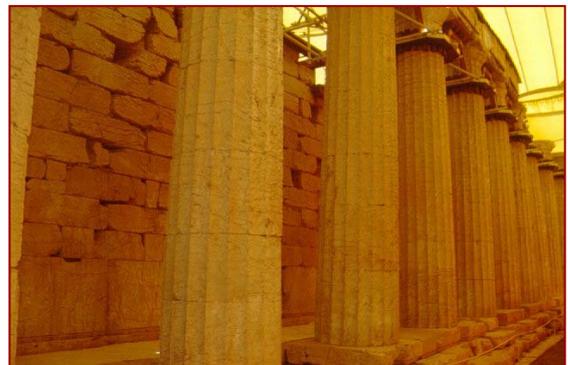


Temple of Apollo Epicurius at Bassai

Engineering geological conditions and problem:

- It is a Doric peripteral temple made from local light grey (Upper Cretaceous) limestone, and consists of a prodome and a cella. It is orientated north to south. In the cella there was a column with a corinthian capital, which is the oldest known example of its kind.
- The monument is mainly built using a limestone.
- The main problem is related to the weathering due to the rainwater activity and to the damage of the building stones due to the frost action and the wide range changes of temperature.



Protection measures already have been taken or have to be taken:

- In 1902, the 1st Archaeological society of Athens began systematic archaeological research of the area, under the direction of K.Kourouniotis, with the assistance of K.Romaios and P.Kavvadias. It was continued in 1959, 1970 and from 1975-1979, under the direction of N.Gialouris.
- Small scale restorations have been carried out by the civil engineer N.Balanos and professor H.Bouras. More recently, research has been completed, by the Committee of the Temple of Epicurean Apollo, for the restoration of the temple.
- At the present time conservation work on the temple is being done under the supervision of the Committee of the Epicurean Apollo, which is based in Athens.



Other information:

- It is the first nearly complete temple still surviving, with for the the first time, all three architectural styles: Doric, Ionian and Corinthian. The temple was erected on a raised area, 1,131m, called the 'Bassai', meaning little vale in the rocks.

References on studies already performed:

- THEOULAKIS, P. & KOUZELI, K. (1988). Provenance of the building materials of the Temple of Apollo Epicurius at Bassai, Greece. Proc. Int. Symp. of IAEG on «The Engineering Geology of Ancient Works, Monuments and Historical Sites», Balkema Edt., Athens, pp. 661-665.
- BELOGIANNIS, N. & THEOULAKIS, P. (1988). Causes and mechanism of stone alteration at the Temple of Apollo Epicurius at Bassai, Greece. Proc. Int. Symp. of IAEG on «The Engineering Geology of Ancient Works, Monuments and Historical Sites», Balkema Edt., Athens, pp. 763-770.
- 7th EPHORATE: Reports on conservation activities