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Petkovich and Kovachev saw one and the same list of royal names. Kovachev, however, recorded 1709 as the date of the Pomenik.

To resolve the contradiction between the two scholars' reports, the following hypothesis is proposed: Fol. 1 of Zographou Ms II.d.1 was originally part of Zographou Ms III.z.8, which now lacks its first quire. The leaf was separated from the rest of the book in 1866, when the monastery's librarian Father Niphilin rebound all Zographou codices. It was then erroneously attached to another Pomenik, copied in 1709. This hypothesis can be easily verified by direct examination of the two manuscripts. At any rate, the published photographs of their first pages suggest that both books are of Moldavian origin. The writing and ornamentation seen on these photographs do not contradict a date of 1502.

If the "Royal Pomenik" was indeed brought to Zographou from Moldavia in 1502, it represents an important and previously unrecognized heirloom from Stephen the Great's (and Metropolitan Theoctistus's) patronage of the monastery. Regular liturgical commemoration of the names of the Bulgarian czars ensured that memory about medieval Bulgarian statehood survived through the sixteenth-eighteenth centuries. As a result of this, in the 1760s Zographou became the cradle of our national historiography.

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Abercius and the Menologium of Hilandar

