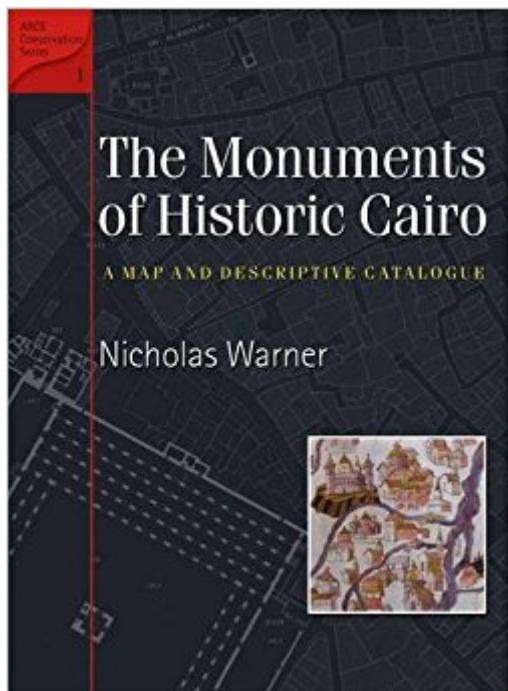


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Monuments Of Historic Cairo: A Map And Descriptive Catalogue (American Research Center In Egypt Conservation)



Synopsis

Comprising thirty-one maps reproduced at a metric scale of 1:1,250 and a full descriptive catalogue, The Monuments of Historic Cairo marks the first time that the city's significant architectural heritage has been mapped in ground plan within the present-day urban context. The work surveys an area of nearly six square kilometers, stretching from the city's northern walls southward to the Mosque of Ibn Tulun and the Citadel. It documents an extraordinary variety of historically important monuments ranging from the tenth to the twentieth century, and includes street patterns that have now disappeared but that are crucial for understanding how the city has developed over the course of more than a thousand years. The catalogue provides historical information about more than 500 key buildings situated in the historic core of Cairo, and includes scholarly bibliographical references, as well as details of each building's conservation history. More than two hundred buildings are documented here for the first time. Funded by the United States Agency for International Development and financed by the Egyptian Antiquities Project of the American Research Center in Egypt, The Monuments of Historic Cairo records the city's urban fabric and its architectural treasures, enhancing our understanding of the morphology and architecture of one of the world's great historic cities.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Nicholas Warner is an architect trained at Cambridge University and the Graduate School of Design, Harvard University. He came to Cairo in 1992 to conduct research on the city's Islamic architecture,

and since then has participated in or directed a number of projects related to the documentation and preservation of historic structures and archaeological sites throughout Egypt.

Anyone seriously interested in the monuments of Islamic Cairo requires an accurate and detailed map of that area. I have about 6 such maps produced by different publishers including the AUC. None of them is complete and some are simply inaccurate. For example, there is no way to identify Haret El Yahud and the surrounding synagogues on any of these maps (probably for political reasons). This book, by contrast, contains very accurate, very detailed maps of the entire neighbourhood. Even the boundaries of the various properties are clearly defined (the author must have used topographical maps available only to municipality officials). It's a work of art, very finely produced, and incredibly detailed. All historical monuments are there, in accurate architectural outlines, and listed elsewhere in various ways (by name, by identification number, by date of origin, etc, etc). Each monument has a short but accurate description. This a very valuable book, a work of great scholarship. I am stunned and humbled by the amount of effort that was put into it and the fact that it is all the work of one man. I hope to write a more detailed review later.

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