ENGINEERING PROBLEMS
OF THE CONSERVATION, RESTORATION
AND PRESERVATION OF THE SVESHTARI TOMB

KIRIL GEORGIEV

(Summary)

The Thracian tomb near the village of Sveshtari, Isperih district, is a spectacular cultural monument, enlisted in the UNESCO World Heritage List. It is the first monument with such a composition and artistic inventory, discovered in Bulgarian territory. Its conservation set high requirements in front of the investigation and designing team to guarantee constant, quality and final results. It could be achieved only by a multidisciplinary approach to the investigation. During the research work, archaeologists, geodesists, geologists, photographers, art experts, art-restorers, constructors and other specialists participated. The results obtained allowed the designing team, consisting of architects, constructors, specialists in building technologies, climate, electronics, waterworks, seismic, programming, process monitoring and others, to design and apply complete documentation for the conservation and presentation of the tomb. Special notice deserves the way to install the permanent tomb covering — by building it outside on a railway and then moving the construction on it to its proper place.

Special role in the project realization played the building conservation squad of the former detachment of the National Institute for the Cultural Monuments from Varna, as well as the special brigade, which completed the final installation of the coverings. The results are obvious: the Thracian tomb of Sveshtari has been steadily conserved and presented to the following generations.