
Volume 3 | Issue 2

2011

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Recommended Citation

. "900-year-old Byzantine church unearthed in Southern Turkey." *Peregrinations: Journal of Medieval Art and Architecture* 3, 2 (2011). <https://digital.kenyon.edu/perejournal/vol3/iss2/16>

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Byzantine Art

900-year-old Byzantine church unearthed in Southern Turkey



A 900-year-old Byzantine church has been unearthed in the ancient city of Myra located in the town of Demre in the Mediterranean province of Antalya. Professor Engin Akyürek from Istanbul University's Art History Department, explained that a well-preserved Byzantine church had been found six meters below ground level at the ancient site.

A dome that once had a diameter of five meters and was situated ten meters from the ground was partially destroyed,

but that the tiles on the roof were still in good condition. "The church most probably belongs to the 12th century A.D., but we will be able to determine its exact period once we enter the building," Akyürek said. All Byzantine-period buildings that have managed to survive until today have either undergone restoration or have had their roofs changed, Akyürek said, but added that the Myra church still had its original structure.

Re-written from <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/n.php?n=900-year-old-byzantine-church-unearthed-in-mediterranean--province-2010-07-15>