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A HISTORY OF  
**Ottoman  
Architecture**

**J. FREELY**



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# A HISTORY OF Ottoman Architecture

## Description:

This book, intended for audiences with an interest in architecture, particularly that of the Ottoman Turks, is focused on the history of the extant buildings in the Republic of Turkey. The book begins with a brief history of the Ottoman Empire. It proceeds outlining the main features of Ottoman architecture and includes a biography of the great Ottoman architect Sinan.

Successive chapters follow the development of Ottoman architecture, first in Iznik (Nicaea), then in Bursa and Edirne, the first and second capitals, and finally in Istanbul, the capital from 1453 until 1923. The first of the several chapters on Istanbul describes the rebuilding of the city, Greek Constantinople, after its conquest in 1454 by Sultan Mehmet II, who began the construction program that created a new Muslim capital. The remaining chapters follow the development of Ottoman architecture in Istanbul during the reigns of Mehmet's successors, particularly Süleyman the Magnificent, who with his chief architect Sinan erected the most splendid mosque complexes that still adorn the old city.

**Author:** JOHN FREELY, *Bosphorus University, Istanbul, Turkey*

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## Book Contents:

- CHAPTER I: The Ottoman Turks and their Architecture
- CHAPTER II: Early Ottoman Architecture in North-western Anatolia
- CHAPTER III: Ottoman Architecture in Turkish Thrace
- CHAPTER IV: The Conqueror's City
- CHAPTER V: Topkapi Sarayi
- CHAPTER VI: The Emergence of Classical Ottoman Architecture
- CHAPTER VII: Süleyman the Magnificent and Sinan, the Early Buildings
- CHAPTER VIII: The Süleymaniye
- CHAPTER XIV: Sinan's Later Works in Istanbul
- CHAPTER X: Sinan's Contemporaries and Successors in the Classical Tradition
- CHAPTER XI: The Eighteenth Century: From Classical to Baroque
- CHAPTER XII: The Last Ottoman Century

## Author Biography:

Born in 1926 in Brooklyn, New York into an Irish family, since 1960 John Freely has lived in Istanbul where he teaches astronomy and history of science in the Physics Department of Bogazici University.

A prolific author with more than 40 titles on popular travel and history books on Istanbul, Athens, Venice, Turkey, Greece and the Ottoman Empire to his credit, his latest book, *A History of Ottoman Architecture*, is dedicated to Godfrey Goodwin, Aptullah Kuran and Hilary Sumner-Boyd, whose seminal writings inspired him to undertake this study of Ottoman Architecture.

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