
COVERAGE  This photoarchive collection documents Armenian architecture in Armenia, Turkey, Iran proper, and in areas of Armenian population throughout the world. Throughout history, Armenia was the homeland and crossroads of many peoples. These included the Hurri, Mittanni, Hittite, Akkadians, Assyrians, and many other Indo-European, Semitic and Turkic peoples, and more recently, Arabs, Iranians, Monguls, Turks and Russians. The land in the region has been known as Armenia since the 5th century B.C. Cultural influences from other powers have been significant, since Armenia was conquered and subjugated by many empires such as the Assyrian, Median, Achaemenid (Persian), Macedonian-Greek, Syrian-Seleucid, Roman, Sasanian, Byzantine Roman, Arab, Seljuk, Mongol, and Russian empires.

The Armenian nation, linguistically Indo-European, was converted to Christianity around A.D. 301. It survived the aggressive advances of the Zoroastrian Persians, the Roman Byzantines and Turkish and Arab-Islamic conquerors. The church was one of the few institutions that survived. After conversion, many of the older public buildings were destroyed, but much of the post-conversion architecture remains. This photoarchive collection records much of what remains today, giving detailed descriptions and histories of Armenian architecture still extant, along with information about cultural context and location. It is useful for the study of early and late Medieval Christian architectural arts of Transcaucasia and the Middle East. This collection includes 42,000 photographs of churches, monasteries, fortresses, and other monuments.

ACCESS Consult the guide listed below. It provides a brief introduction to Armenian architecture, the Armenian language, and the geography of the region. The guide is in the binder of the first volume. Give call number and title of the collection.


FORMAT  Microfiche

CALL NUMBER  mfe/NA/1474/A75/1980

LOCATION  Microtext Section, Robarts Library

SUBJECT  1. Architecture, Armenian -- History. 2. Architecture, Armenian -- Pictorial Works