

ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES OF HISTORICAL MANSION IN GUMUSHANE

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Abstract

Gumushane province has important features in terms of the diversity of traditional architecture located between Eastern Black Sea and Eastern Anatolia region. Gumushane which includes the ruins of the oldest Bronze Age period, has been an important cultural center in history owing to its location on the silk road. The formation of architectural features of Gumushane mansion has been formed by rich in history, cultural diversity, geographical circumstances and climatic conditions. Part of these structures which should be an example to future generations as a cultural heritage are disappearing due to indifference and neglect while some of them are recovered with restoration projects. With this study it is aimed to ensure the integration of contemporary living and to pass on to future generations by examining general characteristics of Gumushane' s mansion.

Keywords: Gumushane, mansion, historical, architectural features

GÜMÜŞHANE' DEKİ TARİHİ KONAKLARIN MİMARİ ÖZELLİKLERİ

Özet

Doğu Karadeniz ve Doğu Anadolu Bölgesi arasında yer alan Gümüşhane ili geleneksel mimarinin çeşitliliği açısından önemli özelliklere sahiptir. En eski Tunç Çağı döneminden kalıntıların bulunduğu Gümüşhane, üzerinden ipek yolunun geçmesi nedeniyle tarihte önemli bir kültür merkezi olmuştur. Gümüşhane konaklarının mimari özelliklerini zengin tarihi geçmişi, kültürel zenginlikleri, coğrafi koşulları ve iklim şartları biçimlendirmiştir. Kültür mirası olarak gelecek nesillere örnek olması gereken bu yapıların bir kısmı ilgisizlik ve bakımsızlıktan dolayı yok olurken, bir kısmı da yenileme projeleri ile geri kazanılmaktadır. Bu çalışma ile Gümüşhane konaklarının genel özellikleri incelenerek, çağdaş yaşamla bütünleşmesini ve gelecek kuşaklara aktarılmasını sağlamak amaçlanmıştır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Gümüşhane, konak, tarihi, mimari özellik

1 Introduction

Gumushane is on a branch of the historic Silk Road in the inner part of the Eastern Black Sea, on the Harsit river valley adjacent to Bayburt on east, Trabzon on north, Giresun on west, Erzincan on south. Gumushane province has been important until period of roman, byzantine and ottoman to today because of containing transit transport routes tie Middle East to Black Sea. The history of city has been determined to oldest by archaeological Bronze Age remains. The city became the center of various civilizations because it's an area where people extract gold, silver and copper mines [1]. The region where city is established provide to remain hidden as cultural wealth and led to not to be affected by surroundings thanks to its situation which is mountainous and divided by valleys and rivers. There has not done too much study on old Turkish mansion in Gumushane. Aim in this study is to transfer cultural heritage of these structures to the next generations. In this context, it's intended to ensure the integration of modern life, while preventing the extinction of traditional mansions of Gumushane among new constructions.

2 Traditional Turkish House and Gumushane Mansions

Anatolian lands have witnessed the changing and developing architecture of the house from the Neolithic period. House plans and materials differs in each region with climate, religion, traditions, economic status, environmental conditions and many active ingredients such as local topographical conditions.

The stone has been used in South East Anatolia, stone with bonding timber in Eastern Anatolia, typical wooden skeleton in the Eastern Black Sea, stone and brick in Central Anatolia for residential architecture [2]. The main materials used in Gumushane are stone, adobe and wood.



Figure 1. Gumushane mansions (1920) [3].

2.1 Architectural Features of Gumushane Mansion

2.1.1 Hall

While separating Turkish house according to plans, no-hall, exterior-hall, and inner hall and central hall plan type is used [4]. Major determinant of plan shape of Gumushane mansions is the hall like in traditional Turkish house architecture. Halls are located in the center of all rooms and room doors opens to the hall. Structures in Gumushane are designed according to inner hall plan type. Inner hall plan type is the most common type of traditional Turkish house. In this plan type, rooms are lined up to both sides of the hall, the hall stays as the center.



Figure 2. Hall [3].

2.1.2 Floors

The houses in Anatolian Turkish residential architecture mostly have one or two floors. In Istanbul two or three floors, in Central Anatolia one floor, in Gumushane there are two or three floors to enable the multipurpose use. Floors are generally done overflowing 15-20 cm to outside [5]. The entrance to the ground floor is enabled from main doors in the middle. The ground floor is designed as kitchen, pantry, and toilet and servis area. In the entrance, side rooms are passed through interior hall or can go to upstairs with wooden stairs. The first floor forms the main life space.

2.1.3 Rooms

The room is the life unit that meet the basic needs like living, sitting, eating, relaxation, meal preparation. Gumushane mansions are done accordingly so as not to restrict multiple private life like kitchen, groom room, bride room, and mother in law room and guest room to meet the needs of patriarchal family like in the traditional Turkish way. One or two of the walls in rooms are covered with closets and cabinets. The parts without closets in front of windows are decorated with couches formed with cushions called "peke" in colloquial speech [6].



Figure 3. Bride room with Peke [3].

2.1.4 Windows

Windows of Gumushane mansions are made in rectangular or arched form. Windows move narrowing from inside to outside to increase the amount of insolation and sun against continental climate. Generally, windows are made from wood, fences are from iron.



Figure 4. Wood windows and fringe of Balyemez Mansion [3].

2.1.5 Roofs

External pitched roof, shoulder roof and saddle roof systems are seen in Gumushane house [6]. Mostly tops of the houses are covered with pitched roofs. Ceiling parts of the houses are coated with wood material, applied with wood sponce lath or beams. Sheet iron, silo and mostly tile are used to cover roofs.



Figure 5. Roof and fringe of Balyemez Mansion [3].

Starting from first floor, fringes overflowing outside are supported with wood profiles from the bottom, a harmonious look is formed with windows and roof. The most striking characteristic of the fringes on those mansions is that they are arranged overflowing and graded with wood laths because of the rainy climate of the region.

2.1.6 Gardens

Garden walls are done high so as to protect the privacy and reached to the floor starting level thus separating outdoors and indoors. Gumushane houses are done mostly within wide gardens. House gardens are filled with trees and flowers which makes them flashy. The arrangements named "The Famous Gumushane Gardens" which makes Gumushane houses special, has a compatible structure with houses [5].

2.1.7 Decorations

The most important element of the outdoor ornaments on Gumushane mansions is doorknobs. Wood carving appliques are used especially on doors, windows, eaves and bow-windows. Local stones helped to gain an aesthetic look in ground floor. White clay over mud plaster is used on outdoor face. White walls especially on window pediments are decorated with pen work motifs.

Indoor decorations are focused on cooking areas (stove), halls, rooms and ceilings. Baroque ornaments are seen both interior and exterior decoration.

For being a transition zone between Eastern Anatolia and Black Sea regions, the influence of the architectural features of cities like Trabzon, Giresun and Erzurum on Gumushane is observed. To exemplify the Gumushane mansions we can count Adil

Balyemez Mansion, Erdemir Akagun House with wide garden landscaping, Erkan Kocaturk House, Zeki Kadir Bey Mansion which is an example for houses with wood eaves, Hasan Fehmi Atac Mansion with a doorknob which is a common feature in Gumushane house , Ahmet Kaya House, Rafet Cubukcu House, Abdi Bey Mansion, Hikmet-Mahmut San Kardesler House with a karniyarik plan, Tefvik Kucuk Omeroglu house, Fahri Gumuseli House which has a ground floor stone flooring and round arched window arrangement, Sahbenderoglu Mansion whose exterior side has pen work decoration [2]. Some of those houses were examined in general terms.

2.2 Gumushane Mansions

2.2.1 Zeki Kadirbeyoglu Mansion

This mansion, a unique example for Gumushane historical mansions, is almost completed after being too ruined to be lived thanks to the restoration project.



Figure 6. Zeki Kadirbeyoglu Mansion [7].

The mansion has two floors and an indoor hall. The building is bonded with stone covering and the building's walls are covered with lime after being plastered with a mixture of hay. The second floor is formed according to lathing style, the view domination is earned by moving out room corners.

At first floor, there are pekes for living and recreation, closets and plaster flower bed.



Figure 7. Flower bed of Zeki Kadirbeyoglu Mansion [8].

Doors are generally double gated and pediments that we often encounter in Gumushane houses are used. There is a big bath whose restoration has just started in front of the mansion. There are pen work decorations in east and north sides of Zeki Kadirbeyoglu Mansion [9].

2.2.2 Adil Balyemez Mansion

The construction whose restoration project completed in 2005, operates as restaurant and cafeteria.



Figure 8. Adil Balyemez Mansion [10].

The structure has three floors. It is done separated from first floor on hall width, which we encounter frequently in Gumushane Mansions. Having a wide garden, Harsit stream flows in the east side. The construction has young roof and circle shaped windows. While the entry floor is arranged as service place, the upstairs is works as living area.

2.2.3 Hasan Fehmi Atac Mansion

The mansion has three floors. The construction is done in two stages; first floor and penthouse are added later. The restoration of the mansion that provides restaurant and accommodation service was completed in 2005.



Figure 9. Hasan Fehmi Atac Mansion [11].

It has a wide and aesthetic garden landscaping. Ground floor is built with local stones, penthouse with wood beams. Lighting amount is increased with long rectangular windows. Wood and stone work has been used heavily. Gable roof which is seen in Gumushane Mansion widely is built and bottom of eaves are supported with wood profiles. Both front domination and aesthetic look is provided with central door and windowed balcony that are placed in penthouse.

2.2.4 Sahbenderzade Mansion

It is typical Gumushane house consisting of "haremlik and selamlık" (the parts of a house occupied by the women and men) sections with two floors. Wood and pen interior ornaments are used densely above the construction [8].



Figure 10. Sahbenderzade Mansion [5].

The structure is built with the content and construction style similar to Zeki Kadirbeyoglu's Mansion which was built in the almost same period.

2.2.5 Turan Manisali's House

It is a construction with two floors. Downstairs is built with local stone; upstairs is built with lathing style. It is the construction with densest interior decorations. Sword and shield reliefs are used on stone fireplace at the entrance of the ground floor [8].

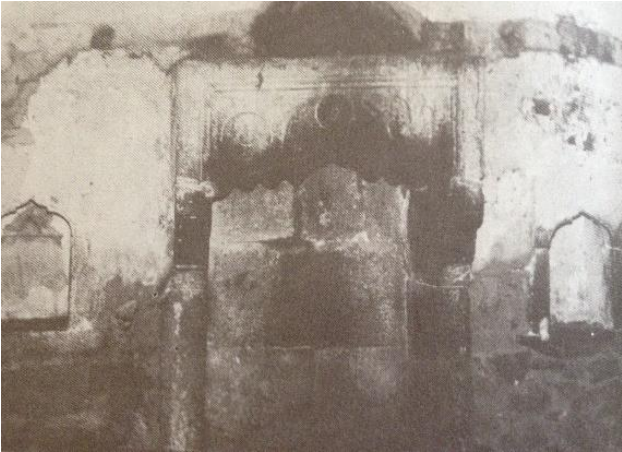


Figure 11. Turan Manisali winter stove [8].

Upstairs' rooms have decoration figures like cabinet, couch and flower bed.

2.2.6 Erdemir Akagun's House

The ground and top floors of the construction is built on different times. Similar penthouse and door knobs to Atac Mansion are seen.



Figure 12. Erdemir Akagun's House [12].

Wood flooring is used in rooms, stone flooring in halls' ground. Iron fenced rectangle windows and doors have wood pediments. Stone filler is used at basement and ground floor and adobe filling material is used at first floor and penthouse. There are wood decorations bounded with rectangle shaped borders in ceilings [8].

2.2.7 Rafet Cubukcu's House

It is a Gumushane Mansion with an interior sofa and two floors. On ground floor stone is used, adobe material is used on upstairs and stone diversion border is used on side [11].



Figure 13. Rafet Çubukcu's House [12].

Front domination increases by pitched roof with oriel window.

2.2.8 Ahmet Kaya's House

The construction is built with 2 floors and four shoulder roof. Upstairs is entered from back side [8].



Figure 14. Ahmet Kaya's House [11].

3 Conclusion

Local architecture that forms our cultural heritage is disappearing with the use of reinforced concrete materials and multi-storey formation. Public housing system only meets with the physical requirements like the human's need to sleep, drink, eat. However, humans as their nature is dependent to be provided with social, cultural and psychologic requirements. Nowadays, the process to regain historical mansions through restoration retrieves this cultural and artistic value that vanishes with great speed. During this process notably ministry of culture, scene administrations, universities and profession groups relevant with topic need to take necessary measures. We will mention some of the precautions that can be taken.

- 1) Some part of historical mansions can be used for accommodation, museum and tourism purposes.

- 2) New constructions harmonious with old mansions can be established.
- 3) Instead of reinforced concrete constructions which do not suit regional conditions (like amount of rain, snow, sun bathing), construction matching with old regional architecture can be chosen.
- 4) By driving apart mansion gardens from reinforced concrete constructions, those mansion gardens can be arranged as parks and jogging areas from which both tourists and urbans can benefit.
- 5) The use of those constructions on the architectural projects should be increased by promoting them, which are local cultural heritages.

As well as the accommodation of tourist, required substructure for transportation should be provided. Transportation with highway, maritime, plane should be eased.

4 Acknowledgment

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