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ARTS AND DESIGN  
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AUTHORITY  
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HELLENIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF THE  
ALEXANDRIAN CIVILIZATION  
[GREECE]

**The EDICULA Project | MULTIPLIER 1 [E1]:**  
**The Historic City of Jerusalem, The Holy Sepulchre: A Hands-on Experience**

**PUBLIC EVENT, Hansen House, 04.04.2022**



# The Holy Sepulchre rehabilitation project: An emblematic source of Innovation

**National Technical University of Athens**  
**Chief Scientific Supervisor, Prof. Antonia Moropoulou**

**NTUA Interdisciplinary Team:**

Prof. E. Korres, Prof. A. Georgopoulos, Prof. A. Moropoulou, Prof. C. Spyarakos,  
Assist. Prof. Ch. Mouzakis, Deputy Construction Site Manager

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



## EDICULA

**Educational Digital Innovative Cultural heritage related Learning Activities**

Project Code: 2020-1-EL01-KA203-079108

## Historic initiative of the Greek-Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem to invite the NTUA

The project was initiated, became possible and is executed under the governance of His Beatitude, the Greek-Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem, Theophilos III.

His Beatitude, the Greek-Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem, Theophilos III invited Professor Antonia Moropoulou (March 2015) and signed a programme agreement with the National Technical University of Athens in order to conduct a study regarding *“Materials & Conservation, Reinforcement and Rehabilitation Interventions in the Holy Edicule of the Holy Sepulchre”* with the consensus of all three Christian Communities





**NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS**

*Interdisciplinary Research Group for the Monuments Protection*

## **Materials & Conservation, Reinforcement and Rehabilitation Interventions in the Holy Edicule of the Holy Sepulchre**

**Final Report Presentation,  
27 January 2016, Consulate General of Greece in Jerusalem  
19 February 2016, Greek-Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem  
8 March 2016, Zappeion Hall, Athens**

Scientific Coordinator:

**Prof. A. Moropoulou**

Interdisciplinary Research Group NTUA:

**Prof. E. Korres**, School of Architecture Engineering NTUA, Former Director of the Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Programme "*Protection of Monuments*"

**Prof. A. Georgopoulos**, School of Rural and Surveying Engineering NTUA, Laboratory of Photogrammetry

**Prof. A. Moropoulou**, Director of Studies in the NTUA Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Programme Direction

«*Conservation Of Building Materials*», School of Chemical Engineering NTUA,

Laboratory of Materials Science and Engineering

**Prof. C. Spyarakos**, School of Civil Engineering NTUA, Laboratory for Earthquake Engineering

# HISTORIC AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE THREE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

The Common Agreement of the Status Quo provides him with the authority, in constant collaboration with the Leaders of the Christian Communities, the historic Guardians of the Holy Sepulchre, consisting of the Greek-Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem, Theophilos III, the Custos of the Holy Land of the Franciscan Order, Pierbattista Pizzaballa (until May 2016), today the Apostolic Administrator of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, and Francesco Patton (from June 2016), as well as the Armenian Patriarch in Jerusalem, Archbishop Nourhan Manougian, to **coordinate** all scientific, technical and administrative aspects of the project.

## COMMON AGREEMENT

Today March 22<sup>nd</sup>, the three Communities, the historic guardians and servants of the Holy Places, are fulfilling a historic responsibility that has been entrusted to us by the Status Quo, by installing the scaffolding to allow for the necessary conservation, reinforcement and repair interventions to the Holy Aedicule.

Today we mark the formal beginning of the project for the restoration of the Sacred Aedicule in the Church of the Anastasis. This project is being carried out by a team of specialists from the National Technical University of Athens under the supervision of Professor Moropoulou, whose important report has recently been completed and published. This report was submitted to the three Communities here in Jerusalem in February of this year, and the work can now begin.

We wish to acknowledge the consensus that the three Communities have reached so that this project could proceed, following up the meeting of March 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem in order to forward the "Innovative integrated diagnostic research and strategic planning for compatible, performing and sustainable materials and conservation and rehabilitation interventions of the Holy Aedicule of the Holy Sepulcher in the All-Holy Church of the Resurrection in Jerusalem," conducted by the National Technical University of Athens.

The implementation of this project will respect and will not change the rights and the claims of the three Communities.

The consensus achieved implies the following:

1. The Project will be implemented within the engineering and scientific framework of specifications as set forward by the NTUA Study.
2. The Project will be managed within the following framework:
  - 2.1 The meeting of the Heads of the three major Communities performing as "project owners' committee" (POC) will undertake the responsibility for all strategic decision making.
  - 2.2 Each Community should create separate accounts for contributions in order to collect the necessary funds to cover the cost of completion of the works of the conservation of the Holy Aedicule.
  - 2.3 a. The commencement of the works will begin within a fortnight after the Easter Feast of the Eastern Churches.
  - 2.3 b. The works, which will be completed in approximately eight months to one year, will not prevent the religious services in the Holy Sepulcher or, more specifically, in the Aedicule, nor prevent the access of pilgrims into these places.
  - 2.4 The CTB (Common Technical Bureau of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher), staffed by three Architects by the three Communities, will be responsible for the

correct execution of the project according to the scientific studies and directives realized by the National Technical University of Athens. The representative of the Common Technical Bureau of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (Dr. Theodosios Mitropoulos), as Construction Site Manager (CSM), will be responsible for the construction site's operation within the directives set forward by the relevant authorities.

2.5 The Scientific Supervision will be performed by the interdisciplinary NTUA Study Team, headed by Professor A. Moropoulou (CSS). She has the overall responsibility for the scientific monitoring of the work and is the director of the interdisciplinary scientific monitoring laboratory which will be set up in the construction site. In collaboration with the interdisciplinary NTUA scientific team, the Project Manager (PM) and the CSM she will monitor and control the work.

2.6 The project management will implement the project charter, report on the work progress according to the schedule and budget, and coordinate the construction and the scientific supervision teams in order to complete the work successfully and on time and to manage risks on regular basis.

2.7 The (POC) project owners' Committee authorizes the Steering Committee (SC) to cope with the current problems of integrated project governance with the participation of the CSS (Chief Scientific Supervisor), the CSM (Construction Site Manager) and the PM (Project Manager). The Patriarch of Jerusalem or His Deputy is chairing the SC with the obligation to inform the project owners Committee.

For the first time in over two centuries, the Sacred Aedicule will receive urgent interventions. This restoration will secure this Holy Place for generations yet to come for all those pilgrims and people of good will who come to this church to seek spiritual renewal. During the entire project, the Holy Tomb will remain accessible to pilgrims without disruption, and for this careful planning and execution we owe the project team a huge debt of gratitude. The Holy Tomb must always be open to all.

May God bless this work and those whose responsibility it is to carry out, and may the renovation of the Holy Tomb of our Lord Jesus Christ be a beacon of hope for a hurting world.







NATIONAL TECHNICAL  
UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH GROUP  
FOR THE MONUMENTS PROTECTION

# SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISION, MONITORING AND DECISION MAKING

PROJECT FOR THE CONSERVATION, REINFORCEMENT AND REPAIR INTERVENTIONS  
FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE HOLY AEDICULE OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE  
IN THE ALL-HOLY CHURCH OF RESURRECTION IN JERUSALEM

National Technical University of Athens

Chief Scientific Supervisor:

Prof. Antonia Moropoulou

A Collective Work by

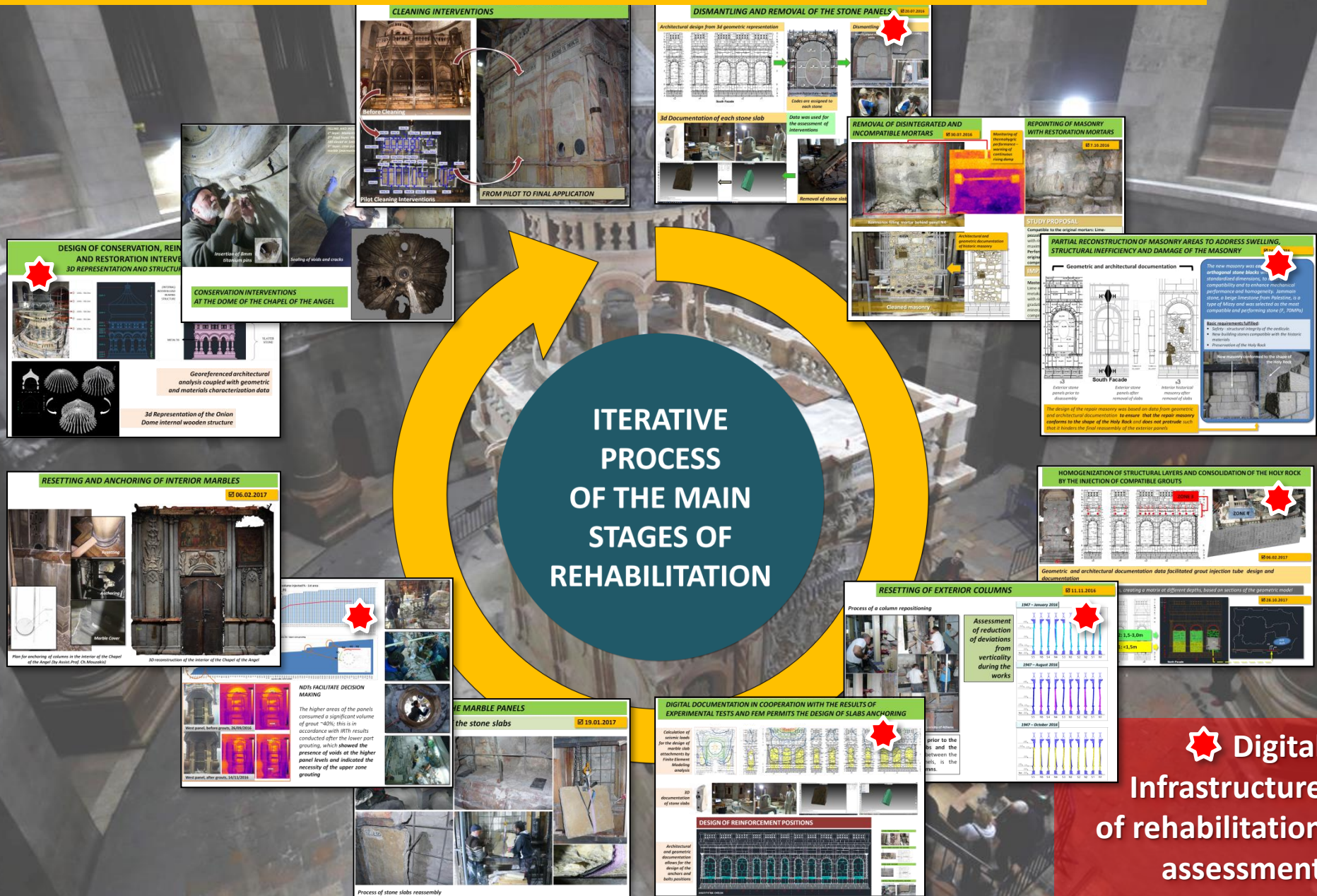
NTUA Interdisciplinary Team

Prof. E. Korres, Prof. A. Georgopoulos, Prof. A. Moropoulou, Prof. C. Spyrakos,  
Assist. Prof. Ch. Mouzakis, *Deputy Construction Site Manager*

An exemplary project highlighting Greek and European Innovation and  
Expertise in the field of Cultural Heritage protection  
Exploiting a multilevel integrated interdisciplinary approach



# Implementation of an integrated methodology

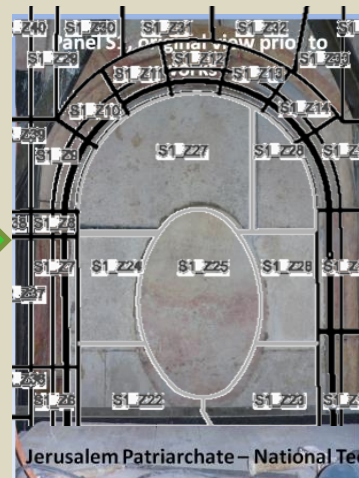
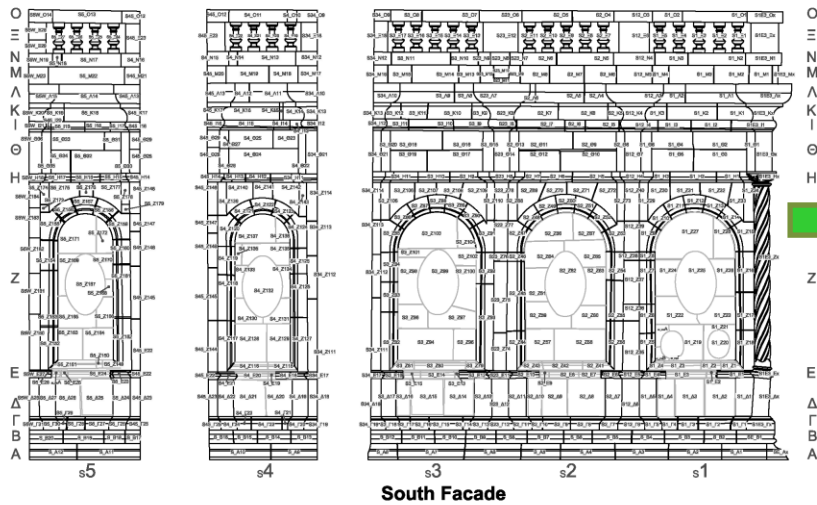




# DISMANTLING AND REMOVAL OF THE STONE PANELS

20.07.2016

## Architectural design from 3d geometric representation

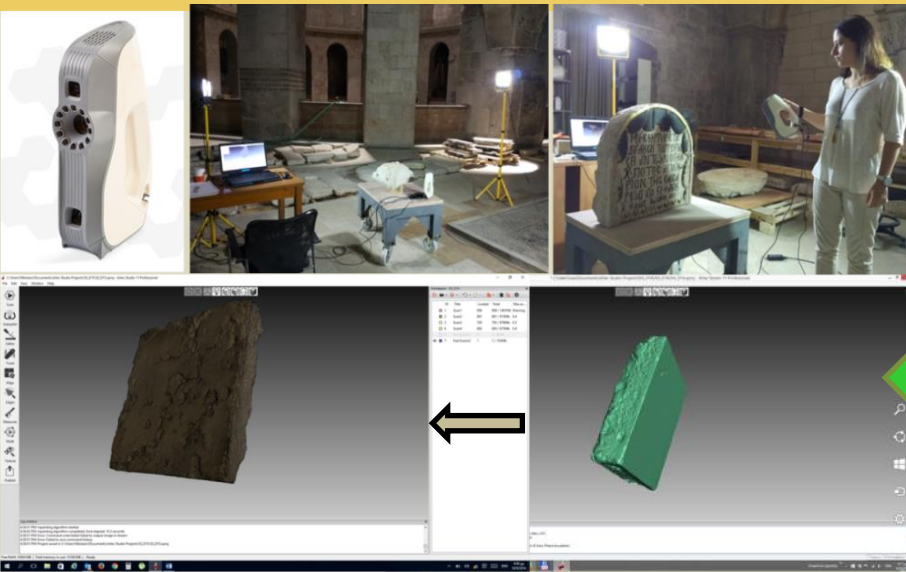


Codes are assigned to each stone

## Dismantling process



## 3d Documentation of each stone slab



Data was used for the assessment of interventions



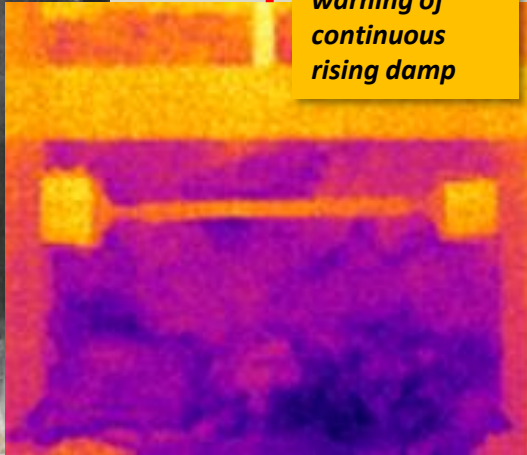
Removal of stone slab, transportation to conservation lab



# REMOVAL OF DISINTEGRATED AND INCOMPATIBLE MORTARS

☑ 30.07.2016

Monitoring of thermohygric performance – warning of continuous rising damp



Komnenos filling mortar behind panel N4

# REPOINTING OF MASONRY WITH RESTORATION MORTARS

☑ 7.10.2016



## STUDY PROPOSAL

Compatible to the original mortars: Lime-pozzolan mortar (High reactivity metakaolin), with river quartz origin aggregates of 2 mm maximum gradation&inorganic mineral fibers. Performing to the structural integrity of the original structure, according to FEM results: compressive strength >15 MPa

## IMPLEMENTATION STUDY

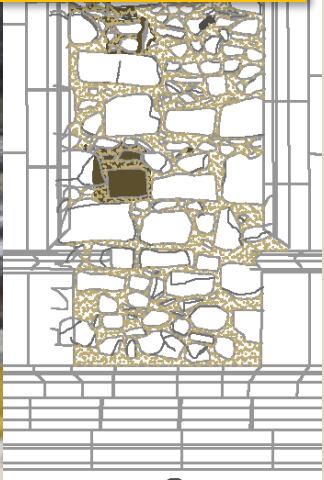
### MasterEmaco S 285 TIX

Lime-metakaolin mortar (with high reactivity metakaolin), without the presence of cement, with river quartz origin aggregates of a maximum gradation of 2mm and with the addition of mineral inorganic fibers. It guarantees compressive strength >15 MPa



Cleaned masonry

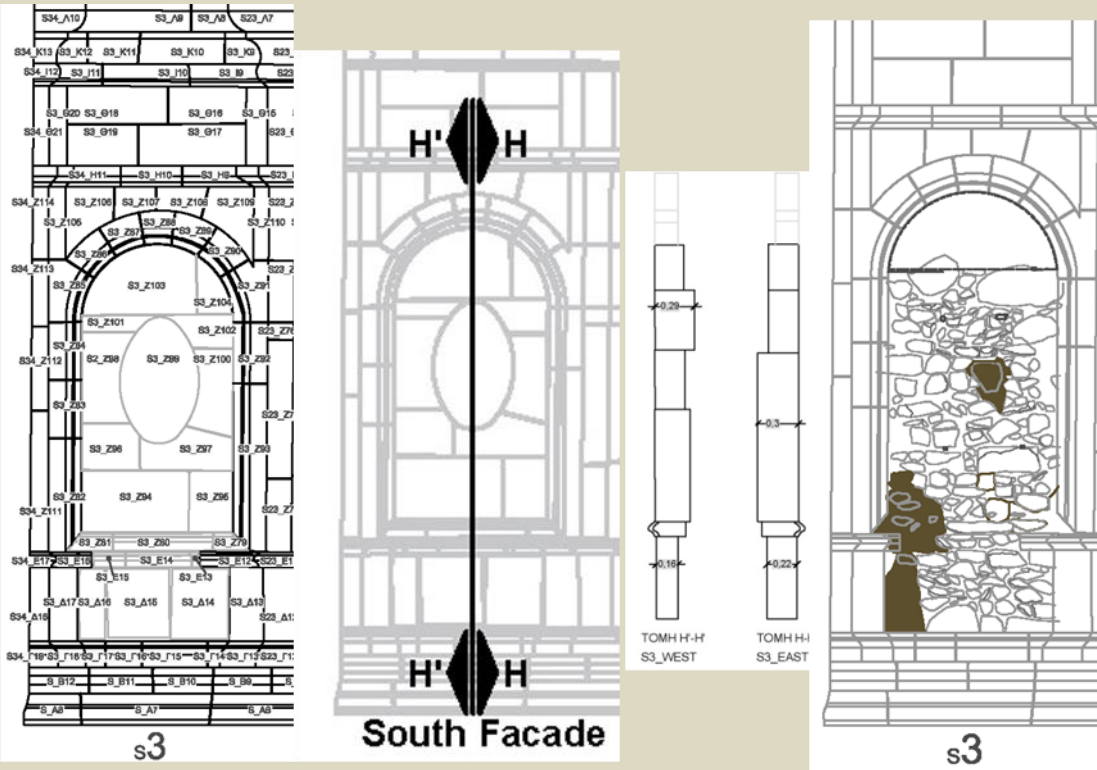
Architectural and geometric documentation of historic masonry



# PARTIAL RECONSTRUCTION OF MASONRY AREAS TO ADDRESS SWELLING, STRUCTURAL INEFFICIENCY AND DAMAGE OF THE MASONRY

☑ 24.08.2016

## Geometric and architectural documentation



Exterior stone panels prior to disassembly

Exterior stone panels after removal of slabs

Interior historical masonry after removal of slabs

The design of the repair masonry was based on data from geometric and architectural documentation **to ensure that the repair masonry conforms to the shape of the Holy Rock and does not protrude** such that it hinders the final reassembly of the exterior panels

The new masonry was **constructed using orthogonal stone blocks** with largely standardized dimensions, to ensure compatibility and to enhance mechanical performance and homogeneity. Jammain stone, a beige limestone from Palestine, is a type of Mizzy and was selected as the most compatible and performing stone ( $F_c$  70MPa)

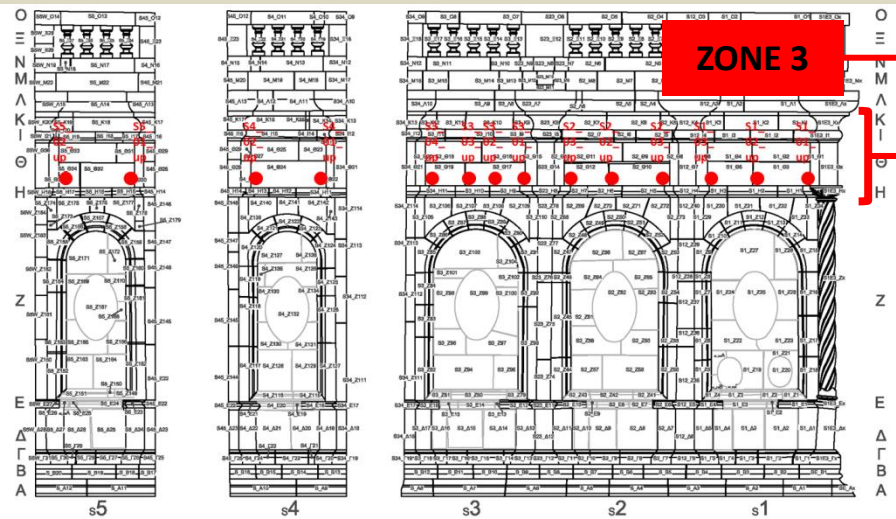
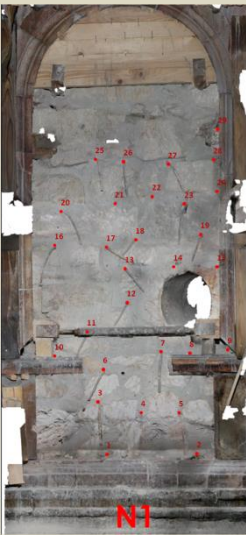
### Basic requirements fulfilled:

- Safety - structural integrity of the aedicule.
- New building stones compatible with the historic materials
- Preservation of the Holy Rock





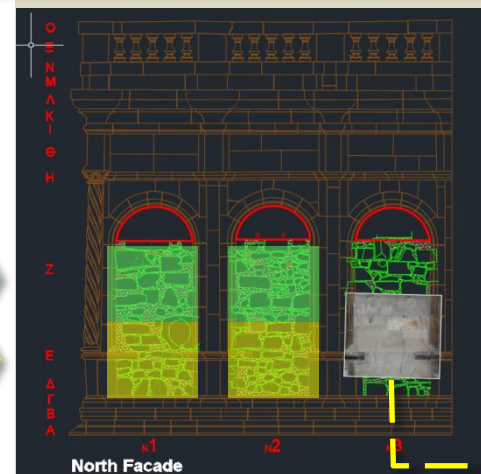
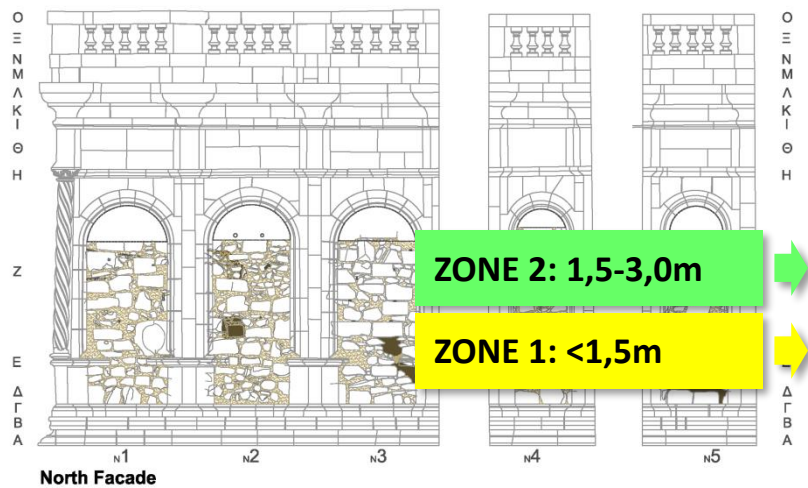
# HOMOGENIZATION OF STRUCTURAL LAYERS AND CONSOLIDATION OF THE HOLY ROCK BY THE INJECTION OF COMPATIBLE GROUTS



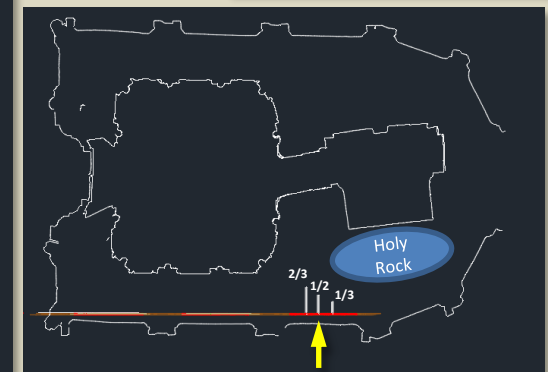
☑ 06.02.2017

**Geometric and architectural documentation data facilitated grout injection tube design and documentation**

*Installation of injections pipes, creating a matrix at different depths, based on sections of the geometric model*



☑ 28.10.2017





# RESETTING OF EXTERIOR COLUMNS

☑ 11.11.2016

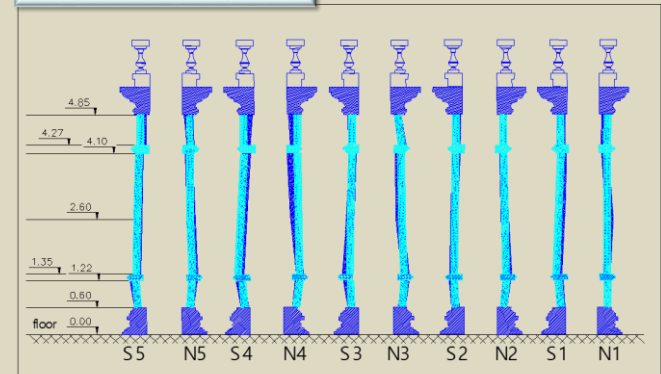
## Process of a column repositioning



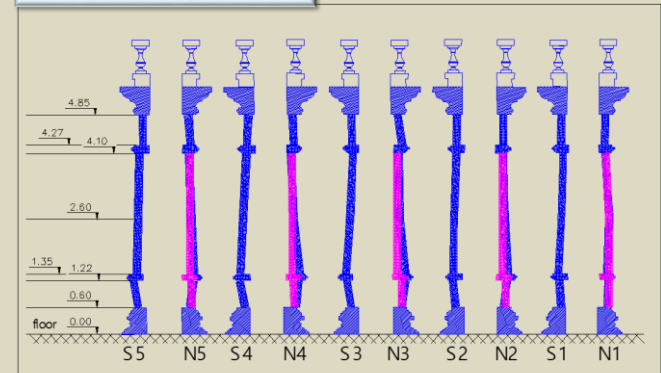
*Assessment  
of reduction  
of deviations  
from  
verticality  
during the  
works*

One of the basic requirements, prior to the reassembly of the panel slabs and the addition of the filling mortar, between the masonry and the stone panels, is the resetting of the dislocated columns.

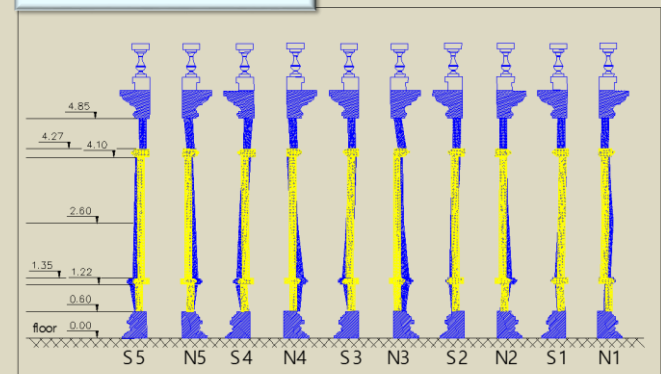
1947 – January 2016



1947 – August 2016



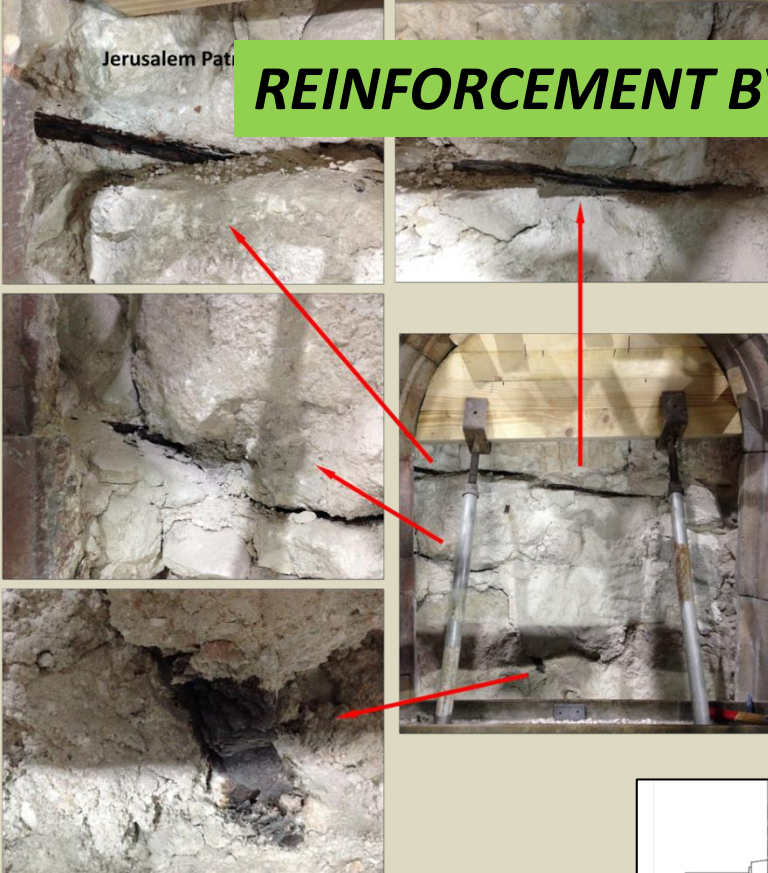
1947 – October 2016



# REINFORCEMENT BY TITANIUM

☑ 28.01.2017

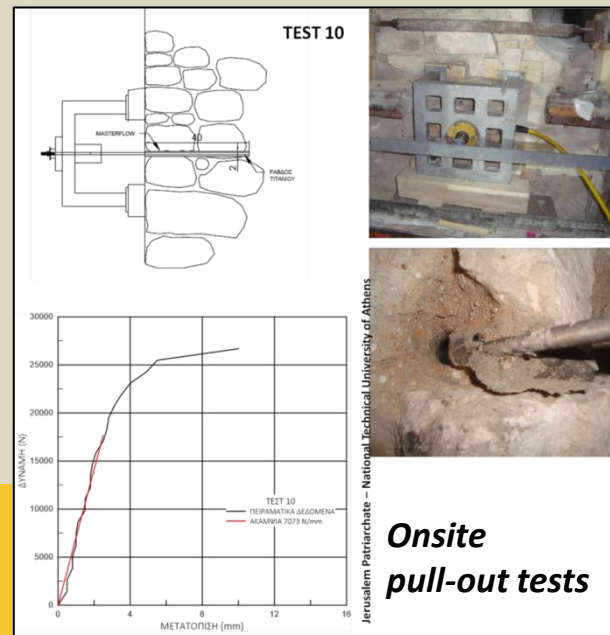
*The finding of corroded iron support bars necessitates the use of titanium, as proposed by the NTUA interdisciplinary team, in order to avoid such phenomena and ensure the longevity of the structure*



*Examples of fully corroded iron support bars in area N1*



*Holes were drilled at the columns for the installation of titanium anchors*



*Onsite pull-out tests*



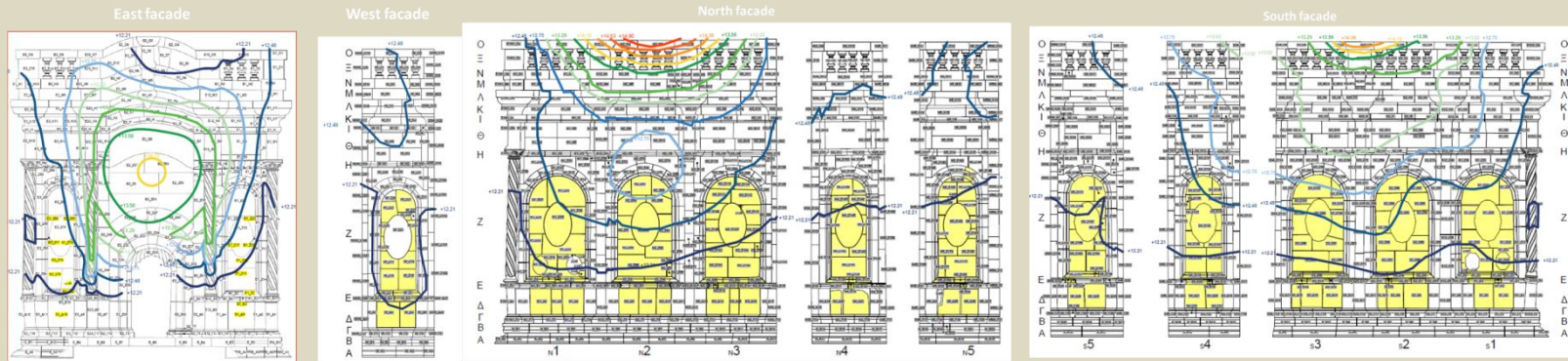
*Specially cut stone lids were placed in order to fill the voids*

***In-situ validation of titanium anchors and bolts design and implementation study***

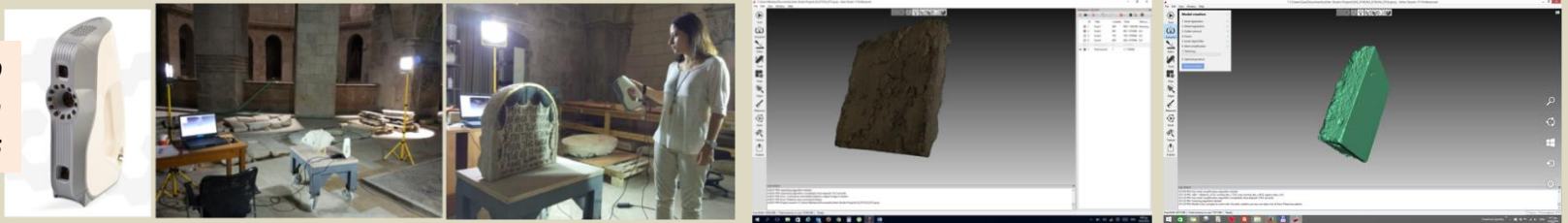


# DIGITAL DOCUMENTATION IN COOPERATION WITH THE RESULTS OF EXPERIMENTAL TESTS AND FEM PERMITS THE DESIGN OF SLABS ANCHORING

*Calculation of seismic loads for the design of marble slab attachments by Finite Element Modeling analysis*

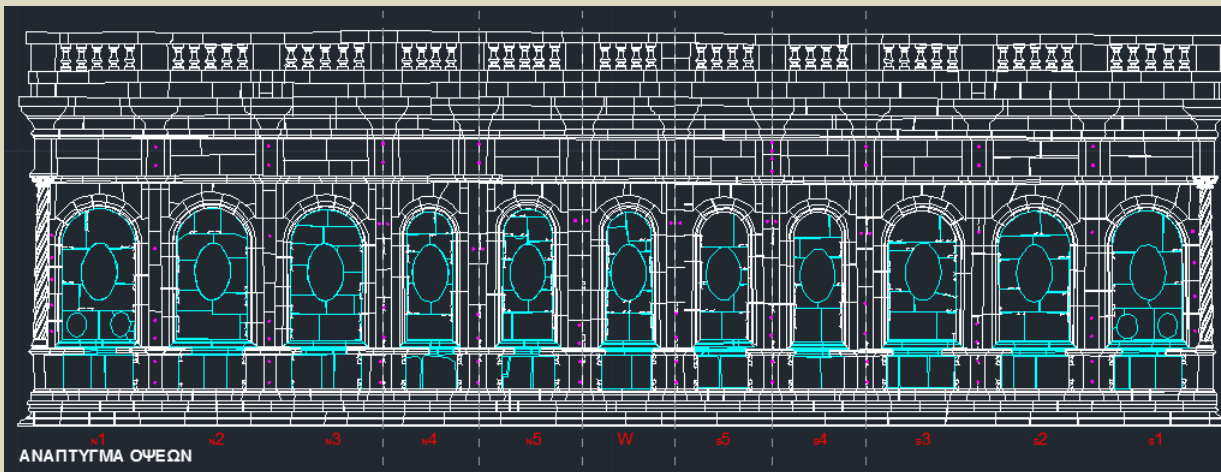


*3D documentation of stone slabs*



## DESIGN OF REINFORCEMENT POSITIONS

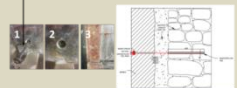
*Architectural and geometric documentation allows for the design of the anchors and bolts positions*



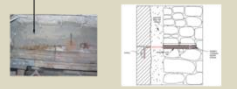
### CURVED RIBBED ANCHORS



### BOLTED RIBBED ANCHORS FOR COLUMNS



### STONE SLABS' ANCHORS



### VERTICAL PINS AND HORIZONTAL ANCHORS





# RESETTING AND ANCHORING OF INTERIOR MARBLES

☑ 06.02.2017



*Plan for anchoring of columns in the interior of the Chapel of the Angel (by Assist.Prof. Ch.Mouzakis)*

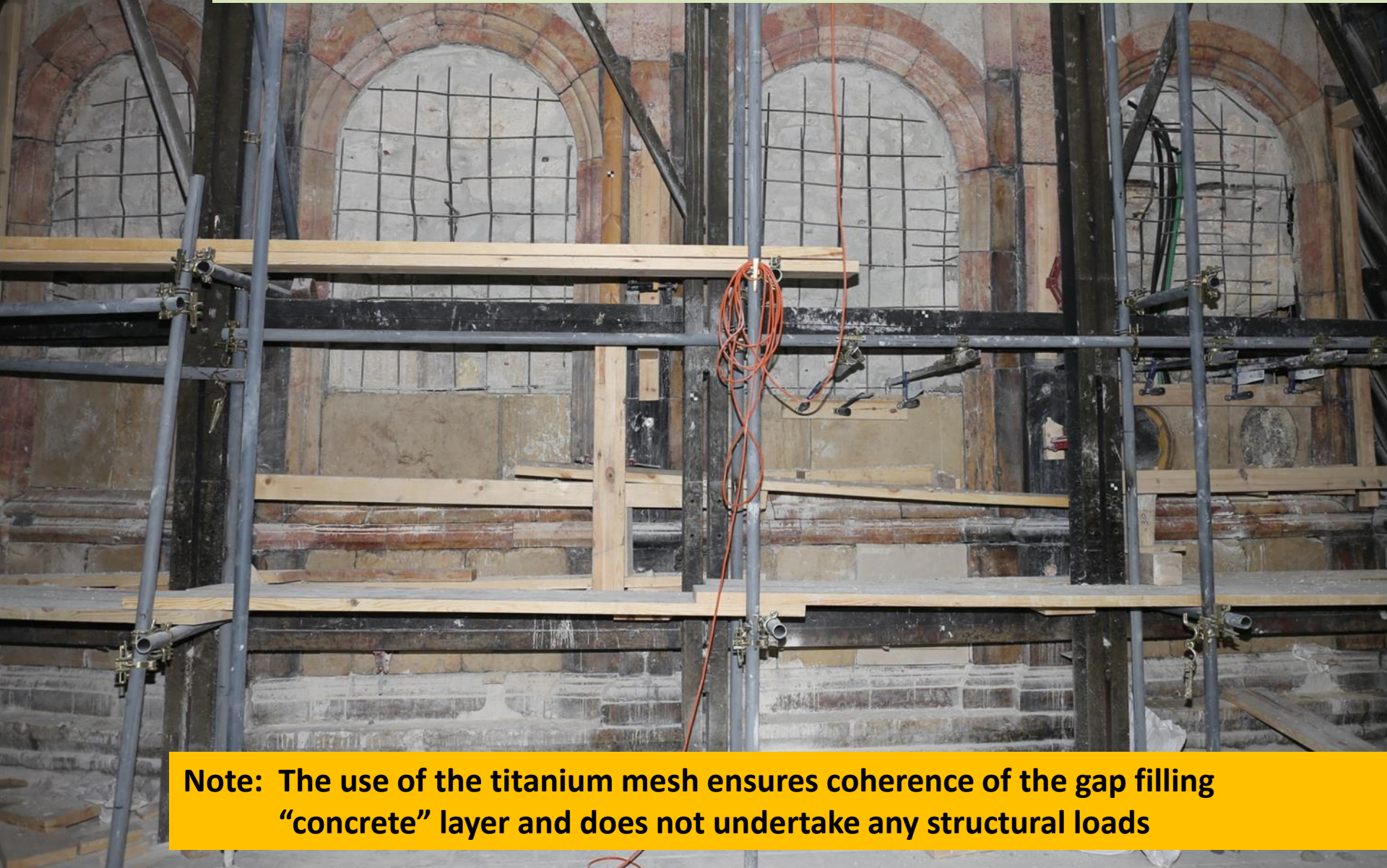


*3D reconstruction of the interior of the Chapel of the Angel*



## REINSTALLING THE MARBLE PANELS

### *Installation of a titanium mesh*



**Note: The use of the titanium mesh ensures coherence of the gap filling “concrete” layer and does not undertake any structural loads**



# REINSTALLING THE MARBLE PANELS

## *Reassembly of the stone slabs*



*Process of stone slabs reassembly*



# REINSTALLING THE MARBLE PANELS

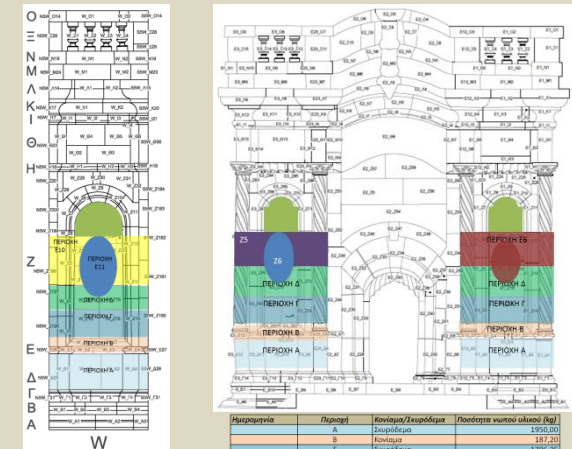
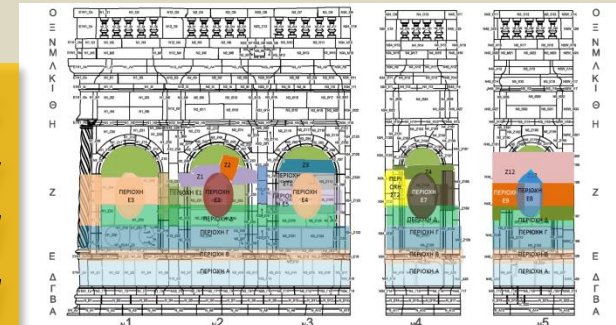
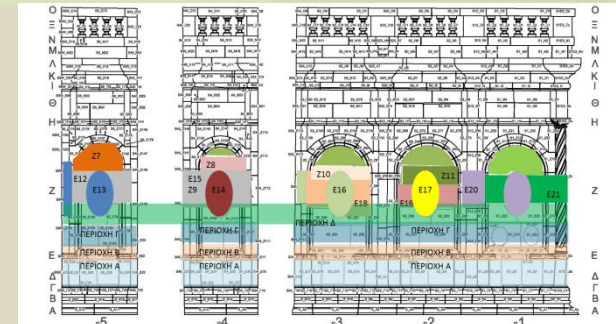
## Application of the optimized filling mortar

☑ 19.01.2017

*Use of compatible and performing “concrete” in order to fill the gap between the masonry and the reassembled stone slabs. Where the gap was less than 12 mm, the restoration mortar was applied*



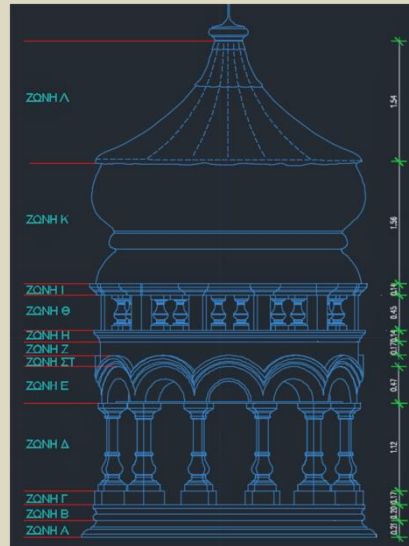
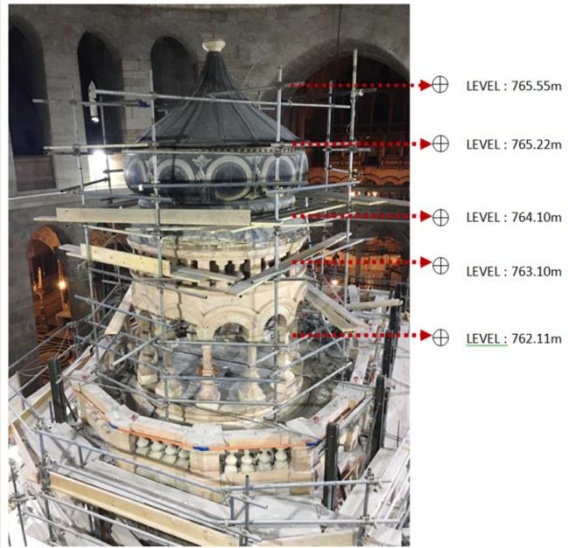
*All data was digitally documented and validated by NDTs in order to act as input data for the FEM analysis*



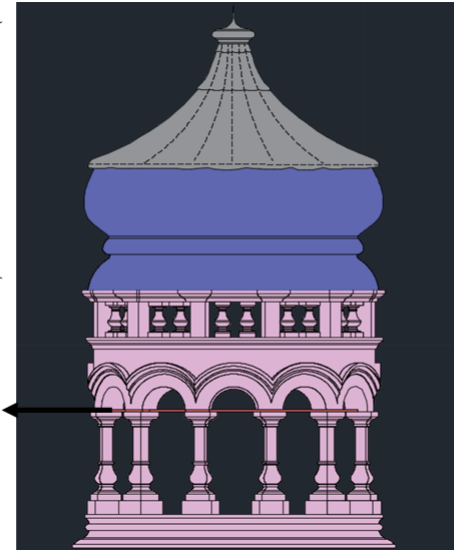
Παράμετρος	Περιγραφή	Καταγραφή/Σημείωση	Ποσοστό υψους/αξίας (%)
A	Στοιβάδα		1950,00
B	Κοιλάδα		187,20
C	Στοιβάδα		1708,25
D	Στοιβάδα		1087,50
E	Στοιβάδα		1500,00
F	Στοιβάδα		75,00
G	Στοιβάδα		28,80
H	Στοιβάδα		88,87
I	Στοιβάδα		0,00

# DESIGN OF CONSERVATION, REINFORCEMENT AND RESTORATION INTERVENTIONS

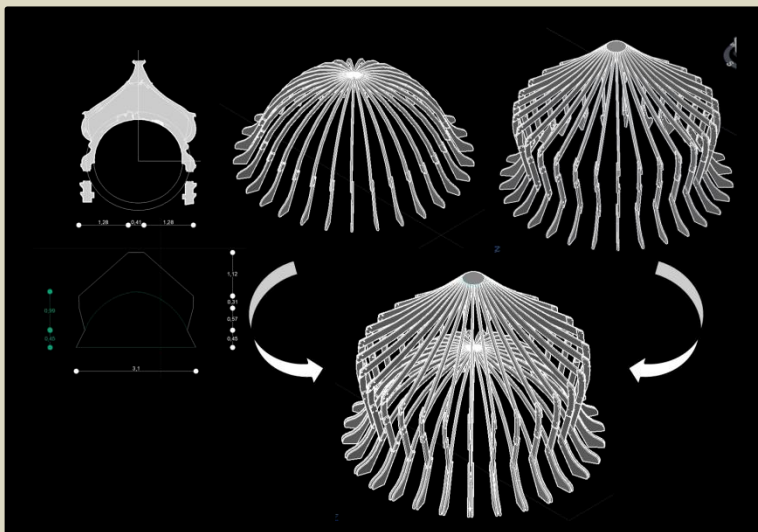
## 3D REPRESENTATION AND STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS



(INTERNAL)  
WOODEN LOAD  
BEARING  
STRUCTURE



METALTIE

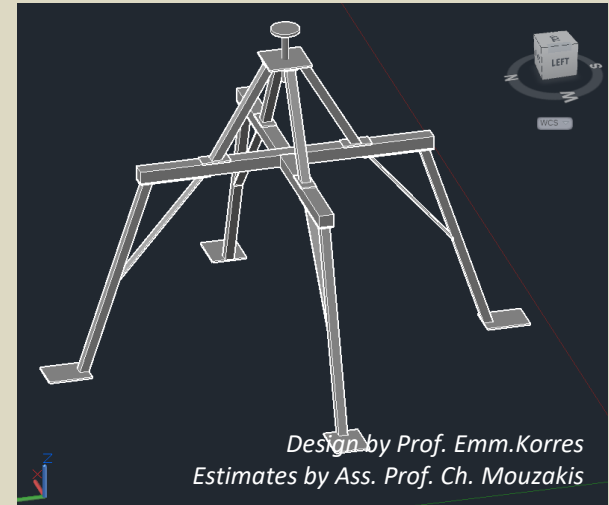


*Georeferenced architectural  
analysis coupled with geometric  
and materials characterization data*

*3d Representation of the Onion  
Dome internal wooden structure*



# ONION DOME OUTER CUPOLA METAL SUPPORT



## DISINFECTATION OF THE HOLY AEDICULE'S ONION DOME WOODEN ELEMENTS OF WOOD-BORING INSECTS AND FUNGHI



**Prof. A. Moropoulou\*, Dr. E.T. Delegou\*, Antonios E. Tsagkarakis, MSc, PhD\*\***

**\* Sch. Chem. Eng., National Technical University of Athens,**

**\*\* Laboratory of Agricultural Zoology and Entomology,  
Agricultural University of Athens, Greece**





## CLEANING



## REINFORCEMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF CRACKS

- Primal 3% acrylic emulsion

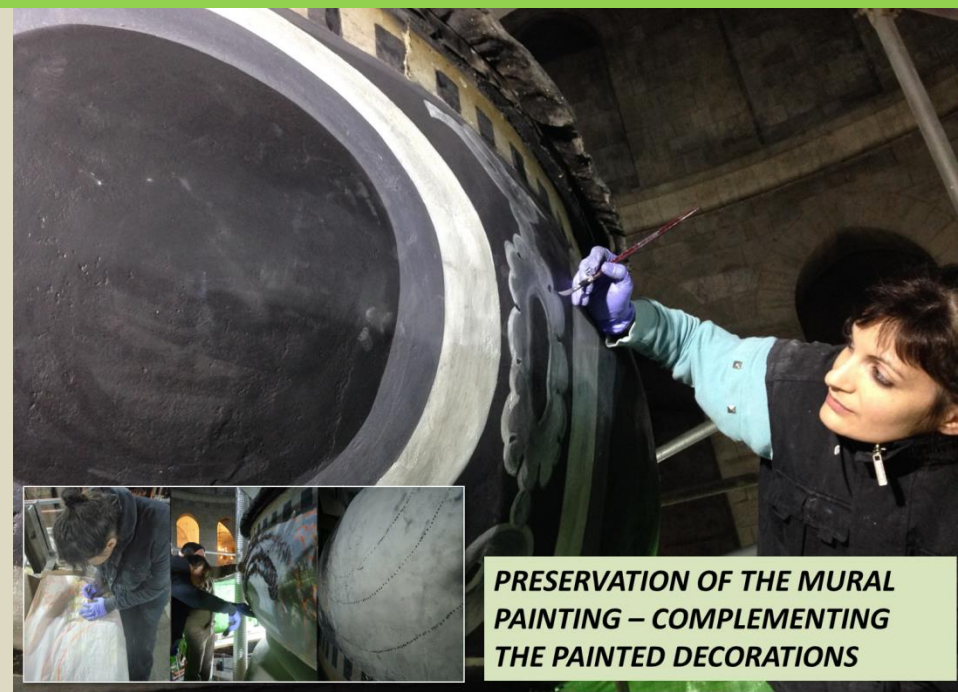


# CONSERVATION INTERVENTIONS AT THE ONION DOME

## APPLICATION OF PLASTERS (TWO LAYERS)



1<sup>st</sup> layer: MasterEmaco S TIX 285  
2<sup>nd</sup> (top) layer: MasterEmaco S TIX 285 sieved at 1mm



PRESERVATION OF THE MURAL  
PAINTING – COMPLEMENTING  
THE PAINTED DECORATIONS



# CONSERVATION INTERVENTIONS AT THE DOME OF THE TOMB CHAMBER



Cleaning interventions with Vulpex



Before cleaning

After cleaning interventions



Condition after  
cleaning interventions



General view before cleaning interventions

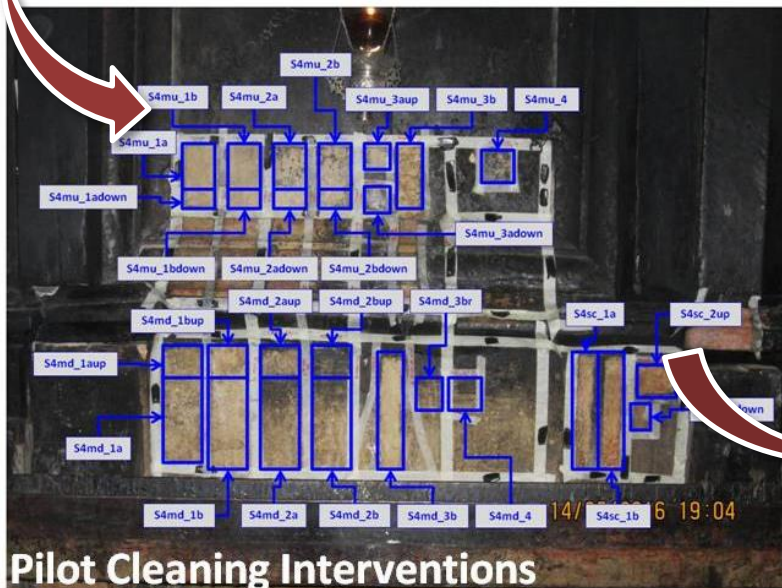




## CONSERVATION INTERVENTIONS AT THE DOME OF THE CHAPEL OF THE ANGEL



# CLEANING INTERVENTIONS



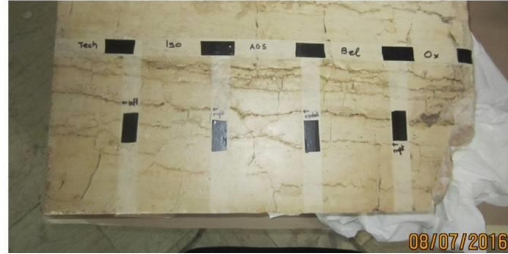


# PROTECTION INTERVENTIONS

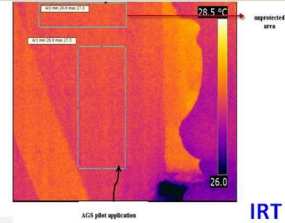
FROM PILOT APPLICATION

TO FINAL APPLICATION

Pilot Protection Interventions



Assessment



Final Protection

A wax based material in water dispersion

Decision making

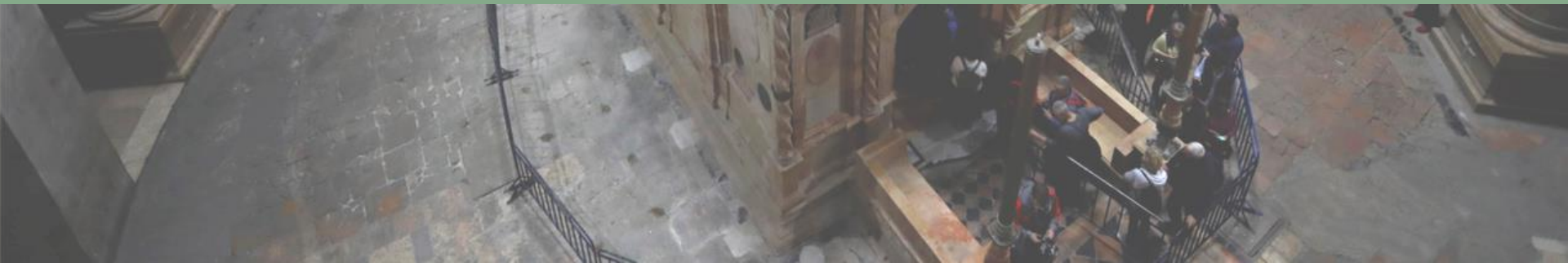
In order to ensure sustainability, a cultural rehabilitation of the pilgrims' attitude is required.  
The extinguishing of the candles onto the Aedicule's exterior facades, must stop



# Innovative methodology to ensure the project's goals

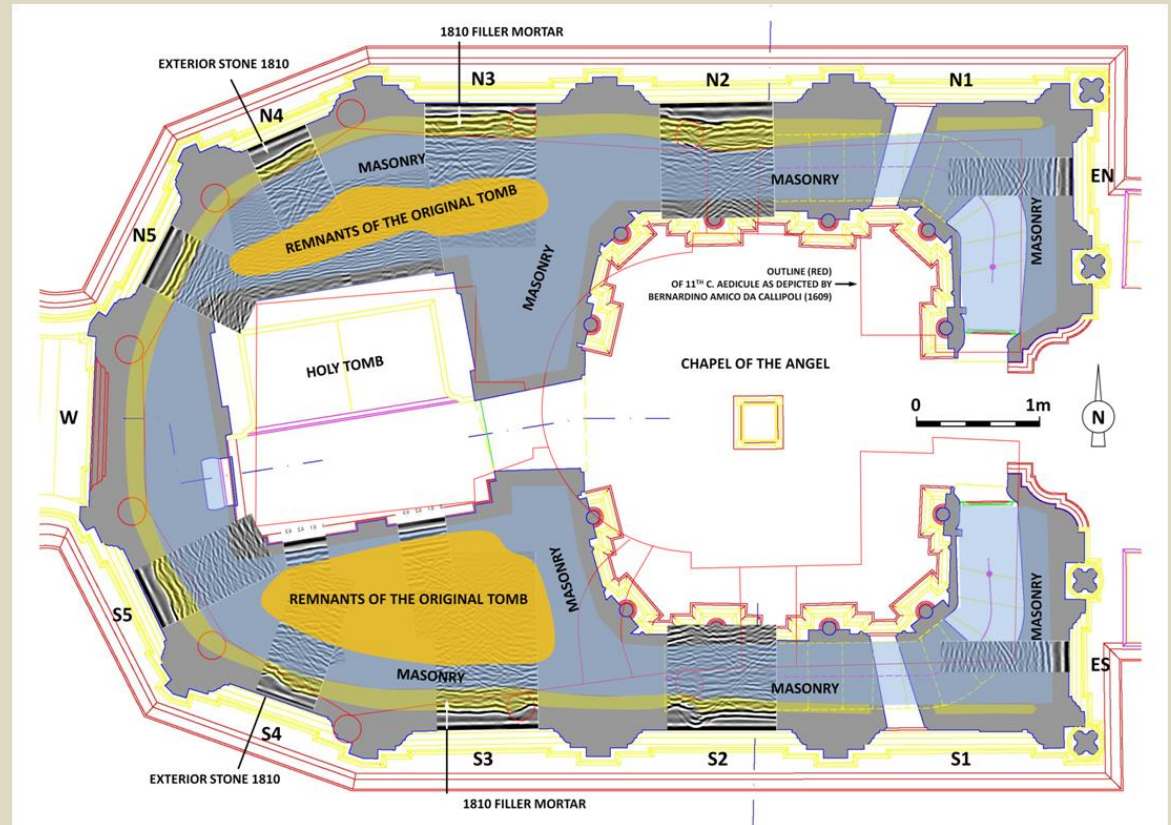


1. Ensure structural integrity, compatibility, performance of materials & interventions
2. Preserve and highlight the values
3. Ensure sustainability



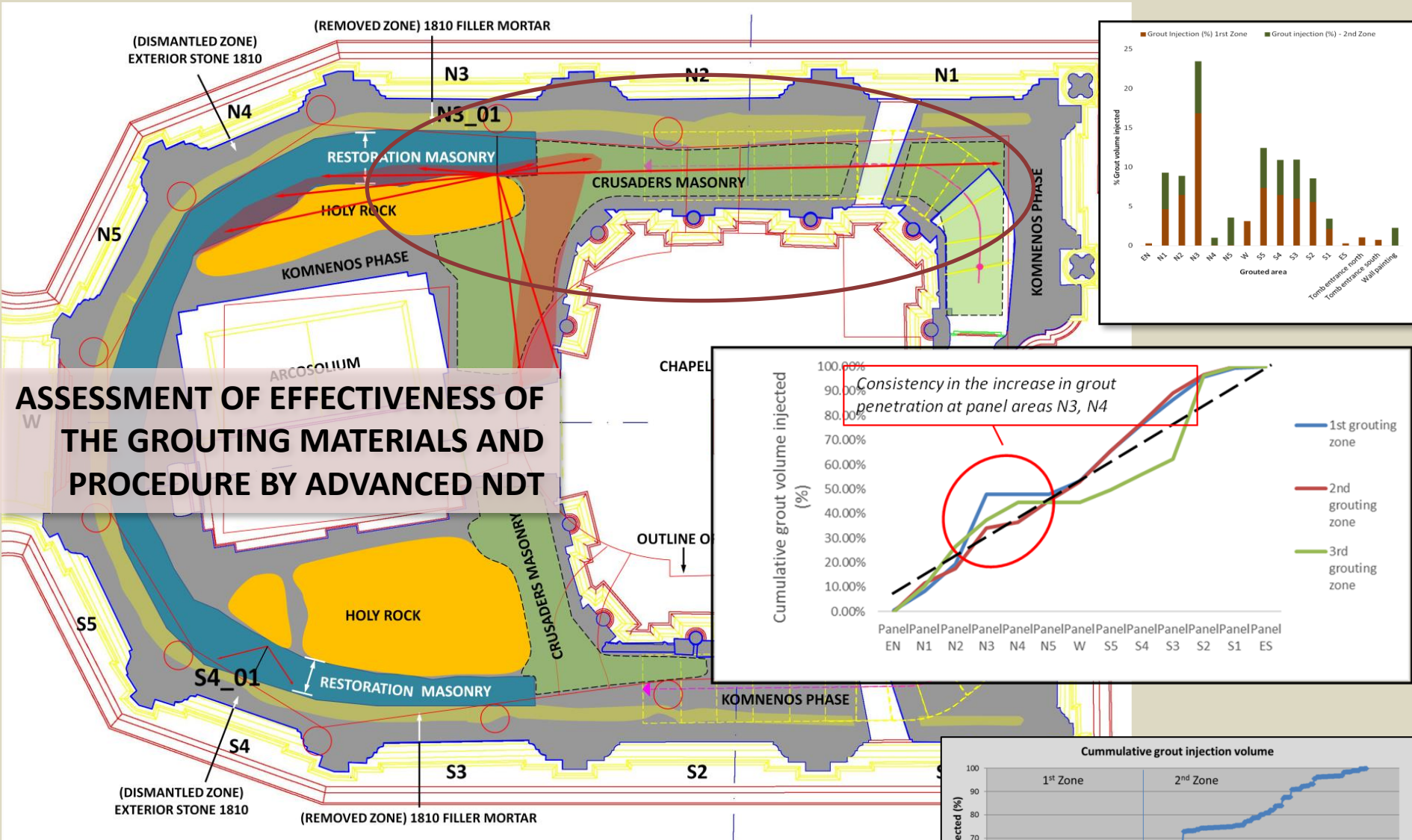
# INNOVATIVE PROSPECTION OF THE NON-VISIBLE LAYERS OF THE AEDICULE AS A MAJOR TOOL FOR ITS REHABILITATION

*Integrated Non-destructive Prospection, Architectural and Geometric Documentation Digitally Render the Internal Structure of the Holy Aedicule and Reveal its Construction Phases*

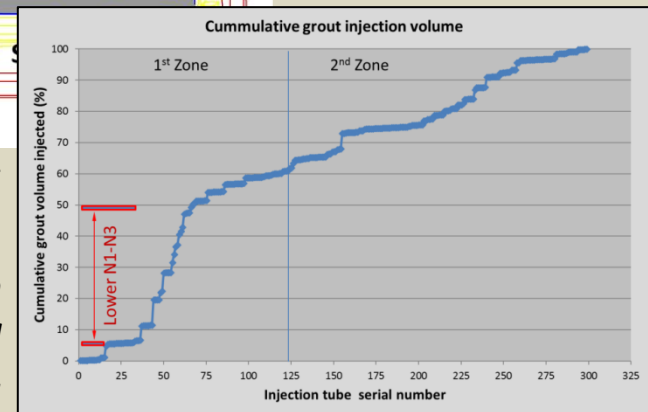


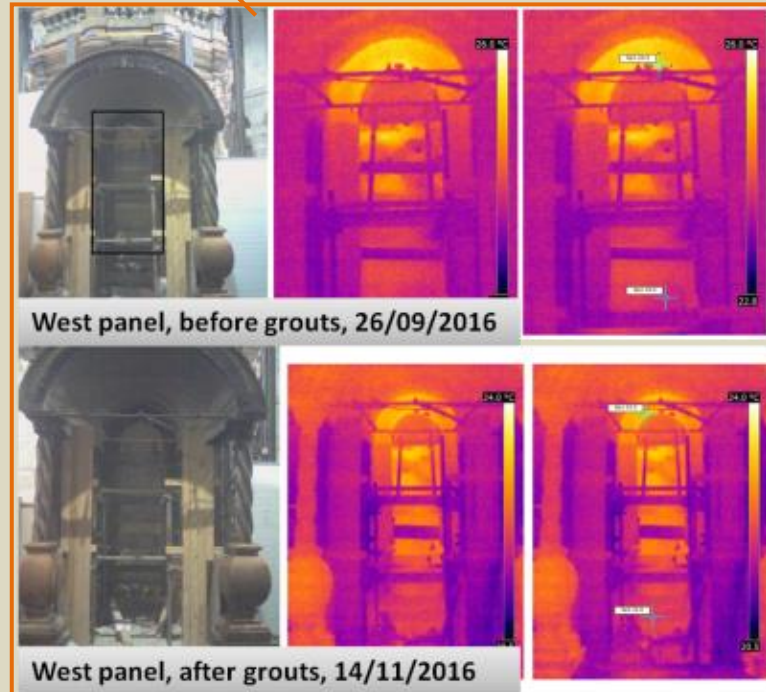
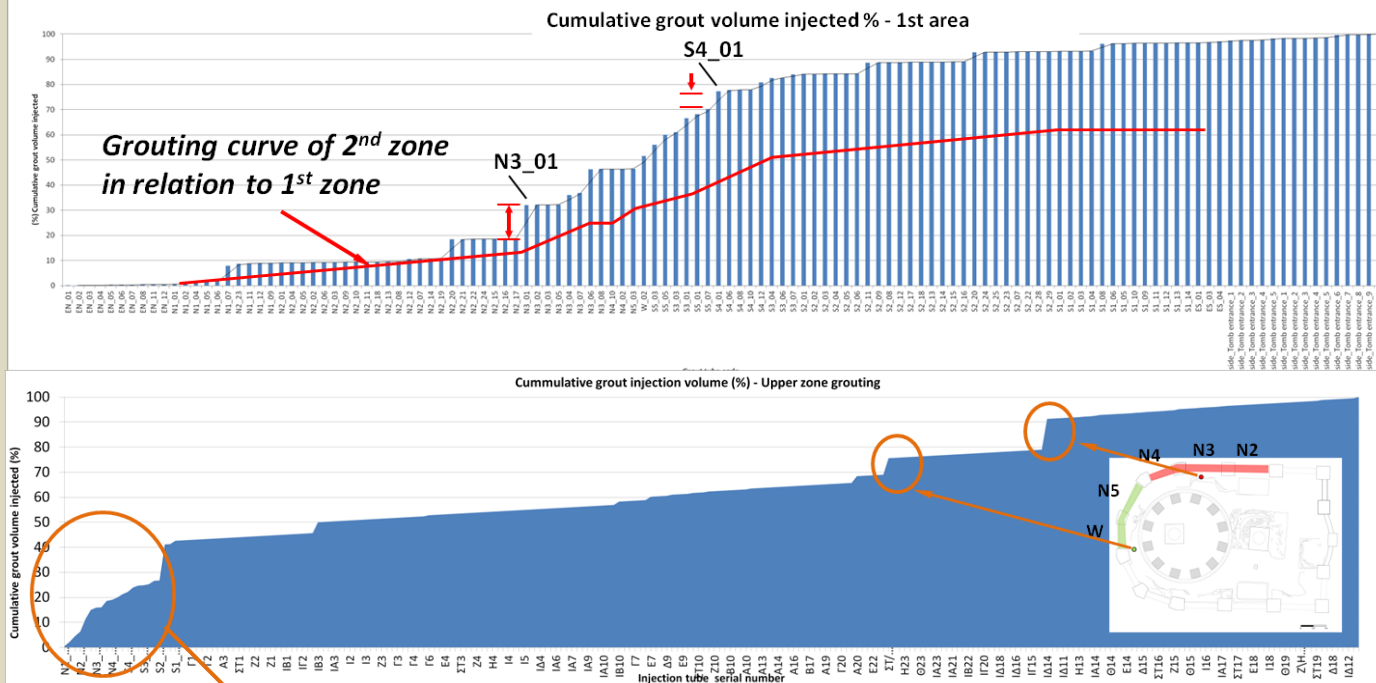
GEOMETRIC AND DIGITAL DOCUMENTATION





Analysis of the relative location of the exit tubes in the case of insertion tube N3\_01, based on the internal structure of the Aedicule as revealed by GPR analysis, shows that **grouting was successful in homogenizing the interface between the restoration masonry and the north block of Holy Rock as well as the other construction phases**





## NDTs FACILITATE DECISION MAKING

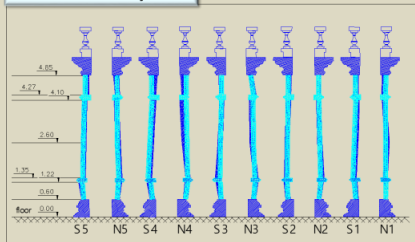
The higher areas of the panels consumed a significant volume of grout ~40%; this is in accordance with IRT<sub>h</sub> results conducted after the lower part grouting, which **showed the presence of voids at the higher panel levels and indicated the necessity of the upper zone grouting**



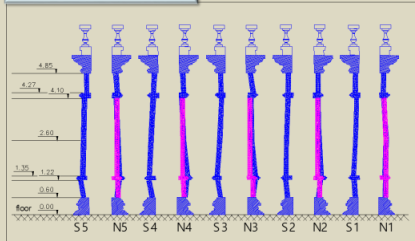


# Time Evolution of the columns' Deviations from verticality

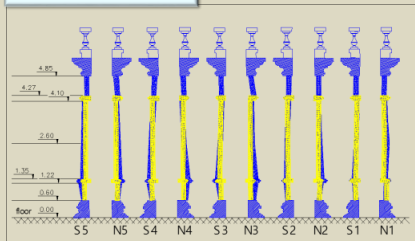
1947 – January 2016



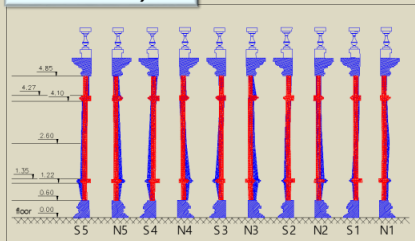
1947 – August 2016



1947 – October 2016



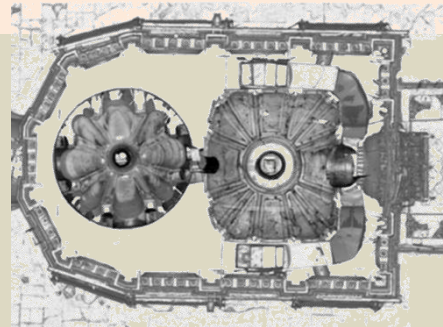
1947 – February 2017



Diminution of the deformations

# INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY TO ENSURE STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY

## DIGITAL GEOMETRIC DATA

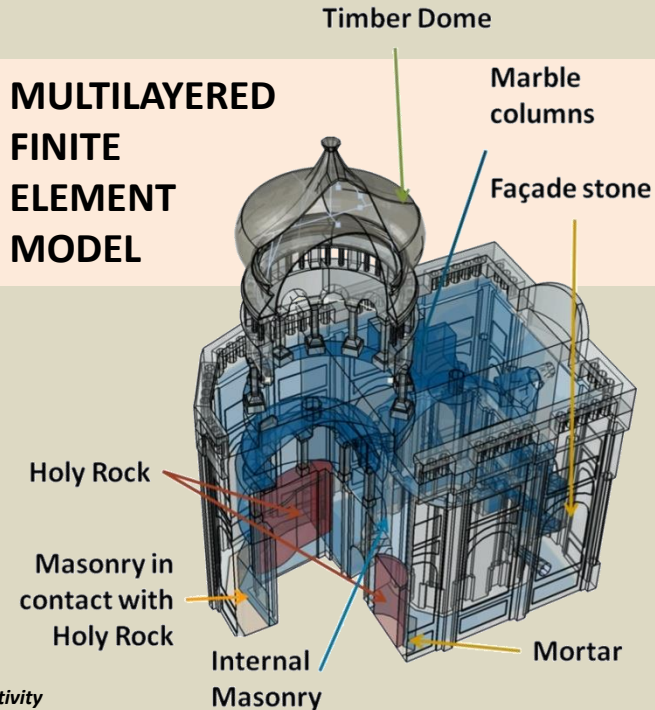
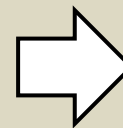


## DIGITALIZED MATERIAL DATA

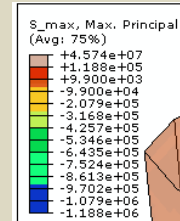
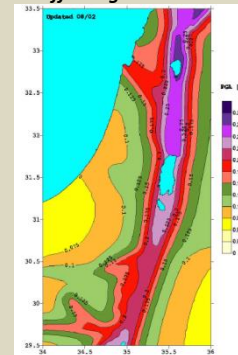
## THE RESPONSE OF THE RETROFITTED STRUCTURE IS VALIDATED

The *retrofitted structure* fulfills the *damage limitation performance level* for the design seismic action.

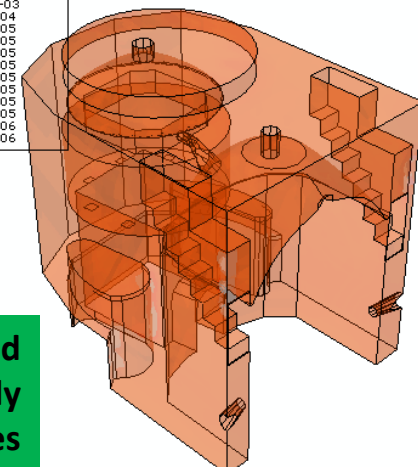
## MULTILAYERED FINITE ELEMENT MODEL



## Seismic activity affecting Jerusalem



## Strengthened Holy Aedicule



Bearing efficiently and homogeneously max principal stresses

**INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY TO REVEAL AND INTERPRET FINDINGS  
TO PRESERVE AND HIGHLIGHT THE VALUES OF THE MONUMENT**

**Lifting of the stone of the Tomb  
revealing the burial monument**



**3D Reconstruction of the  
Burial Surface**

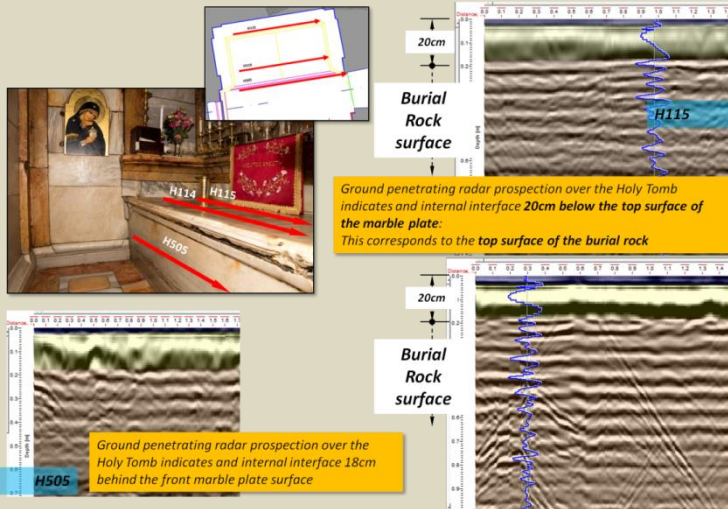






# INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY TO REVEAL AND INTERPRET FINDINGS TO PRESERVE AND HIGHLIGHT THE VALUES OF THE MONUMENT

## Georadar prospection over the closed tomb

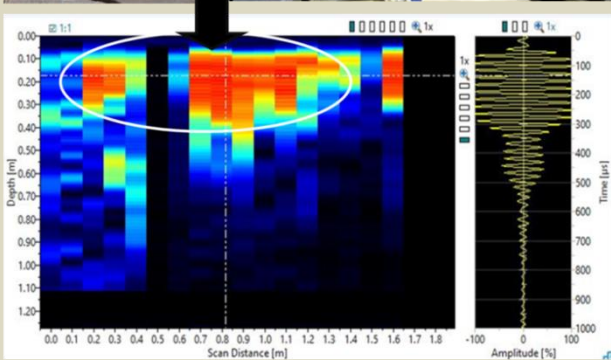
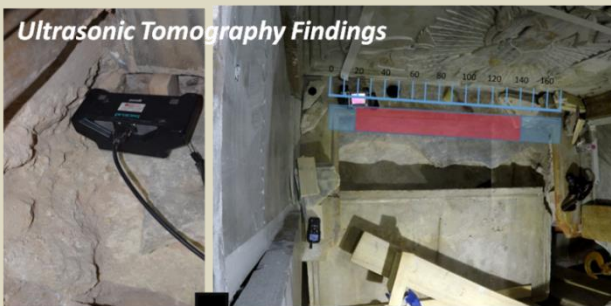
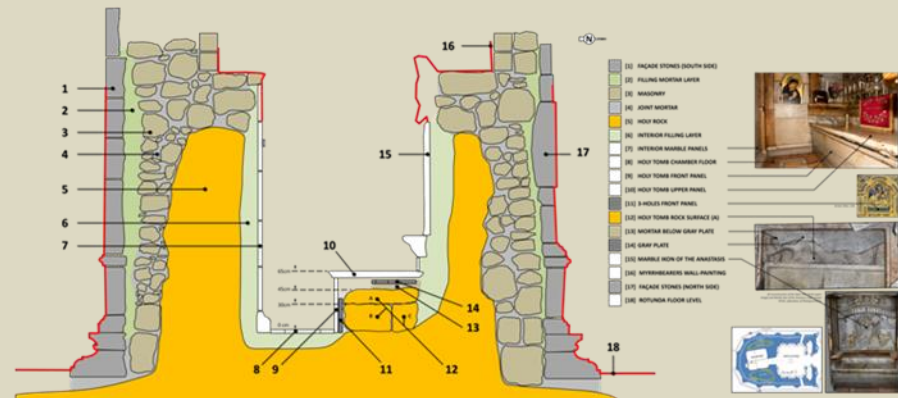


## INNOVATIVE NON-DESTRUCTIVE INSPECTION BY NTUA TO REVEAL THE BURIAL MONUMENT'S MORPHOLOGY

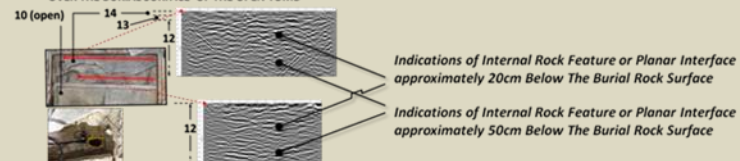
### Digital portable microscopy over the burial surface



### CONCEPTUAL DESCRIPTION OF HOLY TOMB BASED ON GEORADAR FINDINGS



### GROUND PENETRATING RADAR SCANS OVER THE BURIAL SURFACE OF THE OPEN TOMB



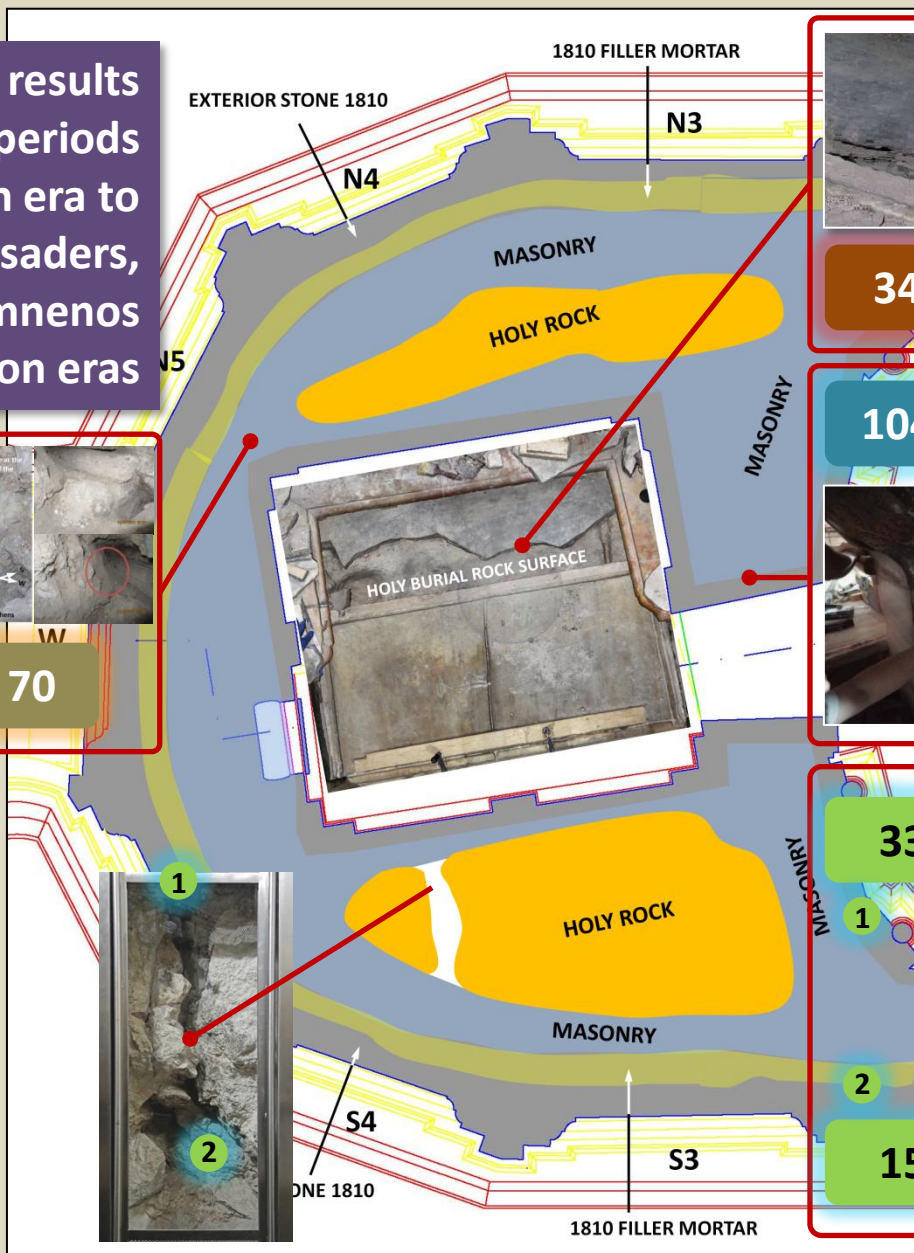


# INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY TO REVEAL AND INTERPRET FINDINGS TO PRESERVE AND HIGHLIGHT THE VALUES OF THE MONUMENT

Archaeometric results stemming all historic periods from the Constantinean era to Byzantine, Crusaders, Renaissance and Komnenos restoration eras

1560AD  $\pm$  70

Moropoulou, A., Zacharias, N., Delegou, E. T., Apostolopoulou, M., Palamara, E., & Kolaiti, A. (2018). OSL mortar dating to elucidate the construction history of the Tomb Chamber of the Holy Aedicule of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*, 19, 80-91.



345AD  $\pm$  230

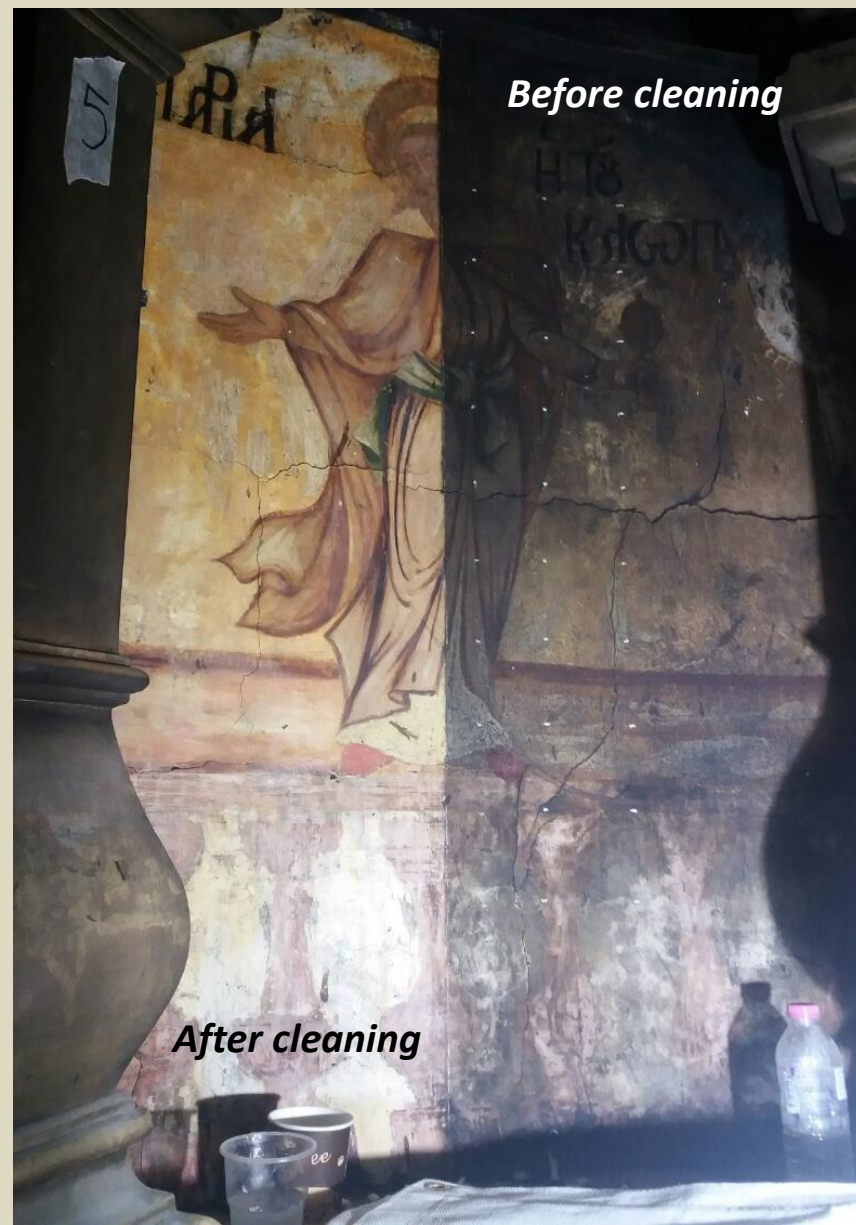
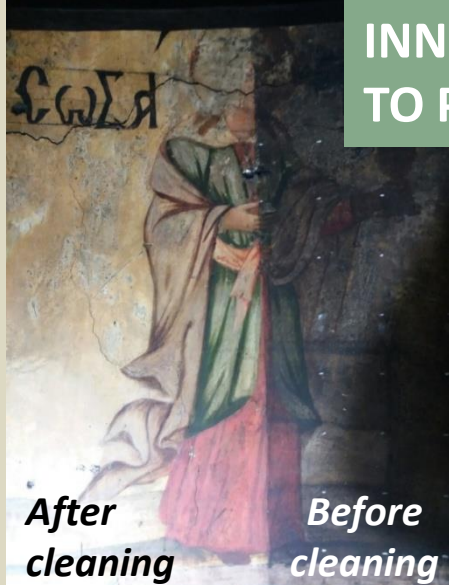
1040AD  $\pm$  150

335AD  $\pm$  235

1570AD  $\pm$  68



# INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY TO REVEAL AND INTERPRET FINDINGS TO PRESERVE AND HIGHLIGHT THE VALUES OF THE MONUMENT



**REVEALING & CONSERVATION OF THE  
FRESCOES: CHAMBER OF THE TOMB**



# INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY TO REVEAL AND INTERPRET FINDINGS TO PRESERVE AND HIGHLIGHT THE VALUES OF THE MONUMENT



## Northwest façade

- *Before: left*  
(May 2015)
- *After: right*  
(March 2017)



## South façade

- *Before: upper*  
(May 2015)
- *After: lower*  
(March 2017)



**REVEALING,  
CLEANING AND  
PROTECTION  
OF EXTERIOR  
FAÇADE  
INSCRIPTIONS**

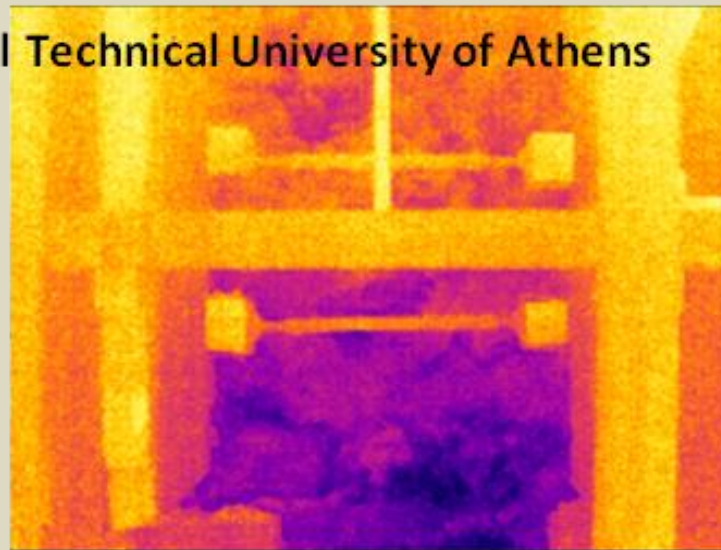


# INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY OF RISK ASSESSMENT: SUSTAINABILITY AT RISK

## RISK ASSESSMENT: INTENSE RISING DAMP FROM THE UNDERGROUND

Immediately after the removal of the external stone slabs intense rising damp phenomena were observed

Jerusalem Patriarchate – National Technical University of Athens



*The temperature difference between the lower and the upper part of the masonry is suggested from the thermograph (July 2016)*

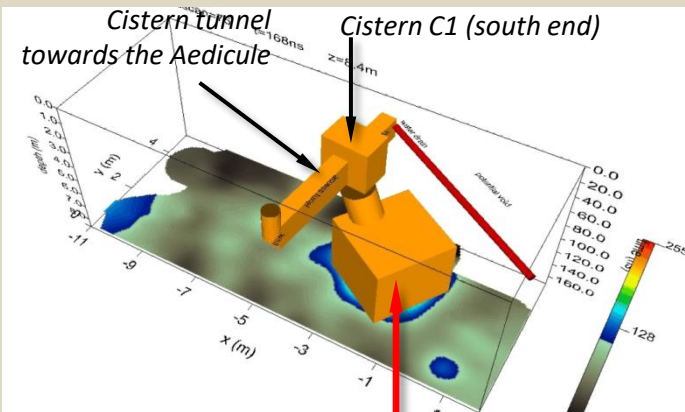
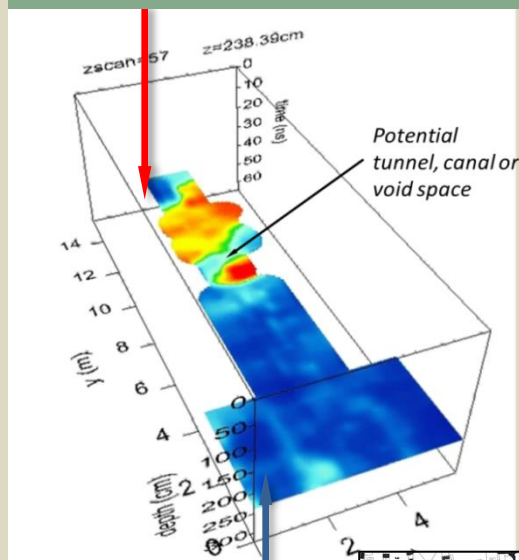
*The revealed masonry behind panel N2*



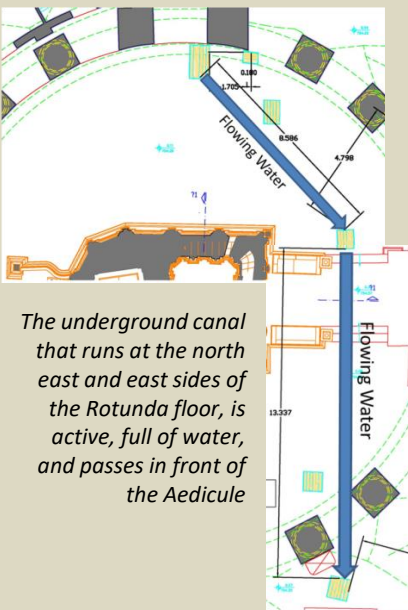
# RISK ASSESSMENT: 3D DIGITAL NDT PROSPECTION OF UNDERGROUNDS RISKS

**Ground penetrating radar, Electrical Resistivity Survey, Electromagnetic Probe Systems, and Robotic Cameras** identified and documented the nature and state of all underground features related to water and humidity transport phenomena below and around the Holy Aedicule and neighboring areas

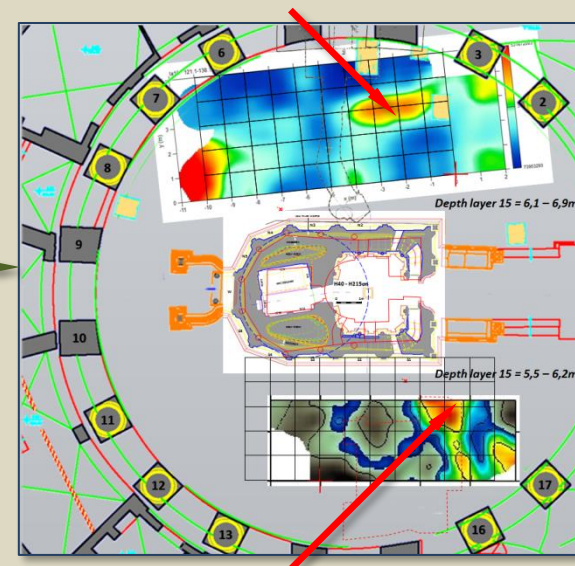
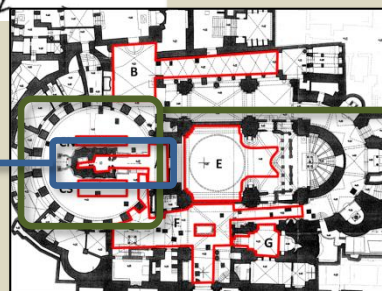
## Presence of a potential void space under the Chapel of the Angel



Large underground void below cistern C1



The underground canal that runs at the north east and east sides of the Rotunda floor, is active, full of water, and passes in front of the Aedicule



Underground feature in correlation with the north void space

**Underground water and drainage channels in need proper design, reconstruction and maintenance**

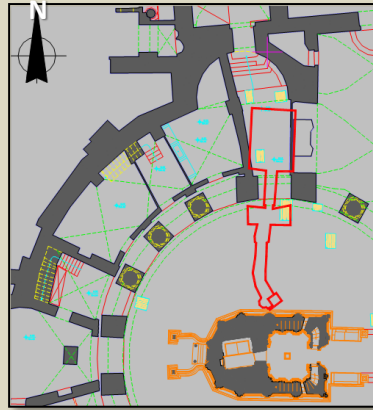




# RISK ASSESSMENT: 3D GEOMETRIC DOCUMENTATION OF UNDERGROUND ENVIRONMENT

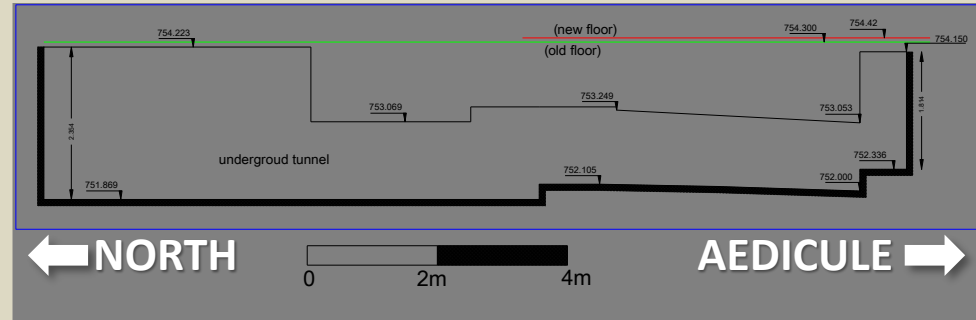
**Geometric documentation** determined the **depth** of each cistern determined its **positional relation to the Holy Aedicule** in order to assess its eventual impact and **documented in detail** the most important cisterns

The position of the cisterns & underground tunnels on the ground plan of the Holy Sepulchre Complex.



C1

## Geometric documentation (vertical section) of cistern C1



1

## Detailed documentation of underground cisterns

Section B'B looking east



Orthophoto Horizontal Section at -1m



Section A'A looking east



Section BB' looking west



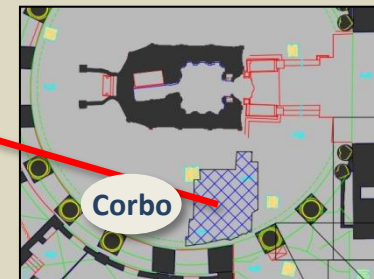
Section AA' looking west

The positions of the cisterns and underground tunnels are presented on the ground plan of the Holy Sepulchre Complex

Cistern	Depth (m)	Situation	Minimum distance from the center of the Holy Aedicule (m)
C1	2.43	without water	3.40
C2	7.30	without water	32.45
C3	-	-	34.00
C4	-	-	29.85
C5	-	-	-
C6	11.40	water (0.90m)	23.07
C7	4.79	without water	38.38
C8	0.50	without water	21.38
C9	1.75	without water	18.76
Corbo's excavation	1.00 - 2.65	without water	5.31

2

## Depth, state and relative position of cisterns and underground tunnels in relation to the Holy Aedicule



# INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY TO ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY: UNDERGROUND INTERVENTIONS TO REVERSE THE RISK TO SUSTAINABILITY

## FOUNDATION INTERVENTIONS FOR THE UNDERPINNING, REINFORCEMENT, WATER AND HUMIDITY CONTROL



**PROBLEM 1: FOUNDATION ON RUBBLE OF OLDER STRUCTURES AND/OR QUARRY STONES**, providing heterogeneous foundation with voids and weak spots. This condition appears to occur at the north and part of the south sides of the ante-chamber.

**INTERVENTION: Grouting of the foundation**, using ALBARIA-based grout, with the objective to fill and/or consolidate voids in the rubble.



**PROBLEM 2: FOUNDATION ON NATURAL ROCK** (usually via a thin layer of bedding mortar), BUT VERY CLOSE TO A STEEP SLOPE. Condition appears to occur at the south side of the ante-chamber.

**INTERVENTION: A slope inclination 2:1 is considered as minimum for the stability of the foundation.** If the slope of the natural rock is steeper than 2:1, the rubble between the rock and the red dashed line will be grouted or removed and replaced by ALBARIA-based mortar and/or stonework (using local Jerusalem red Slayeb limestone).



**PROBLEM 3: FOUNDATION ON NATURAL ROCK VIA A THIN (20-30CM) BEDDING LAYER OF LOW SILICATE MORTAR** which has degraded, mainly due to the long-term effects of moisture.

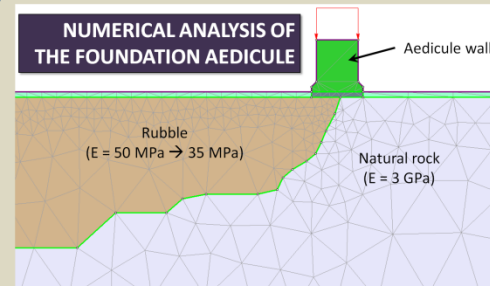
**INTERVENTION: Removal of the degraded mortar** (in short lengths of the order of 25-30cm to avoid disruption of the foundation of the wall) and **replacement with ALBARIA-based mortar**



**PROBLEM 4: RISING WATER AND MOISTURE**, as leakages from cisterns and water conduits seep through cracks of the natural rock towards the foundation of the Aedicule.

**INTERVENTION:** Corbo's south excavation will be **drained, ventilated** and the present reinforced concrete slab covering the excavation will be **replaced by a 15cm thick Glass Fibre Reinforced concrete slab**, supported on the perimeter and on the Constantinian stylobate crossing the excavation in the N-S direction (via special bedding to prevent damage to the stylobate). **A glass opening may be left, for antiquities inspection**

### NUMERICAL ANALYSIS OF THE FOUNDATION AEDICULE



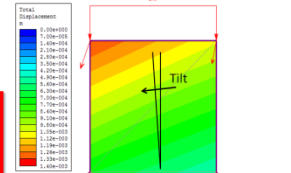
### NUMERICAL ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECTS OF LONG-TERM DETERIORATION OF THE RUBBLE

(30% reduction of stiffness) on ground settlement and tilt of the aedicule walls.

- Analysis with finite element computer program PLAXIS.
- Modelling stages : Initial (ground and church loads) & deterioration of rubble under load (30% reduction of rubble stiffness)

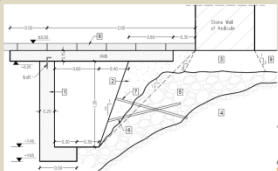
Foundation settlement (m) due to long-term reduction of the rubble stiffness

### DIFFERENTIAL SETTLEMENT OF THE HOLY AEDICULE

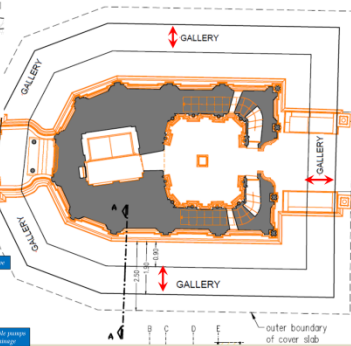
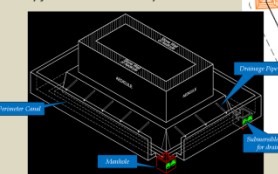


SETTLEMENT at left edge of footing : 0.5 mm , Settlement at right edge of footing : 0.3mm, Tilt :  $\theta = (0.5 - 0.3) / 800\text{mm} = 2.5 \times 10^{-4}$ , Rotation of the top of the Aedicule wall ( $H=10\text{m}$ ) :  $\Delta y = H \theta = 10000 \times (2.5 \times 10^{-4}) = 2.5\text{mm}$

## DRAINAGE/VENTILATION GALLERY

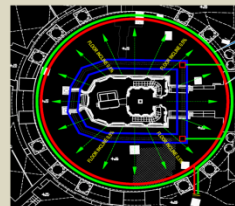


Section AA - Case 5 : Gallery excavated in rubble overlying the natural rock. The rubble is partly excavated and removed, away from the 1:1 stability line



PLAN OF THE PERIPHERAL DRAINAGE AND VENTILATION GALLERY

## PERIPHERAL PIPING NETWORK

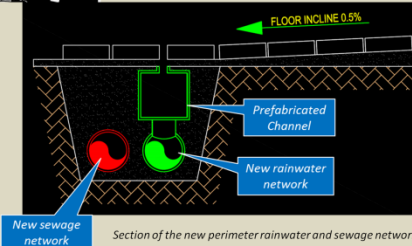


A new functional sewage and rainwater network will be constructed within the perimeter of Rotunda to replace the complex existing network

Inclinations for the best drainage of the surface water towards the new perimeter rainwater network.

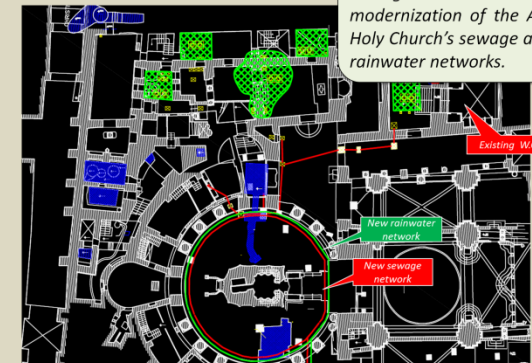
- Two parallel circular networks in the proximity of Piers' foundation

- Connection of the underground gallery's manholes with the circular rainwater network



Section of the new perimeter rainwater and sewage network.

## SEWAGE/RAINWATER NETWORK

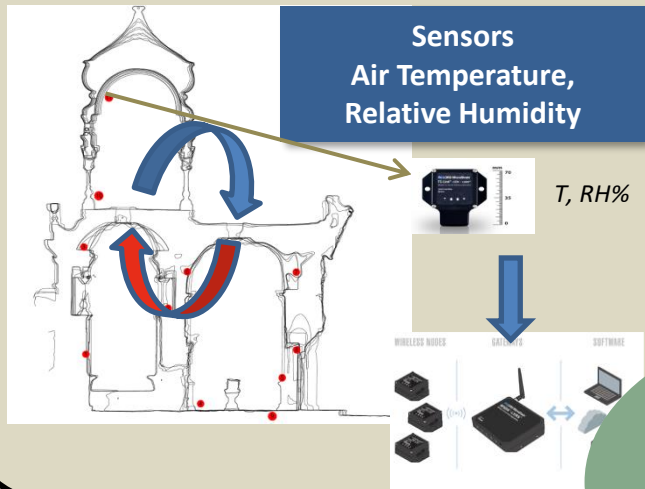


Interventions for the arrangement and modernization of the All-Holy Church's sewage and rainwater networks.



# INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY TO ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY: MONITORING THE RESPONSE OF THE AEDICULE - MULTISENSORS

## HYGROTHERMIC RESPONSE MONITORING

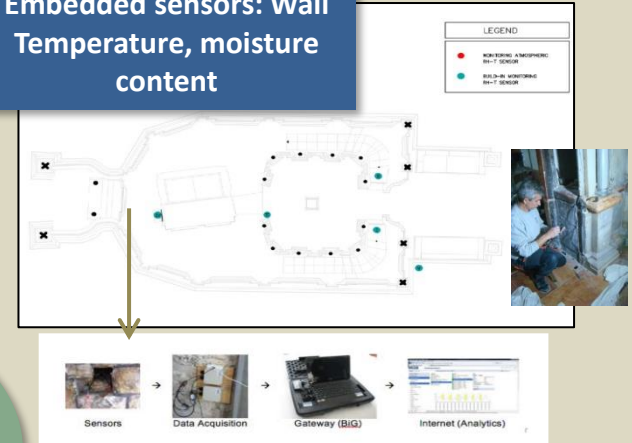


REMOTE  
DATA  
ACQUISITION

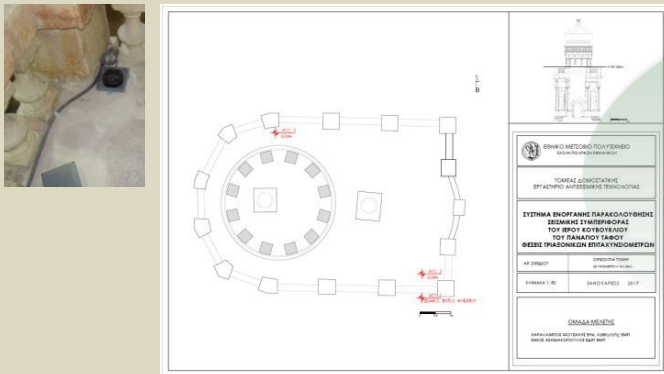
ACQUISITION  
DATA  
REMOTE

MULTIMODAL  
PERFORMANCE  
HEALTH  
MONITORING

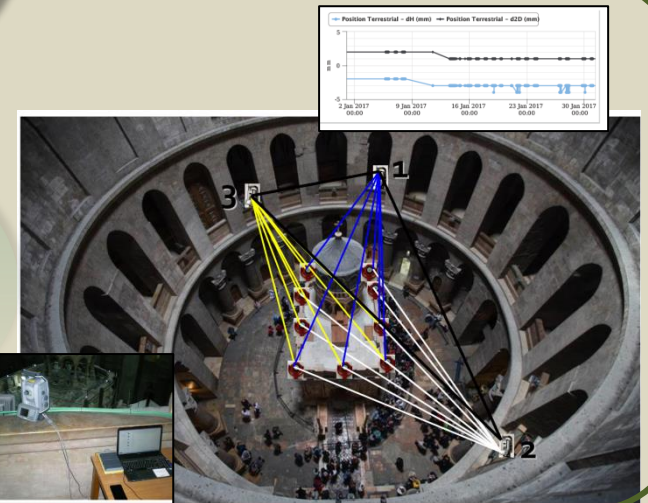
Embedded sensors: Wall  
Temperature, moisture  
content



Accelerometer



STRUCTURAL HEALTH MONITORING



3D PRECISE GEODETIC NETWORK

# **Innovations of the Holy Aedicule rehabilitation**

## **Dynamic digital documentation as a core space of integration**

**This interdisciplinary project, within a holistic approach, merges capabilities and know-how from the scientific fields of architecture, civil engineering, surveying engineering, materials science and engineering, information technology, archaeometry and archaeology.**

**Throughout the project, innovative and high-measuring technologies were applied - with emphasis on non-destructive techniques - to fully document the Holy Aedicule, assess its state of preservation, identify the causes of the observed damages, and monitor all rehabilitation interventions**



# Innovations of the Holy Aedicule rehabilitation

## Dynamic digital documentation as a core space of integration

The three-dimensional reconstruction of the monument provides an integrated core space, enables and optimizes:

- ✓ Accurate and detailed (3D) design of rehabilitation interventions
- ✓ Estimation of required quantities of restoration materials
- ✓ Dynamic environment for the optimization and redesign processes throughout all stages of the rehabilitation project
- ✓ Assessment of the rehabilitation, with reference to the main goals

Merging of all necessary information through the 3D data is achieved,  
by a **fragmented approach**

**This provides the basis for  
TRANSDISCIPLINARITY**

# ***Aim and interdisciplinary methodology of Research***

## **D O C U M E N T A T I O N**

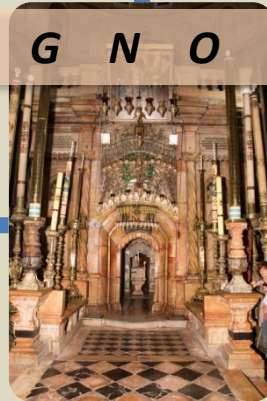
**Integrated documentation  
of the problem**

**Geometric, Structural,  
Architectural  
documentation**

**Documentation and  
characterization of  
building materials**

## **D I A G N O S I S**

**Prospection of building  
phases and decay  
diagnosis and pathology**



**Assessment of current  
state against static and  
seismic loads**

## **P R O P O S A L**

**Principles, ethics, requirements  
and instructions for  
conservation reinforcement and  
rehabilitation materials and  
interventions**

**Continual update of the three religious communities  
of the Holy Church of the Resurrection in Jerusalem  
and organization of scientific and institutional  
debate for decision making regarding the most  
appropriate solution.**



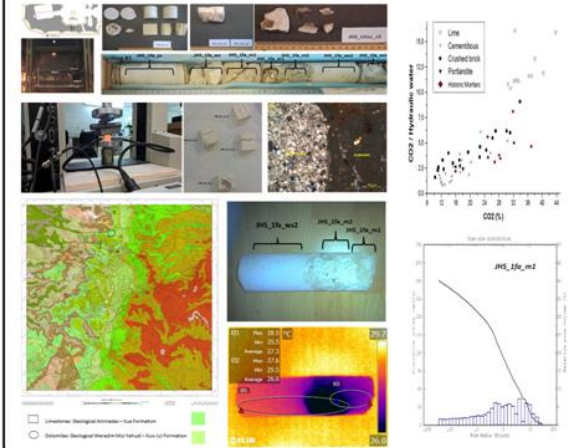
# INTERRELATED GEOMETRIC, ARCHITECTURAL, MATERIALS AND STRUCTURAL DOCUMENTATION

How architectural, historical and materials characterization geometrical documentation and structural assessment act as knowledge based digital infrastructure to support the design of the rehabilitation

## GEOMETRIC DOCUMENTATION



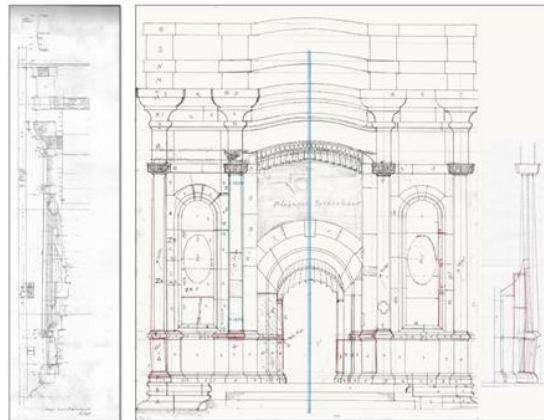
## MATERIALS DOCUMENTATION



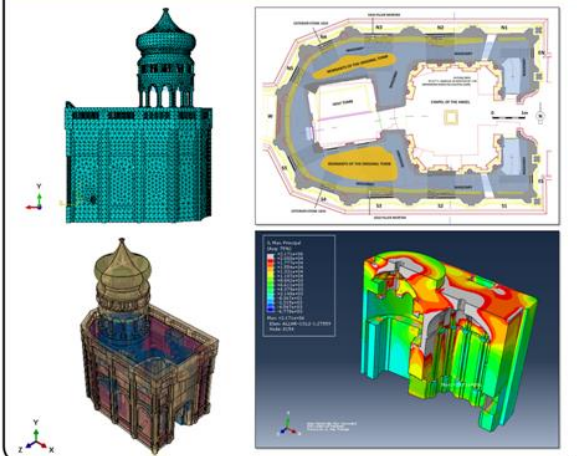
NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

DIAGNOSTIC INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDY

## ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTATION



## STRUCTURAL DOCUMENTATION



# Knowledge based digital infrastructure to support the design of the rehabilitation

Minimum invasive  
Maximum compatibility &  
performance with  
historical materials and  
structures

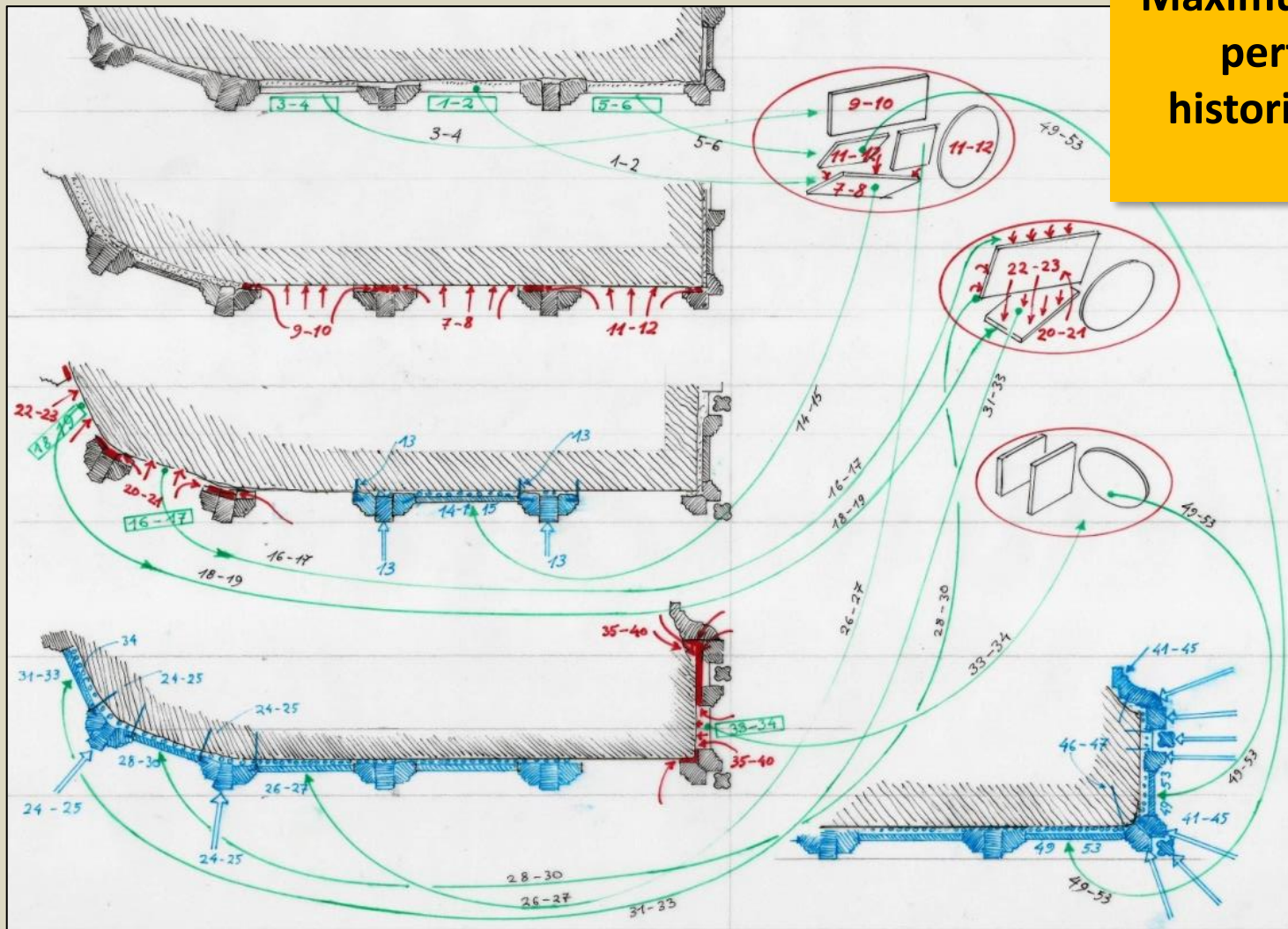
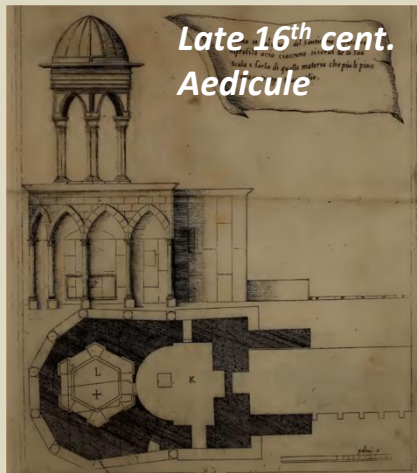


Diagram of the work's  
progress  
(design by  
Prof. Em. Korres)



# INNOVATIVE METHODOLOGY TO REVEAL AND INTERPRET FINDINGS TO PRESERVE AND HIGHLIGHT THE VALUES OF THE MONUMENT

## HISTORIC REPRESENTATION OF THE HOLY AEDICULE EVOLUTION BY DIGITAL CORRELATIONS: LATE 16<sup>th</sup> & EARLY 19<sup>th</sup> CENT. AEDICULE

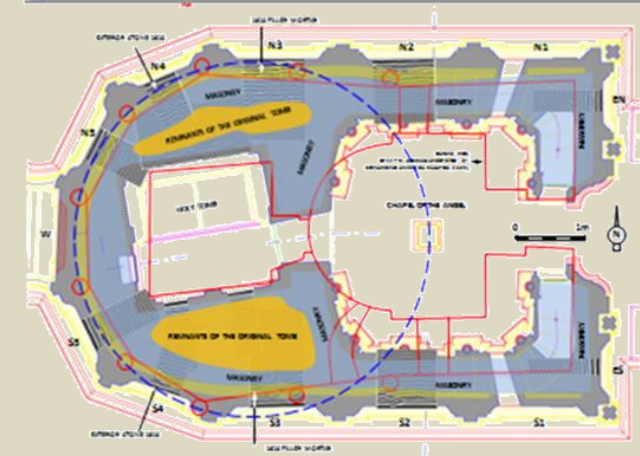


**Late 16<sup>th</sup> cent.  
Aedicule**



*The digital correlation, (NDT prospection, and architectural, geometric and historic documentations) of the late 16<sup>th</sup> and the early 19<sup>th</sup> c. Aedicule indicates the probability of embedded parts of the earlier structure:*

- At the western part, up to the Myrrhbearers area
- At the eastern part, up to 1.5m of the northern masonry of the Chapel of the Angel



# ACHIEVING THE PROJECT'S GOALS:

## 2. REVEALING AND PRESERVING VALUES

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEMANTICS OF THE UNDERGROUND AREA OF THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE

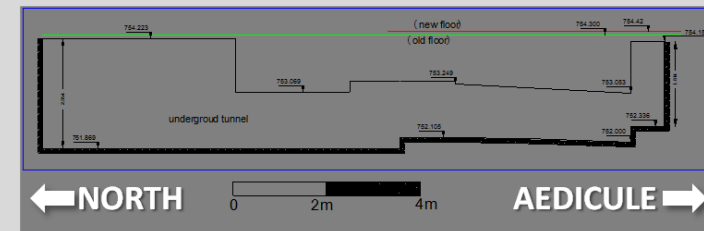


NATIONAL TECHNICAL  
UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

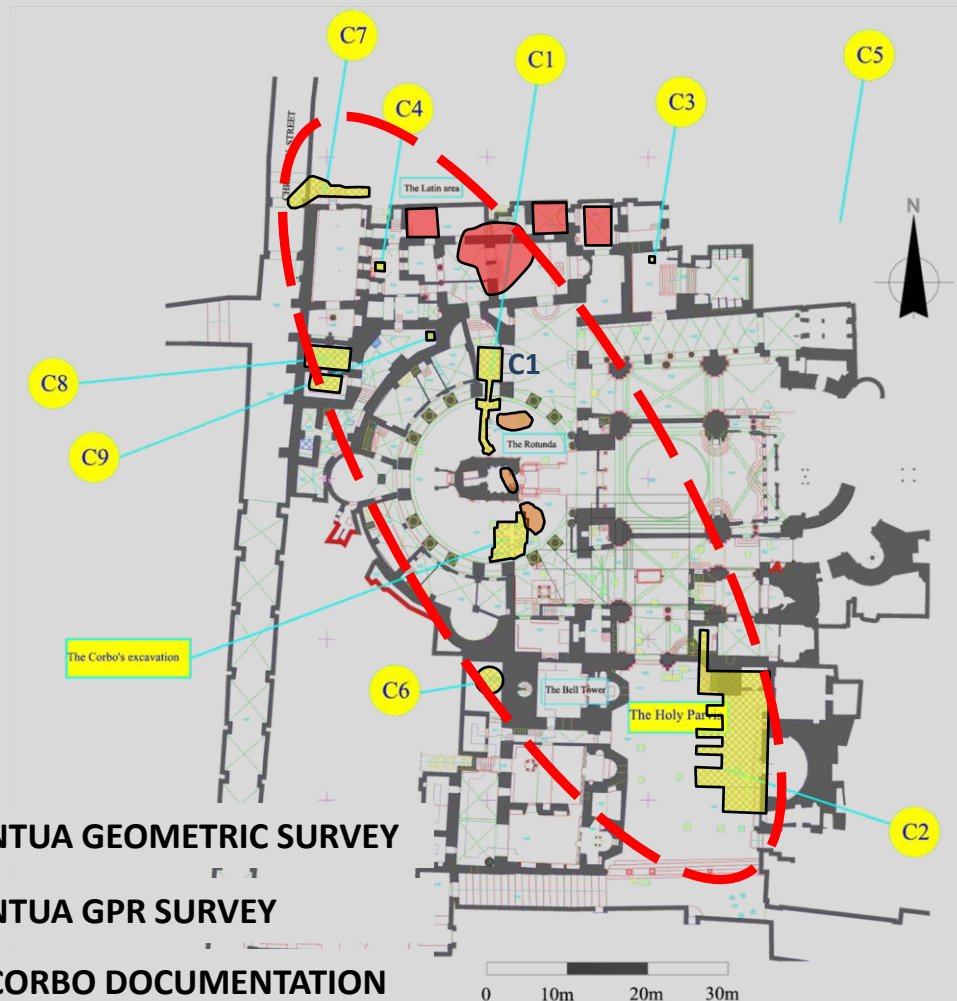
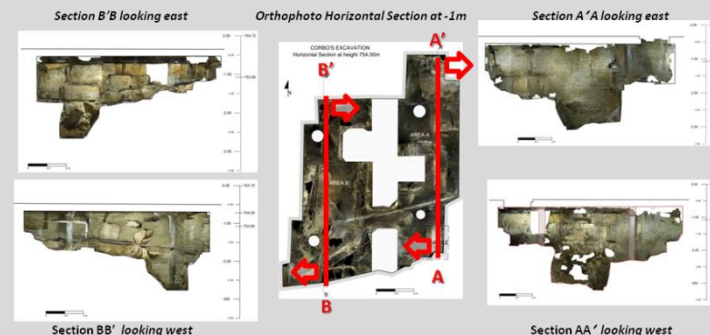
INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH GROUP  
FOR THE MONUMENTS PROTECTION

The Holy Aedicule is located at the center and above a **cluster of underground cisterns**, and natural and manmade **underground voids and spaces**

#### Geometric documentation (vertical section) of cistern C1



#### Geometric documentation of Corbo's Excavation



NTUA GEOMETRIC SURVEY

NTUA GPR SURVEY

CORBO DOCUMENTATION



# Scientific Support to the Integrated Governance of the Project

*The **integrated scientific management of the project** is recognized as the only prerequisite that can successfully face the risks and uncertainties that arise during the progress of the Works.*

*Continuous scientific documentation, monitoring and assessment of all acquired data, in real scale and real time comprises the **scientific support to decision making**. Hence, the **integrated governance** of the project is achieved on the **basis of the NTUA study**, as well as the **NTUA scientific reports** throughout the implementation of the study*

# SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT TO INTEGRATED GOVERNANCE

## INTEGRATED GOVERNANCE OF THE PROJECT

### Project Owners' Committee

#### Custos of Franciscan Order



*Apostolic Administrator of Jerusalem*



Pierbattista Pizzaballa (until May 2016) Francesco Patton (Since June 2016)

#### Patriarch Theophilos III (Chairman)



#### Armenian Patriarch Nourhan Manougian



Common Technical Bureau  
(Dr. Theodosios Mitropoulos, Osama Hamdan, Carla Benelli, Irene Badalian)

Project Steering Committee  
(5-7 members)

WMF/Mica Ertegun Fund/  
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America (oversight)

#### Patriarch Theophilos III (Chairman)



Chief Supervising Scientist & Director of Materials & Rehabilitation Interventions  
Prof. Antonia Moropoulou



Project Manager  
Ir. Nikos Moropoulos



Site Manager  
Dr. Theodosios Mitropoulos



Director of Restoration  
Prof. Emmanouil Korres



Director of Reinforcement  
Prof. Kostantinos Spyrakos



Direct. of Geometric Documentation  
Prof. Andreas Georgopoulos



Deputy Site Manager Assist.  
Prof. Charalampos Mouzakis



Asst. Deputy Site Manager, Head of Restorers  
Vasileios Zafeiris



Administrative

Scientific

Construction site management

### Interdisciplinary Documentation & Monitoring Laboratory IDML

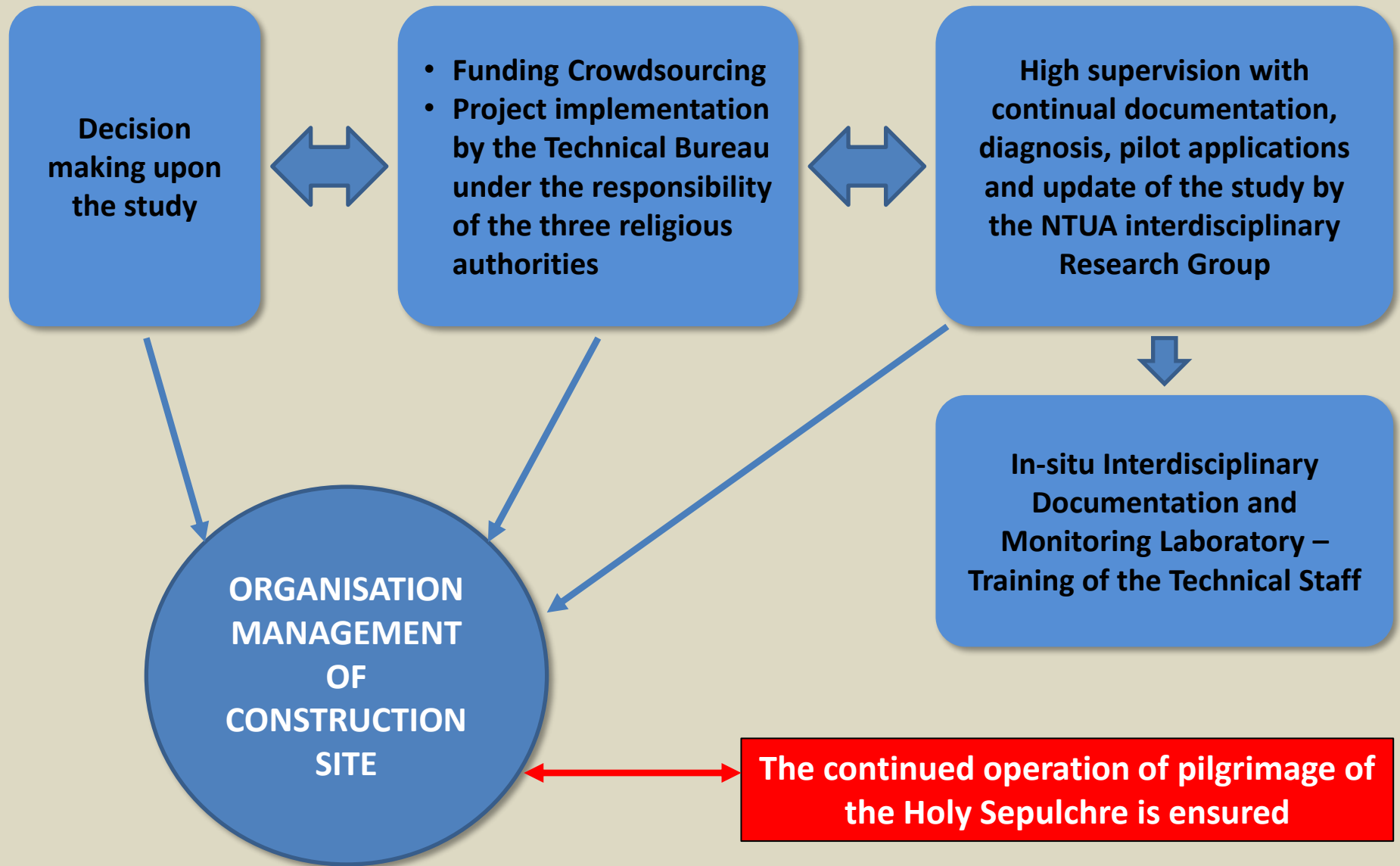




***At two rooms of the Rotunda, belonging to the Greek-Orthodox Patriarchate, the Interdisciplinary Documentation and Monitoring Laboratory has been established, continuously functioning under the NTUA interdisciplinary team's scientific responsibility***



# ***Implementation methodology***





# INNOVATIVE MULTILAYERED DATA MANAGEMENT

## The Integrated Information System Platform:

- ✓ establishes and develops transdisciplinarity among:
  - *relevant scientific and engineering fields*
  - *digital and non-digital layers of information*
  - *non-destructive and analytical information creation technologies*
- ✓ utilizes the information created through the rehabilitation project:
  - *sets interrelationships*
  - *creates a digital infrastructure where information can be assigned spatially for further correlation with others*
- ✓ offers modular functionalities
- ✓ is extendable
- ✓ is applicable to other cases
- ✓ is transferable

***This integration establishes transdisciplinarity***

## *Content-Based Management through Semantic Data Integration*

### Multilayer Management of Information Big Data Integration

- Non destructive Testing
- Analytical Techniques
- Spatial
- Historic
- Time, etc.



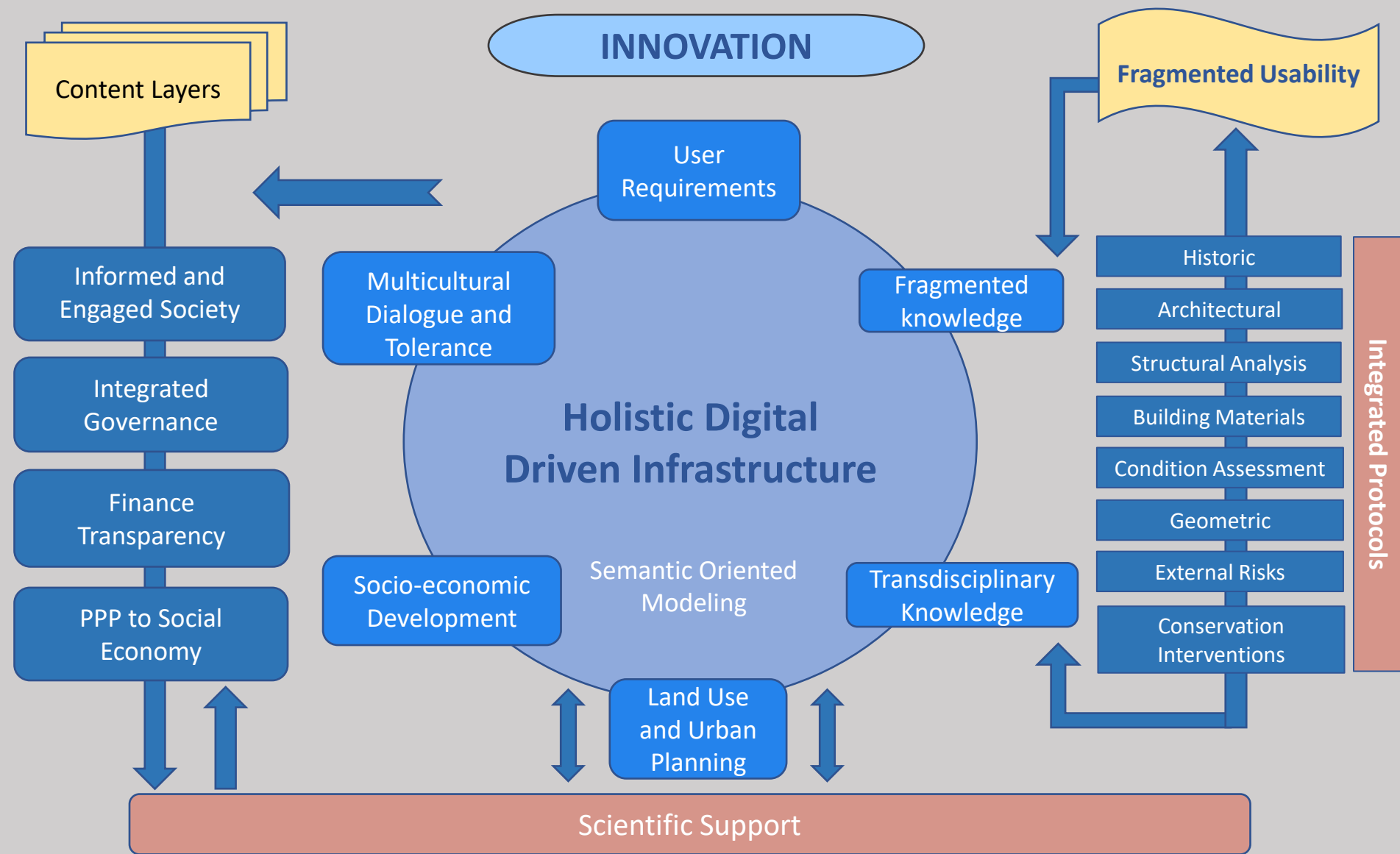
### *Multilayer Data Fusion*



Platform as the **cornerstone** for data management, knowledge acquisition and information sharing



# Usability of Digital Driven Preservation of CH



**Towards Holistic Usability**

# **INNOVATION ENHANCING SOCIAL ACCESSIBILITY: BRINGING THE WORLD TO THE TOMB OF CHRIST**





*Strategic cooperation of the National Technical University of Athens,  
the three Christian Communities and the National Geographic Society  
on the news for the opening of the Tomb of Christ  
and on to the Tomb of Christ Exhibition*

**Fredrik Hiebert**, *National Geographic Archaeologist-in-Residence*

**Kristin Romey**, *staff writer covering archaeology and paleontology for National Geographic*

**Exclusive: Christ's Burial Place Exposed for First Time in Centuries**

*by Kristin Romey, published October 26, 2016*

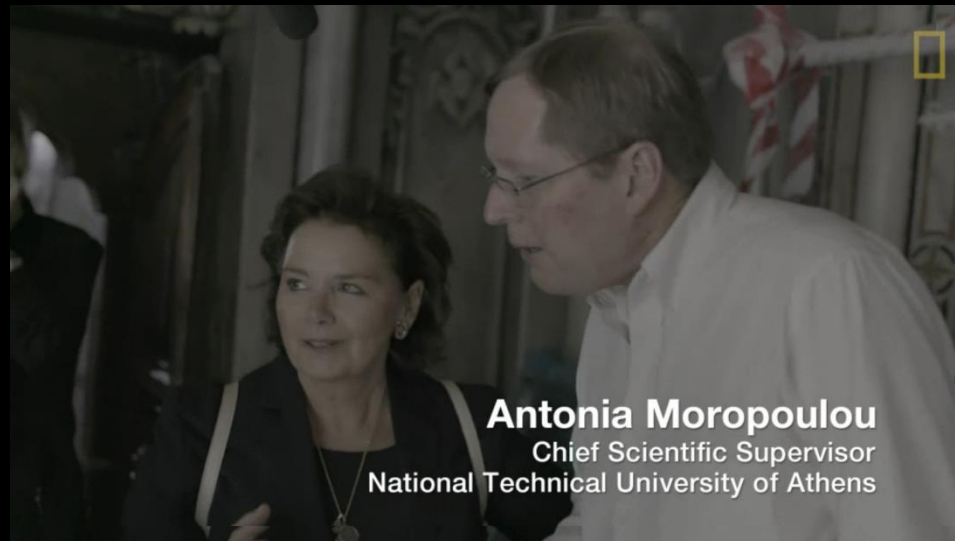
<https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2016/10/jesus-tomb-opened-church-holy-sepulchre/>

**Unsealing of Christ's Reputed Tomb Turns Up New Revelations**

*by Kristin Romey, published October 31, 2016*

<https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2016/10/jesus-christ-tomb-burial-church-holy-sepulchre/>

*When the Tomb  
was opened after  
500 years, two  
billion people  
kneeled, in spirit,  
in front of the  
Tomb of Christ*



**Antonia Moropoulou**

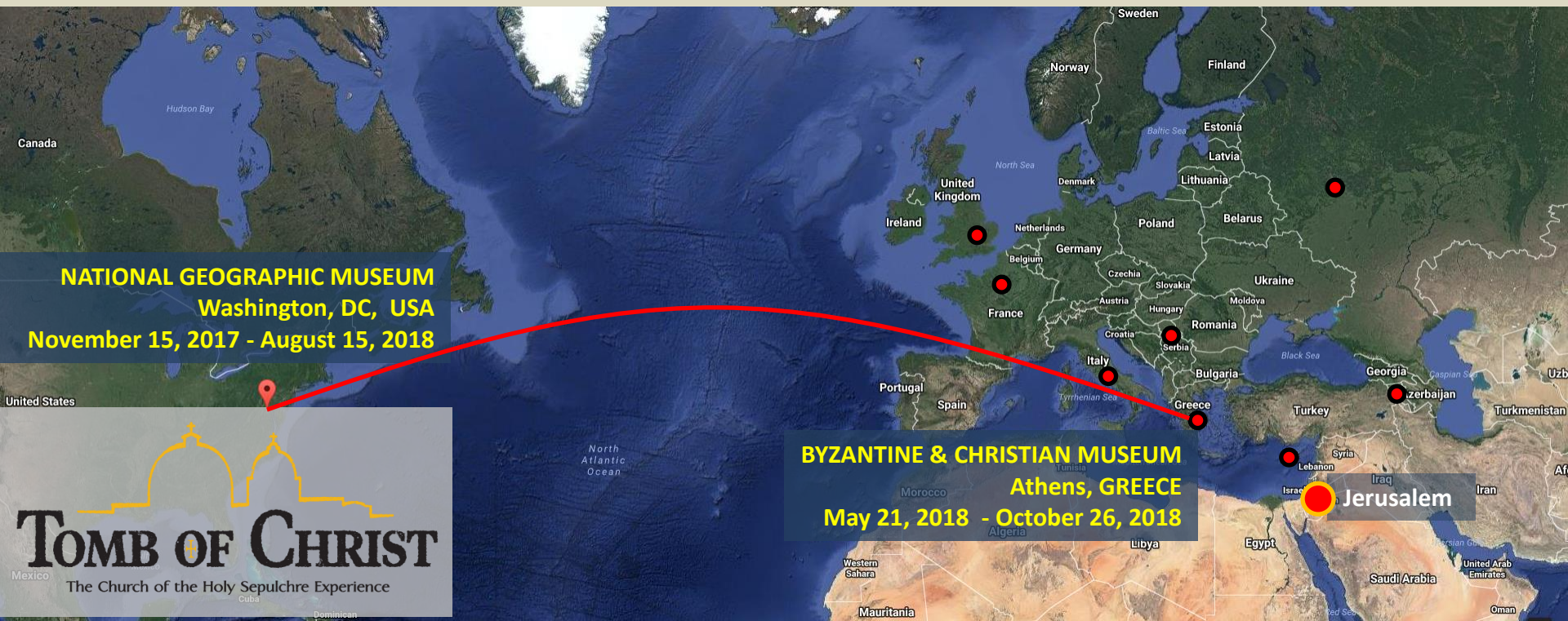
Chief Scientific Supervisor  
National Technical University of Athens

**Fredrik Hiebert**,  
*National Geographic  
Archaeologist-in-  
Residence*

# CULTURAL HERITAGE BEYOND BORDERS

## DIGITAL EXPERIENCE EXHIBITION

The digital solutions and multi layer data innovations in the rehabilitation of the Holy Aedicule are presented in emblematic museums all over Europe and the World towards creating a modern, open and pluralistic society building on Europe's cultural diversity, creativity and respect of creators' rights and its values, in particular democracy, religions & values diversifications, freedom of expression and tolerance





# The exemplary project of the Holy Aedicule rehabilitation

The Holy Aedicule is a monument of unique value for the Christian World and not only, **emblematic for the values it transmits to humanity across borders**

It is an **achievement which** highlights Greek and European Know-how, Innovation and Expertise in **the field of cultural heritage protection**

Through the interest & media coverage it attracted, it demonstrates Greece and Europe's position as a **world leader in the digital transformation of the Cultural Heritage "Industry"**

It can function as a **flagship** for Europe in relation to objectives related to **digitally-driven interdisciplinary cultural heritage protection**

As demonstrated in the rehabilitation of the Holy Aedicule, **Cultural Heritage** has a potential to tear down walls, borders and stereotypes by **fostering dialogue and freedom in exchange of ideas, practices and people.**

The Holy Aedicule rehabilitation project, as well as the social accessibility achieved, highlights the role of Cultural Heritage protection in contributing to **cultural, religious and social inclusion and openness towards a multicultural and tolerant World.**

# EDICULA

Educational Digital Innovative Cultural heritage related Learning Activities

Project Code: 2020-1-EL01-KA203-079108



**NATIONAL TECHNICAL  
UNIVERSITY OF  
ATHENS**  
[GREECE]



**SAPIENZA  
UNIVERSITA DI  
ROMA**  
[ITALY]



**BEZALEL ACADEMY  
OF ARTS AND  
DESIGN**  
[ISRAEL]

**PerpetielSI SRL**

**PERPETIELSI SRL**  
[ROMANIA]



**ISRAEL  
ANTIQUITIES  
AUTHORITY**  
[ISRAEL]



**HELLENIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
OF THE ALEXANDRIAN  
CIVILIZATION**  
[GREECE]

## KNOWHOW TRANSFER

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union







## OBJECTIVES

- **dissemination through education** of the interdisciplinary and innovative research and know-how developed in the rehabilitation of the **Holy Aedicule** under NTUA leadership
- **cooperation between NTUA, UNIROMA1, BEZ, IAA, HRIAC** and promote **transdisciplinarity as an educational lever**
- **advanced educational material** and dissemination by using **AR**, through cooperation with **PerpetielSI**
- **reform the curricula of the postgraduate programs (NTUA, UNIROMA1, BEZ)** that will lead to the promotion of a **Joint Master Degree** in the field of protection of monuments
- develop the **EDICULA Teachers' Course**
- organization of **multiplier events**, such as (i) **hands-on events in Jerusalem and Alexandria**, (ii) **special conference sessions** in Athens
- **promote** students to a **professional and entrepreneurship mentality**,



# EDICULA PROJECT STRUCTURE

## EDICULA project Management and Implementation

## Transnational Project Meetings

Kick-off Meeting  
21.10.2020

Review Meeting 1  
12.2021

Review Meeting 2  
03.2022

Final Project Meeting  
02.2023

**O1: EDICULA  
EDUCATIONAL  
TOOLKIT**

**O2: EDICULA  
CURRICULA  
REFORMATION**

**O3: EDICULA  
HANDS-ON  
FRAMEWORK**

**O4: EDICULA  
DIGITAL  
GAMES**

**O5: EDICULA  
SYNTHESIS**

**MULTIPLIER  
EVENTS**

*E1: The Holy Sepulchre  
Hands-on Experience*

03.2022

*E2: The Alexandria  
Immersive Experience*

06.2022

*E3: EDICULA Special Session - TMM\_CH Conf.*

Panel discussion 1:  
*The Holy Sepulchre rehabilitation project:  
An emblematic source of Innovation*

Panel discussion 2:  
*Novel Educational Approach for the Preservation  
of Cultural Heritage*

12.2021

**EDICULA  
Teachers' Course**  
02.2023





**Transfer of Know-How  
→ contributes to the  
future trends of Cultural  
Heritage preservation at  
large**

**Social Accessibility /  
Narration**

**Diffusion of  
Innovation**

**Holy Sepulchre  
project**