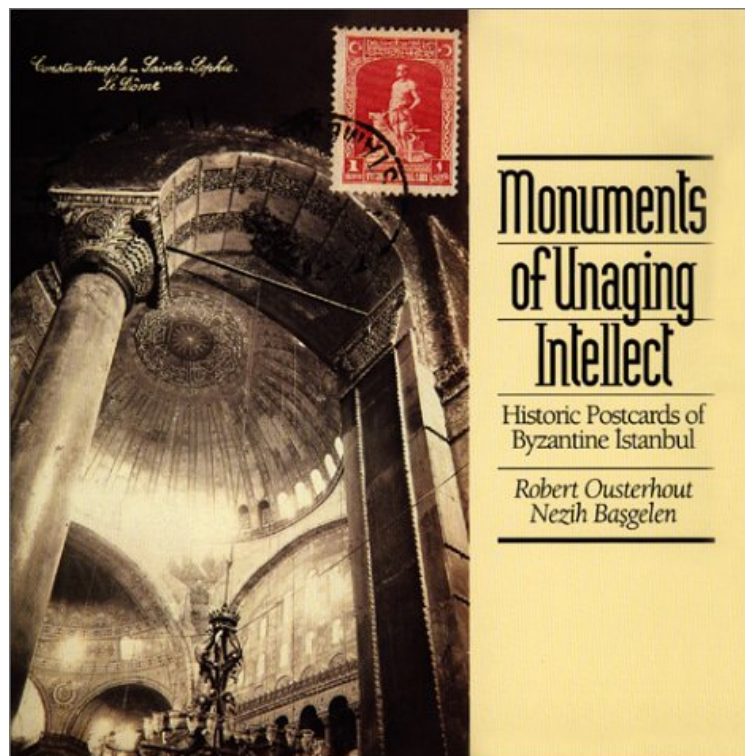


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## Monuments of Unaging Intellect: Historic Postcards of Byzantine Istanbul (Illinois Byzantine Studies)

*Robert Ousterhout, Nezhil Basgelen*  
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3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. essential for Roman and architectural history By Michael L. Bates In my opinion, the title is silly and pretentious, but the illustrations of late Roman structures in this book are important references for the history of the Roman empire of Constantinople and the history of architecture. There are numerous exterior and interior views of Justinian's St. Sophia, as well as the Hippodrome, the Obelisk of Theodosius (great images of the sculptured base and Greek inscription), the Basilica Cistern, many views of the Land Walls, the Golden Gate, the Sea Wall, the Column of Constantine, the Column of Marcian, the Aqueduct of Valens, and a number of Byzantine churches. From another point of view, the book is full of wonderful panoramic and close-up views of the beautiful city of Istanbul in the 19th and 20th centuries under the Ottomans. And, for philatelists, many of the postcards have Ottoman stamps on the image side.

The most comprehensive published collection of early postcards depicting Istanbul's Byzantine monuments, this

lavishly illustrated album includes over a hundred views of the city at the turn of the century. More than just curiosities or collectors' items, the cards provide a visual record of the transformation of Istanbul and its ancient sites--documenting the removal and restoration of buildings, the devastation of the great 1894 earthquake, and historic events such as the opening of the Ottoman parliament on 17 December 1908.