

Bulgarian Historical Review

Издание на Института за исторически изследвания при БАН

Bulgarian Historical Review XLI (2013) 1-2, 137-147
ISSN 0204-8906

Grigor Boykov

Anatolian Emir in Rumelia: İsfendiyaroglu İsmail Bey's Architectural Patronage and Governorship of Filibe (1460s–1470s)

(Abstract)

This article studies the deeds of one of the most prominent figures in the fifteenth century Ottoman society, İsfendiyaroglu İsmail Bey and focuses primarily on the period in which he governed the city of Filibe (Plovdiv). Deriving evidence from a wide range of Ottoman archival sources the study examines in detail İsmail Bey's architectural patronage in the city, which establishes him as one of the greatest benefactors in Ottoman Filibe. Endowing a number of esteemed edifices he spent a great deal of efforts in promoting the development of the city and truly elevated Filibe to an important provincial center of the Ottoman realm. The public buildings commissioned by İsmail Bey turned into one of the key elements that shaped the urban tissue of Ottoman era Filibe.