ANATOLIA IN INFRARED

Photographs by M. Pinar Mengüç

ALFALFA, Lexington, KY

April - May, 1998

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Apollo Temple, Priene
2. Apollo Temple, Priene, 2
3. Cart at Sirince
4. From the Village of Sirince, 1
5. Near the Village of Sirince
6. St. John’s Castle, Selcuk
7. Hadrian Bath, Aphrodisias
8. Siesta at the Stadium, Aphrodisias
9. Bicycle, Aphrodisias
10. Grandfather, Grandson, Biyikli
11. Boys of Biyikli
12. From the Village of Biyikli
13. Coffee House, Biyikli
14. Cappadocia
15. Cappadocia, 2
16. Cappadocia, 3
17. Mosque in Goreme, Cappadocia
18. @ Cappadocia
19. Cemetery Wall
20. Chairs, Sivrihisar
21. Central Anatolia
22. Burmali Cami, Afyon
BACKGROUND

These photographs were taken during the summer of 1997 in Turkey. Most of the images shown are from the locations not well known to outsiders (or insiders). Probably, Cappadocia region is the better known of all the places included here. Aphrodisias is also a well-known ancient city. It was the Santa Fe of old days, where most of the artists, particularly those who were working on marble sculptures around the Mediterranean visited and learned the tricks of the art and craft. Priene is another ancient Ionian-Greek city close to Miletus and Didyma. Sirince and Biyikli, on the other hand, are “live” villages in the western Anatolia. Selcuk is a larger town near Kusadasi, and Afyon and Sivrihisar are two other larger towns in Central Anatolia.

All photographs were taken using Kodak Infrared Black and White film, with exposure index of 200. (*Photograph #22 is an exception; it was taken with Kodak TMAX 400 film.) As it is well known, the human eye is sensitive to about 400 to 700 nm wavelength of the electromagnetic spectrum. The images shown here, however, correspond to the 650 to 900 nm wavelength range. The cut-off was achieved using a #25 red filter. Because of the difference in the reflection/scattering characteristics of objects in the nature within this wavelength interval, some of these photographs look unusual. For example, clear sky appears black (scattered blue light is not recorded.) Foliage appears white, as leaves are highly reflective in the near infrared. The grain in these photographs is an integral part of the film used as well as the processing. The photographs displayed in this exhibit are the first originals. Stone Photography and Impact Photography printed them. They are mounted using the museum-quality mounting and backing boards.

M. Pinar MengÜç has been actively involved in photography for more than 20 years. Recently, one of his Kentucky images won the Best of Show award at the Kentucky Moments exhibition, which is currently on display at the Capitol Building, Frankfort, KY. He has been at the University of Kentucky since 1985, and is a professor of Mechanical Engineering.