

**A NEW APPROACH FOR DEFINING THE CONSERVATION STATUS OF EARLY
REPUBLICAN ARCHITECTURE
CASE STUDY: PRIMARY SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN İZMİR**

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CASE STUDY: PRIMARY SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN IZMIR**

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ABSTRACT

A NEW APPROACH FOR DEFINING THE CONSERVATION STATUS OF EARLY REPUBLICAN ARCHITECTURE CASE STUDY: PRIMARY SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN İZMİR

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International discussions on the conservation of the twentieth-century architectural heritage emphasize the diversity of the whole of the built environment of the entire century, rather than limiting consideration to canonic examples of the architectural historiography during the identification and assessment of the properties to be conserved. In contrast to this international holistic and inclusive approach, the approach to the identification and assessment of the properties in Turkey has in general been selective and exclusive. The early Republican architectural heritage of Turkey is defined through canonical examples drawn from the architectural historiography. On the other hand, more modest, anonymous examples, which constitute the great majority of the built environment of the period, are excluded from conservation status.

The main argument of this dissertation is that the current exclusive approach, which selects only some important properties for conservation according to their physical characteristics, is far from understanding the political, institutional and social transformations of the early Republican period, as well as the role of architecture in this transformation. On the basis of this idea, a new assessment approach is proposed in this dissertation which could enable to gain conservation status to the whole diversity of early Republican architecture including more modest examples as well as the canonical ones. Contrary to the current exclusive approach which assesses the end product of a process according to its physical characteristics, the proposed approach is inclusive, taking into consideration the formation and usage processes with all their participating meanings and values and considering these processes along with the final physical form of the building

itself. The proposed new approach is tested here on the specific case of the primary school buildings of Izmir, the great majority of which are currently remain out of conservation status due to their rather modest physical qualifications.

The dissertation concludes that these buildings are an integral part of the education policies of the early Republican period, of the cultural and social transformations informed by these policies, and of the role of architecture in this process, and that these buildings are the tangible evidences of the meanings and values of this formation process. It then goes on to reveal the necessity of understanding the formation process through extensive research in order to be able to incorporate these meanings and values into the assessment phase.

Keywords: early Republican architectural heritage, inclusive assessment approach, primary school buildings, Izmir

ÖZ

ERKEN CUMHURİYET DÖNEMİ MİMARLIĞININ KORUMA STATÜSÜNÜN TANIMLANMASINA YÖNELİK YENİ BİR YAKLAŞIM ÖRNEK ÇALIŞMA: İLKOKUL BİNALARI, İZMİR

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20. yüzyıl mimarlık mirasının korunmasıyla ilgili uluslararası tartışmalarda korunacak yapıların seçiminde sadece mimarlık tarih yazımının önemli örnekleri ile sınırlı kalınmaması ve bu dönemde üretilmiş yapı stoğunun tüm çeşitliliğiyle temsil edilmesinin gerekliliği üzerinde durulmaktadır. Uluslararası platformda yapılan tartışmaların bu bütüncül ve kapsayıcı yaklaşımına rağmen ulusal platformda seçmeci ve dışlayıcı bir yaklaşım olduğu görülmektedir. Türkiye’de erken Cumhuriyet dönemi mimarlık mirası, mimarlık tarih yazımında önemleri kabul görmüş *canon* örnekler ile tanımlanmaktadır. Dönemin yapıları çevresinin büyük bir bölümünü oluşturan anonim ve mütevazi örnekler ise bu tanımın dışında kalmaktadır.

Bu tez, mevcut seçmeci ve dışlayıcı koruma yaklaşımı ile sadece önemli örneklerinin temsil edildiği bir fiziksel çevrenin, Cumhuriyetin kurulması ve kurumsallaşması sürecini, bu süreçle gelen toplumsal ve kültürel dönüşümleri ve mimarlığın bu dönüşümlerdeki rolünü yeterince anlatamadığı fikrini savunmaktadır. Bu düşünceyle bu tezde, erken Cumhuriyet dönemi mimarlığının tüm çeşitliliğiyle koruma altına alınabilmesine olanak sağlayacak kapsayıcı bir değerlendirme yaklaşımı önerilmektedir. Önerilen bu yeni yaklaşım, yapıyı fiziksel niteliklerine göre değerlendiren mevcut dışlayıcı yaklaşım yerine; yapının oluşum ve kullanım süreçlerini ve bu süreçlerin taşıdığı anlam ve önemleri ortaya koyarak bütün bu verileri yapının kendisi ile bir bütün olarak ele alan kapsayıcı bir değerlendirme yaklaşımıdır. Önerilen bu yeni yaklaşım, mütevazi fiziksel niteliklerinden

ötürü büyük bir çoğunluğu koruma kapsamı dışında olan İzmir'de erken Cumhuriyet döneminde inşa edilmiş ilkokul binaları örneğinde sınınanmıştır.

Çalışma sonucunda, incelenen yapıların dönemin eğitim politikalarının, bu politikalarla biçimlenen politik, sosyal ve kültürel dönüşümlerin ve mimarlığın bu süreçteki rolünün ayrılmaz bir parçasını oluşturdukları ve yapıların bütün bu sürecin taşıdığı anlam ve önemlerin somut tanıkları oldukları ortaya konmuştur. Yapıların oluşum sürecinin anlaşılabilmesi ve değerlendirme aşamasına aktarılabilmesi için ise bu sürecin kapsamlı bir araştırma ile ortaya konmasının gerekliliği vurgulanmıştır.

Anahtar sözcükler: erken Cumhuriyet dönemi mimarlık mirası, kapsayıcı değerlendirme yaklaşımı, ilkokul binaları, İzmir

To my loving grandmother; Feride Özçelik...

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ABBREVIATIONS

CEM: Cumhuriyet Eğitim Müzesi (Republican Education Museum)

DOCOMOMO: DOcumentation and COnservation of buildings, sites and neighborhoods of the MOdern MOvement

ICOMOS: International Council on Monuments and Sites

ICCROM: International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage

İMEM: İl Milli Eğitim Müdürlüğü (Provincial Directorate of National Education)

İLMEM: İlçe Milli Eğitim Müdürlüğü (District Directorate of National Education)

İÖÖ: İlk Öğretim Okulu (Primary School)

KTVKKBK: Kültür ve Tabiat Varlıklarını Koruma Bölge Kurulu (Regional Council for Conservation of Cultural and Natural Properties)

KTVKYK: Kültür ve Tabiat Varlıklarını Koruma Yüksek Kurulu (High Council for Conservation of Cultural and Natural Properties)

mAAN: modern Asian Architectural Network

MAU: Metropolitan Autonomoud University of Mexico

MEB: Milli Eğitim Bakanlığı (Ministry of National Education)

NGO: Non Governmental Organization

TCBDAGM: Türkiye Cumhuriyeti Başbakanlık Devlet Arşivleri Genel Müdürlüğü (General Directorate of State Archives)

UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

WHC: World Heritage Center