

ARIT Newsletter

American Research Institute in Turkey



Number 39, Spring 2005

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

ARIT held its Annual Meeting in Philadelphia on January 14-16. We spread the meeting over three days so that the Committee on Fellowships can make their deliberations in two sessions on Friday and Saturday (the first for NEH post-doctoral fellowships, the second for other awards), followed by the meeting of the Board of Directors on Saturday afternoon, and then the general convening of ARIT Delegates on Sunday. I was happy to welcome an unusually high number of new Delegates: Erika Gilson and Şükrü Hanioglu representing Princeton, Ertem Erol from Columbia, Victor Ostapchuk from the University of Toronto, David Schloen from the University of Chicago, and Virginia Aksan, a Delegate-at-Large, from McMasters University. We were also happy, as always, to have Tony Greenwood with us to report on ARIT-Istanbul. Baha Yıldırım, however, was unable to attend from Ankara; he and wife Ayşın had just days earlier welcomed Yunus Yıldırım into the world.

ARIT received a record 99 fellowship applications. We have been watching the numbers rise gradually over the past several years (e.g., 87 last year, 75 the year before that). On the one hand, the increase bodes very well for the health of North American-based research in Turkey. On the other, although our funding sources are generous, the rise is seriously outpacing our ability to support worthy projects. Let us hope that we see improvement to this situation in the coming years.

I am very pleased to announce that the Turkish Cultural Foundation, based in Maryland, has become a new source of support for ARIT programs. For 2005-2006, the Foundation is providing the generous sum of \$15,000 to supplement the Turkish Fellowship Program, administered by the Dernek. The primary aim of the grant is to support pre-doctoral students, although the terms and conditions are generously flexible. I would like to thank the Foundation and its Executive Director, Ms. Güler Köknar, for this most welcome contribution to research in Turkey.

The Turkish Cultural Foundation joins a very special group of private organizations that provide ARIT with generous support for fellowships. They include the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, the Joukowsky Family Foundation, the Turkish-American Friendship Society, and the Friends of ARIT-Istanbul. Further, the Hanfmann Fellowships allow promising young Turkish scholars to pursue study and research outside Turkey. Support from the private sector for other purposes comes primarily from the Friends in Istanbul and Ankara and the North American Friends.

Generous public funding for programs and operations continues to be provided by the Department of State (Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs), the Department of Education (Title VI), and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Our wonderfully able voice in Washington, working in our best interests and always keen to spot new opportunities, is the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (Mary Ellen Lane, Executive Director).

All best wishes and thanks to all who support us in any way.

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G. Kenneth Sams

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ARIT-ISTANBUL BRANCH NEWS

ISTANBUL BRANCH NEWS

It is a great pleasure to report that it has not been an eventful winter or early spring at ARIT Istanbul this year. The winter itself was milder than that of the two previous years, and there were no sharp political or economic shocks in the country to disturb the scholar's routine ferry boat ride from Institute to library or museum, and then back to Institute in the evening for some extra work time in its library, with only the occasional night out for relaxation.

Hostel occupancy has been high in general. Indeed, as we enter the late spring occupancy rates are higher than ever before and portend to be the same throughout the summer. This is partly a reflection of the situation in the city as a whole—we are told there are no rooms to be found in the city's hotels all the way through the end of August. Every organization under the sun seems to be having a conference in Istanbul, not to speak of the European World Cup Championships, Formula One Racing, and other major organizations that in the past have never seemed so eager to operate here.

All of this can be quite trying for scholars more interested in explicating and indeed replicating the pace of 18th-century genteel life on the Bosphorus than in proving that Turkey can indeed handle all the organizational and aesthetic challenges posed by 21st-century popular culture.

Throughout the winter and spring the Institute hosted a **series of lectures** that regularly drew in an audience of thirty to forty persons and provided an opportunity for resident scholars and others working in the city to meet and engage in lively interchange and dialogue, as well as to share a drink or even dinner afterwards. The following is a list of this winter's lectures through April:

Dr. Alicia Simpson (History Department, Koç University) "The Representation of Historical Reality in the Chronicle of Niketas Choniates"

Dr. Kostis Smyrlis (History Department, Boğaziçi University) "The Byzantine Emperor's Control

over the Land: Confiscating Monastic and Church Properties in the Palaiologan Period"

Dr. Jamil Ragep (Department of the History of Science, University of Oklahoma) "The Astronomy of `Ali Qushji and its Possible Role in the Copernican Revolution"

Dr. Aylin Orbaşlı (Senior Lecturer, School of Architecture, Oxford Brookes University) "Archaeological Site Management in Mediterranean Prehistory: Catalhöyük and other Euro-Med Projects"

Dr. Suraiya Faroqhi (History Department, University of Munich) "'Pray to your God for us:' Receiving Alms in the Ottoman Empire"

Dr. Giancarlo Casale (ARIT-NEH Fellow, Professor of History, University of Minnesota) "Sefer Reis, an Ottoman Corsair of the 16th-Century Indian Ocean"

Dr. Günhan Danişman (History, and **Dr. Hadi Özbal**, Chemistry, Boğaziçi University) "An Ottoman Industrial Archaeology Project in Northern Thrace: the Demirköy-Samakocuk Iron Foundry and Mining/Metal Working in its Vicinity"

Over the years one of the most important of ARIT's programs in Turkey has been its **fellowship program for Turkish scholars** at Turkish universities. The fellowships are awarded through the Dernek in a nationally advertised competition with a jury selected every year from Dernek members. The fellowships have a particular importance because of the dearth of research funding, outside of employment itself as a teaching assistant or beginning faculty, to support research by young scholars preparing their Ph.Ds or beginning their academic career. ARIT's own funds, and private funds from the U.S., as well as funds raised by the Friends of ARIT in Istanbul, have provided support for a steady eight fellows a year for many years now, and in one form or another the program has been in continuous existence since the 1970s.

This year we are pleased to have received funding from the **Turkish Cultural Foundation** that allowed us to support almost twice as many fellows as in years past. Turkish Cultural Foundation Fellows were chosen along with our own Dernek fellows from an impressive pool of applicants by our Dernek jury, which this year consisted of **Professor Zafer Toprak** (economic and social history), **Dr. Nuşin Asgari** (classical archaeology), **Professor Nur Balkan-Atlı** (pre-history), and **Professor Alan Duben** (social anthropology). This year's awardees and their projects include:

Türk-Amerikan İlimi Arastırmaları Derneđi Fellows:

Dr. Meryem Acara (Department of Art History, Hacettepe University) "Armenian Mastercraftsmen and Metalworking in 17th and 18th Century Anatolia"

Dr. Turgut Saner and Dr. Zeynep Kuban (Faculty of Architecture, Istanbul Technical University) "An Archaeological and Architectural Survey of the Sacred Spaces at Lake Kiran"

Ömerül Bölükbaşı (History Department, Marmara University) "The Ottoman Imperial Mint in the Second Half of the 18th Century"

Bahattin Çelik (Archaeology Department, Hacettepe University) "Early Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Culture in South Eastern Anatolia in the Light of the Recently Discovered Settlements of Yeni Mahalle, Karahan Tepe, Sefer Tepe and Hamzan Tepe in Urfa"

Aytaç Coşkun (Archaeology Department, Ankara University) "The Apollon Smintheus Temple in Gülpınar"

Didem Danış (Sociology Department, Galatasaray University) "Networks in Mobility: Iraqi Transient Migrants in Istanbul"

Selçuk Dursun (History Department, Sabancı University) "The Fleet, the Forests and the Nation: the Administration of Forest Lands in the Ottoman Empire and the Turkish Republic, 1850-1950"

Betül Ekimci (Faculty of Architecture, Istanbul Technical University) "The Architectural Legacy of the Pious Foundations of Üsküdar"

Turkish Cultural Foundation Fellows:

Dr. Nazlı Çınardalı-Karaslan (Archaeology Department, Hacettepe University) "The Importance for Aegean Archaeology of the Decorative Objects found in the Panaztepe Excavations"

Dr. Bora Uysal (Archaeology Department, Hacettepe University) "The Ninava 5 Ceramics of Girnavaz"

Evren Çelik-Wiltse (International Relations Department, Hacettepe University) "After the Fog of Reform: Prospects for 'Democracy Without Qualifiers' in Mexico and Turkey"

F. Arzu Demirel (Department of Paleoanthropology, Ankara University) "The Small Mammal Taphonomy of the Karain Cave"

Pınar Dost (French Institute of Anatolian Studies in Istanbul) "Turkish Neutrality in World War II: the Westernization Project between a Traditional German Orientation and a new American Orientation (1939-1947)"

R. Eser Kortanođlu (Department of Classical Archaeology, Istanbul University) "The Rock Tombs of Phrygia in the Hellenistic and Roman Periods"

The **ARIT library** continues to grow through the help of its friends as much as from our own limited purchasing budget. Over the past five months we have added eighty-four monographs to the collection.

We owe special thanks to **Tufan Karasu** and the **DAKTAV Foundation** for his donation to ARIT of a large run of his new publication on the maritime sketches on the walls of the Alanya castle, entitled *Alanya Ships: Ship Graffiti in the Medieval Castle*. Scholars with an interest in the publication should apply to the ARIT Istanbul office for a copy. We are also grateful to **Paul and Martha Henze** for their donation of 29 books on Central Asian and Anatolian history, and to the Middle East Documentation Center at the University of Chicago and the editors of *The Mamluk Review* for their donation of a full run of that invaluable journal.

Individuals who have donated to the library during this period include Suraiya Faroqi, Carter Findley, Caroline and Andy Finkel, Roderick Grierson, Gary Leiser, Michael Meeker, Istvan Ormos, and Fariba Zarinbaf-Shahr. I am grateful to each and every one of them.

ISTANBUL FRIENDS OF ARIT NEWS

The winter is never the most active season for the Friends. Poor weather, uncomfortable and insecure travel conditions, lack of foliage and color, and short days all conspire to make it a less than ideal time for visiting monuments and seeing the Turkish countryside. So rather than tours, the Friends are invited to explore Turkey and its past through the variety of lectures offered at the Institute, of which there were seven this past winter (listed above, page 2).

Every winter season does have one premier event, however -- the FARIT Annual Dinner. This year **the 21st Friends of ARIT Annual Dinner** was celebrated in early March with a catered cocktail, dinner and dance in the unique atmosphere of the Ataman's Classic Automobile Club. Over one hundred persons attended the dinner, where close to \$5,000 was raised for the Turkish scholarship fund. We are grateful to Ayşe Ataman for making it possible for us to use this venue.

The one tour of this slow season was a special event led by Byzantine archaeologist **Alessandra Ricci** to two urban sites she has worked at on the Anatolian side of the Bosphorus, one in Samandıra and one in Küçükyalı. The site in **Samandıra**, where what remains are the massive underpinnings of a vast building complex, is smack in the center of an area of rapidly expanding urban sprawl and is under assault from all sides. Even though it is listed as a protected site, the difficulties of preserving it from both private and public encroachment in such an environment were all too clear to see. This contrasted with the site in **Küçükyalı**, once commonly associated with the Palace of Bryas, where through unstinting effort and dialogue with both national ministries and the local government and community, Ricci has managed to have the site declared an archaeological park. She has even enlisted the support of the muhtarlik and local businesses, including the owner of the wonderful Black Sea restaurant where the FARIT group had lunch.

Though the initial struggle to get the Archaeological Park registered has been won, the efforts to see that it is set up and managed in a way that satisfies both the needs of the community, the visitor, and the world, are unend-

ing -- as the Friends witnessed when Alessandra was besieged by local parties interested in immediate and legitimate needs, such as getting proper toilets built on the site immediately, without waiting for the indefinite time it would take to get proper authorizations from the authorities. This was not only a tour of two fascinating and virtually unknown Byzantine sites just outside of Istanbul proper, but also a lesson in the wide range of concerns facing those interested in responsible cultural preservation today.

The Friends activities over the winter resulted in two important contributions to the Institute's activities. One was a donation of \$5,200 to the **Turkish Fellowship fund**. This amount will support one Turkish scholar from a North American institution who will conduct doctoral research here for three months. The other was a **data projector**, the prices of which have finally fallen to such a level that it makes no sense not to get one. Three out of the four lecturers who came after the projector was purchased wanted to use it; obviously its time has come.

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ARIT-ANKARA BRANCH NEWS

ANKARA BRANCH NEWS

During the summer of 2004 we were once again involved in helping archaeological projects sort out permit and representative issues with the General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums (KVMGM) of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. We also closely followed how the **new procedures for direct application** (*doğrudan başvuru*) by individuals applying to do research in Turkey (not as part of an archaeological excavation or survey) would actually work. Much time was spent in consulting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the KVMGM about these new procedures, which are now posted on the ARIT website. The Turkish ministries hope this new system will streamline the application process for individuals and are aware that it will take some time for it to be understood and adopted by the entire bureaucratic hierarchy. Overall we have found that the transition has not been as chaotic as we had initially thought it might be and that in most cases a few consultations tended to clarify matters when there was a question about procedures.

The summer and early fall is also an active period for our fellows as well. **M. E. Kabadayı** and **Dr. A. Candan**, recipients of the **2004 U.S. Department of State – ARIT Aegean Exchange fellowships**, both completed their research in Greece in October and July, respectively. Dr. Candan's study of contemporary interpretations of classical Greek drama and the associated solutions to staging problems included observation of eleven productions held at Epidaurus and Athens, research at the Hellenic Theater Institute and the Blegen Library of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens (ASCSA), as well as an International Symposium on ancient Greek Drama at the European Culture Center of Delphi. Her study grew out of a concern for the lack of ancient Greek drama in the repertoire of Turkish theater, despite having featured prominently in the early decades of the Turkish Republic. She reports, "I have had a most enriching experience in Greece, enjoying the common cultural heritage of two peoples living on the two sides of the Aegean while at the same

time admiring the present day Greek way of living and attitude towards the art of the stage."

Mr. Kabadayı, whose project examined Ottoman industrial policy through the emergence and administration of factory production in the late 19th century, found the Historical Archive of Macedonia in Thessalonika to be an invaluable resource for the social and economic history of the city in the Ottoman period, particularly the religious court records (*şeriyye sicilleri*), the registers of the Court of Commerce of Thessalonika and the registers of the Court of Appeal (*Temyiz Mahkemesi*). At Athens he also benefited from resources at the Center for Asia Minor Studies, the General State Archives, the Benaki Museum, and the Gennadius Library of the ASCSA. In addition, he reported creating new contacts for future projects, especially with the historian Socrates Petmezas from the University of Crete, Rethymno.

The cooperation of the ASCSA is vital to the success of this program and, as reported in the last newsletter, the fellowships were renamed last summer as the **W.D.E. Coulson & Toni Cross Aegean Exchange Program** in honor of the efforts to establish these fellowships by the late directors of the ASCSA and ARIT-Ankara, respectively. The Ankara Branch mailed off the flyer for the **2005 fellowship competition** to over 400 addresses at humanities and social sciences departments at 21 universities as well as institutes in Turkey. The jury for the fellowships this year was held on December 13 at ARIT-Ankara and consisted of myself, Professor Dr. Filiz Çalışlar Yenişehirlioğlu (Dean of Faculty of Fine Arts, Design and Architecture, Başkent University), Dr. Geoffrey Summers (Settlement Archaeology Graduate Program, Institute of Social Sciences, Middle East Technical University), Dr. Eugenia Kermeli (History Department, Bilkent University), and the Cultural Affairs Officer of the U.S. Embassy, Damaris Kirchofer. Of the eleven applications (two doctoral and nine post-doctoral) this year submitted in the fields of archaeology, history, urban planning, art history, and ethnomusicology, the jury selected the following four:

Mr. Baki Demirtaş (Archaeology Department, Ankara University) “A Comparison of the the Technical and Workmanship Characteristics of the Temple of Artemis at Magnesia on the Meander with Four Monuments at Olympia.” Mr. Demirtaş plans to complete an important part of his dissertation research on the Temple of Artemis at Magnesia-on-the-Meander by comparing its technical characteristics and workmanship with monuments at Olympia, including that of Ptolemaios and Arsinoe, a monument next to the Philippeion, a monument between the Temple of Zeus and the Echo-Stoa, and the Palaestra. He expects to spend three weeks at Olympia and three weeks at the ASCSA from May to July 2005.

Ms. Sertaç Erten (Department of City and Regional Planning, Middle East Technical University) “Bidding For Hosting Mega-Sports Events as a Problem of Sports-Infrastructure Capacity Building: Olympic Bids of Istanbul and Athens as a Comparative Study.” In order to examine the impact of mega sports events on cities, Ms. Erten will study the dynamics of how the social and spatial capacities of Athens were developed to host the most recent Olympic games, and will compare them with those surrounding the preparations and bids by Istanbul to host the Olympic games. She will spend four months in Greece (February 12-mid June) to consult the library and archives of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, documents of the Municipality of Athens, and the resources of the International Olympic Academy at Olympia, as well as resources of the National Technical University of Athens.

Dr. Elçin Macar (Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Yıldız Technical University) “Turkey’s Aid to Greece During World War II – The Ship *Kurtuluş*.” Dr. Macar will study the assistance given by Turkey in the form of food to Greece during the years 1941-1942 when the country faced great difficulties. He will focus on the ship *Kurtuluş*, which transported food to Greece and symbolized the solidarity between the two countries. He plans to conduct his research in Greece for two months (February 10-15, June 15 – July 30) and will consult the archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece, the National Library as well as the Benaki Museum and the Gennadius Library.

Dr. Şenay Özdemir (Assistant Professor, Department of History, Mersin University) “The Significance of Greek Sailors in the Ottoman Navy.” Dr. Özdemir will study the contributions, influences and roles of Greek sailors in the process of establishing an Ottoman navy by examining documents in the National Library, Benaki Museum, National Archives, and archives at Hania and Heraklion in Crete, and the Thessalonika History Center as well as the ASCSA. She plans to travel to Greece this summer.

Murat Arslan, the last Hanfmann fellow of 2004, returned to Turkey from England in September and reported a successful tenure of research on the historical topography of the Pontos region, as well as the early history of Pontos and the reign of Mithradates VI Eupator, which he plans to publish as a book in the spring of 2005. He benefited from the library at the University of Sheffield as well as those of Cologne University and University of Exeter, where he had extensive consultations with Professor Stephen Mitchell. He also reported consulting Professor Luis Ballestoros in Spain and the Danish Black Sea Research Center, which has invited him to speak at their Mithradates conference in Denmark in 2005.

The **hostel** continues to be a much loved haven for fellows during their time at Ankara. Thirty-nine guests stayed at the hostel for various periods from July to December 2004, although the busiest months were July and August, as the team members of archaeological projects passed through the city. The guests, who were overwhelmingly doctoral students, had **support** from various fellowships and institutions including the Albright Institute, ARIT-KRESS, ARIT-U.S. Department of State, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Dumbarton Oaks, Fulbright, Fulbright-Hays, Institute for Turkish Studies, Javits (U.S. Dept. of Education), McArthur, National Science Foundation, and Rhodes Scholarship.

The scholars broad and diverse range of **affiliations** included the Albright Institute-Jerusalem, University of Arizona, Baylor University, Bryn Mawr College, U.C.-Berkeley, U.C.-Davis, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), University of Chicago, University of Cincinnati, Cornell University, University of

Delaware, Harvard University, Middle East Technical University, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, Northwestern University, University of Oxford, University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University, University of Toronto, Travis Air Museum, University of Virginia, and UW-Madison.

The Toni M. Cross Library was visited over 300 times during the six-month period from July to December 2004. A more detailed process of recording visitor profiles has enabled us to compile a better picture of library usage for this period and to present a **statistical overview** according to user affiliations (to Turkish and foreign institutions) and their respective percentage of usage.

Turkish - 16 universities: Ankara University (36.5%), Hacettepe University (19.6%), Bilkent University (9.8%), Middle East Technical University (7.2%), Gazi University (3.1%), Mersin University (2.6%), Adnan Menderes University (2.1%), Atılım University (1.5%), Çanakkale 18 Mart University (1%), Yüzüncü Yıl University (1%), Akdeniz University (0.5%), Anadolu University (0.5%), Dokuz Eylül University (Izmir) (0.5%), Erciyes University (Kayseri) (0.5%), Istanbul University (0.5%), Marmara University (0.5%); 1 museum: The Museum of Anatolian Civilizations (0.5%); Independent researchers (2.1%).

Foreign - 5 universities/colleges: Georgetown University (2.1%), Bryn Mawr (1.5%), Harvard University (0.5%), University of California-Santa Cruz (0.5%), University of Wisconsin (0.5%); 1 institute: British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara (1%); 1 excavation: Gordion (2.6%); 1 museum: Ecomuseum de Cap de Cavalleria, Menorca (Spain) (0.5%); 1 F/ARIT-Ankara (0.5%). Only 9.7% of the users of the library were affiliated with foreign institutions. The academic levels of the users during this period are as follows: master's (39.7%), undergraduate (29.4), doctoral (12.9%), post-doctoral (14.9%), other (3.1%). According to the new data, our most common user profile is a student studying for their master's degree either at Ankara or Hacettepe University.

A total of 114 items (30 monographs, 66 issues of journals, and 18 offprints) were recorded in our cata-

logue during this period as well. A major upgrade was made to our photocopying capabilities after the imaging unit of our analog copier broke down once again. We purchased a new digital copier, which should prove to be more efficient. We are grateful to the Public Affairs Officer, **James Moore**, of the U.S. Embassy at Ankara, who granted our library \$500 for the purchase of dissertations from the U.S. These are hard to find in Ankara and have proven to be a valuable resource for library users.

We would also like to thank those who ensured the library, the heart of our center, remained vital through their **donations** of monographs, periodicals and offprints during the period from July to December 2004: *American Journal of Archaeology*, American Research Center in Egypt, ARIT – Istanbul, Archaeological Institute of America, Melih Arslan, Hatçe Baltacıoğlu, British School at Athens, İhsan Çetin, Francesco D'Andria, Hugh Elton, Serkan Erdoğan, Robert Henrickson, Institute of Turkish Studies, *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, Peter Kuniholm, Esra LaGro, Zeynep Önen (VEKAM), Die Römisch-Germanische Kommission (DAI), Hasan Ali Şahin, Jane Ayer Scott, Numan Tuna, and Nurettin Yardımcı.

ANKARA FRIENDS OF ARIT NEWS

The Steering Committee of the Friends of ARIT-Ankara (Jennifer Barbarie, Christine Deutsch, Pamela Dunham, Patricia Edelman, Shirley Epir, Charles Gates, Melissa Kunstadter, Ken Moffat, Perin Öztin, Melissa Sagun, Ron Tickfer, and Patricia Ülkü) continued to work hard to organize six events from July to December 2004.

The annual day trip to **Gordion** was well attended this year. We were fortunate that the weather was not too hot this time. Twenty-two Friends, including Turks, Thais, Americans, Italians and Japanese, were able to witness archaeology in action and were enthralled by the tour led by Gordion Project Director and ARIT President **Professor G. Kenneth Sams**. They also learned about the latest work of the archaeologists at the site and enjoyed a picnic lunch with fifteen members of the excavation team.

On September 4-6, seventeen Friends traversed mythical landscapes in the eloquent footsteps of **Professor Dr. Suna Güven** (Middle East Technical University) from the **medieval walled city of Ani** with its Armenian and Georgian churches to the Seljuk and Ottoman monuments of **Erzurum**, including Yakutiye, Çifte Minareli Medrese, Ulu Cami, Hatuniye, and Üç Kümbet. They also had a chance to visit a unique Seljuk türbe at Tercan.

The **annual Open House** during the first week of October was a great success once again. This year the Friends chose to use the hostel as the main venue. About 80 Friends, Dernek members and academics from the Ankara community attended the event, where we had a chance to thank Steering Committee members and F/ARIT lecturers and guides for their contributions and to recognize the importance of the hostel for the visiting fellows. This year we added a raffle as part of the evening and we thank those who donated items for it: a photo of Aphrodisias by **John Kunstadter**, the book *Ancient Cities: the Archaeology of Urban Life in the Ancient Near East and Egypt, Greece, and Rome*, by **Dr. Charles Gates**; and, a private tour of the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations led by **Perin Öztin**.

On October 29-31, thirty-one Friends joined **Professor Scott Redford** (Georgetown University) on an unforgettable journey back through time from the medieval Seljuk monuments at **Konya** and enchanting

palace of Kubadabad at **Lake Beyşehir** to the earliest settlements known in Turkey at **Çatalhöyük** and the remarkable Hittite site of **Eflatunpınar**, where Professor Marie-Henriette Gates (Bilkent University) enlightened us about these ancient civilizations. A pre-trip lecture at ARIT by Professor Redford gave us an excellent introduction to the world of the Seljuks.

The Friends ended the year by sponsoring two lectures in December at the ARIT-Toni M. Cross Library. On December 12, Dr. **Veronica Kalas** (Faculty of Architecture, Middle East Technical University) presented a lecture entitled “Rock-cut settlements from Byzantine Cappadocia: Mansions or Monasteries?” in which she discussed discoveries from her recent survey project in Cappadocia. On December 19, **Dr. Can Erimtan** (Resident Fellow of the British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara) presented “Fountains & Tulips: a Sneak Peak at an Eighteenth-Century Building,” a lecture which focused on the interpretation of the fountain of Ahmet III (1728) at the entrance to the Topkapı Palace.

The Friends also produced **postcards** as a means of raising funds this year. Four types of postcards were printed which each featured a photo by the Friends Honor Auchinleck, Jennifer Barbarie, Len Docimo, and Gabriela Wöehling. Thanks to the efforts of Steering Committee members, especially President Patricia Ülkü, we were able to produce these cards and raise funds at various sales in the Ankara community.

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THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF MIDAS AND THE PHRYGIANS

Recent Work at Gordion
Edited by Lisa Kealhofer
with contributions from
numerous ARIT affiliates

University of Pennsylvania
Museum Publication
2005

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REPORT ON ARIT FELLOWSHIP

Suna Cağaptay-Arikan, Architecture and Medieval Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, *Visualizing the Cultural Transition in Bithynia: Byzantine-Ottoman 'Overlap' Architecture*

In the 14th century, the northwest of Asia Minor witnessed a fascinating range of architectural activity that has yet to receive scholarly attention. Although the region was the center of the Byzantine government during the 13th century, by the third decade of the 14th century its major centers had fallen to the Ottoman Turks, who established their capital at Bursa in 1326. Bithynia's development in this period was influenced to a large degree by the Byzantine architectural legacy, a vision that aimed to turn Bursa into a city worthy of being the imperial seat.

From a Byzantine perspective, the Late Byzantine architecture in Bithynia represents the end of a regional tradition, while from the Ottoman viewpoint, the early Ottoman buildings appear incongruous to the canons of Classical Ottoman architecture. Traditionally, scholars have viewed the Byzantine and the Ottoman as separate cultures and their architecture as belonging to distinct traditions. But the material culture of Bithynia does not obey the divisions imposed by political history; the similarities between the two regional styles are so striking

that they must be viewed together. To consider buildings as cultural artifacts presents an alternative way of looking at the complexities of the period that are poorly documented in the textual record. In Bithynia, architecture can provide what the texts cannot. With its many late Byzantine and early Ottoman buildings, the city embodies the complexities of the period since its very urban landscape served as an agent of identity mixing and cultural exchange across the Christian-Muslim divide. In my study, I evaluate how pre-existing Byzantine architectural monuments, forms, construction techniques, and architectural decoration are reused in an Ottoman context. Using buildings as historical artifacts, I believe, helps us see that Bithynia was not only a center of culture but also the place of governance and the site where a new Ottoman political identity was inscribed. Although the Ottomans ruled the region, the population remained largely mixed and the impact of the Byzantine legacy remained salient, especially in the cities' architecture.

With the support of an ARIT/Kress fellowship from mid-June 2004 until mid-January 2005, I was able to finalize the preliminary stages of my fieldwork, and archival and library research related to my dissertation. The fieldwork in combination with visits to archaeological institutes, libraries, archives and rare bookstores in several cities in Turkey helped me to cross-fertilize my findings with other scholars. The site-work took place in Bithynia, concentrating especially on the cities

of Prousa (Bursa) and Nicaea (Izmit). Despite being captured by the Ottoman Turks, both cities remained remarkably Byzantine in character, with a wide range of Christian buildings. Prousa is particularly significant for its Byzantine churches that were converted into mausolea, while the city of Nicaea is especially crucial in the discussion of city walls and fortifications, as well as church architecture, including the 13th-century renovations to Hagia Sophia and the construction of the church of Hagia Tryphon. With the Ottoman conquest, both cities witnessed a new burst of architectural activity.

In an attempt to chronicle the architectural transition in Bithynia, I divided my study into three main sections: the Byzantine legacy, buildings in transition, and new architectural forms. The main Byzantine legacy is represented primarily by churches, city walls, and fortresses. Much building activity, including the fortifications such as Yarhisar, Koyunhisar, and Eskihisar, took place in the 13th and 14th centuries, during and after the period when the Byzantine government-in-exile was centered in Nicaea. In the second group are buildings in transition, which are both symbolically and practically appropriated from churches to mosques and mausolea (türbes). Above all, buildings in transition that were symbolically appropriated stand for the process of reuse, and these buildings create a new syntax of visual elements by which the Ottomans would identify themselves, while expressing their identity to the Byzantines. In the final group, there are new building types such as mosques, türbes, hans and zaviyes, which nevertheless share certain features with earlier regional developments. The earliest Ottoman architecture uses new forms of vaulting, planning concepts and building types, such as the mausoleum at Gebze (Dakybza), which might have been built by a Byzantine mason using Byzantine spolia.

My ongoing research through the ARIT/Kress fellowship has crystallized two results. The first pertains to the approaches and methods in scholarship on 14th-century Bithynia. Despite the fact that scholars draw attention to the emergence of non-Muslim masons in the construction of new buildings, they have usually opted for the conclusion that the 14th century in Bithynia was marked by little artistic/architectural interchange between Christians and Muslims as masons, builders and patrons. As a result it has often been suggested that the superior political and cultural power of the Ottomans precluded an interest in appropriating any product of the politically and economi-

cally weaker Byzantines. Accordingly, possible origins for the Late Byzantine architecture have been neglected while interaction between the architectural characteristics of the Ottomans and those of the other Emirates and Byzantine legacy has often been overlooked.

My second conclusion related to the concept of appropriation, which is currently used to describe the nature of cultural exchange in 14th-century Bithynia. I propose that the term "appropriation" does not do justice to explaining the processes that I study. The question is, if what happened in Bithynia is appropriation, then was this total appropriation of one culture and its forms by the other? On the one hand, the post-conquest Byzantine construction did not completely halt or redirect towards Ottoman embellishments or construction programs. On the other, as the mausolea of Osman, Orhan and several other tombs clearly demonstrate, the image of Byzantium was not obliterated, but rather effectively stitched onto the evolving Ottoman design (i.e. the decorative scheme at the Orhan Camii and Hüdavendigâr Camii).

Together, these two polarities create a message that spoke with ease on either side of the Ottoman/Byzantine social and cultural boundary. The view that Bithynia offers is only one from this complex era. But it is an informative one, from which we can learn a great deal about the distinctive movement of forms across boundaries. Rather than "appropriation," the more correct term describing the situation in 14th-century Bithynia might be "correlation." Significant segments of life and even faith, despite their differences, must have occupied correlative, overlapping spaces, as in Bithynia, where architectural production facilitated a meaningful relationship between them.

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