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“Re-thinking 19th Century Ottoman Architecture through Ottoman Provincial Mosques”

Abstract:

In architectural historiography, nineteenth century Ottoman mosque architecture is usually discussed in terms of Ottoman westernization. There is a strong tendency among the historians to describe and define the nineteenth century Ottoman Empire within the decline-dissolution paradigm. A similar pattern can also be observed in Ottoman architectural historiography for ‘distinct’ architectural languages of the era. In the nineteenth century, specific architectural elements and spatial configurations of the royal mosques in the Ottoman capital, Istanbul, govern the discourse on the eclectic style, which can be found in Mecidiye, Teşvikiye, Aziziye, Pertevniyal Valide and Hamidiye mosques. However, the provincial mosques that have received support from the sultan have distinct spatial design and ornamental features than the mosques found in the capital. Thus, a survey of these mosques can provide us alternative historiographies in the discourse on 19th century Ottoman mosque architecture.

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Publications:

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Katipođlu, C., “Rethinking Construction and Planning Processes in the Ottoman Provinces,” *International Journal of Science Culture and Sport*, 1/4, 2013, 70-83.