AN EXAMPLE FOR THE RE-USE OF THE HISTORIC BUILDINGS FOR CONTINUITY OF CULTURAL INHERITANCE: EDİRNE BAYEZID II COMPLEX

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ABSTRACT

Historical buildings which reflect the cultural values, lifestyles, social and economic ranks of the societies in the past, have been affected by the changes of circumstances in time. Change is continuous and a result of development. It is crucial to regain, evaluate and functionalize in accordance with the conception and criteria of contemporary conservation, the structures that are the most important representatives of our cultural and historical inheritance because of the changing cultural, physical and social environment circumstances. It is also critically important to transfer historical structures which are the products of our cultural inheritance to the future in order to maintain the continuity of cultural inheritance.

In this context, during the Selçuklu and Ottoman period, complexes which consisted of madrasah, guest houses (tabhane), hospital, public kitchen (imaret), public baths (hamam), fountain, market and so on that were built with a mosque, as a religious and social centre.

One of the complexes which is an important example of our cultural inheritance is the Bayezid II Complex which was built in the Sultan Bayezid II period in 15th century, in Edirne, the second capital city of the Ottoman Empire. The complex construction group includes units such as mosque, madrasah, guesthouse, mental hospital (Sıfahane), double Turkish baths, mill, bridge and water mill. Mosque, hospital, madrasah and guest house that take place in these units and reach to today, have survived by the conservation applications cyclically. The hospital part of the complex, by the mediation of Health Museum, was deemed worthy for the European Museum Prize in 2004 and has contributed to Edirne city tourism.

In this study, it will be attempted to evaluate the decisions about functionalizing of the “Bayezid II Complex” which is an important element of our cultural inheritance, in accordance with the contemporary conservation conceptions and criteria, and explicate the building with its all units.

Keywords: Cultural heritage, Re-use, Edirne, Bayezid II Complex

1. INTRODUCTION

Historical buildings which reflect the cultural values, lifestyles, social and economic ranks of the societies in the past, have been affected by the changes of circumstances in time. Change is continuous and a result of development. It is crucial to regain, evaluate and functionalize in accordance with the conception and criteria of contemporary conservation, the structures that are the most important representatives of our cultural and historical inheritance because of the changing cultural, physical and social environment circumstances. It is also critically important to transfer historical structures which are the products of our cultural inheritance to the future in order to maintain the continuity of cultural inheritance.

In this context, during the Selçuklu and Ottoman period, complexes which consisted of madrasah, guest houses (tabhane), hospital, public kitchen (imaret), public baths (hamam), fountain, market and

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so on that were built with a mosque, as a religious and social centre. One of the complexes which is an important example of our cultural inheritance is the Bayezid II Complex which was built in the Sultan Bayezid II period in 15th century, in Edirne, these capital city of the Ottoman Empire. The complex construction group includes units such as mosque, madrasah, guesthouse, mentalhospital (Sifahane), double Turkish baths, mill, bridge and watermill. Mosque, hospital, madrasah and guest house that take place in these units and reach to today, have survived by the conservation applications cyclically. The hospital part of the complex, by the mediation of Health Museum, was deemed worthy for the European Museum Prize in 2004 and has contributed to Edirne city tourism. In this study, it will be attempted to evaluate the decisions about functionalizing of the “Bayezid II Complex” which is an important element of our cultural inheritance, in accordance with the contemporary conservation conceptions and criteria, and explicate the building with its all units.

2. BAYEZID II COMPLEX AND CONSERVATION APPLICATIONS

A complex is a unit of structures that includes foundations and vassals giving cultural, religious and social services such as madrasah, tomb, baths, market, guesthouses, kitchen, library, school and hospital that are line dup around a mosque in accordance with necessity and purpose [1]. A complex can be defined as various functional building units which are bunched together and built as social institutions [2]. In the basic conception of a complex, there are development and construction of public facilities as well as the free service to public. Bayezid II Complex in Edirne, was built by Sultan Bayezid II, in 1488 and has been a unit of structures consisted of a mosque, madrasah, hospital, guesthouse, kitchen, double Turkish baths, mill, bridge and water mills (Fig. 1). It takes places in Edirne, on the shore of The River Tunca and in the province of Yeni İmaret.

![Fig. 1 The site plan](image1)

2.1. Complex Units

2.1.1. Mosque

It takes place in the centre of the complex units (Fig. 2). The dome scale is 22 metres (Fig. 3). The yard that takes place in front of the mosque is access able through 3 doors with a main one and 2 other sub-doors. Arcades of the yard is vaulted. Also, in the center of the yard, there is an open, marble fountain [3].

![Fig. 2 General view, 2011 (Canitez)](image2)  ![Fig. 3 Southeast facade, 2010 (Canitez)](image3)
2.1.2. Guesthouse
It holds place adjacent to the right and left body walls of the mosque in which patients, passengers and unemployed people accommodated for free and it consists of 4 rooms in corners and 2 each iwans on sides (Fig. 4-5). A dome with lantern covers the central area.

![Fig. 4 West guesthouse, 2010 (Canitez)](image)

![Fig. 5 East guesthouse, 2010 (Canitez)](image)

2.1.3. Madrasah
It is a vaulted building in the shape of a square which was built adjacent to the east bottom of the hospital (Fig. 6). The rooms, surround the 3 sides of a rectangular inner courtyard (Fig. 7).

![Fig. 6 Madrasah, general view, 2012 (Canitez)](image)

![Fig. 7 Madrasah, courtyard view 2012 (Canitez)](image)

2.1.4. Public Kitchen
It holds place in the east of the mosque which consists of kitchen, candle manufacturing, dining hall, attic, depot and stable parts (Fig. 8).

![Fig. 8 Public Kitchen, before restoration, 2005 (Canitez)](image)

2.1.5. Hospital
It is defined as health and education institutions that cure patients, give health information that depend on practice and observation in Turkish and Islamic worlds. The hospital of Bayezid II Complex locates in the west of the mosque and consists of 3 units (Fig. 9-10).
In the first unit, polyclinics, attic, a special diet kitchen, security guardrooms, isolated rooms for the insane, personnel rooms and kitchen in which medicine is cooked are found (Fig. 11).

In the second unit, there are 4 rooms and two halls. Two of the rooms are used as the medicine depot and pharmacy, the two others are allotted to the senior managers (Fig. 12). The last one is the hospital part with beds. This part includes 6 winter rooms and five open halls. Four of the halls are summer bedrooms and the other is the music stage (Fig. 13).
2.1.6. **Public Bath**
The construction that couldn’t survive to at the present time, is in the form of double bath as seen in the pictures (Fig. 14).

![Fig. 14 Public bath (anonymous)](image)

2.1.7. **Bridge**
Bayezid Bridge was built by the Sultan in order to enable access from near surroundings for the public to the mosque. There is a main arch in the middle and are four small arches on sides (Fig. 15-16).

![Fig. 15 Bridge and watermills, (anonymous)](image) ![Fig. 16 Bayezid Bridge, 2006 (Canitez)](image)

2.1.8. **Mill and Watermills**
They don’t exist at the present time (Fig. 17).

![Fig. 17 Mill and watermills, (anonymous)](image)

2.2. **Conservation Applications**
There have been cyclical restoration applications in different parts of the complex. In the earthquake occurred in Edirne in 1953, its minarets took damage and they were repaired in the 1960s and 1970s. In 1978, the ruined yard domes of the hospital were repaired (Fig. 18-19) [4].

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Repairs of 1984-1991
In 1984, except the mosque part, all units were allotted to Trakya University and restoration applications were started by the university lasting until 1991. In this process, the frontal clean-up of hospital was done, plasters and floorings were restored, interior and exterior (Fig. 20-21). Windows were attached, woodworks, doors and shutters were repaired and leads were replenished. Frontal clean-up and the lead reparations were done in madrasah. In 1997, the hospital building was rearranged as a museum and thus personated by models appropriate for history [4].

Repairs of 1998-2005
In 1998-2005, restoration period of the complex, the restoration of the mosque was carried out, pointing in the interior body walls was done, floor furnishings was renewed and lead reparations in the mosque and kitchen was carried out (Fig. 22-23) [4].
Repair of the year 2006
A drainage system was built in order to prevent the harm from rain water collected in the complex.

![Fig. 24 Drainage system, 2006 (Canitez)](image)

Repairs of 2007-2009
In 2007, the Bayezid II complex madrasah was started to be used as madrasah of medicine museum as well as the health museum. During the process of the change from madrasah to museum, plasters and fireplaces in rooms were repaired, new shutters were made for windows and niches, window and door woodwork was repaired in the courtyard with arcade stone cleanings were made (Fig. 25-26) [4].

![Fig. 25 Madrasah, courtyard, before restoration, 2007 (Canitez)](image)  ![Fig. 26 Madrasah, courtyard, after restoration, 2012 (Canitez)](image)

2007-2009 restorations cover up the exterior mosque and the courtyard, guesthouses and kitchen (imaret). In this period, there renovation of floorings, stone and brick reparations in the interior parts (Fig. 27-30), stone reparations in the exterior parts (Fig. 31-32), frontal cleanings, pointing and plaster works, fireplace reparations, lead works, renewal of window and door wood works are applications that were completed. The imaret part restoration has been completed but has not been functionalized yet.

![Fig. 27 Imaret, before restoration, 2008 (Canitez)](image)  ![Fig. 28 Imaret, after restoration, 2010 (Canitez)](image)
3. CONCLUSION AND EVALUATION

Cultural beings are shaped in accordance with the social, cultural, and economical set up of the era they belong to and reflect the culture of that era. It is very important to regain, evaluate and functionalize the structures that are the most important representatives of our cultural inheritance because of the changing cultural, physical and social circumstances. The use of these buildings must be appropriate for their historical identities.

Bayezid II complex has been an important historical monument and cultural inheritance in which from 1488 to the 1900s, medicine students had been educated, free meals had been given to the poor, guests had accommodated at guesthouses, in later years, mental diseased people had been cured with the knowledge and medicines of that era and with water sound, music, fragrance and various employments. Bayezid II complex was restored by evaluating its all units as a whole and has had the chance of transferring its values to the future with its functional so as a museum.

REFERENCES