

Port-cities in the Eastern and Central Mediterranean 18-19th cent.: A typology particularly on the cases of Trieste, Smyrna, Thessaloniki

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s. also : O. Katsiardi-Hering, "City-ports in the Eastern and Central Mediterranean from the Mid-sixteenth to the Nineteenth Century: Urban and Social Aspects", *Mediterranean Historical Review*, 26:2 (2011), pp.151-170

Typology of City-Ports, Eastern and Central Mediterranean

- a) city-ports in empires or major states (Ottoman, Habsburg, Vatican/Papal State: *Thessaloniki, Smyrna, Trieste, Fiume/Rijeka, Ancona*)
- b) city-port-capital of a naval power (*Venice*)
- c) independent city-ports (*Ragusa/Dubrovnik*)
- d) city-free ports (*Trieste/1719, Fiume/1719, Ancona/1732*)
- e) city-ports in semi-autonomous imperial regions (*Alexandria*)
- f) city-ports in newly-established nation states (*Hermoupoli/Syros, Patras, Piraeus, Ancona*)
- g) a host of smaller ports in the greater island/Dalmatian/Aegean area or the Middle East, in decline due to the north-western shift in trade referred to above.

Ports- economic poles of empires or mercantilist-orientated states

- ‘Free port’,
- ‘free zone’,
- ‘free city’

Immigration

- Free status that renders these port-cities attractive to immigrants from the hinterland, but mainly for capable merchants with experience in the long-distance maritime trade.

- **Immigration** as the main factor in the ports-cities' rising and increasingly varied populations.
- State-issued *privileges* give ethnic groups the right to trade, to organize themselves into *nations*, to found their communal bodies.

- E.D. Sack, *The Human Territoriality*
- The special art to define one's 'territorium', human, social, economic space

Discrete neighborhoods in some of these cities

- ‘Campo dei Greci’, (Venice)
- ‘Riva dei Schiavoni’, (Venice)
- ‘Fondaco dei Tedeschi’ (Venice),
- ‘Strada dei Greci’ or ‘Quartiere dei Levantini’,
‘via di Rodi’, ‘di Corinto’, ‘Smime’, ‘Samos’ (in
the small port of Senigallia) etc
- **Francomahalle** (The neighbourhood of the ‘Francs’ [French but also the
foreigners in general] in Smyrna and Thessaloniki), **Turkish mahalle**,
Greek or Christian mahalle
- BUT NO special quarters in the cosmopolitan
Trieste

Common features

- The natural lie of the land
- With the exception of Alexandria, none of the harbours are located at the mouths of major rivers. Communication with the hinterland took place along overland routes, meaning that inland areas—even areas far from the coast--are constantly orientated towards the ports/portals to the international market and the competition.

- Trieste, Thessaloniki, Smyrna: city-ports around hills.
- Space expansion across the sea-quay

- The **population** of Thessaloniki, Smyrna and Trieste doubled between the mid 19th and early 20th century;
- That of Patras tripled 1834-1857,
- While Piraeus' population increased tenfold 1835-1870

*1814 - 1848, **Trieste's** imports and exports doubled, while in 1847 the volume of exports and imports passing through the port was three times that of once-powerful Venice, now part of Austria

- **Piraeus**, the total value of external trade quadrupled between 1849 and 1860.
- **Thessaloniki**, ships tonnage rose from 900,000 tonnes in the 1870s to 2,000,000 between 1908 - 1912,
- **Smyrna** developed “from [a] village to a colonial port city” between the 16th and early 20th centuries

Population growth of the city-ports of the Eastern Mediterranean

	Ancone	Trieste	Thessalonique	Smyrna	Ermoupoli	Piraeus	Patras	Ragusa	Alexandria
1764								9175	
1769	14000								
1775		10664							
1781			80000						
1796		27000						4474	
1801		31589							
1815		45000		45000					
1828					13805		4000		
1835									50-60000
1841		80414			12203	2275	11183		
midth 19th				150000					
1853					19981	5472			
1859							20000		
1870						10963			200000
1880			90-100000					4805	
1890				200000				5346	
1897									319000
1900		170000	158000						
1912			160-180000						
1918				300000					

O. Katsiardi-Hering, “City-ports”, op. cit., p. 170

Trieste, 1508, the old medieval city around the San Giusto hill



From: E. Godoli, *Trieste*, Roma Bari, 1984, 27

Trieste

1718

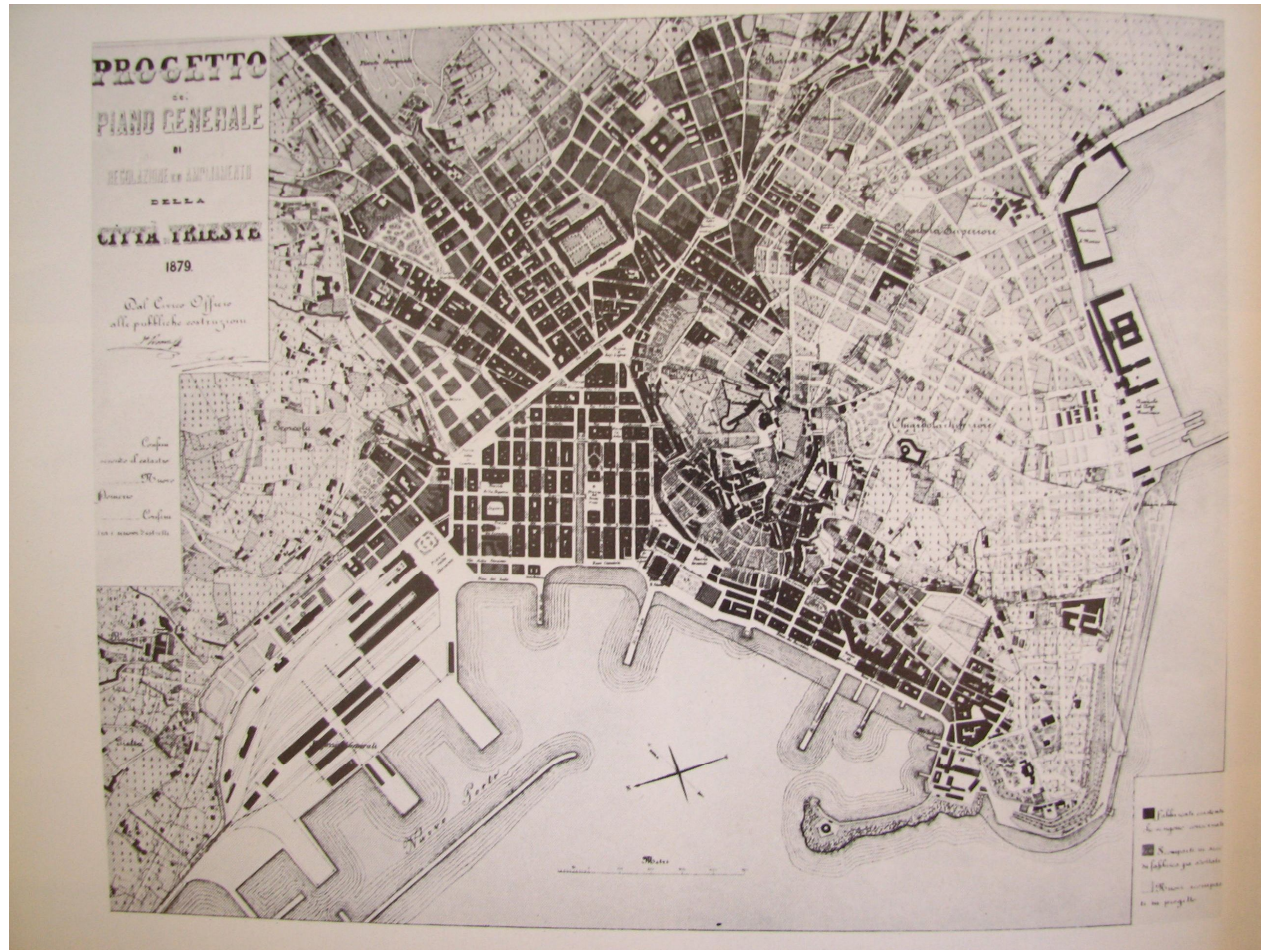


Trieste (ca. 1791), expanded towards the so-called ‘borgo teresiano’ and the ‘borgo giuseppino’



From: Sp. Nicolaidi, *La presenza greca a Trieste*, Trieste 1990, 22.

Trieste 1879



From: E. Godoli, *Trieste*, Roma Bari, 1984,168.

Merchant communities in Trieste

M. Pozzetto, '*Gli uomini che "hanno fatto" Trieste*'

- **Privileges** have been given by the Austrian emperors to foreigners to be established in the free port of Trieste. Among them are Greeks, Serbs, Armenians. To the local Jews have been added other Jewish people particularly from the end of the 18th cent.

Trieste today, at the left St. Spyridion (Serbian new church built on 1861), at the seaside St Nicolaus, (new Greek Church built on 1787)



Trieste, Riva Carciotti, 19th cent.



From: Sp. Nicolaidi, *La presenza greca a Trieste*, Trieste 1990, 50

Paroikies (Merchant communities), Trieste



- 1754-1782 Symbiosis of Greeks and Serbs (Illyrians), St. Spyridion
- 1784 ff. Greek Community, St. Trinity – St Nicolaus

Paroikies: Churches, Communities



- **Trieste:** 1751
privileges to
Orthodox (**greci**)
[Greeks,
'Illyrians'/Serbs]: **St.
Spyridion**
- 1782 **privileges** to
Greeks : St Nicolaus
- 1784 Greek
Community

Trieste, palazzo of the Greek important merchant Demetrio Carciotti (1790s-1800s rebuilt)



From, M. Pozzetto, O. Katsiardi et al., *Il nuovo girono, La comunità greco-orientale di Trieste*, Udine 1982, 22.

Trieste, House of N. Stratti (1823)/
today: Assicurazioni Generali /Caff  degli Specchi



From: Sp. Nicolaidi, *La presenza greca a Trieste*, Trieste 1990, 50.

Thessaloniki, a city harbor for the Balkans

- 1490s: Jewish migration to the city
- 17th cent. new Jewish migrants from Western and Central Europe arrive to the city
- French, English merchants established in the city, particularly during the 18th cent. on the eastern part of the city
- The Turkish/Muslim ‘mahalle’ on the castle
- The Christian ‘mahalle’ in the center of the city and on the eastern part
- **A central commercial harbor** for exports and imports from and to Southeastern Europe, in particular from the 18th c. onwards

Thessaloniki

The Urban transformation of Thessaloniki has been recently very well researched, see:

- <http://ctomeas.web.auth.gr/path/links.htm>
- http://www.greekarchitects.gr/site_parts/doc_files/23.11.2011.12.pdf
- Alexandra Yerolympos, *Urban Transformations in the Balkans (1820-1920). Aspects of Balkan Town Planning and the Remaking of Thessaloniki*, Thessaloniki 1996
- Αλέκα Καραδήμου Γερολύμπου, *Η ανάπτυξη της σύγχρονης Θεσσαλονίκης. Ιστορίες / πρόσωπα / τοπία*, Thessaloniki 2013
- <http://www.mixanitouxronou.gr/spanies-fotografies-tis-thessalonikis-vrethikan-sto-sirtari-enos-gallou-giatrou-otan-den-periethalpe-asthenis-apo-ta-metopa-tou-a-pagkosmiou-polemou-girnouse-me-ti-fotografiki-michani-sti-poli-e/>

Old photos of Thessaloniki

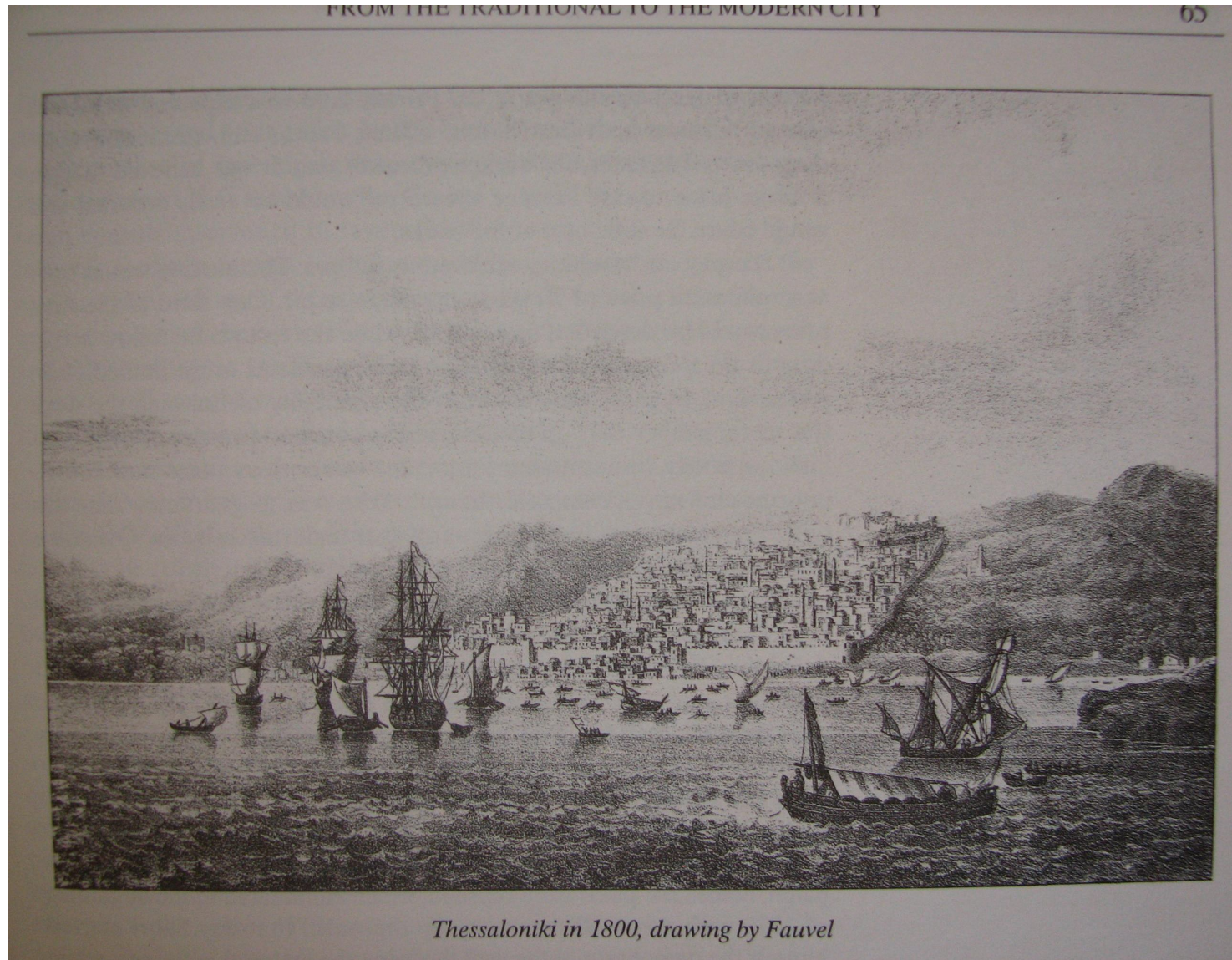
- <http://thessaloniki.photos.vagk.gr/el/photos-gr/old-photos-gr.html>
- <http://www.thessalonikiartsandculture.gr/thessaloniki/palia-thessaloniki/42-fotografies-milane-gia-tin-palia-thessaloniki>
- <http://www.thessalonikiartsandculture.gr/thessaloniki/palia-thessaloniki>
- <http://www.thessalonikiartsandculture.gr/thessaloniki/palia-thessaloniki/i-pyrkagia-tis-thessalonikis-1917-ena-monadiko-filmaki>
- <http://www.thessalonikiartsandculture.gr/thessaloniki/palia-thessaloniki/thessaloniki-in-colour-1913>
- <http://www.thessalonikiartsandculture.gr/thessaloniki/diadromess/i-perifimi-perioxi-ton-eksoxon-tis-thessalonikis-ton-arxon-tou-20ou-aiona>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kboeWZf10MQ&feature=youtu.be> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YwGOetEi2iM> Thessaloniki the walls in 3d
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDgYMdOPkXE>

Thessaloniki 1784



Yerolympos, *Urban transformations*, op.cit., 35.

Thessaloniki 1800



Yerolympos, Urban transformations, op.cit., 65

Smyrna, 1854

Smyrna in 1854. Plan drawn by Storari, redrawn by M. Cerasi



19. Cf. B. Saint-Laurent, "Ahmed Vefik pacha et le remodelage de Bursa dans le dernier tiers du XIXe s." in (P. Dumont et F. Georgeon eds.) *Villes Ottomanes à la fin de l'Empire*. Ed. Paris: L'Harmattan, 1992. We should also remember that one of the most fervent Reformers, Ali Fuat pasha, was grand Vizir between February 1867 and September 1871.

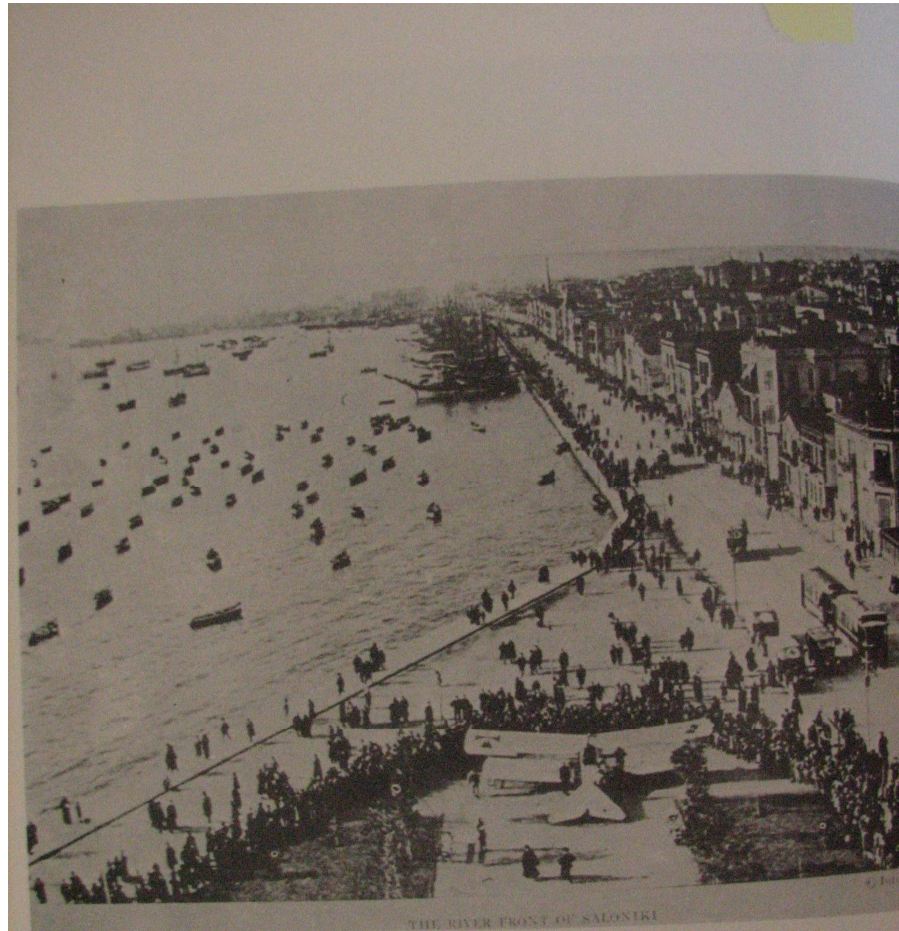
20. According to information in the Constantinople newspapers.

21. According to the British diplomatic records.

Thessaloniki, 1904



Thessaloniki 1916

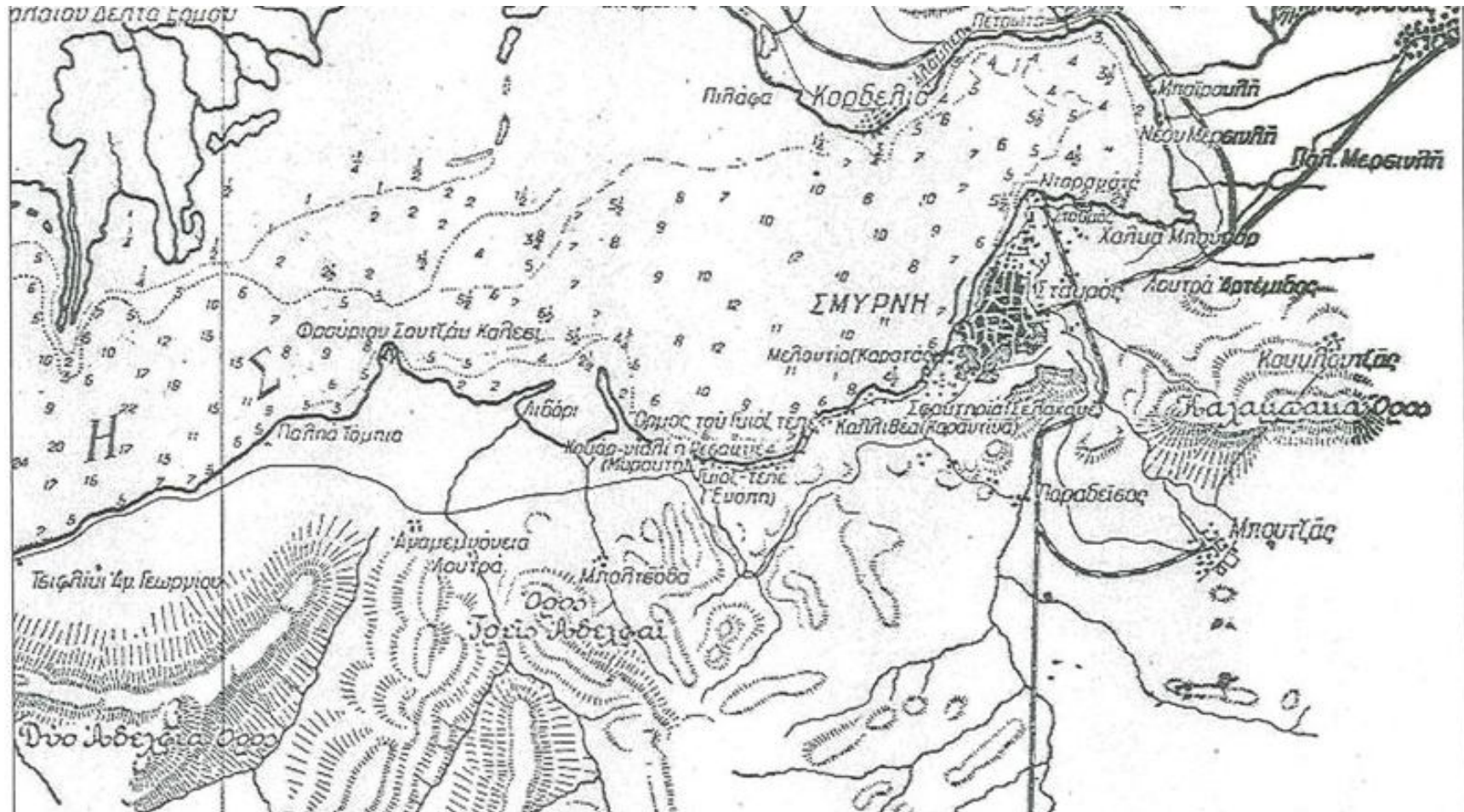


Εικ. 58.
"Άποψη της παραλιακής λεωφόρου από το Λευκό Πύργο.
Διακρίνεται γερμανικό αναγνωριστικό αεροπλάνο
πού καταρρίφθηκε από γαλλικά καταδιωκτικά
(φωτ. H. G. Dwight, «Saloniki», *The National Geographic Magazine*, τ. XXX,3, 1916, σ. 208)

Very precious photos on the aspects of old Smyrna

- <http://www.smyrnimuseum.gr>
- [Smyrna before the fire of 1922](#)
<https://www.google.com/search?q=%CF%83%CE%BC%CF%85%CF%81%CE%BD%CE%B7+%CF%80%CF%81%CE%B9%CE%BD+%CF%84%CE%B7%CE%BD+%CE%BA%CE%B1%CF%84%CE%B1%CF%83%CF%84%CF%81%CE%BF%CF%86%CE%B7&sa=X&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&ved=0ahUKEwjIle3jmevSAhUEWRoKHTNeCf8QsAQIIg&biw=1292&bih=643>
- [Smyrna before 1922](http://www.lifo.gr/team/sansimera/51348) <http://www.lifo.gr/team/sansimera/51348>
- http://www.edc.uoc.gr/~odysseas/webs/sxedia_Didaskalias/sxedia/mikras_katastr_antr_dikaiom/1hthl_ypost_yliko1_mikr_anthr_dikaiom.pdf
- <http://www.smyrnadocumentary.org/?id=5#!en>
- http://www.aspromavro.net/2015/07/blog-post_75.html
- <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/380835712219062052/>
- <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/380835712219062076/>

Geophysical aspect of Smyrna area, 18th c.



Neighborhoods in Smyrna, 19th cent.

- A) According to the religion or to the place of origin: Jewish, Armenian, Francomahalle, Maltese, Cirigotica (from the island of Cerigo), English scala, Chiotika (from the island of Chios), etc
- B) According to the jobs, professions (Voutsadika=barrel makers/ Chalkomatadika =coppersmiths area etc)
- C) According to the Churches
- D) According to the important habitants of the city (of Haggistamos, of Abraam, of Aliotti, of Halepli et al.)

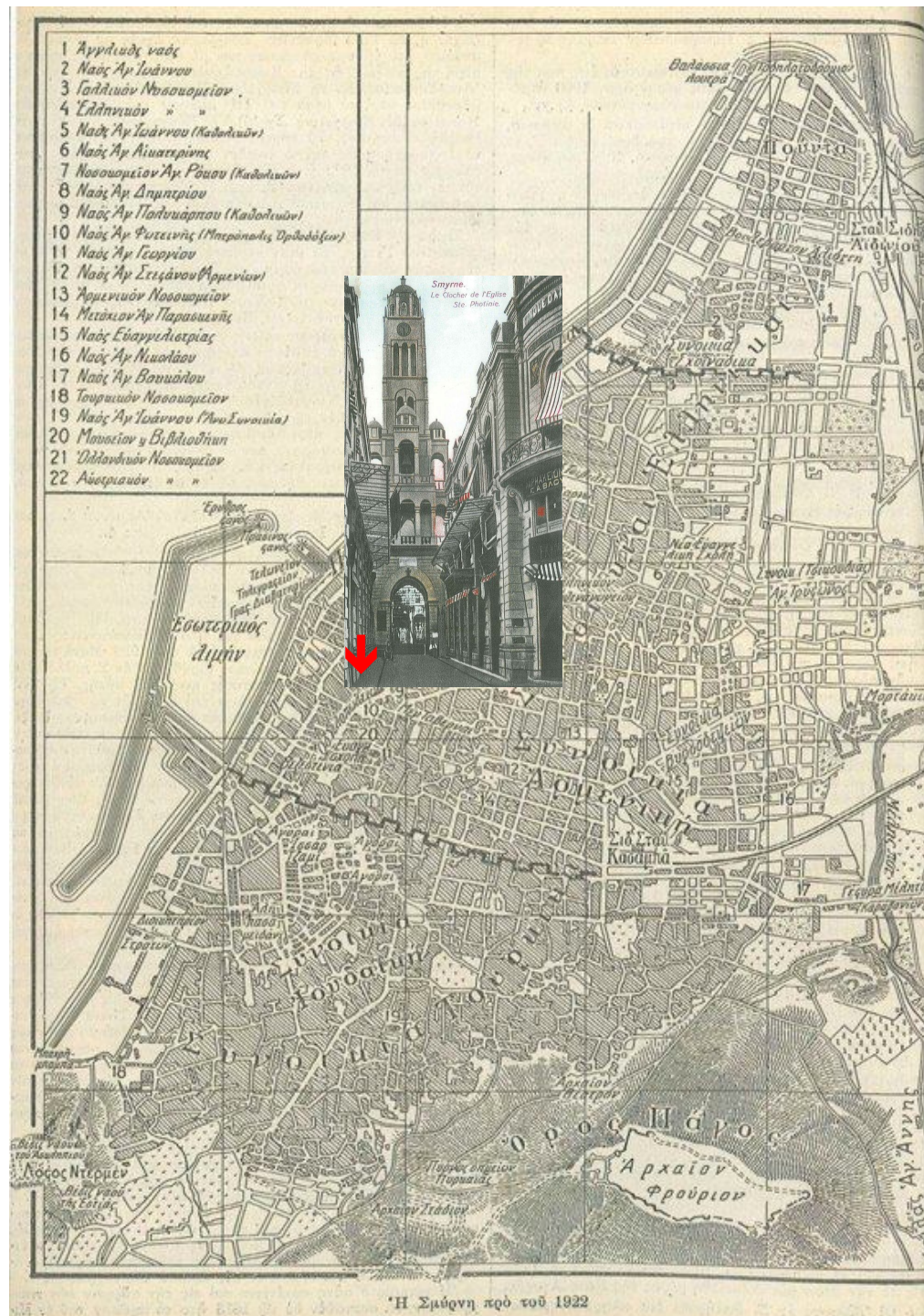
Smyrna, upper 'mahalle' (Turkish, Muslim neighborhood)



*Smyrna, the Greek neighbourhoods, at the left
the Church of St. Foteini*



*Topographic
map of Smyrna
1922, in the
center St Foteini
church of the
Greeks*



Smyrna, the quay



- A large *bourgeoisie* took shape which, thanks to common or competitive commercial tensions, shared a more or less identical cultural orientation and way of life.

- The community of customs did not necessarily mean shared orientations and ideals, meaning that these populations were often characterized by

co-existence rather than 'symbiosis'.

- The city-ports did not grow in tandem, but rather in relation to international and interlocal factors

Piraeus, the new port city of the Greek state, 2nd half of the 19th cent.



Patras, 1806 ,1821



Ἡ Πάτρα στή 1806. Πίνακας τοῦ Ἀγγλοῦ ναυάρχου Wear.



*Ἡ πόλη πρὶν ἀπὸ τὸ 1821. Ὑδατογραφία
(Ἐμπορικός Σύλλογος Πατρῶν ΕΡΜΗΣ).*

Patras, 19th cent.



Ἡ Πάτρα στὸ «The Illustrated London News»
τοῦ Νοεμβρίου 1862. Γεωγραφικὴ πιστότητα καὶ φανταστικὴ
ἀπεικόνιση τοῦ ἀστικοῦ τοπίου.

- Cosmopolitisme?
- Melting pot?
- Multiculturalism?
- Nationalism?
- Early period of globalization?
- **The historian who has the need of stereotypes, remains in a great embarrassment and perplexity!!**