



Historic landmark to become research centre

his week restoration work commenced at the District Commissioner's residence in Paphos for the housing of facilities for the Science and Technology in Archaeology Centre (STARC).

In 2007, the Cyprus Institute agreed with Paphos and Yeroskipou municipalities to establish the unit in the district.

Both municipalities have jointly offered sites and facilities for the location of STARC and other activities of the Cyprus Institute including marine research and venues for conferences and summer schools.

In this framework, Paphos

Municipality offered the historic District Commissioner's residence to the Cyprus Institute.

The building dates from the end of the 1930's and combines architectural elements of Tudor Revival. It was designed by William "Willie" Caruana, a prolific Maltese engineer of the Cyprus Public Works Department, whose designs were used in a series of official residences during the same period.

In preparation for its new use, the building will be preserved and restored in order to maintain its historic character. Work on its exterior will focus in the

restoration of the original appearance of its façade.

Its interior will be renovated in a style that will be sensitive to its historic layout while undergoing an upgrade that will enable it to accommodate STARC, as well as conferences, seminars, outreach activities, and summer schools.

Construction is expected to be completed by April 2010. The construction of an underground

auditorium, conference and meeting facilities adjacent to the existing building, is under consideration and is presently at its preliminary design phase.

"The first phase of restora-

tion work at the District Commissioner's residence underlines the Cyprus Institute's commitment to the preservation of a historic landmark," said a spokesperson for the organisation.

STARC is being developed by the Cyprus Institute in partnership with the Centre de Recherché et de Restauration des Musées de France, headquartered at the Louvre Museum.

The centre will be devoted to the introduction, development, and use of advanced scientific methods and technologies in the domains of archaeological research and cultural heritage.



HISTORIC: *The Paphos District Commissioner's residence*