

Ottoman-Islamic monuments, Machiel Kiel Archive

Maximilian Hartmuth

Dear colleagues,

I am happy to announce the inauguration of a new website (www.nit-istanbul.org/kielarchive) that makes available the first installment of files from a project for the digitization of the vast photographic archive of the Dutch historian Machiel Kiel. A former director of the Netherlands Institute in Turkey (NIT), at which this project is now implemented, Kiel is a scholar whose career has revolved around the study of Ottoman-Islamic architectural monuments in the Balkan countries -- an area of study that he pioneered. His archive represents an invaluable source for researchers of this heritage. Created for the most part between the 1960s and 90s, it contains visual documentation of many monuments that have not survived, or have been significantly altered in, the second half of the twentieth century. The publication of Kiel's archive by the NIT is hoped to significantly advance international research on this heritage.

We are, at this point, making available online the roughly 1300 images digitized, classified, and processed during phase 1 of the project, which was dedicated to Ottoman-Islamic architectural monuments in the countries of Southeast Europe outside Turkey. Phase 2 will deal with Christian art produced under Ottoman rule, and phase 3 with monuments in Turkish Thrace. We are happy to provide further information responding to questions and comments addressed to kielarchive@nit-istanbul.org.

The website has been inaugurated in the presence of Prof. Kiel last week in Istanbul in the opening session of the international workshop "Christian art under Muslim rule" (cf. <http://www.nit-istanbul.org/nitactivities.htm>), the theme of which corresponds to the focus of the next phase of the project.

Best regards,
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Reference:

ANN: Ottoman-Islamic monuments, Machiel Kiel Archive. In: ArtHist.net, May 19, 2012 (accessed Feb 24, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/3310>>.