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EDWARD ELIOPOULOS PHOTOGRAPHS OF MANI, GREECE, 1958-1980

Location: ICFA Stacks
Identifier: PH.BZ.019
Name of Creator: Eliopoulos, Edward (1914-?)
Title: Edward Eliopoulos Photographs of Mani, Greece, 1958-1980
Inclusive Dates: 1958-1980
Language: English
Quantity: 93 black and white mounted photographic prints in the Black and White Mounted Photograph Collection; 1 box of 105 color photographic prints and 1 black and white photographic print

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The collection comprises 199 photographic prints by Edward Eliopoulos documenting Byzantine churches in Mani, Greece. Eliopoulos produced black and white photographs and color slides during his frequent visits to Mani between 1958 and 1980. Included are 94 black and white photographs and 105 color photographs. The photographs depict 17 churches in Mani, including their architecture, interior wall paintings, some sculptural details, and the surrounding landscape. Eliopoulos photographed sites dating from various historical periods, but the collection materials focus on churches dating roughly to the Middle Byzantine period, from ca. 900-1250.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Edward Eliopoulos was born in 1914. He was a member of the Greek Resistance during the Second World War and fled southwest from the area of Githion, into Mani, the southernmost tip of the Peloponnese. This was his first encounter with the region. Eliopoulos, mostly based in Athens, began photographing the architectural monuments, landscape, and inhabitants of Mani in 1958. He would explore Mani almost every month of the year, spending a whole week each month searching for sites to photograph. His documentation and research culminated in a collaboration with historian Peter Greenhalgh to write a historical and practical guidebook entitled Deep Into Mani: Journey to the Southern Tip of Greece. The goal of the publication was to encourage visitors to witness the rich and varied cultural heritage of the area, much of which had undergone significant deterioration. Together, Eliopoulos and Greenhalgh traveled through Mani in the summer of 1980. Eliopoulos provided his photographs to illustrate the text written by Greenhalgh. They considered Mani to be the most fascinating region of the Peloponnese, possessing historical sites from various time periods under Spartan, Roman, Byzantine, Frankish, Venetian and Ottoman rule, which were relatively understudied.

Over the years, Eliopoulos produced over 5,000 images documenting the Mani region, and exhibited selections of his photographs at the University of London, the Archaeological Association of Athens, and the Institut d’Art et d’Archéologie at Paris-Sorbonne University. Eliopoulos inspired his niece, Dora Eliopoulou-Rogan, to write a book entitled Mani: History and Monuments, also illustrated with his photographs.
EDWARD ELIOPOULOS PHOTOGRAPHS OF MANI, GREECE, 1958-1980

Eliopoulos later resided in Dionisos, Greece.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition information
One hundred and fourteen (114) black and white prints were acquired from Eliopoulos in 1970-1972 by Susan Boyd, former Assistant Curator of the Photograph Collection (now ICFA). However, a selection of the photographs were returned to Eliopoulos due to their poor print quality, leaving a physical count of ninety-three (93) black and white prints that were actually incorporated into the Black and White Mounted Photograph Collection (PH.BZ.001) and one (1) loose print in ICFA’s backlog. Some of the photographs were created on commission. In 1970, the Photograph Collection (now ICFA) at Dumbarton Oaks began its relationship with Eliopoulos by acquiring a selection of Eliopoulos’s black and white photographs that depicted Byzantine architecture and wall painting. Photograph Collection staff also commissioned Eliopoulos to comprehensively photograph particular monuments such as the Church of Hagios Stratigos in Boularioi and the Church of Episkopi. Advancement in printing technology led to a later donation of color photographs in 2004, which documented various Byzantine churches and were printed from Eliopoulos’s personal collection of large format color slides produced between 1958 and 1980.

In 2007, Eliopoulos sent an additional donation of photographs to Alice-Mary Talbot, Director of Byzantine Studies at the time. A binder filled with seventy-eight (78) color photographs was received on January 25, 2004; an additional twenty-seven (27) color photographs was received in March 2004. The lack of technology in the 1970s to produce good quality prints from large format color slides led to the thirty year delay of the acquisition of the color prints. A Deed of Gift for the 2004 donation was signed by Eliopoulos and Shelia Klos, Director of the Library (1999-2015).

Processing information
A preliminary inventory and cataloguing of the color photographs in EmbARK was completed in 2004 by Smiljka Soretic, former Assistant to the Photograph Collection (now ICFA). Upon assessment of the collection by Jessica Cebra, ICFA Departmental Assistant, in November 2014, the majority of the photographs were found housed in plastic sleeves and stored in a red binder. An additional folder of loose photographs was also included in the binder. Cebra located an additional 93 black and white photographs by Eliopoulos in the Black and White Mounted Photograph Collection (PH.BZ.001), as well as 1 loose photograph in ICFA’s backlog. Since all of the Eliopoulos photographs depicted churches in Mani, Greece, Cebra compiled a comprehensive site list for both the color and black and white photographs to reflect the larger body of Eliopoulos’s work. Cebra created two (2) series to separate the black and white photographs, which were an earlier acquisition in the 1970s, from the color photographs acquired in 2004. The color photographs were grouped and arranged alphabetically by location and by church name, and then re-housed in one box.

Condition on Access and Use
Access to the collection is unrestricted and is available for research purposes. Duplication of the collection may be governed by copyright and other restrictions.
EDWARD ELIOPOULOS PHOTOGRAPHS OF MANI, GREECE, 1958-1980

Physical Access
Appointment is required for access because researcher space is limited: http://www.doaks.org/icfa-appointment-request-form. For research queries, contact the staff of Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives (icfa@doaks.org).

Preferred Citation

INDEX TERMS

Names
Eliopoulos, Edward; Heliopoulos, Edward

Places
Greece
   Peloponnese
      Mani\(^{16}\)
         Bouliarioi, Bouliarii, Ano Bouliarioi;\(^{17}\)
            Church of Hagios Panteleimon
            Church of Hagios Stratigios
      Drosopigi;\(^{18}\) Drosopi; Dhrosopi; Tserova
            Church of Hagios Georgios; Hagios Georgios of Old Karioupolis
      Dryalos; Dhrialos\(^{19}\)
            Church of Hagios Georgios
      Episkopi\(^{20}\)
            Church of Episkopi
      Erimos\(^{21}\)
            Church of Hagia Varvara
      Gklezi; Gklezou; Glezos\(^{22}\)
            Church of Hagios Petros
            Church of the Taxiarchis
      Kafiona\(^{23}\)
            Church of Hagioi Theodoroi
      Kato Gardenitsa;\(^{24}\) Kato Gardhenitsa;\(^{25}\) Gardenitsa
            Church of Hagios Petros
            Church of Hagios Soter
      Koita;\(^{26}\) Kitta
            Church of Hagioi Asomatoi
            Church of Hagios Prokopios
      Mezapos, Mézapos\(^{27}\)
            Church of Panagia Agitria; Church of Saint Agetria
      Ochia; Okhia\(^{28}\)
            Church of Hagios Nikolaos; Church of Hagios Petrakis
      Tsopakas\(^{29}\)
EDWARD ELIOPOULOS PHOTOGRAPHS OF MANI, GREECE, 1958-1980

Church of Trisakia; Church of Trissakia; Hagios Theodoros; Church of the Trinity
Vamvaka, Vambaka
Church of Hagios Theodoros

Subjects
Architecture
Photography
Sculpture
Wall painting

COLLECTION ARRANGEMENT

The collection is divided into two (2) series. The first series includes black and white photographic prints that were acquired between 1970 and 1972 and incorporated into the Black and White Mounted Photograph Collection (PH.BZ.001). The second series includes color photographic prints that were acquired in 2004. All images illustrate Byzantine churches in Mani, Greece.

SERIES 01 BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS OF CHURCHES IN MANI, GREECE, CA. 1958-1972

The first series contains ninety-three (93) black and white photographic prints mounted to boards with descriptive labels, and one (1) additional loose print. The mounted prints are incorporated into the Black and White Mounted Photograph Collection (PH.BZ.001), and they depict architecture, wall painting, and sculptural features of Byzantine churches in Mani, Greece. Most of the images depicting the Church of Hagios Stratigos in Boularioi and the Church of Episkopi were specifically commissioned for the Black and White Photograph Collection.

SERIES 02 COLOR PHOTOGRAPHS OF CHURCHES IN MANI, GREECE, CA. 1958-1980

The second series contains one hundred and five (105) color photographic prints that were made from Eliopoulos' personal collection of color slides. All photographic prints in this series have been signed by the photographer on the verso. Please refer to the collection inventory spreadsheet for descriptive information.

COLLECTION INVENTORY AND DESCRIPTION

SERIES 01 BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS OF CHURCHES IN MANI, GREECE, CA. 1958-1972

The black and white mounted photographs for this collection are available in these boxes within the Black and White Mounted Photograph Collection (PH.BZ.001): Architecture 62, Architecture 63, Wall Painting 54, Wall Painting 54A, Wall Painting 55, Wall Painting 56, and Sculpture 44A.
EDWARD ELIOPOULOS PHOTOGRAPHS OF MANI, GREECE, 1958-1980

One (1) additional loose photographic print is housed in Series 02, Box 01, Folder 013.

Sites include:

Church of Hagios Stratigos in Boularioi: architecture, wall painting, sculpture.
Near the Church of Hagios Petros in Pyrgos: sculpture.
Church of Hagios Georgios in Dryalos: architecture.
Church of Hagia Varvara in Dryalos: architecture.
Church of Episkopi: architecture, wall painting.
Church of Hagios Georgios of Old Karioupolis: architecture.
Church of Trisakia in Tsopakas: wall painting.

Note: Accession numbers exist only for 13 of the 93 black-and-white prints:
BF.P.0000.007574-.007576; BF.P.2002.002030; BF.P.2002.002032-.002035;
BF.P.2002.002078-.002082 (all in Architecture).

SERIES 02  COLOR PHOTOGRAPHS OF CHURCHES IN MANI, GREECE, CA. 1958-1980

Note: The color photographic prints were originally organized by site and a corresponding number (Nos. 1-17) by Eliopoulos, in no apparent order. The photographic prints were later re-organized alphabetically by site. No. 6 and No. 13 were later identified as the same site, resulting in a total of 16 sites depicted.

Box 01  Color Photographs of Churches in Mani, Greece, ca. 1958-1980

Folder 001  Greek Map of Mani
Inkjet print of old map of Mani (in Greek).

Folder 002  Photographs of the Church of Hagios Panteleimon in Boularioi
Originally labeled “17. Ano Boularioi / Aghios Panteleimon 991AD.” Folder contains six (6) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting wall painting in the Church of Hagios Panteleimon in Boularioi. Folder also includes one (1) black and white inkjet copy of Eliopoulos’ photograph of the exterior architecture, most likely copied from his Mani publication.

Note: Accession numbers: BF.P.2003.000686-.000688; BF.P.2003.001444-.001446.

Folder 003  Photographs of the Church of Hagios Stratigos in Boularioi
Originally labeled “9. Ano Boularioi / Aghios Strategos (at Diporon).” Folder contains eighteen (18) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior
and interior architecture, interior sculpture, and wall painting in the Church of Hagios Stratigos in Boularioi.


Folder 004  Photographs of the Church of Hagios Georgios in Dryalos

Originally labeled “15. Dryalos / Aghios Georgios.” Folder contains four (4) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior architecture and sculptural details of the Church of Hagios Georgios in Dryalos.

Note: Accession numbers: BF.P.2003.000676-.000679.

Folder 005  Photographs of the Church of Hagia Varvara in Erimos

Originally labeled “4. Eremos / Aghia Varvara (1150AD).” Folder contains four (4) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior architecture of the Church of Hagia Varvara in Erimos.

Note: Accession numbers: BF.P.2003.000623-.000626.

Folder 006  Photographs of the Church of Hagios Petros in Kato Gardenitsa

Originally labeled “12. Gardenitsa / Aghios Petros (12th cent.).” Folder contains four (4) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior architecture, a sculptural element, and wall painting of the Church of Hagios Petros in Gardenitsa.

Note: Accession numbers: BF.P.2003.000662-.000665.

Folder 007  Photographs of the Church of Hagios Soter in Kato Gardenitsa

Originally labeled “3. Gardenitsa / Soter (12th cent.).” Folder contains four (4) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior architecture of the Church of Hagios Soter in Gardenitsa.

Note: Accession numbers: BF.P.2003.000619-.000622.

Folder 008  Photographs of the Church of Hagios Petros in Gklezi

Originally labeled “16. Glezos / Aghios Petros (1025AD).” Folder contains six (6) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior and interior architecture, sculptural details, and wall painting of the Church of Hagios Petros in Gklezi.
Note: Accession numbers: BF.P.2003.000680-.000685.

Folder 009 Photographs of the Church of the Taxiarchis in Gklezi

Originally labeled “14. Glezos / Taxiarchis (11th cent.).” Folder contains six (6) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior architecture and sculptural details, including ceramoplastic decoration, of the Church of the Taxiarchis in Gklezi.

Note: Accession numbers: BF.P.2003.000670-.000675.

Folder 010 Photographs of the Church of Hagioi Theodoroi in Kafiona

Originally labeled “1. Kafiona / Aghioi Theodoroi (13th cent.).” Folder contains eleven (11) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior and interior architecture, sculpture, and wall painting of the Church of the Hagioi Theodoroi in Kafiona.

Note: Accession numbers: BF.P.2003.000611-.000616 and BF.P.2003.001520-.001524.

Folder 011 Photographs of the Church of Hagioi Asomatoi in Koita

Originally labeled “8. Kitta / Aghioi Asomatoi (at Kalloni) 10th cent.” Folder contains five (5) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior and interior architecture and sculptural details of the Church of Hagioi Asomatoi in Koita.

Note: Accession numbers: BF.P.2003.000640-.000644.

Folder 012 Photographs of the Church of Hagios Prokopios in Koita

Originally labeled “5. Aghios Georgios 4km. north of Kitta / Aghios Prokopios (9th cent.).” Folder contains five (5) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior and interior architecture and wall painting of the Church of Hagios Prokopios in Koita.

Note: Accession numbers: BF.P.2003.000627-.000631.

Folder 013 Photographs of the Church of Episkopi

Originally labeled “2. Stavri / Episkopi.” Folder contains eleven (11) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior and interior architecture, sculptural details, and wall painting of the Church of Episkopi.39 One (1) additional black and white photograph of wall painting depicting Saint George appearing to the sleeping Theophistos is included.40

Folder 014 Photographs of the Church of Panagia Agitria in Mezapos  
Originally labeled “10. Mezapos / Agetria (13th cent.).” Folder contains five (5) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the surrounding landscape, exterior and interior architecture, and wall painting of the Church of Panagia Agitria in Mezapos.  

Note: Accession numbers: BF.P.2003.000653-.000657.  

Folder 015 Photographs of the Church of Hagios Nikolaos in Ochia  
Originally labeled “7. Ochia / Aghios Petrakis (12th cent.).” Folder contains three (3) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior architecture and sculptural details of the Church of Hagios Nikolaos in Ochia.  

Note: Accession numbers: BF.P.2003.000637-.000639.  

Folder 016 Photographs of the Church of Trisakia in Tsopakas  
Originally labeled “6. Tsopakas / Aghios Theodoros 12th cent.” and “13. Tsopakas / Trissakia.” Folder contains nine (9) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior and interior architecture, interior sculptural details, and wall painting of the Church of Trisakia in Tsopakas.  


Folder 017 Photographs of the Church of Hagios Theodoros in Vamvaka  
Originally labeled “11. Vamvaka / Aghios Theodoros (1075 AD).” Contains four (4) 8” x 12” color photographic prints depicting the exterior architecture and sculptural details of the Church of Hagios Theodoros in Vamvaka.  

Note: Accession numbers: BF.P.2003.000658-.000661.  

BIBLIOGRAPHY  
EDWARD ELIPOULOS PHOTOGRAPHS OF MANI, GREECE, 1958-1980


RELATED ARCHIVAL MATERIALS

Photographs of Mani, Greece by Slobodan Ćurčić, 35 mm slide collection. Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives. Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Washington, D.C.

ENDNOTES

1 Note that ICFA does not have any of Eliopoulos’s original negatives.
2 Note that ICFA does not have any of Eliopoulos’s original slides, from which the color photographs were produced.
3 A letter in the Donor File states that Eliopoulos will be turning 89 years old in November 2003. Donor File for Edward Eliopoulos, Curator’s Office Files, Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives, Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, D.C.
4 [http://vocab.getty.edu/tgn/7012041](http://vocab.getty.edu/tgn/7012041).
7 A letter in ICFA’s curatorial files states that Eliopoulos visited Mani throughout a calendar year, visiting every month and spending a week at a time searching and taking photographs. “Athens: Eliopoulos” folder, Curator’s Office Files, Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives, Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, D.C.
9 Ibid.
10 Ibid., 17-18.
11 A letter in ICFA’s curatorial files states that the 2004 donation of color photographs derives from a much larger collection of 5,000 slides. Eliopoulos also produced black and white negatives in the 1970s. “Athens: Eliopoulos” folder, Curator’s Office Files, Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives, Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, D.C.
EDWARD ELIOPOULOS PHOTOGRAPHS OF MANI, GREECE, 1958-1980

17 http://vocab.getty.edu/tgn/7236606.
20 http://vocab.getty.edu/tgn/7236408.
21 http://vocab.getty.edu/tgn/7236358.
23 http://vocab.getty.edu/tgn/4005518.
25 http://vocab.getty.edu/tgn/7227348.
26 http://vocab.getty.edu/tgn/7228678.
27 http://vocab.getty.edu/tgn/7222428.
29 http://vocab.getty.edu/tgn/7217165.
30 Cataloguing in the Black and White Mounted Photograph Collection (PH.BZ.001).
31 http://vocab.getty.edu/tgn/7221080.
33 http://vocab.getty.edu/aat/300263552.
34 http://vocab.getty.edu/aat/300054225.
35 http://vocab.getty.edu/aat/300047090.
36 http://vocab.getty.edu/aat/300033644.
37 One print was found in ICFAs backlog box #2011-015.
38 Both Gklezi and Pyrgos Dirou have been deemed the location of this church, as it is equidistant from both places. See: http://vocab.getty.edu/tgn/7224079.
39 Eliopoulos often referred to the location of this church as Stavri. See: http://vocab.getty.edu/tgn/7225422.
40 This print was found in ICFAs backlog box #2011-015. A better quality print of the same image is included in the Black and White Mounted Photograph Collection (PH.BZ.001) in the Wall Painting section, box 56.
41 The visible inscriptions in the images are backwards, and notations about the photographs in the Curator’s File record that they were printed in reverse.
42 Please consult with ICFA staff.
43 See the following boxes in the Black and White Mounted Photograph Collection (PH.BZ.001): Architecture 62 and 63; Sculpture 44A; and Wall painting 54, 54A, 55, and 56.