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19th Century Public Buildings in Malatya City

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Abstract

Since the oldest ages, Malatya has been a gateway and crossroads for Anatolia and the Middle East. The oldest transportation route in the East, is the road that connects to Erzurum via Malatya-Sivas and then to the Caucasus. Located on the oldest routes in terms of location, the pre-historic Malatya dates back to the Paleolithic Age, and after the Zafer Mound excavations, it has been seen that Malatya and the surrounding region dates back to 7000s BC. Being one of Anatolia's oldest settlements, Malatya hosted the Hittites, the Meds, the Persians, the Romans, the Byzantines, Islamic civilizations, Seljuks, and the Ottoman Empire, and now continues facilitating the same for the Republic of Turkey. Indeed, every civilization has left its mark on this settlement (TC Malatya Governorship Provincial Culture and Tourism Directorate, 2014). The Ottoman Empire, taking serving to its peoples on every land it conquered as a duty, attached great importance to zoning activities. After the Ottoman Empire annexed Malatya to its territories, it continued to undertake zoning activities here. With the Westernization period, the Ottoman Empire changed its understanding of the field of zoning as in many other fields, and began to apply this new understanding in the late period structures. Zoning activities were carried on with during the Republican period as well (Akçadağ, 2016). This study is an attempt to introduce the public buildings which zoning activities are still carried within the borders of today's Malatya province in general. Within the scope of the study, accessed architectural projects in literature were evaluated, papers and articles written on the subject were examined and in order to locate public buildings, Ottoman archives were inquired. As a result, the development of public buildings of the Late and Early Republican Periods in the direction of needs particularly in Malatya was observed, and architectural characteristics of the structures were determined. The study aimed to contribute to other researchers' works by giving a scheme of the whereabouts and significance of the public structures in Malatya in Ottoman Architecture and National Architecture.

Keyword: Malatya; Public Structures; Late Ottoman Period; Early Republic.

1. Introduction

Towards the end of the 17th century, while Ottoman Empire stepped into a period of stagnation and decline; in Europe, with geographical discoveries, reforms and the Renaissance movements, a renewal process had begun to take place. The Ottoman Empire, which could not adapt to the European movements of innovation and development, lagged behind the era. In order to take action against this situation, the Ottoman Empire turned its direction to the west, and started to promote innovative movements in political, financial and social fields. This process called the Westernization Period was carried on with, in the 19th century as well (Demiriz, 2008). Although the efforts of innovation could not restore the state to its former military and financial power; styles influencing Europe in culture, arts and architecture have shown themselves effectively in Ottoman architecture. Although the innovation efforts did not bring the desired results, it declared itself effectively in the fields of culture, art and architecture.

With the restructuring in the Ottoman Empire, building types compatible with the west, which were not seen in the classical period, began to form (Duymaz, 2003), (Ertuğrul, 2009). The new types of structures formed in the late Ottoman Empire and the newly established state were as follows:

1. In military structures: Barracks
2. In education structures: Secondary schools ("Rüştiye"), High Schools ("İdadi"), Universities ("Darülfünun")
3. In administration structures: Governors Residences and Government Offices

4. In health structures: Hospitals
5. In production structures: Factories
6. In transportation structures: Railway Stations.

This declaration is based on a master's thesis at Adana Alparslan Türkeş Science and Technology University. The examples of the Late Ottoman and Early Republican public buildings in Anatolia were found simpler than those in Istanbul. The traces of simpler examples of Late Ottoman and Early Republican Architecture can also be seen in Malatya. For this study, the aim is to investigate the architectural features of public buildings in the city of Malatya, as it was under the sovereignty of the Ottoman Empire that has left big traces on the lands it prevailed during the 19th and 20th centuries, in terms of plan, façade, ornamentation, style, construction technique and conservation status, to determine the current conditions and to contribute to other researchers by creating a catalog. At the beginning of the study, 14 buildings identified in Malatya city center were detected. 7 of these structures have survived. 5 of the existing structures still serve their original functions and 2 of them are occupied with new functions. The identified structures are:

- Military Buildings: Malatya Recruiting Office Building, Aziziye Barracks, Hamidiye Barracks
- Educational Structures: Derme Primary School Gate, Gazi Primary School, Malatya High School, Village Boarding School
- Cultural Structures: Ataturk House
- Health Structures: Malatya Hospital
- Transportation Structures: Railway Station Building and Extensions
- Management Structures: Government Office, Malatya Mutasarrifate Building, Malatya

2. Public Buildings In Malatya

This section describes the Late Ottoman and Early Republican Public Buildings in Malatya.

2.1 Malatya Recruiting Office

Military Recruiting Office building was built in 1893 at the intersection point of Kışla Street and Hastane Street in the Saray quarter of Battalgazi district of Malatya Province. The building, which was owned by the Ministry of Defense until 2016, was transferred to Battalgazi Municipality in 2016 with the term that it should serve a museum, instead of its original use. The entrance of the building having a symmetrical plan which is rectangular on the outside and cross-like on the inside with the dimensions 32x10 m2 in the northwest-southeast direction is at the center. In the building, three levels were formed, protruding from the sides and the center. When the facade of the building having a total of 32 rooms is examined, we count 6 arched windows on both floors to the left and right sides of the entrance. There are a total of twenty upright rectangular windows with lowered- circular arches on two main facades, counting ten on each of the two floors. Both the ground floor and the first floor have an arched door for entrance. The building has an entrance porch with four pillars on the ground floor and the pillars carry the balcony on the ground floor on the midst of the first floor line. The roof is covered with a four-sided hipped roof and covered with Marseille type roof tiles. Later, to the east of the building, a single-storey L-planned residential building was added to serve as a military dormitory (TC Malatya Governorship Provincial Culture and Tourism Directorate, 2014).



Figure 1-2. Malatya Recruiting Office, current state.

2.2 Akçadağ Hamidiye ve Aziziye Barracks

During the reign of Sultan Abdulaziz in 1867, a large barracks was built in the center of the current Sultansuyu Stud farm. The Barracks of Aziziye later became an Imperial Farm (Çiftlik-i Hümayün). During the reign of Sultan Abdülhamit in 1871, the Hamidiye Barracks was built in the center of Akçadağ, and became the supply center of the 4th Army Corps (Demirbağ,

2013).

2.3 Derme Primary School Gate

The school's construction began in 1907 and in 1908 it was opened with the name "Girls' Primary School" (*Kızlar İlkokulu*). In 1976, the two-storey wooden building collapsed. The door cutting the garden wall in the north direction of the destroyed school measures 4.50 x 4 m in total and has an opening measuring 2.10 x 3.5 m. The top of the door is ornamented with an arch curb. The two sides of the door overflow outward in a bastion form, and its top is brick-lined (TC Malatya Governorship Provincial Culture and Tourism Directorate, 2014).

2.4 Gazi Primary School

The building which was built in 1933 in Battalgazi district of Malatya is one of the examples of Early Republican Period (1st National Movement). It is built on a 3530 m² area with a surrounding garden. The building, which is built as a basement + 2 floors, is accessible from an eight-step external staircase. The main entrance of the structure opens to a large entrance hall which has corridors on both sides. The corridors give access to two facing classes on each side, and the building protrudes with four projections on its corners. The second floor of the building is reached by stairs.

The front facade of the building, which utilizes cut and rubble stones on its facades, is completely covered with cut stones. On the lateral and back facades of the structure, the window and door edges utilize cut stone jambs. Entrance to the building is provided with a 4m high glass door. Above the entrance door, there is a balcony, and providing access to the balcony, a window wall and door in the form of an acute arch. The curved windows on the front and lateral facades reflect the architectural style of the period. The inner walls of the building were built as masonry. The ceiling of the first floor and the floor and ceiling of the second floor are made of wood. The roof of the building is covered with a tile roof. The structure is occupied today serving its original function (TC Malatya Governorship Provincial Culture and Tourism Directorate, 2014).



Figure 3-4. Gazi Primary School

2.5 Malatya High School

Malatya High School, which was founded in 1931 on the structure which was used as a madrasah in the pre-Republican period, kept on being an education facility as a secondary school until 1933. In the academic year of 1933 - 1934, a high school was opened. The high school building was a masonry structure which sat on the domains of today's Atatürk Secondary School (Directorate of National Education). This building was completely burned down in 1944 (Çiftçi, 2004).

2.6 Village Boarding School

The last remnants of the building, which was marked with the sign Village Boarding School in Ottoman Turkish, were reached in 1960 and the photographs are considered to date back to 1898 (Demirbağ, 2013).

2.7 Atatürk House

Located at the junction where the Atatürk Boulevard meets Kanalboyu Street, the building is located opposite the Atatürk Monument and İnönü Park, and was built at the end of the 19th century with a square plan. The building which sits on a 1687m² land is surrounded with gardens. On the upper floor of the building having a full ground basement under, there is a hall in the middle and four rooms to its sides (one of which is used as a toilet) opening to the hall. The hall was divided parallel to the facade and a long hall was formed.

The garden walls of the building are made of cut stone with knotty concrete fences. The interior of the building, the frontal facade of which is located on the Atatürk Boulevard, is accessed through the door located at the center of the facade that can be reached by the stairs. The entrance portal has run over the side walls, evoking a monumental appearance. The

door opening is acute arched and no inscription is available today where it ought to be. The inscription on the entrance pediment of the building, which has a pointed arched door opening, does not exist today. There are four pointed arched windows on the main facade and five on each of the lateral facades. Not only the overall structure, but also the main partitions are made of cut stone. The room splitting and the ceilings were built as masonry and the building was covered with a roof later on. The building, which is now used as a museum, has lost its original function (TC Malatya Governorship Provincial Culture and Tourism Directorate, 2014), (Demirbağ, 2013).



Figure 5. The Atatürk House as it is today.

2.8 The Railway Station Building and Add-ons

Located in Yeşilyurt, one of the central districts of the city of Malatya, the building was built in 1931 in the east-west direction, parallel to the railway. Built on a 9700 m² area with a rectangular plan, the building consists of a basement, a ground floor and the 1st floor. The ground floor is designated for administration and passengers, while the upper floor is taken for living quarters. When the ground floor plan is examined, it can be seen that it has designed as three sections, the central space taken for the entrance hall, while the connected areas are used as the lobby and rooms designated to various administrative units.

The facade was plastered with concrete and, being elevated relative to the sides, the central space was emphasized. By drawing the facades inwards relative to the side spaces, more dynamics were gained on the facades. The facades were further enriched by the use of moldings between the floors, and around the windows and doors on the exterior. On the ground floor, the entrance was pulled inwards and entrance porticos are available on both facades. Each entrance portico was seated on two marble pillars. Administrative rooms look simple in terms of decoration; however, the square hall ceiling is a waffle slab. The central area of the hall ceiling is wider, and, on the skirts of the ceiling, there are horizontal and vertical moldings in narrow rectangular panels. Instead of a gable roof, the top of the structure was covered by a hipped and flat roof. The structure, the slabs of which were constructed as reinforced concrete supported by steel beams, has a Functionalist Rationalist approach which can be regarded as a transition period between the 1st National and 2nd National Architecture movements. The structure is still occupied today serving its original function (TC Malatya Governorship Provincial Culture and Tourism Directorate, 2014), (Demirbağ, 2013), (Başar, Erdoğan, 2009).

2.9 Government Office

Located in Battalgazi, the central district of Malatya, the building was constructed on an area of 2100 m². The building, which was formed by the merger of three symmetrical U-shaped structures in east- west direction, was started in 1936 and completed in 1941. Rectangular two-storey structures have been added to the east and west facades of the main building, which has three floors over a basement. These two structures are located on the south facade and form a flat facade together with the arms of the main building. The floor level difference seen on the facade evokes a perception of gradualness. The rooms designated to the administrative units in the main structure are mutually arranged around a corridor.

There are four entrances symmetrically arranged in all four directions of the main building. The main entrance to the building is provided from the north and west facades. The upper part of the projected entrance located at the middle of the front facade (north) is used as a balcony. On the first floor of the entrance covered with smooth cut stone, which is reached by a double landing staircase, there are three wooden doors with double wings placed side by side. Next to the

rightmost and leftmost leading doors, one rectangular window each was placed, and on the second floor, five windows were placed right above these windows and doors. There are a total of fifty-four windows on the right and left sides of the entrance on the front facade. And just above the entrance, there are five. The east and west facades of the building have almost the same characteristics. Three neatly cut stone pillars were placed in this section, one adjoined with the structure. To the west of the building, there are two doors used separately for entrance and exit. Although the western facade of the two-storey building is flat and has no windows, there are windows on the facade of the two-storey structure to the east. The entrance on the east facade has a double winged wooden door. This door and the double landings staircase with cast mosaic are original. The entrance to the south of the building is located on the axis of symmetry of the main entrance to the north. There are three wooden doors with double wings placed side by side. The long rectangular windows placed at the top level of these doors and, the windows at the entrance are among the original elements of the structure. All the windows and doors except the windows on third floor in the south, east and west, are stone jambs. A meter-high outer waterproof basement of the building has a stone wall assembly.

The building, which shows the characteristics of the first republican architecture, was built as reinforced concrete and, currently, functions as the governorate of Malatya (TC Malatya Governorship Provincial Culture and Tourism Directorate, 2014), (Demirbağ, 2013).



Figure 4-5. Government Office construction photographs.

2.10 Malatya Government Office (The Building of Mutassarifate)

The Mutassarifate Building, which was mentioned in the yearbook of the 1880s and which included other government offices as well, was completely demolished in 1941 after the construction of a new structure (Demirbağ, 2013).

2.11 Malatya Municipality Building

The building's architectural labor was conducted by Semih Temel from Ankara, and it is one of the transitional structures between the 1st and the 2nd National movements. Construction began in 1936 and was completed in 1938. The building was completely demolished in 2017 (Demirbağ, 2013).










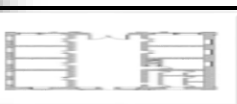



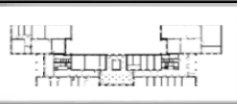




2.12 Malatya Post Office

In 1894, like the other administrative buildings, the telegraph office as well was located in the Government building. In the following years, it was moved to the single-storey masonry structure on the corner of Sivas Street (Demirbağ, 2013).

2.13 Malatya Hospital

In the building which was a small German school in the east of Malatya, the Americans established an orphanage (Darüleytam). The structure which was abandoned in the struggle for independence was then turned into a small hospital. Since the capacity increased to 50 beds in 1925 did still not suffice, a state hospital, construction of which began in 1937 and was completed in 1938, was built next to the structure (Demirbağ, 2013).

Table 1. Malatya Public Buildings.

Name of the Building	Date Built	Original Function	Function Today	Photo	Plan
Malatya Recruiting Office	1893	Military Structure	Museum		
Aziziye Barracks	1867	Military Structure	Non-Extant		—
Hamidiye Barracks	1871	Military Structure	Non-Extant	—	—
Derme Primary School Gate	1907	Education Structure	Gate		—
Gazi Primary School	1933	Education Structure	School		—
Malatya High School	The end of 19 th – beginning of 20 th century	Education Structure	Non-Extant		
Village Boarding School	The end of 19 th – beginning of 20 th century	Education Structure	Non-Extant		—
Atatürk House	The end of 19th century	Cultural Structure	Museum		
Station Building and Add-ons	1931 1941	Transportation Structure	Railroad Station		
Government Office	~1880	Administration Structure	Malatya Governorate		
Mutasarrifate Building	The end of 19 th – beginning of 20 th century	Administration Structure	Non-Extant		—
Malatya Post Office	The end of 19 th – beginning of 20 th century	Administration Structure	Non-Extant		—
Malatya Municipality Building	1938	Administration Structure	Non-Extant		—
Malatya Hospital	The end of 19 th – beginning of 20 th century	Health Structure	Non-Extant		—

5. Conclusions

The provincial applications of public buildings constructed between the years 1890-1940 intended were all examined. It was found that 7 of the 12 structures identified have survived to this day. 5 of the existing structures are being used with

their original functions and 2 of them are occupied with new functions. The newly assigned functions are cultural (museum), which make them completely different from their original functions.

The observation of the phenomena, Ottoman Architecture producing architectural products in western styles such as Baroque and Imperial with the 18th century and it producing products in the style of National Architecture (1st National Movement) which was defined as a new style in the early 20th century, was rendered possible in Malatya especially since the end of the 19th century on the basis of public buildings.

The majority of the buildings were 2-3 storied and built implementing masonry techniques in order to represent the central authority of the state. At that time, these were the city's most spectacular buildings.

With the westernization period, the construction of public buildings in all Ottoman lands gained great momentum. These buildings have the general characteristics of Late Ottoman Architecture and laid the foundation for the Republican Architecture. In this study, it has been revealed that the public buildings constructed in Malatya in 1890-1940 reflect the characteristics of the period in the best way and that they have the capacity to provide important contributions to other researchers in the evaluation of the period.

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