

A written inscription, unfortunately partially destroyed above the south entrance of the main church, provides enough information for the construction and wall painting of the monument. The date was written on the damaged part of the inscription. However, the reference to it by the Metropolitan of Arta allows the placement of the iconography and probably the construction of the church between the years 174- and 1756.



The church was built as a parish and cemetery one of Eleftherochori. The building, according to the inscription on the old pillar of the cemetery enclosure in 1847, reinforces this view of the double function of the church. The church is explicitly mentioned as a parish of Eleftherochori in 1884. After the construction of the church of St. Vissarion, it remains simply a cemetery.

Students of the General High School of Thesprotiko present, with the permission of the Ephorate of Antiquities of Preveza (ΥΠΠΟΑ/ΓΔΑΠΚ/ΕΦΑΠΡΕ/552784/395019/59 53/23.10.2019), the church of St. Athanasios in Philippiada, Preveza



The church is moderately single-nave, wood-roofed with a gyneconite and constructed at the middle of 18th century. Despite the major damage to the building, its proven antiquity combined with the preservation of its original wall paintings make the cemetery an important monument to the wider area. However, it remains unknown in the latest scientific literature.

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The church of Saint Athanasios Filippiada, Preveza

Senior High School of Thesprotiko
"Vasileios Zormpas"

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The church of St. Athanasios belongs to the type of single-nave temple with narthex. Due to the inclination of the ground the floor of the narthex is significantly higher than that of the main temple. Today, the western part of the narthex is shaped into an ossuary. The east and parts of the south and north wall of the narthex near the respective corners are decorated with murals.



The entrance to the main temple is through two arched doors. One is in the middle of its west side and the other is in the south wall near the southwest corner. The interior of the temple was originally lighted only by the small window of the nave of the sanctuary. The floor is paved with mosaic.



The original frescoes are preserved on all the interior surfaces of the temple.



The old wooden iconostasis of the church probably as old as the wall painting was removed and replaced by a simple built, while nowadays there is a new wooden one.

The pillar-bell tower of the temple consists of approximately one square foot plan on which the arched passage of the narrow and low arched gate opens.



The building has two main building phases. The first phase dating back to 1847 belongs to the eastern part of the pedestal with the pillar. It is obvious that the stone wall of the cemetery was also built currently with the pillar. In the second phase, dating back to 1866, the pedestal took its final form and the present bell tower was built.

