


Book Review

Spaces of Republic in Sivas, 1930-1980

Ugur Tuztasi, Pinar Koc (Editors)
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Spaces of Republic in Sivas,
1930-1980, (Bir Anadolu Kentinin
Modernleşmesi Sivas'ta
Cumhuriyetin Mekanları 1930-1980)
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Modernization of an Anatolian City, Republic Places in Sivas 1930-1980 is a book written by Uğur Tuztaşı and Pinar Koç and published by YEM Publishing in Istanbul in 2022. In the book *Dreaming for Sivas Selections from Architectural Studios, 2014-2021* (Tuztasi and Koc, 2021) (Hacıhasanoğlu, 2023), edited by the same authors, it is seen that some of the buildings discussed in this book are given as context in architectural design studios. The

book is 320 pages and consists of six chapters. The first chapter is entitled as "Transformation of the City Square", the second chapter "Urban Open Spaces", the third chapter: "Destroyed Buildings", the fourth chapter: "Public Settlements", the fifth chapter: "Public Buildings", the sixth chapter: "Residences".

In the first chapter, the chronological development and transformation of the city

square is discussed. The importance of the city square for the city and social life throughout history is discussed through built, demolished, transformed buildings and open spaces. The city squares, which were not formed in traditional Turkish cities, are shaped together with the administrative buildings of the cities with the modernization efforts of the republic and their place in the urban social structure is defined.

In the second chapter, the open spaces in the city of Sivas: "Municipality Park", "National Garden", "Cıbrırlar Park", "Old 4 September Stadium", "Hot Çermik" and "Cold Çermik" are explained. With modernization in the city of Sivas, emphasis is placed on open spaces becoming a part of modern life.

In the third chapter, under the title "Destroyed Buildings", the buildings whose construction years are stated and which are still demolished are explained. These buildings: "İnhisarlar Tekel Building (1932)", "Governor's Residence (1932)", "Tan Cinema (1932-1933)", "Pension Building (1932)", "Emlak Apartment (1938)", "Old Carpet Weaving School" (1940s)", "Orduevi (1946-1963)", Industrial Vocational High School (1940-50)", "Yalçın Cinema (1950)", "Provincial Public Library (1950)", "Numune Hospital (1932-1953)", "Kızilirmak School 1934)", "Akgül Hotel (1956)", "Selçuk Secondary School (1959)", "Atatürk Indoor Sports Hall (1959-60)", "Ülkü Primary School (1962)", "Old Trade High School (1965-69)", "Provincial, Special Administration Lodgings (1960-73)", "Second Foundation Offices (1977)", "Sivas Government House (1973-75)". The demolition of these buildings, many of which are very valuable in terms of aesthetics and modernization, are important examples of the problem of not preserving architectural values in Turkey. Thanks to this book, it is possible to document these structures, which have been demolished due to this tendency of local politicians.

The fourth chapter of the book is titled "Public Settlements" and deals with the campuses of public institutions in the city. In this context, 21 separate buildings were examined within the

scope of "Sivas State Railways Campuses". Among the buildings in this campus, there are "Sivas Train Station", "TCDD Hospital" and "TCDD Training Building". "It is emphasized that the Cement Factory (1939-1943) campus is one of the important campuses on the west side of the city. "Regional Directorate of Highways (1966)" is another campus included in the book, located to the west of the city center. It is stated that "State Hydraulic Works (1976)" is the campus that houses the DSI Sivas Regional Directorate to meet the water needs of the region. This campus is located in the western part of the city.

The fifth chapter of the book is devoted to public buildings. Map of the city of Sivas, where the public buildings in this chapter of the book are visible. The chapter begins with a general explanation of the modernization of the city and its effects on urban space. In this section, "Electric Power Plant (1930s)", "Wheat Market (late 1930s-1950s)", "Fevzi Pasha Primary School (1938)", "Girls Art School – Necip Fazıl Kısakürek Vocational and Technical Anatolian High School (1938-1970)", "Old Örnek Hotel (1940)", "İş Bank (1940)", "Ergin Primary School-Namık Kemal Primary School (1945)", "PTT Building (1946)", "Old Municipality Hotel 1950-1952)", "Old Municipality Wedding Hall (1950s)", "Old Emlak Kredi Bank (late 1950s)", "Topaloğulları İşhanı (1953)", "Sümerbank Store (1954)", "Observatory Mosque (1957)", "Tuberculosis War Association (1958)", "Observatory (1958)", "Dört Eylül Secondary School (1959)", "Anadolu Selçuklu Primary School – Mevlana Secondary School (1959-1961)", "Ece Mahallesi Mosque (1960)", "Kütüklü Mosque (1960)", "Alparslan Secondary School (1964)", "Atatürk Monument (1965)", "Vegetable Market (1965)", "Workers' Insurance Branch Building and Lodging (1965)", "Municipal Service Building (1963-1967)", "Akhan Business Center (1967)", "Former Soil-Water Regional Directorate - Provincial Directorate of National Education (1967)", "Süleyman Deveci Mosque (1969)", "Sivas High School and Pension (1970-1971)", "Sivas Workers' Insurance Hospital – Sivas State Hospital (1971)",

“Demiryol-İş Union (1971)”, “SCU Faculty of Medicine Hospital (1971)”, “Reverie Office Building (1973)”, “Old Village Services Campus-20th Regional Directorate of Land Registry and Cadastre (1976)”, “Millet İş Hanı (1976)”, “SCU Old Rectorate Building (1976-1977)”, “SCU Sports Hall (1977)”, “Press site (1978)”, “Paşa Mosque (1980)”, “Wholesalers Site 1980-1984)”, “Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism (1983)”, “Health Business Site (1984)”, “Municipality Bazaar (1982-1984)”, “Dört Eylül Indoor Sports Hall (1984)”, “Ethem Bey Wedding Hall (1984-1987)” buildings.

The sixth chapter deals with 30 apartment buildings or residential settlements after a text describing the housing development of the city of Sivas. The housing modernization of the Republican Era, which started with factory houses, and the development of the residential environment, which was stated to have turned into multi-storey housing blocks after the 1960s, show similar characteristics to other cities in Turkey.

The book can be considered as an architectural city monograph that describes the development, change and transformation of an Anatolian city, which has historical value for the Republic of Turkey, within the framework of modernization. The most powerful aspect is that the authors make valuable determinations about Sivas city, where they live and work, and which they evaluate together with their architecture students (Tuztasi and Koc, 2022), (Tuztasi and Koc, 2021b), (Tuztasi and Koc, 2020). I hope that these works will set an example for other Anatolian cities that host architecture programs.

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