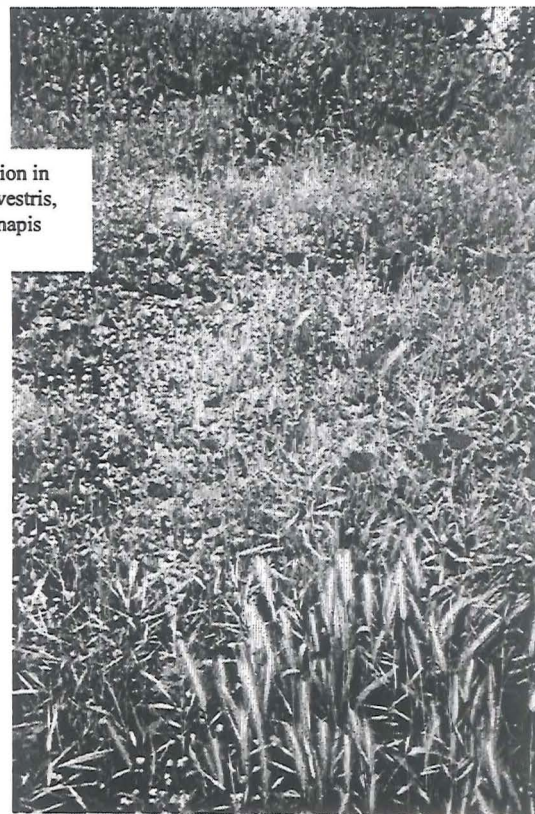
Indigenous vegetation in the Citadel of Thessaloniki. The fortification Wall at the background.



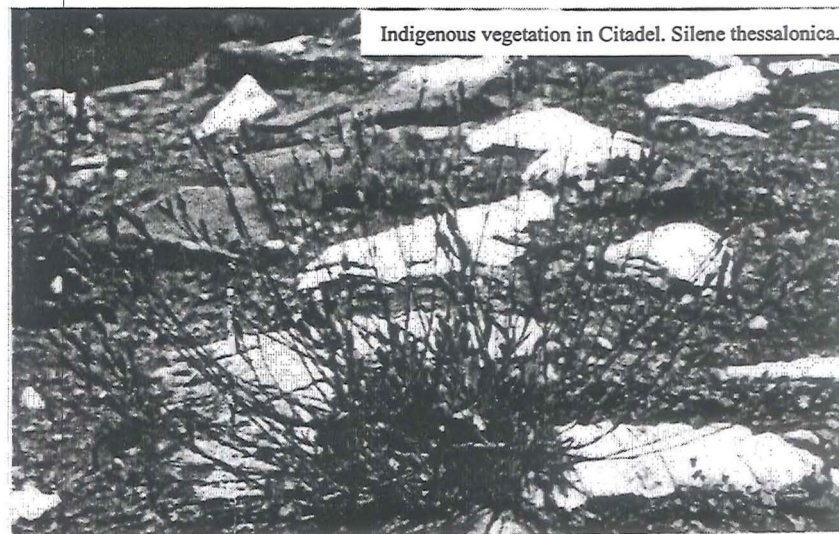
Indigenous vegetation in the Citadel of Thessaloniki. The female prison building at the background



Indigenous vegetation in the Citadel of Thessaloniki. *Sinapis arvensis*.

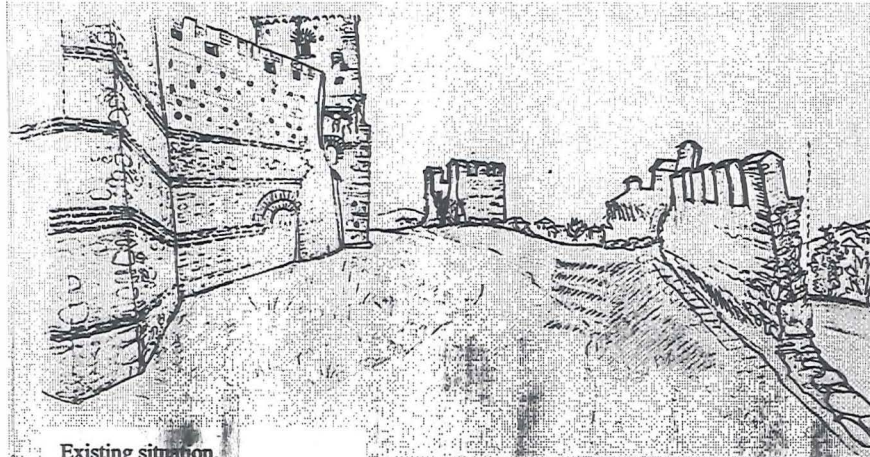


Indigenous vegetation in Citadel. *Malva sylvestris*, *Papaver rhoeas*, *Sinapis arvensis* etc.

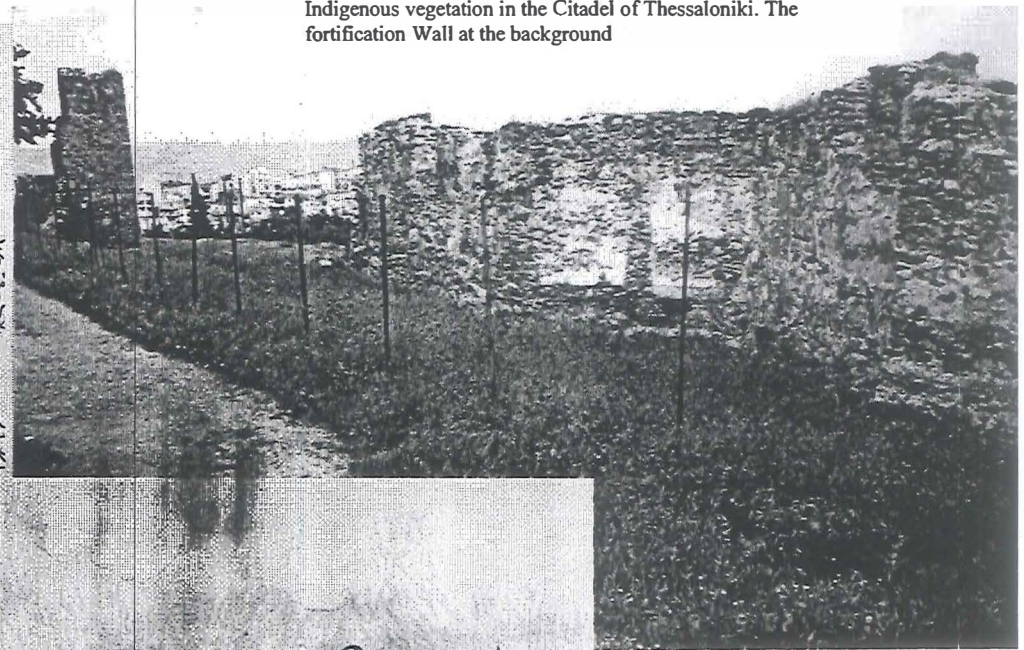


Indigenous vegetation in Citadel. *Silene thessalonica*.

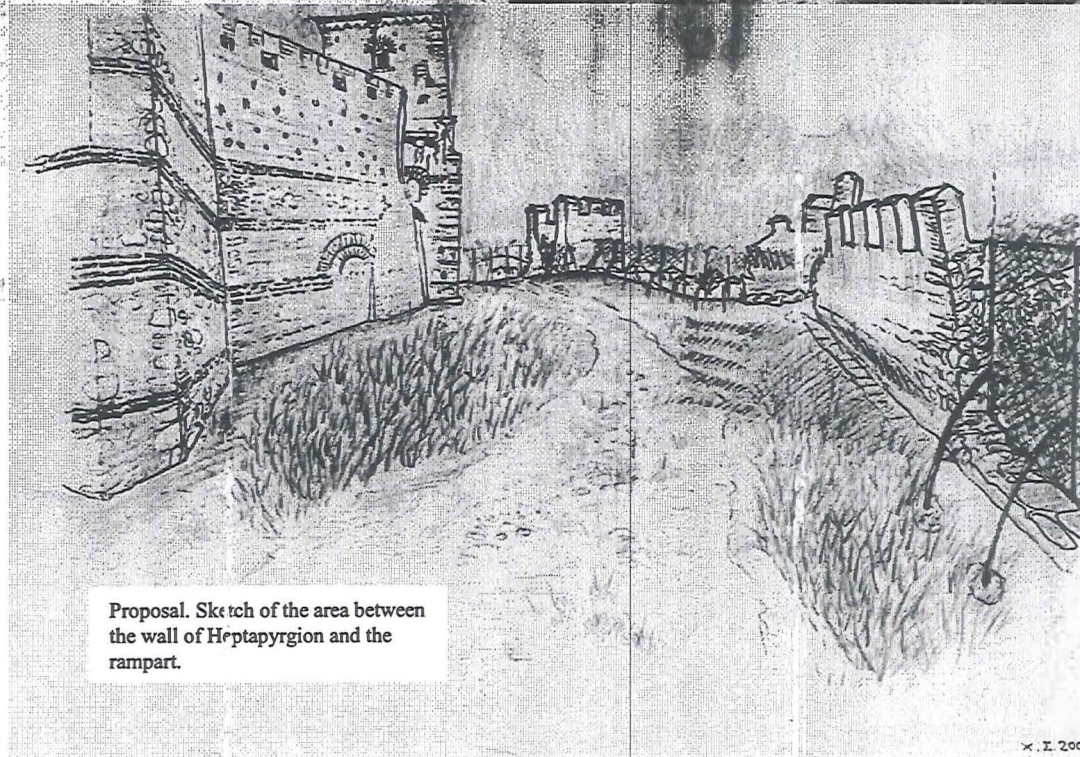
Sparsely planted bushes (*Laurus nobilis*, *Quercus coccinea*, *Spartium junceum*) to mark out the theatre site.
Aromatic plants (*Lavandula officinalis*, *Rosmarinus officinalis*, *Santolina chamaecyparissus*, *Thymus capitatus*) in the area between the wall of Heptapyrgion and the rampart. (Fig. 61, 74, 75)



Existing situation.
Sketch of the area between the wall of Heptapyrgion and the rampart.



Indigenous vegetation in the Citadel of Thessaloniki. The fortification Wall at the background



Proposal. Sketch of the area between the wall of Heptapyrgion and the rampart.

Spiny drought-loving species (*Opuntia ficus indica*, *Quercus coccinea*) in front of the rampart at the points where the area between the rampart and the Heptapyrgion wall is fenced off with wire netting, and climbers (*Clematis spp.*, *Hedera spp.*) trained up the netting itself.

A single symbolic cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) at what is believed to have been the execution site

Eptapyriou Street and the street itself

The appearance of the frontages in the first block in Eptapyriou Street must be improved, while adhering to the conditions imposed by the building permits.

The appearance of the street itself must also be improved by removing advertising hoardings, burying electricity cables and telephone lines, and moving the electricity sub-station.

The area around Heptapyrgion

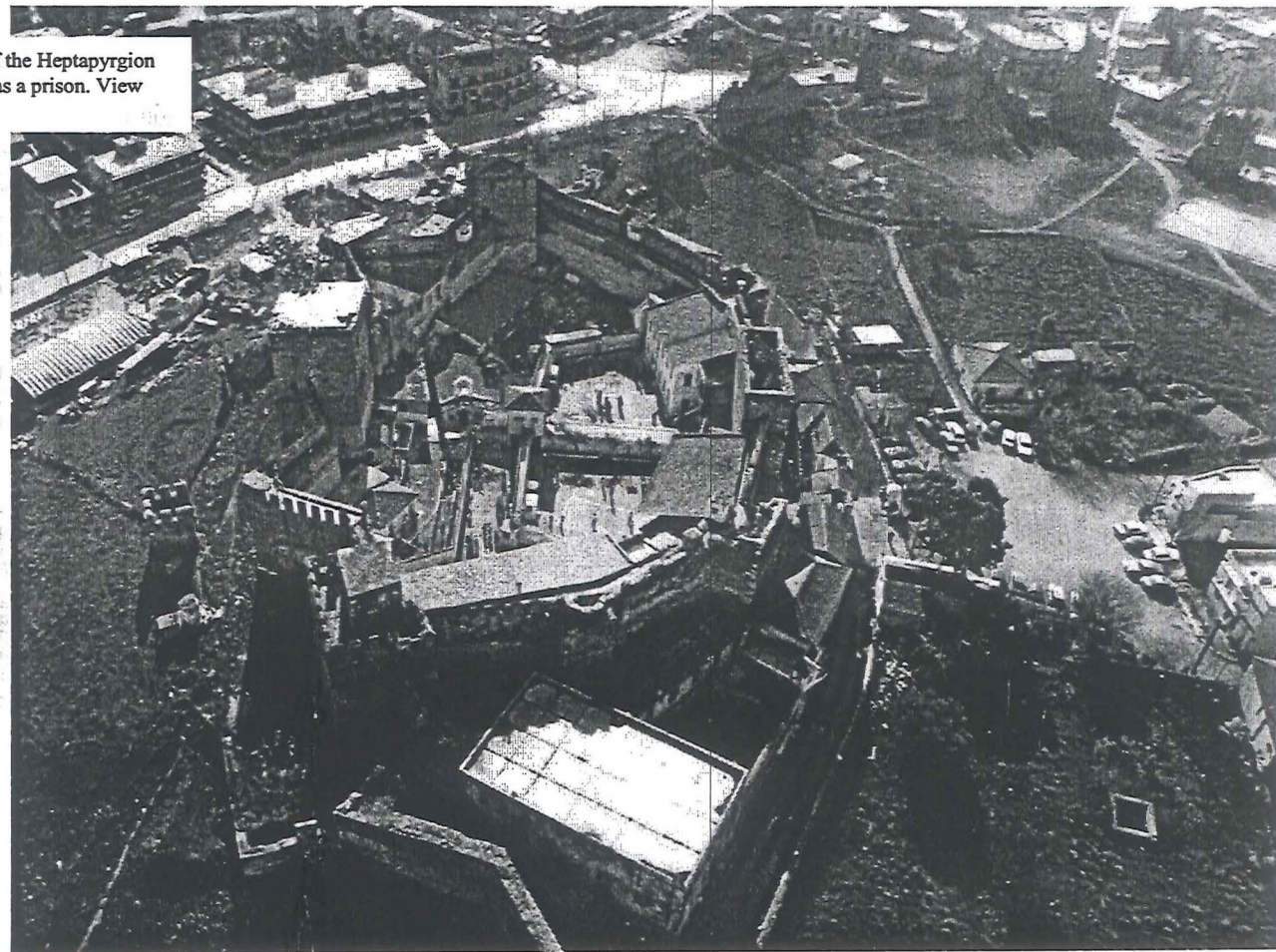
South-west side(Fig. 60)

Site development proposal

The site

The site to which the proposals relate is located to the south-west of the Heptapyrgion site and is bounded: i) to the north by the Heptapyrgion fortress and the later prison buildings; ii) to the east by the open space outside the main prison entrance; iii) to the south by the adjoining urban block; and iv) to the west by the west city wall. The site slopes 3–5 metres from north to south.

Aerial photograph of the Heptapyrgion during its last years as a prison. View from the West.



Proprietorial status

The site belongs to the Ministry of Culture.

By resolution 29/OIK/3903/ K/2492/30.9.1996, Govt. Gazette No. 1334/19.11.1996, of the Prefecture of Thessaloniki, and in accordance with a modification of the approved street-plan, in the Eptapyryio district in the Municipality of Thessaloniki a five-metre-wide pedestrian zone occupies the space between the adjoining urban block and the green area around Heptapyrgion.

The premises underlying the development of the site

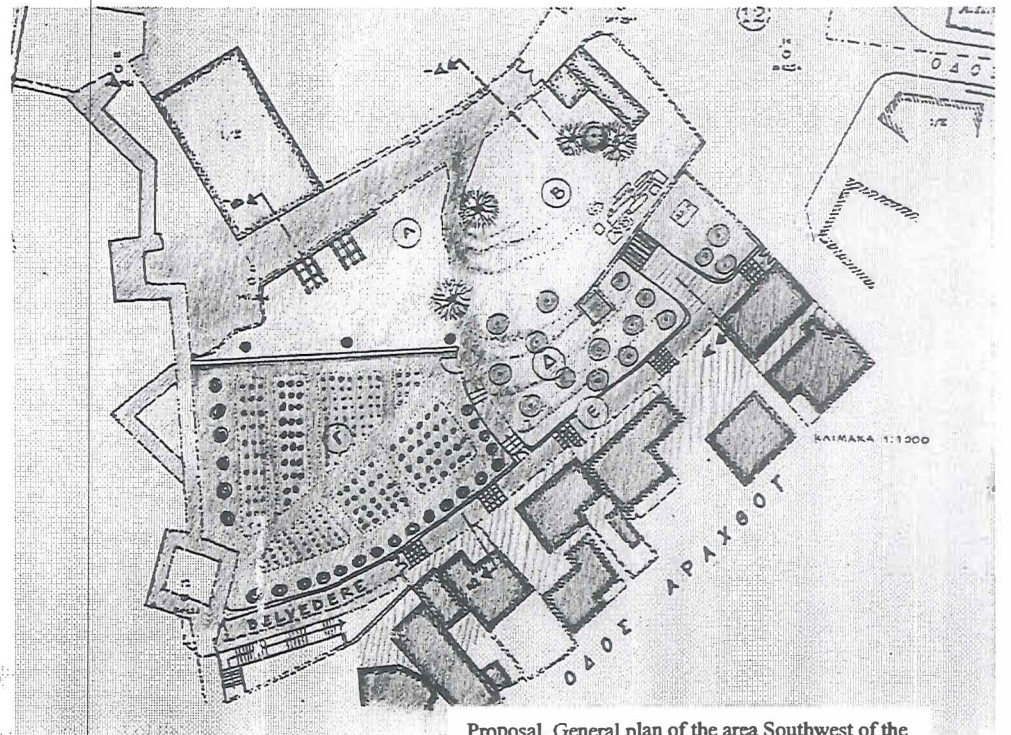
1. Minimal intervention
 2. Planting with low-growing vegetation
 3. Vegetable gardens to be laid out, as a re-creation of the vegetable gardens within the citadel (shown on the 1899 map) and the prison vegetable gardens which occupied this site until modern times.
 4. Conservation of the existing retaining walls of the gardens, the water cistern, and the fountain.
- These premises are in line with the terms of resolution Y O/APX/B1/ 34/18520/462 of 18 April 1997 by the Directorate of Byzantine and Postbyzantine Monuments' Department of Byzantine Sites regarding the 'Development of the area around the Heptapyrgion fortress in Thessaloniki'.
The proposed interventions partially implement this general resolution.

Present condition

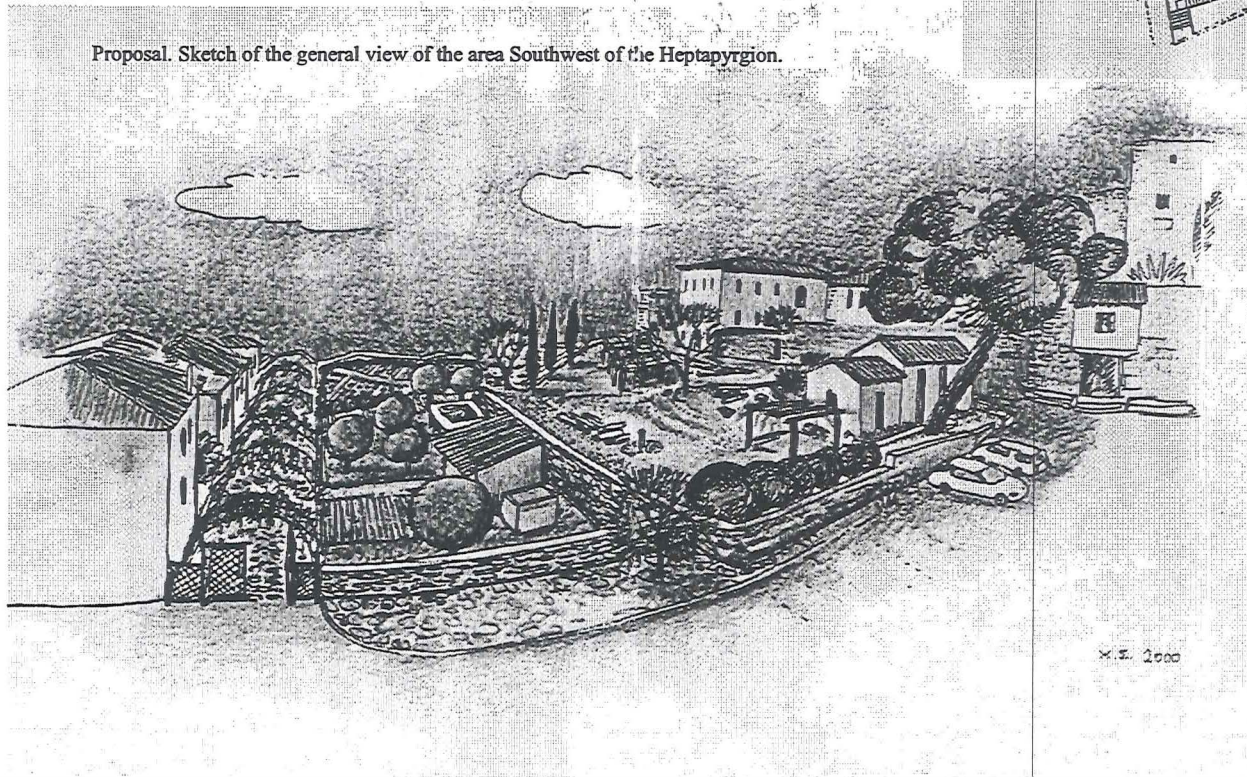
The east end of this enclosed site is used for storing architectural members from excavations in the city, and also for parking the archaeological service's official car and the cars of the service's employees.

Part of the west end of the site is used for storing building materials (sand, bricks, etc.) supplied to the archaeological service's worksites. On the rest of the site are remnants of the drystone walls which enclosed the prison vegetable gardens. They are in poor condition and have collapsed in places. The largest wall, some 80 metres long, runs along the south edge of the Heptapyrgion property and has been encroached upon by unauthorised additions to the adjoining properties. In the past, part of it collapsed and was rebuilt by the Ephoreia of Byzantine Antiquities. A bistern for collecting surface water for watering the gardens and a fountain which used to be located south-west of the entrance to Heptapyrgion (see 1899 map) also survive on the site. There is an electricity sub-station on the south-east edge of the site. The rest of the site is unoccupied. Trial sections beside the west wall have located two burials.

The development (Fig. 81, 82)



Proposal. General plan of the area Southwest of the Heptapyrgion.

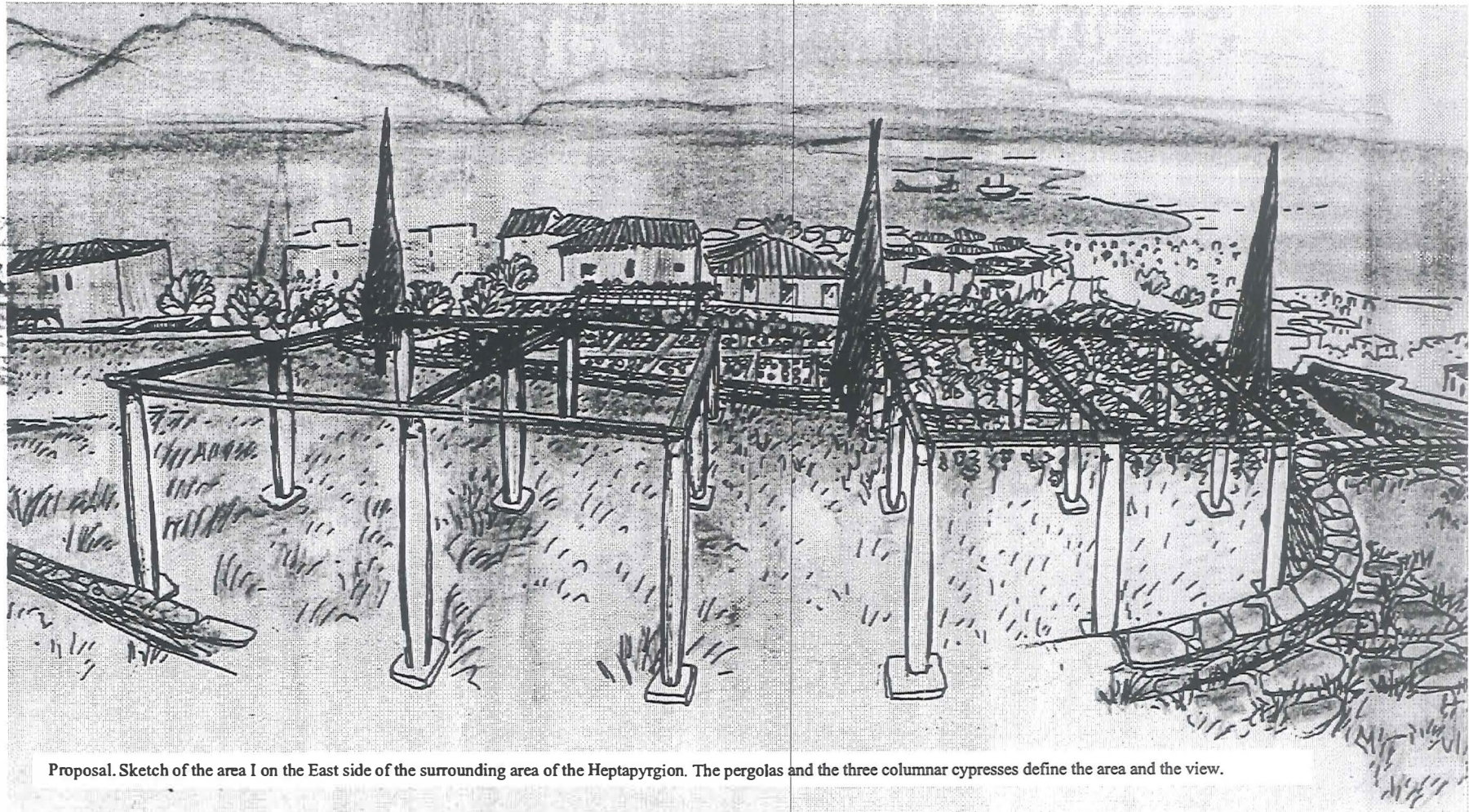


Proposal. Sketch of the general view of the area Southwest of the Heptapyrgion.

Five areas are proposed, not clearly differentiated from one another, apart from the third and the fifth, which will be enclosed.

A gradient goes down to the middle of the site and leads to areas I, II, III, IV, and V.

Area I is for sitting in. Pergolas and vines (*Vitis vinifera*) are proposed here and a built seat parallel to the retaining wall, with three columnar cypresses (*Cupressus sempervirens*) to define the area and the view. (Fig. 80)



Proposal. Sketch of the area I on the East side of the surrounding area of the Heptapyrgion. The pergolas and the three columnar cypresses define the area and the view.

Area II continues to be used for storing marble architectural members from urban excavations. (Fig. 79)

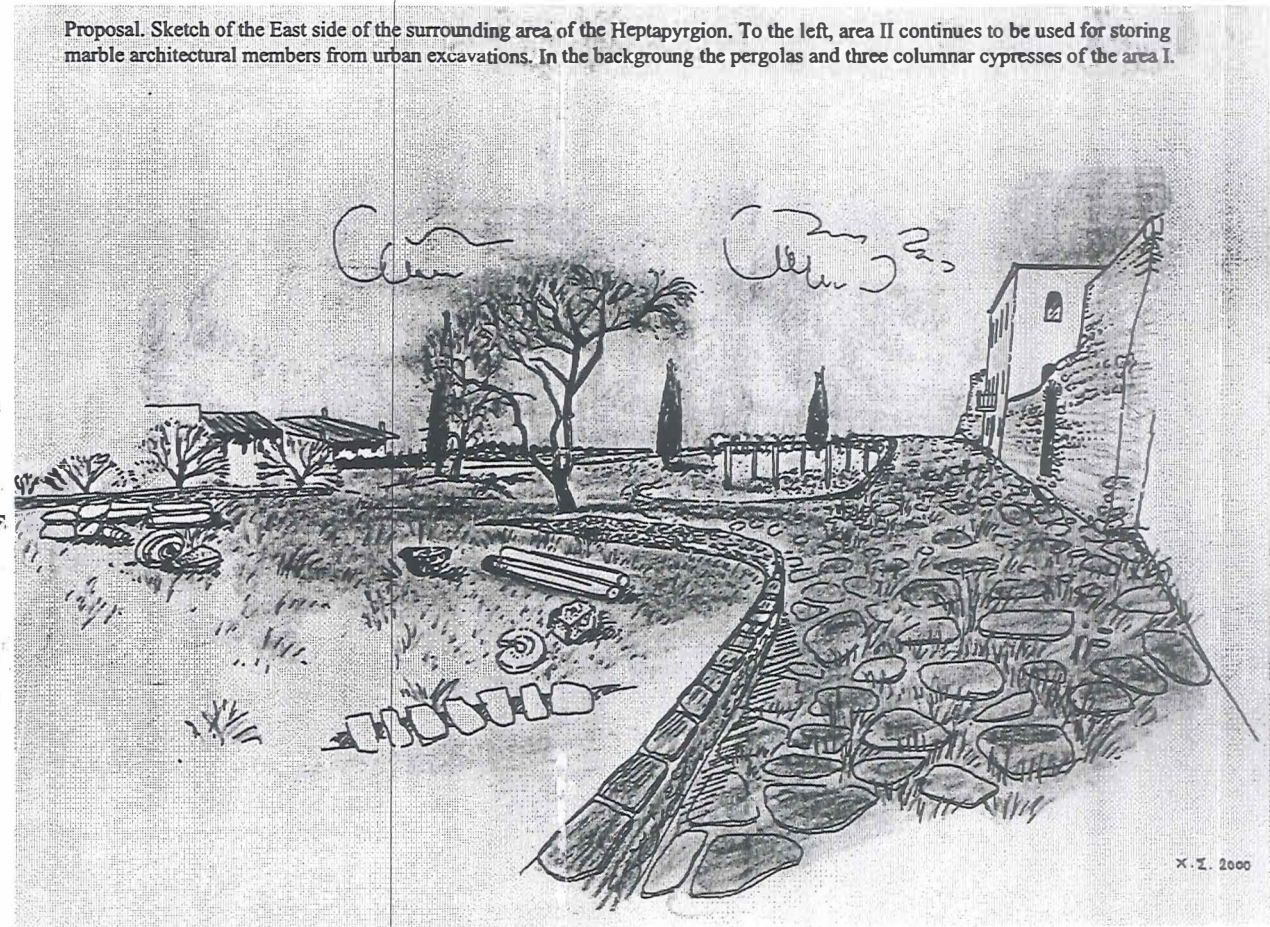
Area III is the vegetable garden, enclosed by fencing and bushes. It is separated from area I by a retaining wall. Species grown will be those which the sources tell us were cultivated in the Byzantine period (*Cucumis sativus*, *Cynara scolymus*, *Daucus carota*, *Cucurbita pepo*, *Brassica oleracea botrytis*, *Allium cepa*, *Brassica oleracea capitata*, *Lactuca sativa*, *Solanum melongena*, *Allium porrum*, *Allium sativum*, *Apium graveolens*, *Spinacia oleracea*).

Area IV is a continuation of area II at a lower level and will be planted with fruit trees like those growing there today, with varieties specially selected to provide staggered flowering periods. Between the electricity sub-station and the cistern, a covered parking space for two cars is proposed.

Area V is a pedestrian zone with a controlled entrance for visitors. It will be open during the daylight hours and closed at night for security reasons. Shade will be provided by climbing roses (*Rosa spp.*) trained up pergolas.

The west end of the road leads to a belvedere and metal steps down to Araithou Street.

It is proposed that the walls of the vegetable gardens, the cistern, and the fountain be consolidated, restored, or simply conserved, where necessary.



ACTIVITY 5

moon night's musical concert in Heptapyrgion on the 23rd of August

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