LOCATION OF THE VENUE

ATHENS UNIVERSITY HISTORY MUSEUM

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A: Monastiraki Square (metro station)

B: Athens University History Museum
THE ATHENS UNIVERSITY HISTORY MUSEUM

The Athens University History Museum is located in one of the oldest residential buildings still standing in Athens today. It dates before the 18th century and it is situated beneath the imposing heights of the Acropolis with a panoramic view of Plaka, the Ancient Agora, the Athens Observatory and the Lycabettus Hill. The historical building was the home of the architect Stamatios Kleanthis and is also known as the ‘Old University’, since, from 1837 and for four years, it functioned as the first University of the independent Greek state. The Athens University History Museum was inaugurated in 1987, in the context of the celebrations for the 150th Anniversary of the University of Athens. The principal aims of the Museum are the collection, preservation, study, conservation and presentation of the University’s heirlooms. The Museum’s collections consist of books (works by the University's Professors, old and rare editions), manuscripts, diplomas, scientific instruments (for medicine, physics, chemistry, pharmacology), portraits, photographs, medals, seals and University memorabilia.

If one considers the contribution that the University of Athens has made to the development of the scientific, academic, cultural and political life of Greece, particularly in the 19th century, it may be appreciated that in many respects this museum illustrates much more than just the history of the University; it also constitutes an important guide to modern Greek history in general. Additionally, the varied nature of the Museum’s collections makes the visit to the Museum a magical adventure in the world of science, art and history.