



Gennadeion News

A SPECIAL INSERT TO THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES AT ATHENS

Gennadeion Acquires Rare Turkish Naval History

Another rarity has joined the collections of the Gennadius Library: the *Tuhfet ül-kibâr fi esfâr il-bihâr* ("A gift to the Great concerning naval expeditions," i.e., Maritime wars of the Turks) by Mustafa Ibn Abdallah, also known as Katib Chelebi or Haji Khalife. The book was printed in Constantinople in 1141 A.H. (*anno Hegirae*; i.e., 1729 A.D.). Bound in gilt calf, it has 84 leaves printed in Ottoman Turkish, five double-page engraved plates (four maps and a diagram of two mariners' compasses), and underlinings and marginal notes in Arabic in red and black. The plates were engraved by a journeyman engraver from Vienna who had been persuaded to come to Constantinople. The four maps illustrate the Eastern and Western hemispheres, the Mediterranean littoral from Gibraltar



"Map of Greece" from the book *Tuhfet ül-kibâr fi esfâr il-bihâr*.

Collection of the Gennadius Library

to Palestine, the Aegean Sea, and the Adriatic Sea.

Printed in an edition of 1000 copies, the work is the first illustrated Turkish printed book,

from the first Muslim press to be established in Constantinople.

Composed in 1656, it is a compilation whose main section is a history of the Ottoman navy and

naval wars, from the conquest of Constantinople to wars of the author's own time, such as those against Rhodes and Negropont. It includes an introductory geographical summary of conditions around the Balkans and the Black Sea, a chronological list of all Ottoman admirals, a description of the administrative organization of the navy and dockyards, ships in the Ottoman navy, and their equipment and maintenance, with suggestions for improvement.

Almost 100 years after the publication of the original edition, James Mitchell published an English translation of it under the title *The history of the maritime wars of Turks, translated from the Turkish of Haji Khalifeh* (London, 1831), but only chapters 1 through 4 were included. ❁

— Sophie Papageorgiou, Librarian

East Wing Renovations and Expansion Underway

The President of Greece, Constantine Stephanopoulos, tapped into place the cornerstone for Cotsen Hall in the February 9 groundbreaking ceremony for Phase II, part of the Gennadius Library's campaign for renovation and expansion. In addition to Lloyd E. Cotsen, other major donors will be honored in the Main Building and East Wing. The new Rare Book Reading Room will take the name of the late John B. Mandilas, thanks to the generous support of KOSMOCARS S.A.; the extension to the Main Reading Room will be named in memory of the late Dory Papastratou, due to the generosity of her family; and the Seminar Room in the Main Building will memorialize Mary and Stratos Athanassiades, thanks to a generous gift from Elaine and Ted Athanassiades and family.

(See page G2 for more photos from the event.)



President Stephanopoulos places the cornerstone.

Photo: Spiros Anagnostopoulos

Gennadeion Archives Acquire New Collections

“Obsessed by the Cataclysm”

The papers of poet Takis Sinopoulos, whose poetry is infused with the melancholy and trauma of war, have finally come to rest in the Gennadeion Archives, a bequest of his widow, Maria Sinopoulou. One of the most admired and honored Greek poets, Takis Sinopoulos (1917–1981) was a doctor by profession. His poetry drew often on the traumatic experience of the Italian War (1940–1941), the German-Italian occupation (1941–1944), and the Greek Civil War (1945–1949). According to Kimon Friar, who has translated into English a selection of poems, under the title *Landscape of Death*, Sinopoulos in all his poetry “remained obsessed by the cataclysmic events of those years . . . The world is depicted as a ravaged land of black cypress trees, inhabited by the ‘wandering dead,’ where the sea has turned to stone . . .” His poetic collections include *Midpoint* (1951), *Cantos* (1953), *Acquaintance with Max* (1956), *Night and Counterpoint* (1959), *Deathfeast* (1972), and *Chronicle* (1975). Composer Mikis Theodorakis has set some of Sinopoulos’ poetry to music.

— Natalia Vogeikoff-Brogan,
Archivist



“Once upon a time there was a lonely man named Theodore. . . until he found his companion . . . music.”

This is how Theodore Vavayiannis describes himself and his association with music on one of his albums, among the items now housed in the Archives of the Gennadius Library.

In 1999 the papers of Theodore Vavayiannis, conductor of the Athens State Orchestra dur-

ing the period 1942–1969, were given to the Gennadius Library by his widow, Ypatia. These materials now reside in archival boxes and enclosures. The contents of the boxes are organized in seven series, which include: photographs of his professional life (1925–1988); programs, newspaper clippings, and engagement contracts; honorary awards; musical scores, books, and magazines, with references to both Vavayiannis and Dimitris Mitropoulos; and memorials to Dimitris Mitropoulos, covering the period 1936–1961 and including 36 letters from Mitropoulos to Vavayiannis.

Theodore Vavayiannis was a very talented conductor who began his musical career at age 14, when he enrolled in the Athens Conservatory. His professional education began in 1929 when, while he was still a student, Dimitris Mitropoulos took him on as his assistant and pupil. Mitropoulos was then Leading Director of the Symphony Orchestra of the Athens Conservatory. Vavayiannis was one of the rare students who knew from the beginning that he would become a conductor. Mitropoulos’ respect for Vavayiannis’ talent and commitment to his goal fostered a relationship between the two that lasted until the former’s death.

Just before World War II, at about the same time Mitropoulos left Greece to pursue a career abroad, Vavayiannis left for Berlin with a one-year scholarship to study at the Hochschule für Musik. He returned to Greece in 1940 and was soon commissioned, officially for the first time, to conduct the Athens Conservatory Orchestra. In 1942 the orchestra was renamed The Athens State Orchestra and Vavayiannis was given the position of Second Director, later to

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Gennadeion Groundbreaking: A Photo Gallery



Director of the School, James D. Muhly, and President of the Gennadius Library, Catherine Vanderpool, break ground for the East Wing.

Photo: Spiros Anagnostopoulos



Haris Kalligas, Director of the Gennadius Library, describes the Phase II plans to President Stephanopoulos.

Photo: Marie Mauzy



The groundbreaking service is led by monks from the nearby monastery, Moni Petrakos, donor of the land on which the School built the Gennadius Library.

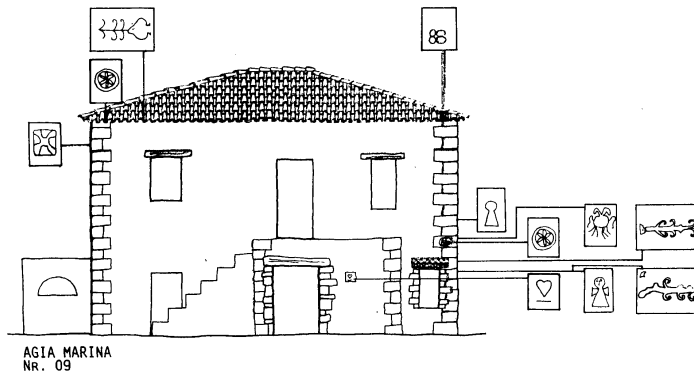
Photo: Spiros Anagnostopoulos

Exhibition, Catalogue Illuminate Peloponnese

Thanks to an NEH Senior Research Fellowship, Frederick A. Cooper, Professor at the University of Minnesota and Mellon Professor at the American School from 1982 to 1985, spent four months in Athens at the Gennadius Library this past year completing a catalogue, *Vernacular Architecture of the Northwest Peloponnesos*, and mounting an exhibition at the Library, as he describes here.

From 1991 to 2000, I directed the Morea Project, a survey of vernacular architecture in the northwest Peloponnese which comprises villages and abandoned settlements dating from 1204, start of the Frankish period, to the mid-twentieth century. For 10 summer field seasons, professional scholars and crews of 10 to 15 undergraduate and graduate students worked under me to record architectural data on computer-applicable field sheets.

The result is a corpus of over 3,500 buildings in 153 villages and 19 medieval kastro sites. The crews also used geographic information system (GIS) technologies for mapping the villages and sites and adopted universal transverse mercator (UTM) for georeferencing every plan. These technologies led to digitized elevation models for each site surveyed and for the entire re-



Agia Marina (Achaia), House 9.

gion of the Morea Project, with Arc/Info (GIS) files generating graphics from the database. In this format, the results of the Morea Project were, and continue to be, queried in an infinite number of ways, resulting in fresh points of view. Classified images obtained by spectral analysis using tapes from the LANDSAT 4 satellite and ERDAS

software led to the discovery of several of our most important and early Frankish kastro sites, such as Misovouni in Achaia. This branch of remote sensing has come to be known as phytoarchaeology.

This past spring, the results of our work were published in *Vernacular Architecture of the Northwest Peloponnesos*, a bilingual

corpus of all the surveyed villages and abandoned sites and their buildings. In addition to many illustrations and maps, the publication includes analytical essays by Kostis Kourelis, Helen Bradley Foster, Mary B. Coulton, Joseph D. Alcherms, and myself. The accompanying exhibition opened in May at the Gennadius Library, thanks to the cooperation of Director Haris Kalligas. It travels to the new Chlemoutzi Museum, Patras, in August, through the kind support of Dimitris Athanasoulis, epemelete of the Patras Byzantine Ephoreia. In October, it moves to the University of Minnesota–Weisman Art Museum, and then probably to Connecticut College.

For her support and for encouraging the Morea Survey throughout a decade, most special thanks go to Maria-Mirto Georgopoulou, Director of the Patras Byzantine Ephoreia. ❀

New Collections

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become Leading Director, General Director, and Archivist. During his career he worked with distinguished musicians in Greece and in cities abroad, where he conducted more than 50 concerts. A forced retirement during the dictatorship of 1969 ended his career with the Athens Orchestra, as well as his long-time teaching position at the Athens Conservatory.

Vavayiannis is remembered not only as a fine musician, but also as a teacher who helped many talented students rise through the musical world. He died in 1988 at the age of 83.

Vavayiannis rarely conducted with a score—an ability he acquired while studying under

Mitropoulos, who encouraged his presence at all rehearsals and performances for the purpose of learning the music by heart. He also rarely used the baton. Following in the steps of Mitropoulos, his love of modern music led him to present many new works both in Greece and abroad. Stravinsky, Schonberg, and Hindemith were frequently performed. Among Greek composers were Palantios, Konstantinidis, and Nezeritis.

Letters that Mitropoulos sent to Vavayiannis during the years 1936 and 1940–1959 reveal the great affection and respect both men had for each other. Most of the letters show Mitropoulos' continuing concern for his former student. For example, when Vavayiannis was asked to

give a concert in Washington D.C., with the Symphony Orchestra, in 1955, Mitropoulos wrote offering his assistance and advice. In another letter, dated November 17, 1959, Mitropoulos reveals his concerns about Vavayiannis' decision to take the position of General Director and Archivist of the Athens State Orchestra, in addition to the post of Leading Director he already held—a position Vavayiannis ultimately accepted, despite Mitropoulos' advice, and held until his retirement. Unfortunately, the letters that Vavayiannis wrote in response are not preserved in the Mitropoulos archive. ❀

— Constance Zavos, Assistant to the Archives at the Gennadius Library



Theodore Vavayiannis carrying the ashes of Dimitris Mitropoulos (1961).

Photo: Archives of the Gennadius Library

Gennadius News

Gennadeion Gardens Focus of Stateside Events

Gennadius Library friends and family joined Ambassador of Greece and Mrs. Alexander Philon to celebrate Clean Monday at Estiatorio Milos in New York City on March 18. The evening raised funds for the renovations to the Library's gardens, thanks to the energetic support of Trustees Ted Athanassiades, Mike Keeley, Nassos Michas, Leo Milonas and Alex Zagoreos. It was also an opportunity for guests to honor the Philons, staunch supporters of the Library's campaign for renovation and expansion. Among the attendees were Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Anagnos, Mrs. Themis Hades, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Jaharis, Mrs. Maria Lyras, Mr. and Mrs. Loucas Tsilas, Mr. Elias Sitanas, Mr. Constantine Tsitsera, and Mr. and Mrs. Sotirios Vahaviolos.

Mrs. Philon, who serves on the Board, chairs the Trustees' garden committee. In May, she and Ambassador Philon hosted a dinner party at the Greek Embassy in Washington to honor the Gennadius Library and to introduce to the guests Laurie Olin, founding partner of The

Olin Partnership, his partner, Dennis McGlade, and Associate Cricket Brien, who are working on the garden's Master Plan. It was also the Philons' last formal dinner party in Washington. Since then, they have returned to Athens, where Ambassador Philon will assume new responsibilities in Greece's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



While in Athens...

In March, Athenian Trustees Apostolos Doxiades, Loucas Kyriacopoulos, Lana Mandilas, Margarita Samourkas, Elias Stassinopoulos, and the President of the Library, Catherine Vanderpool hosted a dinner party in the Library's Main Reading Room in honor of the United States' new Ambassador to Greece, Thomas Miller, and his wife, Bonnie. Among those on hand to welcome the ambassadorial couple were Mr. and Mrs. Mario Dalleggio, Mr. and Mrs. Dimitris Daskalopoulos, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Fessas, Mr. and Mrs. Anastassios Kallitsantis, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Karatzas, Mr. and Mrs. Panos Laskaridis, Mr. and Mrs. Constantine Loulis, and Mr. and Mrs. Minas Tanes. ✂



Clean Monday celebrants, from right: Helen Philon, wife of Ambassador Alexander Philon; and Olin Partnership attendees Dennis McGlade, Cricket Brien, Laurel Holtzapple, and Clare Mitchell.

Photo: Carol Yam

Library Hosts Bookbinding Exhibition

The international association Les Amis de la Reliure d'Art (ARA), encompassing professionals and connoisseurs alike in the world of bookbinding, is organizing the VII^e Forum International de la Reliure d'Art in Athens, November 21–24, 2002. The Gennadius Library has been invited to host two lectures as well as an exhibition of some of the Library's rare bindings, among the finest of their kind. The exhibition will be curated by well-known bookbinder Evangelia Tzanetatou, who will also collaborate with the Library on the accompanying catalogue, an important addition to the publications of the Library's collection.

For further information, contact Head Librarian Sophie Papageorgiou at Spapageorg@ascsa.edu.gr.

Tribute to Coulson Highlights Philoi Events

For over twenty years, the *Philoi*, or Friends, of the Gennadius Library have served as a support group for the Library. Each year, under the leadership of their President, now Stella Chrysochou, the *Philoi* organize an active calendar of lectures and events for their members.

The late William D.E. Coulson, Director of the ASCSA from 1987 to 1997, was remembered in a November lecture inaugurating the winter series. In his honor, guest speaker Thomas Brogan, Director of the INSTAP Study Center for East Crete, spoke on the work of American scholars in eastern Crete, among whom Mr. Coulson had figured prominently for many years.

In December, the General Secretary of the *Philoi*, Anthe Valsamaki, an icon painter of note, led the *Philoi* on a guided tour of the Byzantine collection of the Benaki Museum. The Byzantine heritage also figured in the January lecture by Agamemnon Tselikas, paleographer and specialist on the Byzantine period. Mr. Tselikas shared his knowledge of the manuscripts preserved in the libraries of the Patriarchates of Alexandria and Jerusalem. That same evening also saw the traditional cutting of

the *Philoi's* New Year's *vassilopita* in the presence of many friends and Trustees of the Library.

The month of February, which began with the groundbreaking for the Library's East Wing renovations and expansion, closed with Ioannes Mazarakis-Ainian, General Secretary of the Historical and Ethnological Society of Greece, speaking at the Library's annual event in memory of John Gennadius. Mr. Mazarakis-Ainian presented a lecture originally delivered by Gennadius in 1925, discussing the Greek cultural centers that existed during the last two centuries of Turkish dominion.

In March, the *Philoi* visited the rare collections of the Library of the Benaki Museum. Spring activities also included a May talk by Fani-Marie Tsigakou, Curator of Prints and Drawings at the Benaki Museum, on the Greece of Edward Lear, as well as an excursion to Alexandria, Egypt, and a visit to that city's new library. ✂

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