

## **Conservation and evaluation of historical and monumental educational structures case study Antalya High School**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Since the period that they started to emerge, cities are formed by the history that the civilizations take from the past, with the cultural values and the geography that they are in. The cities, which exist within this development process throughout civilizations, brought along the structures that are considered to be urban heritage and are occurred within the economic, social, societal and spatial feature and necessity. This process continues its existence with a lot of examples throughout the civilization history both in the world and in our country.

There is an important variety between the historical structures that occur in our cities. Cities with the civil architecture examples and public buildings have a wide range of features that give them their identity constructions. One of the important structures that occur within this wide range is the training facilities, which started from the Ottoman Period and continued until the Republican Period and showed an increase. The education system, which started as madrassas and mosques in the Ottoman Period and later on turned into high schools and schools, and its structure are the important urban symbols in our cities.

In this study, the protection and survival of the training facilities, which are historical and cultural inventories and reflect their periodical features and city identity, will be discussed. Within this scope, Antalya High School, which is one of the historical training facilities in Antalya, is taken as a sample. Antalya High School, concerning its history and statue, is city's one of the important historical and social symbols. It is an important heritage that must be protected and maintained, since it reflects the cultural, social and architectural features of its history.

Within the scope of the study, some examples of the historical training facilities, which have the similar statue in our country, are investigated to reach a general evaluation and within the sample area the study is detailed. The historical development of the investigated structure and its today's position are investigated with environmental structures, and suggestions are made for protection – use – assessment. Analysis of the current situation is reinforced with the pedestrian counts and observational rapid assessment methods applied to structures and both quantitative and qualitative data could be reached for the study base. An evaluation was made for probable actions that aim the protection and survival of the urban and structural development within the historical process. When a further step is to be thought of this study, which is made with parcel scale, it should not be forgotten that this study will serve as an intermediate product for future evaluation and conversion studies on urban scale with the context of Urban Planning.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Our country owns substantial cultural places and structures considering its historical, geographical and cultural past. Especially various historical structures, which are extant from the Ottoman period and were structured in the Republic period, underlie our cultural heritage. Considering their spatial features, as an important symbol of our cities today, while these structures were historical palaces, baths, walls, religious and educational structures in the Ottoman period, in the Republic period their development continued, due to the economical, social, societal and administrative structure.

In addition to the development within the historical process, the irrelevance and insensibleness in the protection for the cultural heritage and structures caused the evanish and damage of various city symbols.

There is an important variety between our historical structures within our cities. There are lots of structures with different aims, which own separate features according to the city identities, where civil architecture examples and public structures exist. One of the most important structures within these different structures is the training facilities, which continued from the Ottoman period until the Republic period. The training facilities that were found firstly as madrasahs and mosques in the Ottoman period and later on converted into high schools and schools are presented as important city symbols in our cities.

In this study the educational structures, which represent the city identity and the historical and cultural heritage inventories is discussed. Antalya High School being one of the historical educational structures in the city of Antalya will be taken as a sample, its historical development progresses from its construction date until today will be investigated. Some suggestions were made in the field of protection-use-evaluation. Within the scope of investigation similar historical educational structure examples in our country were also investigated aiming a general evaluation. The general concept of the study is to detail it at the privacy of the sample's area.

## **THE METHOD AND THE PROCESS OF THE STUDY**

As a general research method, the study was developed by using qualitative research method. The subtitles under the qualitative research method, which are field work and observation, visual analyses, literature resource reviews and interviews at the area privacy, constitute the study's research method. In the first part of the study the basic concepts that were to be investigated were explained. An evaluation was carried out based upon the city symbol, protection concept and methods. In the second part of the study, by investigating them, the historical educational structure examples' development in the historical process and their current situation were tried to carry out. In the third part Antalya High school, which is the sample area, is presented concerning its development since its construction date until today and its existing situation in the development processes and its existing structural features together with the analyses carried out at the area privacy. In the fourth part, suggestions were developed to maintain the sample area by the protection-use evaluation within the scope of carried out analyses.

## **CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK**

Structures that carry the qualification of a city symbol are qualified as an important linkup or important visual items that express the city's features and culture within the scope of the users' perception. By describing the city or taking these places as the base of connection, meeting and disperse point increase these structures' places and importance. In this concept these places, which symbolize city, are qualified as protection places and are considered important by the planned and architecture disciplines both around the world and in our country.

Since the appearance of the reorganizing and sanitization terms, different modal and methods were developed until today. Some decisions have to be given in order to determine an area to be a renewal one. The questions that have to be asked at the decision stage are; the case of urban poverty and abandonment at the area, structuring conditions and structure qualification together with the city's potentials, the historic configuration and existing structure.

## **THE INVESTIGATION OF THE EXAMPLES IN TURKEY**

In our country there are lots of historical training facilities that are in existence and continue their statues since the time of construction. These structures are mainly consisted of the schools and high schools that were founded in the Ottoman period and still preserve their functions today. The investigated examples were chosen from the 50 oldest training facilities that were determined concerning their construction date and were in the top 10 list of the training facilities.

### **Galatasaray High School (GalataSarayı Mekteb-i Sultani)**

Known also as the Galata Palace Hümayun Mektebi, this facility is founded to raise high levelled educated pupil and officers in enderuna (palace high school). Enderun was a complex situated inside a big garden in the Ottoman palace, in which the Padishah (sultan) lived his daily life and it was consisted of palaces' training facilities, library and treasure room. Galata Palace High School, which was one of the most important facilities of Ottoman's until 1820, was used as Medical School and Military Post after that date. It was situated in the central location due to the region's intense usage in the Ottoman period and the trading and military areas in its surrounding areas.

In 1908 it became the Galatasaray High School and accordingly became a facility in which secondary and primary educations were given. The facility was converted into Galatasaray University, but despite its university statue, it prevented its feature of secondary education and high school parts with integrated education and training facility.

The building prevented its location, structure and historical identity up to now concerning annual regulation and maintenance work.

### **Adana Boys High School**

Known as the Adana Boys School today, it started its education in 1885 both as Ottoman junior high school and high school in Ta köprü site as "Adana High School". The facility, due to

its construction period, started and continued education in a region with gardens isolated from the city. According to the rapid need for literacy, Adana Boys High School had moved to its today's building in 1934. For the rapid need in 1966 and 1974 new buildings were made next to the old ones and were opened to education. They are still functioning from this time until now.

At the current situation serious ravages are seen. The building's internal and external structures are sustained with superficial repairs.

### **Konya High School**

Konya High School was first opened in Nizamiye Madrasah in 1889, later on by increasing the classroom number it was moved to the building known as the Karma Secondary School today, in 1891. In the first years of the building's usage Dar-ül Muallimin building, which was constructed at the period's padishah Sultan Re at and one of the first structures of Architect Muzaffer in Konya, was for a short time the headquarter of the English and later on the Italian occupation forces. Then for some time it was used as Military Ottoman High School.

The building was remembered with various educational periods and different school names since the construction until today. After the Republic, Dar-ül Muallimin which gave education from 1923 until 1934, was named as Teacher (Muallim) School and later on as Konya Boys Teacher School. After sometime, between 1934-1972 it was named as Veteran (Gazi) High School and from 1997 until now the name is used as Konya High School.

Konya High School, which is located in the remembrance area, is a part of the historical configuration with Amber Reis Mosque (1911) on its west, Cultivation Memorial (1917) (Ziraat Abidesi) and Atatürk Memorial (1926) on its south-west and Ferit Pasha Fountain (1901) on its south. At its current position it is located at the city's centre intersection with important connection points.

### **Edirne High School**

Edirne High School which is one of our country's most radical education facilities is the oldest secondary education facility in Edirne and Trakya and its history dates back to 1857. Its name in the past is remembered as Edirne Ottoman High School, Edirne Sultana, Edirne High School and Boys Teacher School. For many years secondary and high school education were given under one roof. Edirne High School with the announcement of the Imperial Edict of Reorganization in 1939 and the Edict of Reform in 1856, in accordance with Westernization movement, it was established with the same educational status as Galatasaray High School and Pertevniyal High School aiming to raise personnel for the Ottoman Nation. After this date apart from the Turks, non-Muslim teenagers who were also Ottoman citizens were able to receive education in Edirne High School that contributed a lot for the social life and its educational life as the only Turkish and civil secondary school in Trakya.

The educational building is located at the east of the city centre, on the main link shaft of the historical city centre.

## HISTORICAL ANTALYA HIGH SCHOOL'S HISTORICAL, STRUCUTRAL AND SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT

### Historical Development

Antalya High School is Antalya's first known educational facility. It started education in Rumi 1314 (1898) in Antalya with the name of "Five classroom Brigade High School". At the same year by adding one more classroom the high school continued its education. From 1933 to 1968 it continued as high school and secondary school. In this period the school's name was turned into Antalya High School.

In 1940-1941 academic year with the increase of the students some expropriations were made and a wider area was provided. The so called main building was also put into service in the same time of the academic year. There are two Greek houses among the school's units. It is understood from the trace on the houses that they were build in 1891. In the Greek houses the education continues, which were build before the high school that was build in 1940-1941, is now used as administration building. Within the scope of the school in 1954-1955 academic year Gündüz Trade High School with three classrooms was opened [3].



Antalya High School 1910 and 1947 [3].

In 1959-1960 periods the Gündüz Trade High School was converted into Evening Trade High School with three classrooms. When the building capacity was not enough in 1968-1969, the school's secondary school was transplanted to Hızır Reis Secondary School only that the administrative management stayed at the previous school. After one year the total of the secondary school was removed [3].

Connected with the increase of the number in students in 1981-1982, with the command of the ministry of national education the free boarding statue was removed. At the same year the pension building was turned into 24 classrooms and one library hall. In the 1988-1989 academic year the pension building, which was provided by the ministry of national education, was again turned into classrooms with 3 classrooms, one assistant manager room and one storehouse [3].

In the 1990's renewal and renovation work was done to the current three buildings and they were tried to be protected with superficial renovations until today.

In the 1990-1991 academic years with the attempts of the Antalya High school and its students' protection association, instead of the destroyed barracks inside the school garden, an

additional building with classrooms, sports hall and teacher and student canteens was constructed. This building was opened to education in 1991-1992 academic years. With the command of the period's existing Minister of National Education, the historical building at the eastern part was converted into Republic Museum in 29 October 1992 [3].



Antalya High School 1980 and present situation

Antalya High School is a city symbol by social and societal means. It is protected by the graduates and current students' parents' moral and material support for being Antalya's oldest educational facility. These communities arrange several social responsibility projects aiming to protect Antalya's High School's historical heritage. In this context, Antalya High School has an important place for the city citizens by social and societal means.

### **The Region's Spatial Development**

The region which contains the historical High School building is located between Kaleiçi, Balbey and Ha im can qualified as the historical city centre triangle inside the Ha im can Kentsel Protected Area.

With the point of its urban development, Antalya's history dates back to the Hellenistic period. Considering the periods, the spatial development can be studied with five main parts; Hellenistic Period, Roman Period, Seljuk Period, Ottoman Period, Republic Period and After.

From the Hellenistic Period until the Ottoman Period, due to the population growth after the Ottoman Period and the port's increase in capacity within time, the urbanization structure, composed inside Kaleiçi walls, overflowed the wall. Regions that are so called Balbey District that is on the North-Northern east axis and Ha imi can District that is on the East-Southern east are the first outside wall accommodation units [7].

The start of Antalya High School's construction encounters this period. The occurrence of the Greek districts that are located at the east part of the inside wall and these districts' development at the same direction outside the wall together with the area in which Antalya High

School is located are situated inside the boundaries of the Greek District. Considering the period the Greek District is today's Ha imi can Kentsel Protected Area. The area is a district that is completely based on a gridal configuration. The boundary point of this gridal configuration at the Balbey District's probe is Antalya High School. As it was mentioned in its historical development, two Greek houses are also among the parts of the historical high school [7].

Developments within and after the Republic period started in 1940's. Ha imi can, who was the governor of Antalya city between the years of 1940-1945, founded the "Antalya's Glamorisation Association" and he started the first town planning movement in Antalya. Karaalio lu Park, which significantly changed the city's figure in this period, was built, The Atatürk avenue was enlarged and nönü School, Girls Institute and Maternity Hospital was built along the Ali Çetinkaya Avenue. By constructing the Republic Avenue, office buildings, shopping centres and bank buildings' constructions in front of the wall and inside the urban protected area was started. Concerning these developments, Antalya high School remained inside the city centre, where it is located on an important axis of the city where the commercial usage is busy [5].

In the 1978 dated Town planning that includes the Ha imi can District, which is one of the three urban protected areas in Antalya today, for the buildings that are frontispieces to Atatürk Avenue Block Regulation-8 Floors construction decisions, for the Lights Avenue Block Regulation-7 Floors construction decisions and for the Arık Avenue Block Regulation-5 Floors construction decisions were made. As a result of these developments, the region that the historical configuration is located is surrounded with dense cantilever structures. With the existence of high cantilever constructions, Antalya High School's surrounding is affected and is still being affected by the created density of sunbathing, wind and visually [5].

After the announcement of the Region's Protection and Development of the city centre, for the Ha imi can Urban Protected Area, which includes also the Antalya High School, a Town Plan Aiming Protection was established by the Antalya Metropolitan Municipality.

### **Area's Current Situation**

Inside the boundaries of Ha imi can District, the Antalya High School is located on the axis of New Gate and Three Gates with the frontispiece to the Atatürk Avenue. It is located in an area of 9250 m<sup>2</sup> at the current situation. Antalya High School is located in an area of busy tourism activities and it is an important city symbol.

The historical building that is situated at the northwest part of the area is a Greek house and is now used as administration building (building number 1). Known as another Greek house at the southwest is used as the Republic Museum building (building number 2). The main building (building number 3) and the indoor sports complex (building number 4) are on the north. The new building (building number 5) is used for the additional classrooms, teachers' rooms and labs.

The region is a synthesized one with the busy trade usage, high cantilever buildings and historical configuration. The Atatürk Avenue on the west and the Arık Avenue on the east are the main transportation connections. On the north and south parts of the area, there are pedestrian transportation connections. Though these transportation axis are not wide enough.

The commercial usages around it and the shops on the axis obscure both the transportation and the historical configuration.

## RESULT AND SUGGESTIONS

When the Ha im can Town Plan Aiming Protection report is investigated, it is understood that Antalya High School is an important historical and social symbol to the city. Antalya High School is qualified as an important heritage that needs to be maintained protected as a spatial, which reflects the city's cultural, social and architect features within the historical configuration. Ha im can District is one of the three regions that could protect its urban configuration in the city of Antalya and it is need to be protected by historical and cultural means. This district could carry its architectural features until today. Antalya High School also plays an important role within the scope of the region's protection.

It would be possible to convert Antalya High School into a more harmonic and understandable site with its neighborhood by the possible renewal and conversion works. The block construction buildings with 5-7 floors that is situated around Antalya High School has completely put aside the neighborhood's perception. It would be possible to bring into view the city's skyline with the possible gaps between the high rise constructions around the high school. It would be easier to perceive and display the historically cultural units both structurally and areal within the scope of both landscape and decoration works in the surrounding.

As a result of the researches it is possible to summarize the priority activities that need to be made structurally and areal are given below;

- Internal and external renewal works is needed to be made for the historical Greek houses, which reflects Antalya High School's and Ha im can District's historical configuration and is used as Republic Museum and Administration Building.
- The constructions are needed to be protected and used for the main purpose since the time they were constructed.
- The constructions that are non-compatible with the historical configuration; classrooms, labs and the sports hall are needed to be removed.
- Even though Atatürk Avenue is the city's most busy pedestrian area and is located on the west part of the school, the usage for the connection to the historical configuration on the axis are very low; thus landscape reorganizations and security precautions about the related works on these axis need to be done.
- A structuring that puts forward the historical configuration need to be chosen by the renewal of the 5-7 floored block configuration, which most of them completed their construction lives, along the Atatürk Avenue
- Antalya High School should be thought as a whole together with its surrounding and the works have to be in this sense. The almost 7 meters tall walls should be removed that surround the high school area.

Basically, due to these activities, inside the region with historical configuration and busy tourism, it would be possible to protect and use this city symbol, which reflects the city identity.

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