

Visiting Hours

April 1 - October 1
 Opening Time: 08:00
 Closing Time: 17:00
 Ticket Office Closing Time: 16:45

October 2 - March 31
 Opening Time: 08:30
 Closing Time: 17:30
 Ticket Office Closing Time: 17:15

Open everyday.

Address: Yeni Mahalle Aktaş Kasabası Merkez/Niğde

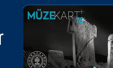
Please visit the web site for up-to-date information.

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GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR
 CULTURAL ASSETS AND MUSEUMS



ANDAVAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

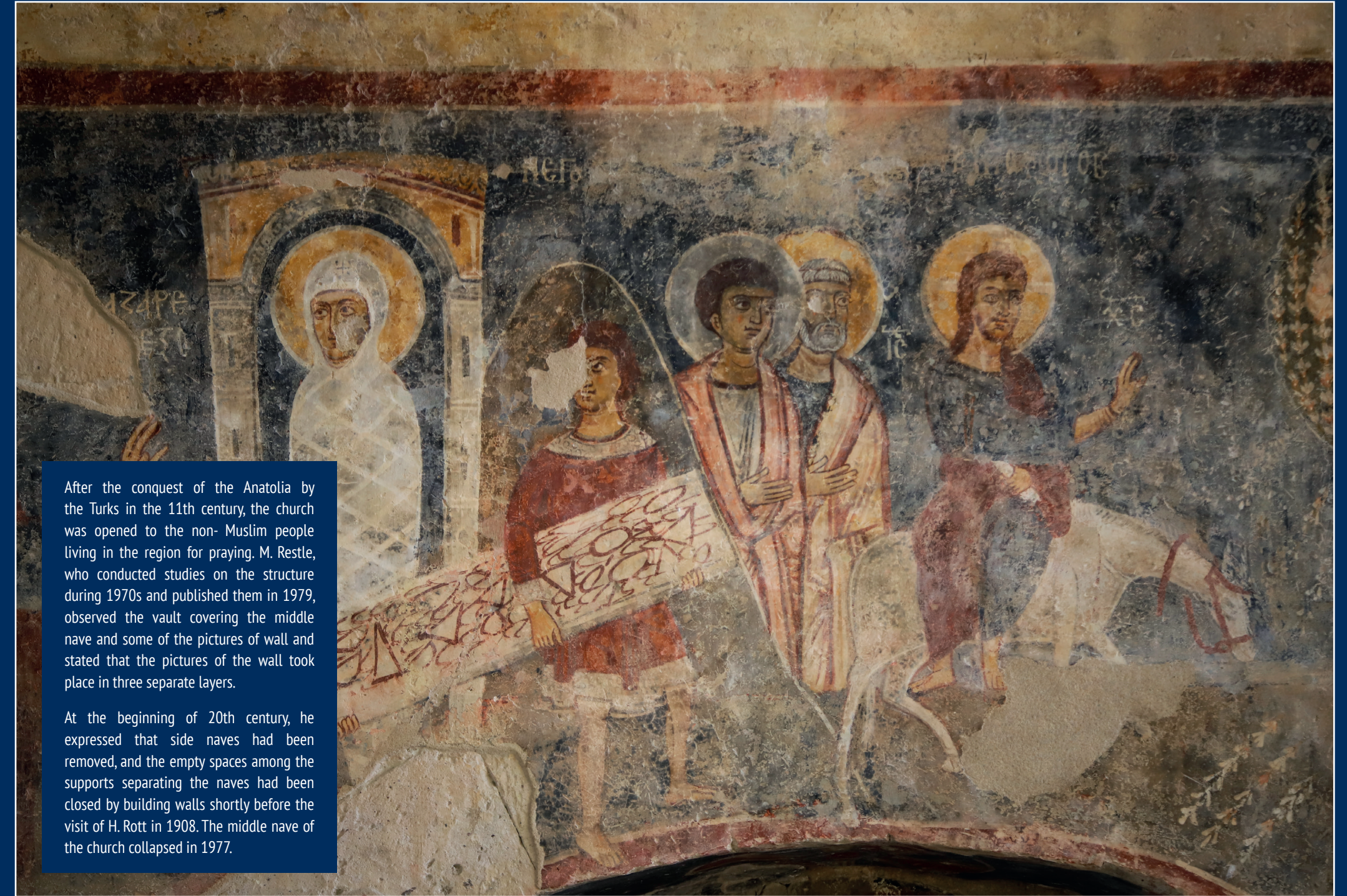
ART ON THE WALL



The settlement named as Annabalıs, Adualis, Ambabalıs in the historical records was a military garrison at late antique era located along the road going from the capital Istanbul (Constantinople) to Cilicia and extending from there to the Holy Lands. According to the legend, Helena, mother of the Constantine the Great, had some churches constructed during the pilgrimage journey she made to the Holy Lands in the first half of the 4th century. The Constantine and Helene Church, which has survived up to our time, must have been constructed at a later period considering the characteristics of architectural planning.



First building of the church had Hellenistic Basilica plan with flat wooden roof, three naves, and a single apse that was used widely in Byzantine architecture during the 5th and 6th centuries.



After the conquest of the Anatolia by the Turks in the 11th century, the church was opened to the non-Muslim people living in the region for praying. M. Restle, who conducted studies on the structure during 1970s and published them in 1979, observed the vault covering the middle nave and some of the pictures of wall and stated that the pictures of the wall took place in three separate layers.

At the beginning of 20th century, he expressed that side naves had been removed, and the empty spaces among the supports separating the naves had been closed by building walls shortly before the visit of H. Rott in 1908. The middle nave of the church collapsed in 1977.