



HISTORY RISING IN BURSA

BURSA CASTLE

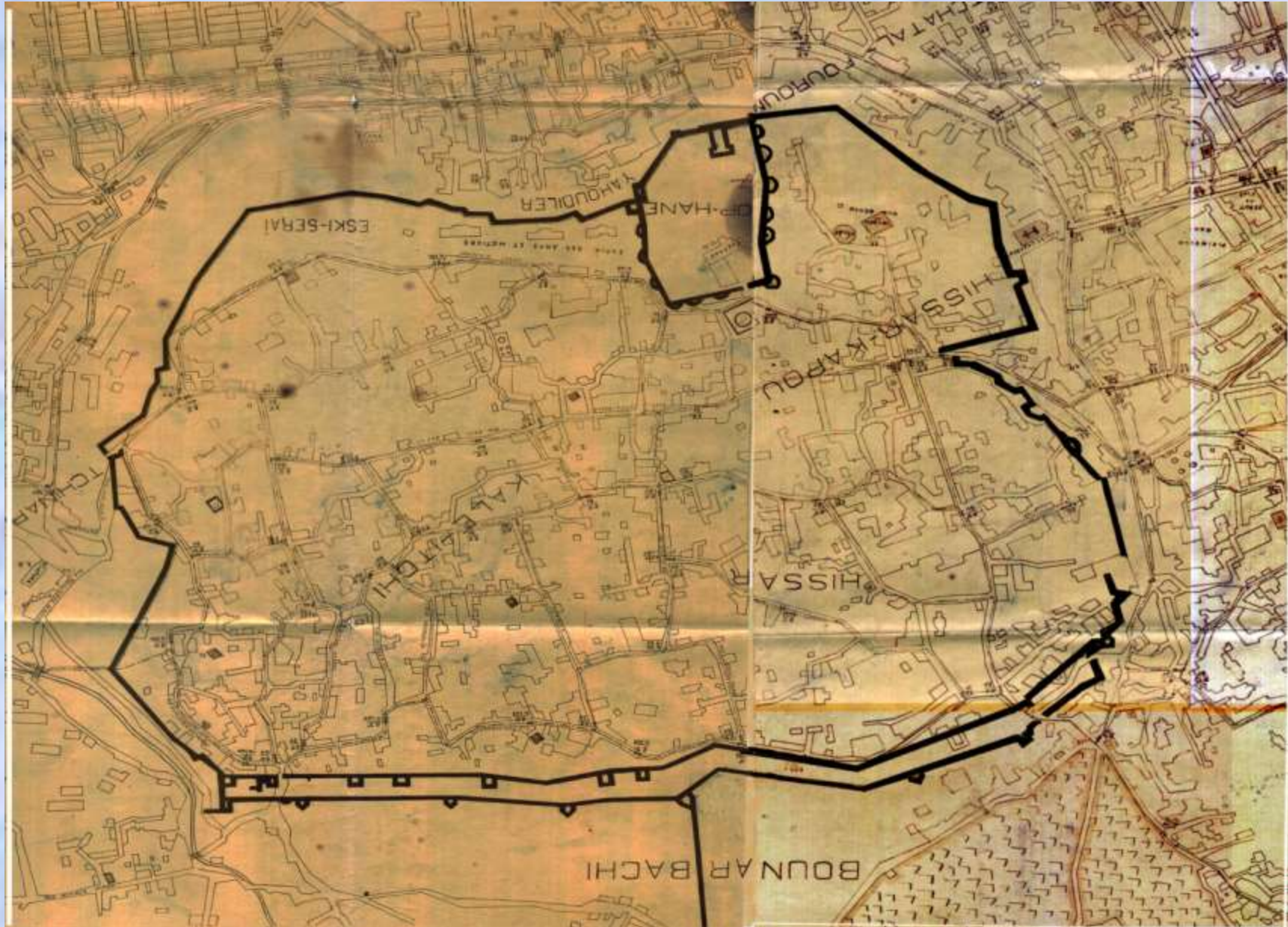
The ancient resources point Prusias I. (232-192 B.C) as the founder of Bursa. When Hannibal, the King of Carthage lost the war to Roman Empire, he took shelter with the Prusias I. Together with his army. He was welcomed here as a victorious commander and was respected. As a reward for this warmth Hannibal and his soldiers built a city. They called this city Prusias and gave it to him as a present. As this is the first from Ottoman era, excavation site of the Bythinian palace and the presence of 'Bey Palace' has highlighted the important settling area, Hisar District is a place where we can trace many civilizations during the history.

It is said in many historical resources that the first design of Bursa Hisar District had been drawn by Carthage of Hannibal and it is still not far from its original concept. As well as remains of walls and gates that reflect Bythinian, Roman and Byzantium eras; monumental buildings such as mosque, tomb and fountain nce of the district. Civil architectural examples and original road structures are also standing as values.

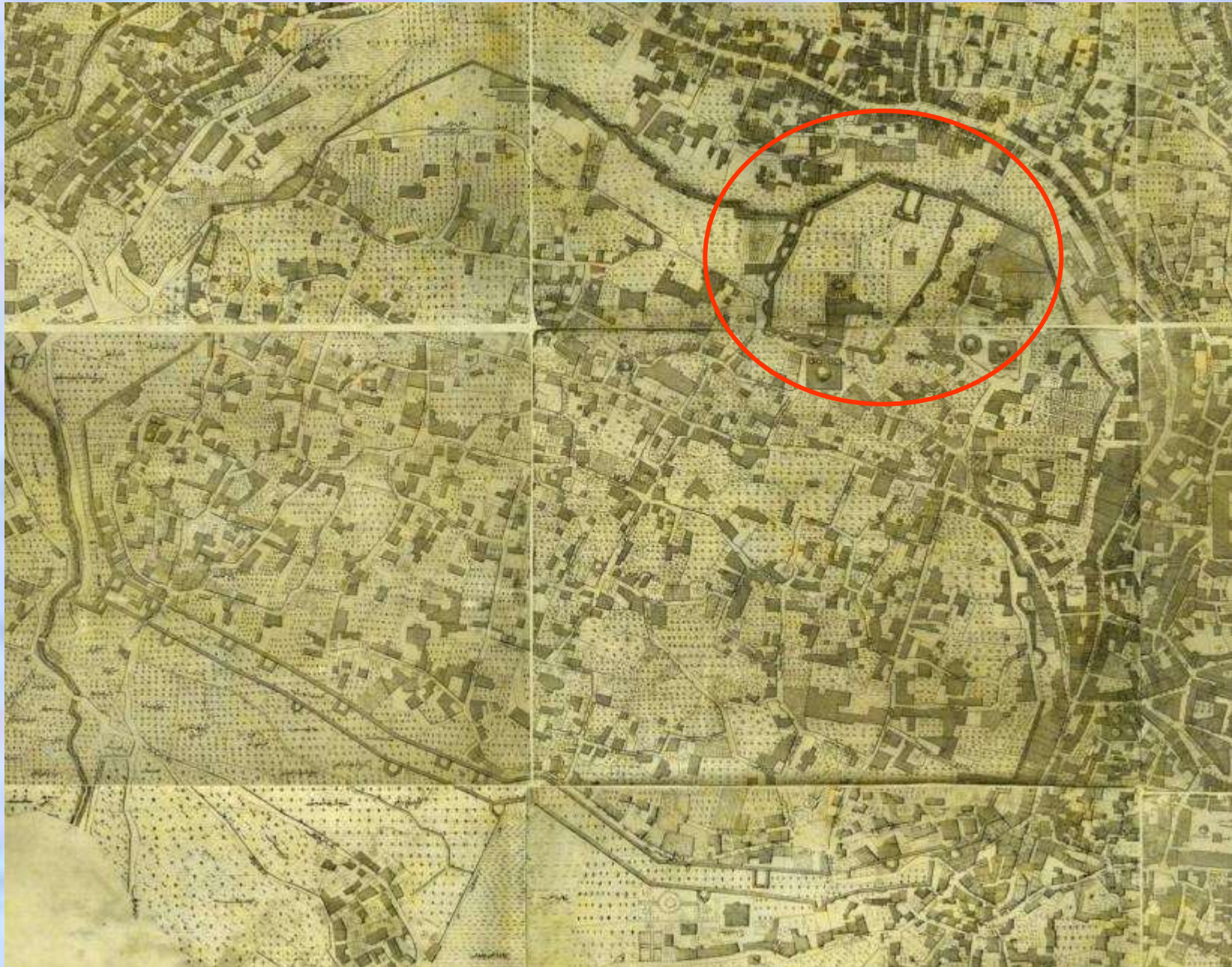
Bursa Castle and the Walls were built in the natural rocky cliffs, where Tophane and Hisar district is located today by Bythinians, the founders of Bursa. The walls were rebuilt or repaired as the city was laid siege and demolished. The first repair of the walls was during the reign of Orhan Bey and construction materials from Byzantium were also used. Walls were repaired and solidified by Hacı İvaz Paşa after Timur invasions and Karamanoğlu Mehmet Bey's assault. Walls were under comprehensive maintenance in 1651 and 1855. The famous traveller Evliya Çelebi described the walls in his book "Seyahatname" and told that the surroundings are 10.000 steps and there were 67 towers and 5 gates.

The total length of the walls are 3,38 km and there are 14 towers and five gates: Sultanate Gate, Ground Gate, Conquest Gate, Dungeon Gate and Thermal Spring Gate.

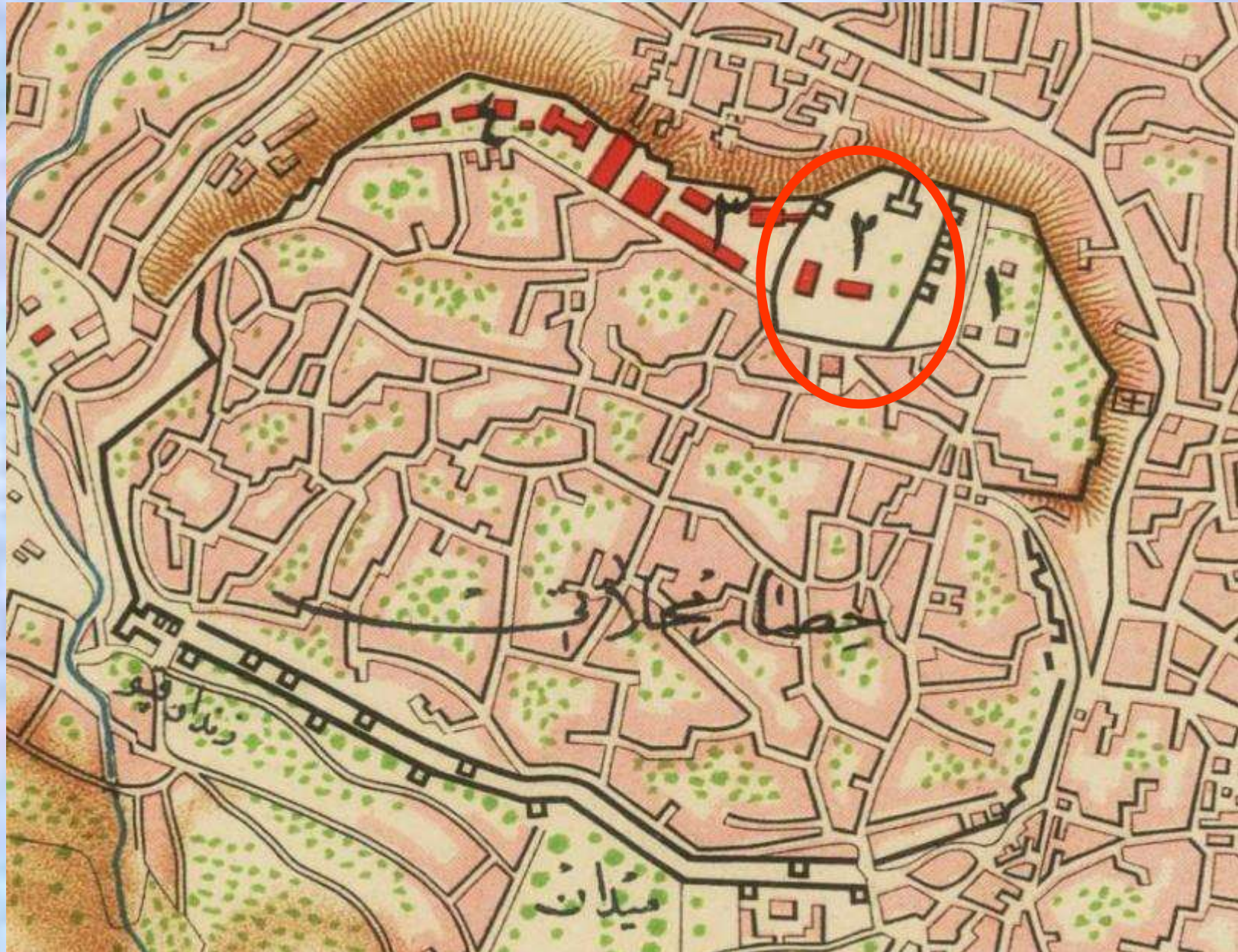
INNER PART OF BURSA CASTLE IN 1909



FORTRESS AREA AND BEY PALACE IN 1862 SUPHI BEY MAP



FORTRESS AREA AND BEY PALACE IN 1911 MAP



BURSA CASTLE AND INNER PART OF FORTRESS ACC. TO ALBERT GABRIEL



BURSA CASTLE GATES

SULTANATE GATE: It was called ‘Sultanate Gate’ because it is located on the way to Bey Palace. It is one of the five gates of Bursa city walls and it was one of the most important ones as positioning in the boundary of the city and having a military function. Standing as a gate to the Silk and Spice Road it was repaired during the reign of Mehmet I. (Çelebi Mehmet – 1413-1421). An Arabic epigraph was located on the gate after the maintenance. Although its arch was still there until 1900’s, it was destroyed in 1904 by then Governor Reşid Pasha by reason of enlarging the street and delaying traffic. The epigraph was delivered to the museum after the destruction. Here is the content of the epigraph: “The renewal of this gate was ordered by Sultan Mehmet I., the son of Sultan Bâyezid I. May his reign persists. Hicrî (Islamic calendar). 821, 1418 A.D”. During the reconstruction project, this original epigraph was taken from the museum and put on the gate by Osmangazi Municipality. As there is ‘Çırapazarı’ (Tinder market) and ‘Balıkpazarı’ (Fish Market) close to this gate, it had sometimes been mentioned as ‘Çırapazarı’ ve ‘Balıkpazarı’ Gate. Because the tomb of Osman Gazi was there, this was also called in some resources as ‘Gümüşlü Kümbet (Silver Cupola) or Gümüşlü İmaret Kapısı (Silver Mission Gate)’. This gate was widely known as Castle Gate despite it was referred as Sultanate Gate and Cihangir (the Conqueror). Restoration and reconstruction project was started in 2005 by Osmangazi Municipality and it was called as ‘Sultanate Gate’.

GROUND GATE (BAB-I ZEMİN): It is known that this gate was destroyed by then Bursa Governor Celaledin Pasha in order to create more space for the traffic although it existed until 1900’s. The reconstruction of the Ground Gate has been concluded by Osmangazi Municipality in 2008. As it is seen in the photo dated 1894, Ground Gate is near the zone of Dar’ül Kur’a (the place where Quran is read). But the one in the inner wall is Inner Ground Gate. The real Ground Gate was between the two walls, along the way to Tahtakale, right on the left direction when going out from Inner Ground Gate. The project study of Outer Ground Gate is ongoing.

TAHTAKALE GATE: This gate was reopened in 2012 following its restoration and is one of the gates that opens up to ancient Bursa and Hisar.

CONQUEST GATE: This gate called ‘Conquest Gate’ as Orhan Bey and his troop entered in Bursa in 6th April 1326. It is also called ‘Spring Gate’ or ‘Water Gate’ because there are number of spring water from Uludağ in front of this gate. There used to be Pınarbaşı Mevlevi House, Uzbek Lodge, Kalender House and coffee houses across the Conquest Gate. Furthermore here was the festival area for Burs people. The restoration process was started by Osmangazi Municipality in 2005 and finished in 2006. Overarching watchtower and water storage below it, which was near the gate, were renewed. Decreasing the elevation, the Conquest Gate, which was below the ground was exposed..

DUNGEON GATE (BAB-I SİCN): It is on the southwest part of Bursa Hisar district. The other name of the gate is Bab-ı Sıcn. Here used to be a The fifth gate toward Muradiye is on the west of the Hisar. It was in front of Yıldız Kahve (the Coffee House) and along the street from State Hospital to Muradiye. Today the gate is not standing but the walls around it are there. People that are going to thermal spring from Hisar were using this gate so it was called Thermal Spring Gate. This street is actively in use..

THERMAL SPRING GATE: The fifth gate toward Muradiye is on the west of the Hisar. It was in front of Yıldız Kahve (the Coffee House) and along the street from State Hospital to Muradiye. Today the gate is not standing but the walls around it are there. People that are going to thermal spring from Hisar were using this gate so it was called Thermal Spring Gate. This street is actively in use.

[illegible]

BYTHINIA PALACE AREA



**THERMAL
SPRING GATE**

**DUNGEON
GATE**



**CONQUEST
GATE**

**BEY PALACE
AREA**

**SULTANATE
GATE**

**GROUND
GATE**

**TAHTAKALE
GATE**





3. BROUSSE. Vue prise de Yechilirmi.

P. J. Pottier, 1902

FORTRESS AREA

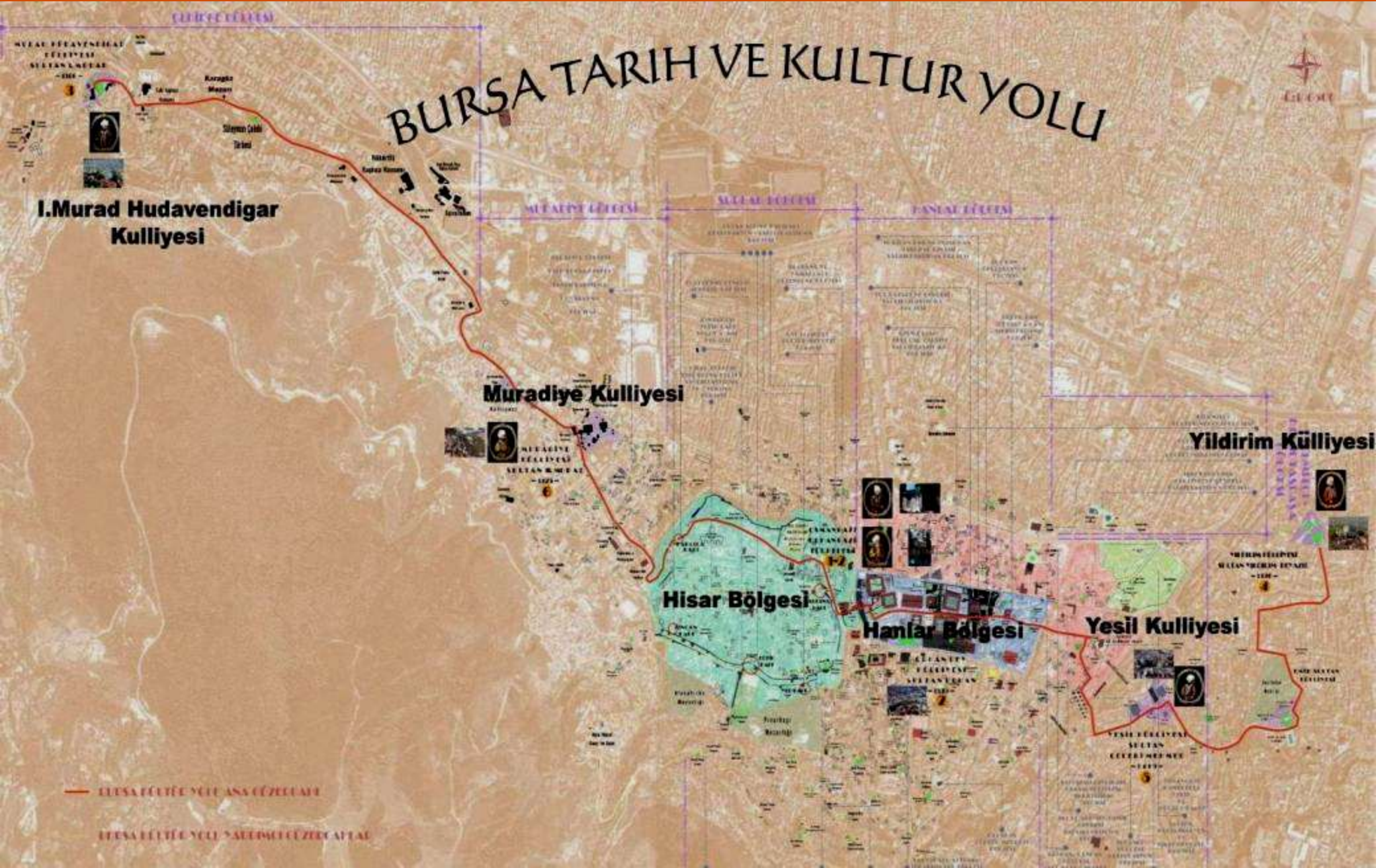


FORTRESS AREA



WORKS CONDUCTED

INTEGRATED APPROACH TO TOWN



BURSA CASTLE EAST WALLS

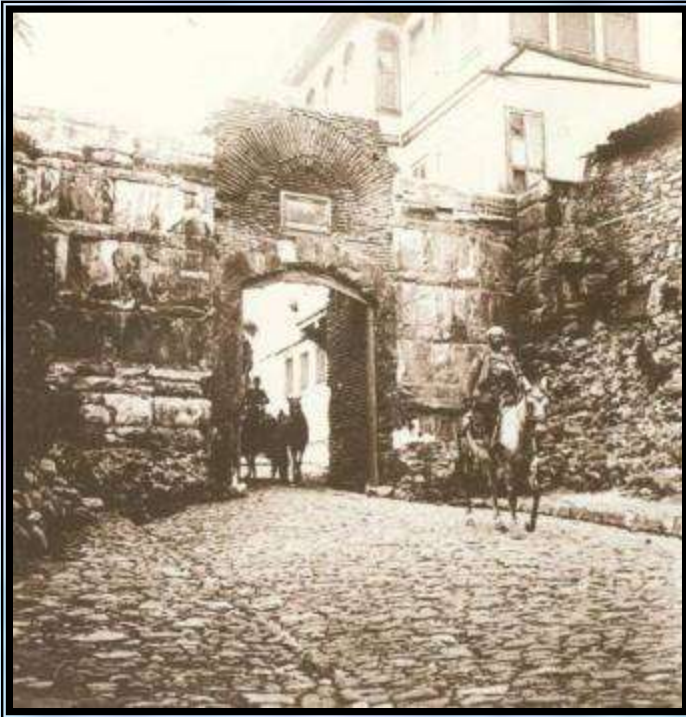




Sultanate Gate-1887



Sultanate Gate-
1885



Sultanate Gate Epigraph

Sultanate Gate -1896 Sultanate Gate -
Engraving



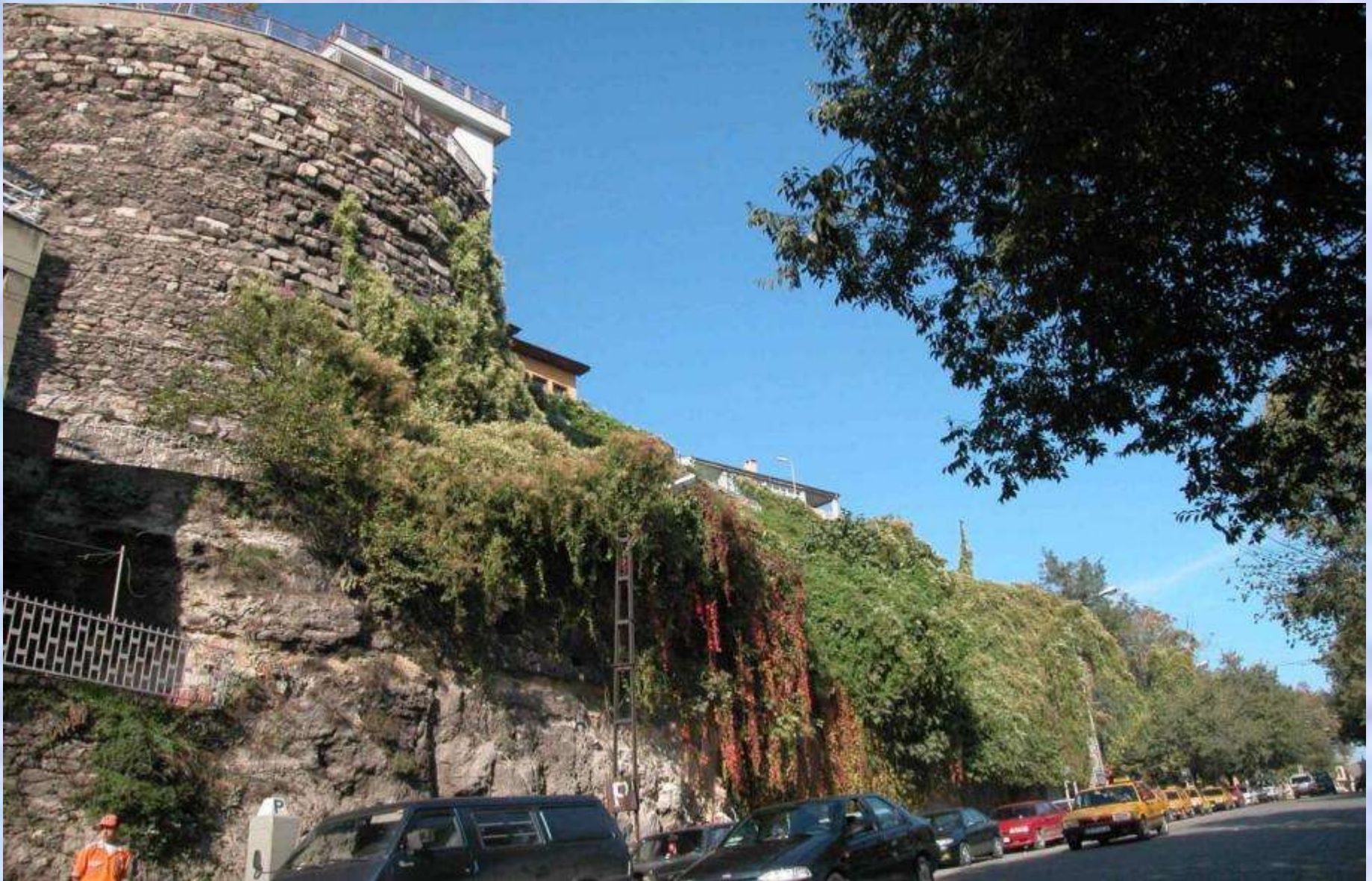
SULTANATE GATE



SULTANATE GATE



CASTLE WALLS AND BASTIONS

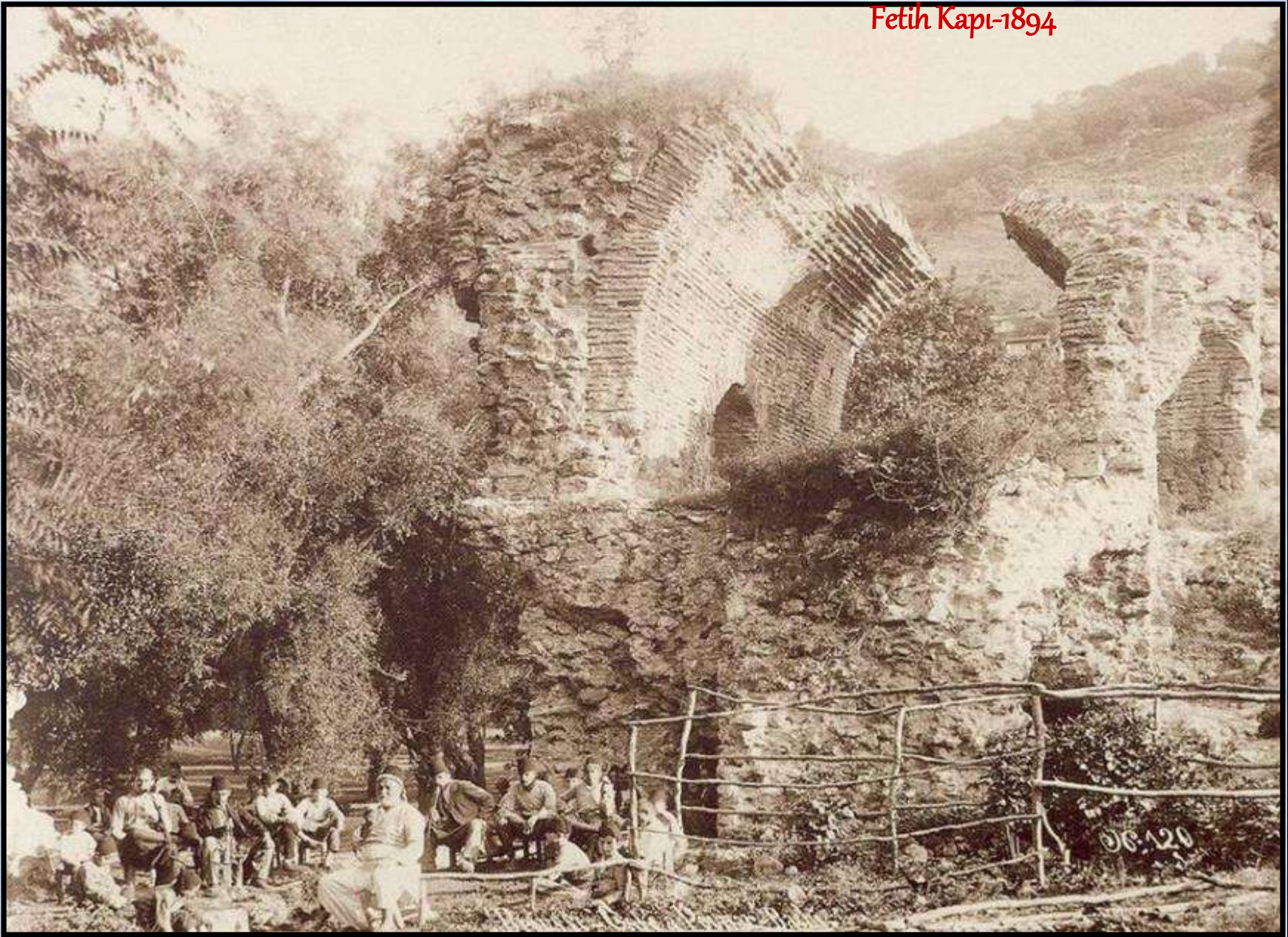


BURSA CASTLE WALLS



CONQUEST GATE (WATER GATE)

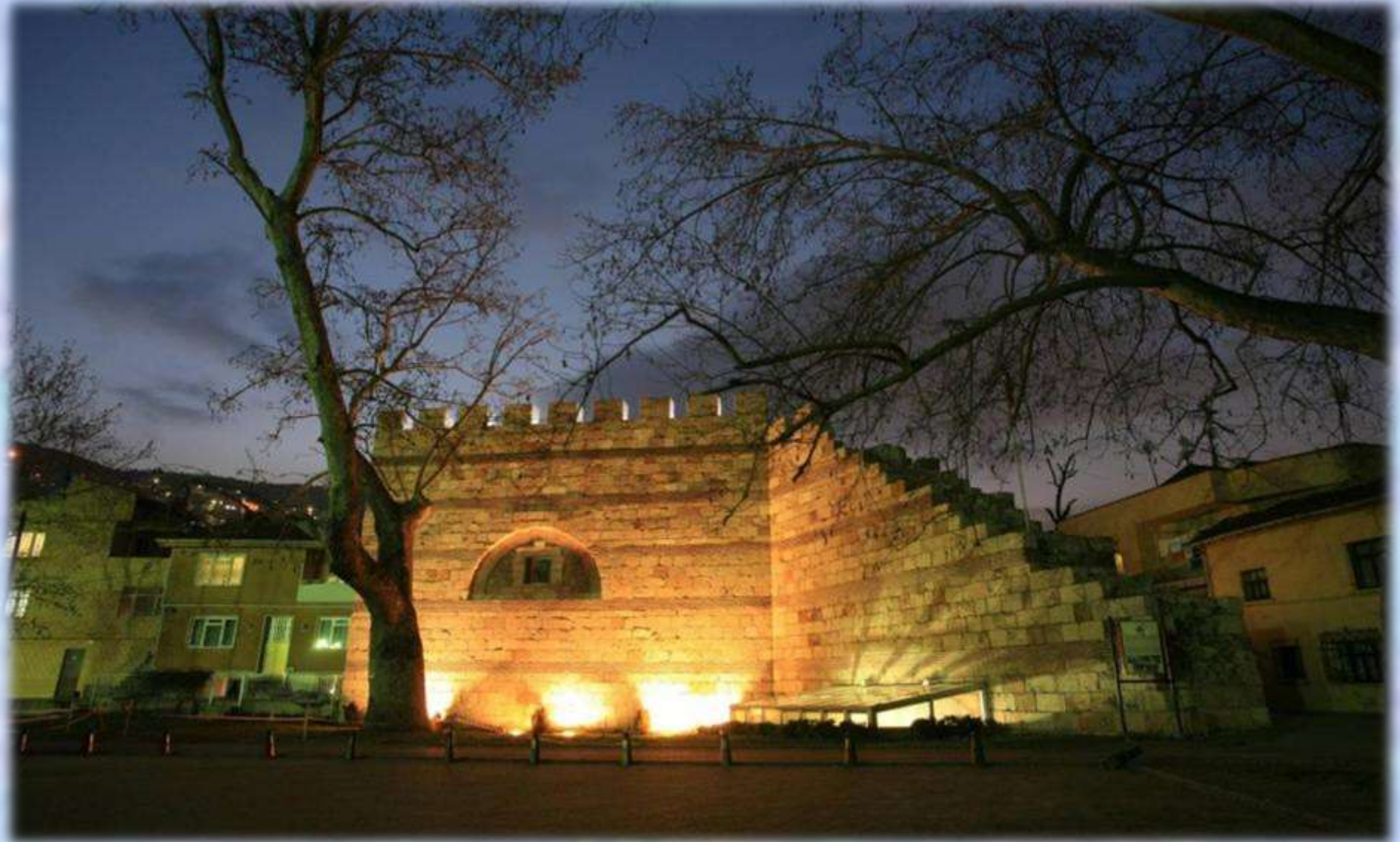
Fetih Kapı-1894



CONQUEST GATE



CONQUEST GATE



GROUND GATE (BAB-I ZEMİN)



GROUND GATE



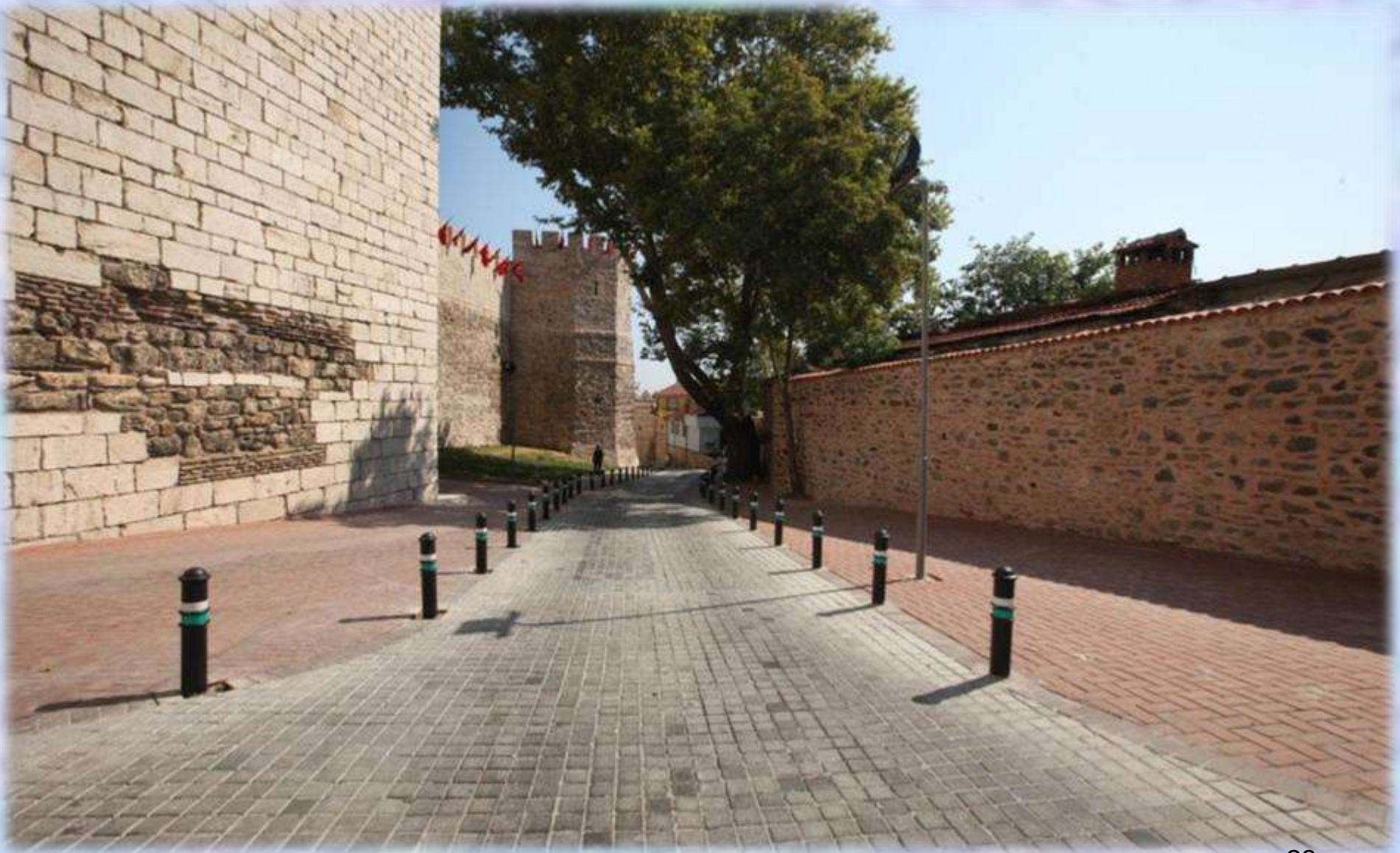
GROUND GATE



TAHTAKALE GATE



TAHTAKALE GATE



BURSA CASTLE EAST WALLS

**BEY
PALACE
AREA**



BURSA CASTLE EAST WALLS



BURSA CASTLE EAST WALLS



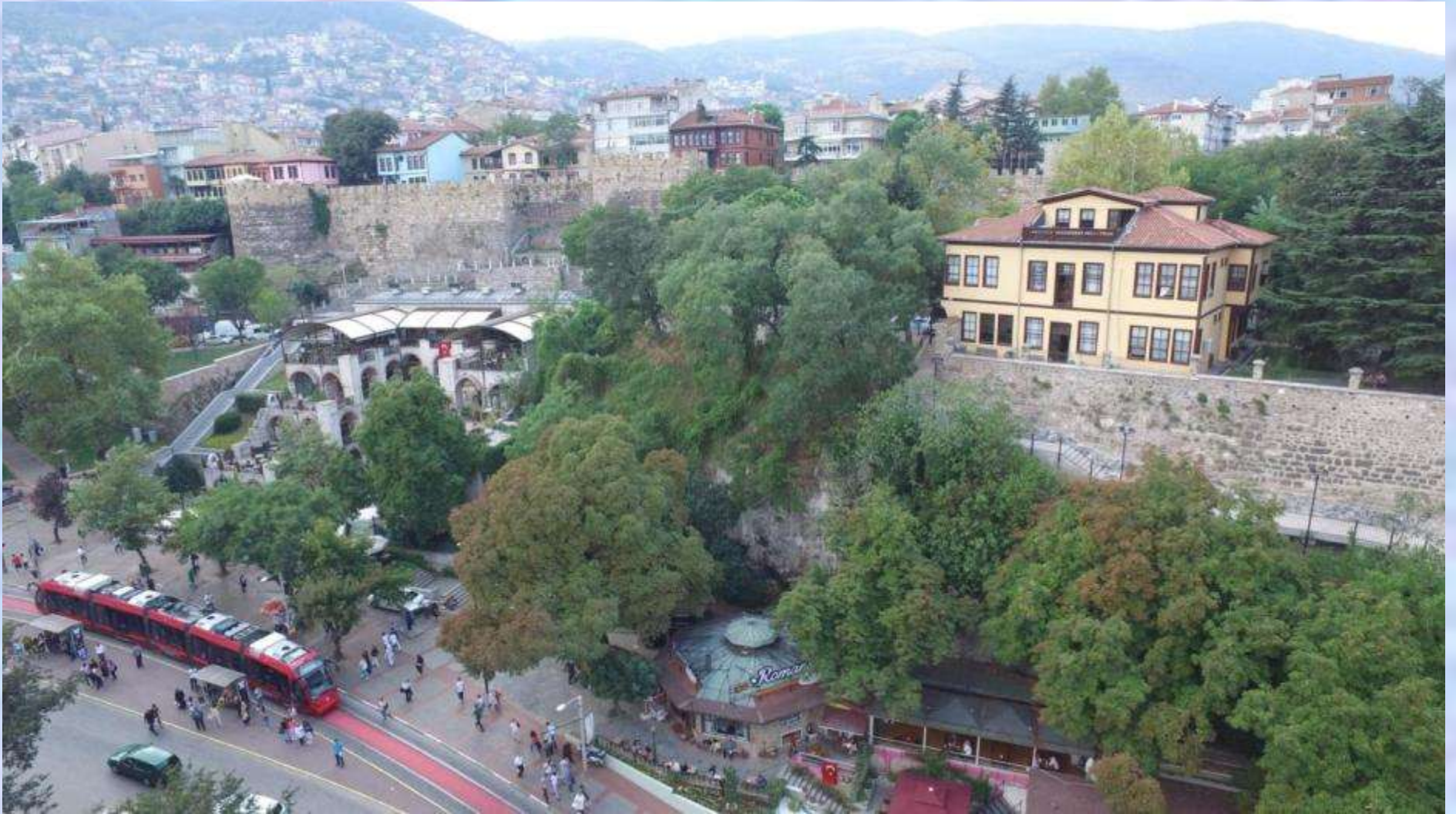
BURSA CASTLE EAST WALLS



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BURSA CASTLE EAST WALLS



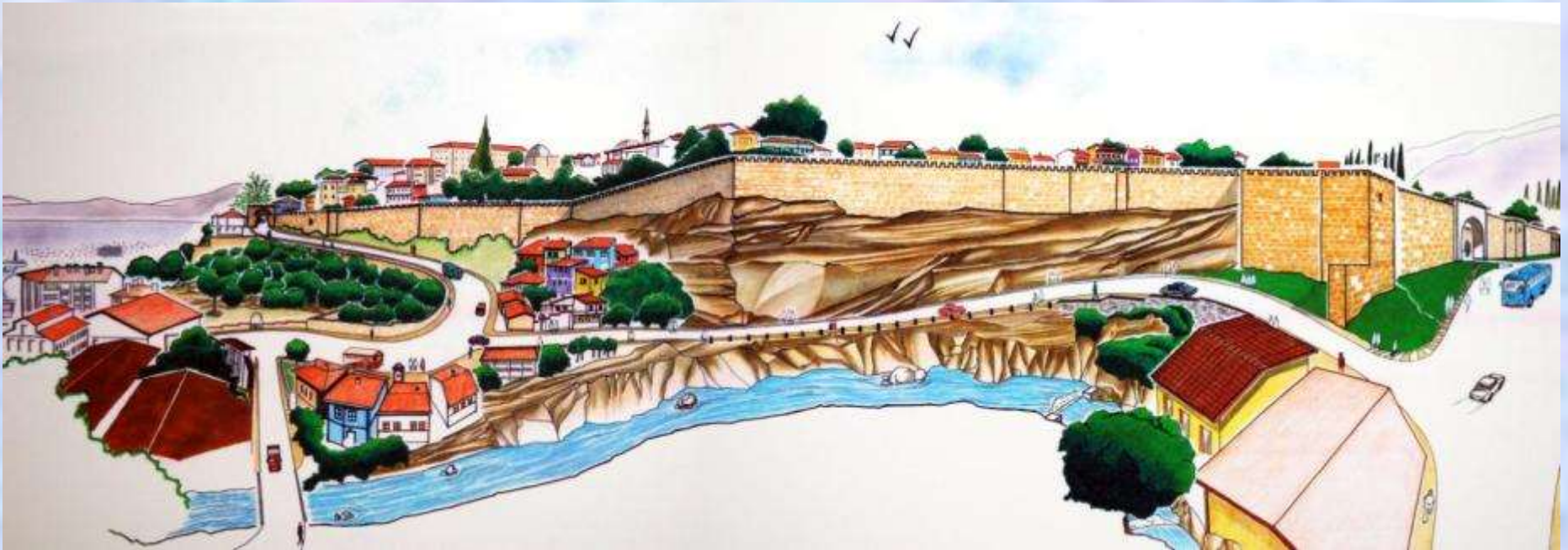
BURSA CASTLE WEST WALLS AND GATES



Thermal
Spring
Gate

Dungeon
gate

DUNGEON GATE



THERMAL SPA GATE



THERMAL SPA GATE

