Arsakeion Hall

The building complex that occupies one of the largest building blocks in the center of Athens and is defined by Stadiou, Pesmazoglou, Panepistimiou and Arsaki streets is known as "Arsakeion Megaro" or "Arsakeion Hall", it is one of the most authentic examples of public Athenian architecture of 19th century with an uninterrupted history from the year of construction of the first building in 1846 until today. The complex was created by the Educational Society as a Girls' School, based on plans by the architect Lysandros Kavtantzoglou.

Its current form is the result of numerous architectural interventions and expansions, the last one in 1996 with the housing in part of this of the «Council of State" and the "Book Stoa" with the "Karolos Koun Art Theater" in place of the old "Orfea" cinema ''.

Unfortunately today, apart from the sections that house the "Council of State" and the "Art Theatre", the rest of the complex, which housed commercial uses, has fallen into withering and abandonment.

BETAPLAN has executed the complete Architectural restoration study of the facades of the complex and the complete internal layout and decoration of the spaces of the "Arsakio Stoa" the "Book Stoa" and the overlying outdoor space of the "Atrium".

The building program includes the conversion of the abandoned premises of the complex with a total area of 13,000 m2 into a multi-purpose Food Hall, commercial shops and cultural facilities.

In total, it is planned to create 22 food oriented and commercial stores, with an operational area of 300m2-1,000m2 each and supporting areas for the operation of the shops and common areas.

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The interactive "Europa Experience" Museum will operate in the area of the "Book Stoa"and the entrance to the "Art Theater of Karolos Koun" will be upgraded. A new cafe-restaurant will be created in the area of the "Atrium" and the entire outdoor area will be upgraded.

Mezzanines have been created in all the stores due to the large available height they have and the accesses have been rethought so that all areas of the complex are completely accessible to people with mobility difficulties.

Completion of the project is expected in the summer of 2025.

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