

Ottoman Gunpowder Depots (Baruthanes) in Bulgaria

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(Summary)

The analysis of the baruthanes under investigation here gives ground for the following conclusions: firstly, almost all baruthanes are built in the nineteenth century as gunpowder depots or powder-kegs with the specific architectural design (the state factory for refined saltpetre nitre in Razgrad being an exception in this respect); secondly, the location of these baruthanes follows the politic of decentralization implied by the Ottoman powers for the building of baruthanes out of the Bulgarian lands; thirdly, the baruthanes which were built were most probably connected with the provision of gunpowder for the Russian-Turkish wars in the nineteenth century.

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