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Exploring Theoretical and Practical Shifts in Post-Venice Charter Conservation Perspective Through Reuse of Istanbul's Industrial Heritage

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Abstract

The perpetually changing discipline of conservation creates its own field of action within the bounds of certain theoretical anchor points. One of the most prevailing expressions of this quest for a universal common ground that reflects the spirit of its time, is undoubtedly the Venice Charter, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. The passing of time has revealed its stabilizing and enduring influence, while also prompting numerous discussions about its adequacy, timeliness, and validity, as well as the expanding potentials that the change being encountered may present. This study, therefore, aims to analyze the theoretical and practical shifts in post-Venice Charter conservation perspective through reuse of Istanbul's industrial heritage. Focusing on a rather theoretically post-Venetian concept, and conjunctly, the prominent industrial complexes of the city, the study is carried out in two stages. The first stage exhibits the evolving perspective by meticulously examining the constituent dimensions of conservation theory in doctrinal documents. Subsequently, the on-the-field demeanour of the post-Venice Charter perspective is discussed through recent practices. By this means, the contemporary whereabouts of both theory and practice is explored comparatively to capture a greater context while also framing relatively more current concepts and approaches to conservation.

Keywords: *The Venice Charter, theory & practice, reuse, industrial heritage, Istanbul*

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Venedik Tüzüğü Sonrası Koruma Perspektifinde Kuramsal ve Pratik Değişimlerin İstanbul'un Endüstri Mirasının Yeniden Kullanımı Üzerinden İncelenmesi

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Öz

Sürekli değişen ve dönüşen koruma disiplini, her daim, belirli teorik dayanak noktaları içerisinde kendi hareket alanını oluşturagelmıştır. Bu evrensel ortak zemin arayışının en bilinen yansımalarından biri, hiç şüphesiz, 60. Yılı kutlamakta olan Venedik Tüzüğü'dür. Aradan geçen zaman, bir yandan onun dengeleyici ve kalıcı etkisini ortaya çıkarırken diğer yandan da yeterliliği, zamana uygunluğu, geçerliliği gibi sorgulamaların yanı sıra yaşanan değişimin açığa çıkardığı yeni potansiyellere karşılık verebilmesine ilişkin birçok tartışmayı da beraberinde getirmiştir. Söz konusu oluşturucu arka plan dahilinde, bu makale, İstanbul'un endüstriyel mirasının yeniden kullanımı yoluyla Venedik Tüzüğü sonrası koruma perspektifindeki kuramsal ve pratik değişimleri irdelemeyi amaçlamaktadır. Kuramsal açıdan tüziük ertesi sayılabilecek bir kavrama ve buna bağlı olarak şehrin önemli endüstriyel komplekslerine odaklanan çalışma, iki aşamalı biçimde ortaya konulmaktadır. Bunlardan ilki, koruma teorisinin ve oluşturucu bileşenlerinin ilkesel belgelerde titizlikle incelenerek değişen perspektifin açığa çıkarılmasıdır. Ardından, Venedik Tüzüğü sonrası kuramsal izleğin pratikteki yansımaları, yakın dönem yeniden kullanım uygulamaları üzerinden tartışılmaktadır. Bu sayede hem teori hem de pratiğin güncel durumu karşılaştırmalı olarak irdelenirken aynı zamanda korumaya ilişkin görece daha yeni kavram ve yaklaşımların da çerçevelenmesi ve ilgili tartışmaların derinleştirilmesi amaçlanmaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Venedik Tüzüğü, teori ve pratik, yeniden kullanım, endüstri mirası, İstanbul

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Introduction

Contemporary conservation theory reveals a dynamic framework continually evolving to meet the demands of the unprecedented change and development while retaining its essence, rooted in doctrinal documents. Despite ongoing storms from the beginning, one can say that the intervening decades have not diminished the power of the Venice Charter but have helped prove that it is one of the most influential documents of the 20th century. Translated into many languages and inspiring various recommendations, it continues to stand as one of the anchor points of the discipline, recognized as the fundamental doctrinal document by International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), which was also established in response to the 1964 Venice Congress (Jokilehto, 1998, p.229-230).

To fully comprehend its prominent character, one must first understand its formative context. Szmygin and Skoczylas (2021) assert that there were three significant factors that shaped the Venice Charter, namely the idea of international cooperation and mutual assistance, distinct conservation context, marked by the conclusion of post-war initiatives focused on reconstruction, and the understanding of the concept of a monument. While there were preliminaries, the charter, aimed at addressing emerging challenges of the time and cultivating attitudes, was fundamentally new for its period (Fejérdy, 2014, p.29).

Arguments on its adequacy, timeliness and validity often targeted the document in the following years, as it does today. The criticisms were generally focused on eurocentrism, semantic differences between the translations and the original text, and deficiencies regarding the developing theoretical framework (Akin, 2005, p.22). Erder (1977), for instance, highlighted that the document was considered inadequate in terms of compass and concepts, and did not meet the demands of contemporary society. Statedly, it cannot provide a sufficient response consisting of facts and principles that could lead to a worldwide consensus⁵ (Lemaire, 1995/2005, p.26).

These inquiries often went hand in hand with a request for change. One of the pioneers of this quest was Lemaire, who also happens to be one of the prominent figures behind the charter. His efforts to update some of

⁵ The original text is dated 1995 and was written in connection with the evaluations of the 30th anniversary of The Venice Charter.

the articles, mostly due to their deficiencies in dealing with architectural ensembles were rejected in 1978 and followed by the reaffirmation of the validity of the charter in the 1981 General Assembly (Houbart, 2014, p.232-237). This reaffirmation, though, has never stemmed the tide of demands for change. At one of the last instances of ongoing debate, a group of professionals symbolically met in Venice in 2006 to address issues of the charter, by a namesake declaration (The International Network for Traditional Building, Architecture & Urbanism [INTBAU], 2007), where the former document's inability to maintain coherent and sustainable urban environments and respond to the role of traditional building crafts has been emphasized.

There have also been counter arguments which maintained the charter's pivotal position within the arena. Petzet (2004), for instance, asserted that the deficiencies can be remedied with the help of periodic and systematic supplements and interpretations⁶. In a similar manner, and in partial response to criticisms of being Eurocentric, Jokilehto (2021) mentioned that the charter was a condensed representation of the early conceptual developments from the 18th Century onwards, emphasizing the responsibility of each country to apply the framework in accordance with its own culture and traditions. These propositions have often centered on the symbolic and testimonial character of the charter, uniquely shaped by the *Zeitgeist* of its time.

In this context, this research, commemorating the charter's 60th Anniversary while also addressing the preceding discussions, focuses on the reuse of Istanbul's industrial heritage. In doing so, it aims to explore industrial heritage as a rather theoretically post-Venetian concept, through reuse, which was referred to in the document in relation to the idea of social use. In this light, the aims of the research are manifold. The first is to explore and understand the evolving perspective of conservation theory by evaluating its fundamental and constituent aspects. Secondly, to scrutinize the selected cases to assess how contemporary approaches coinciding with timely turns are reflected in practice. The ideational and practical shifts in the post-Venice Charter conservation perspective are then discussed comparatively, offering a holistic standpoint. Ultimately,

⁶ Petzet (2004) exemplifies successors such as the Florence Charter on the Preservation of Historic Gardens and The Charter on the Built Vernacular Heritage. Although industrial monuments are also verbalised within the text at a few instances, it is somewhat interesting that the issue is not elaborated regarding addendums in the categories of monuments section.

this paper aims to contribute to the ongoing debate on the charter, as well as to the ever-evolving discipline of conservation, through the examination of selected cases.

Scope and Methods

The study's dual structure and related aims, nourished by the dichotomy of theory and practice, were effective in shaping the scope and methods (Figure 1). Firstly, to understand the transformation of the conservation approach since the Venice Charter, the fundamentals of conservation were pursued in prominent guiding documents. Aspects such as restoration and intervention methods, as well as the technology and science of conservation were specifically excluded from the scope, with emphasis placed on understanding the general theoretical perspective.

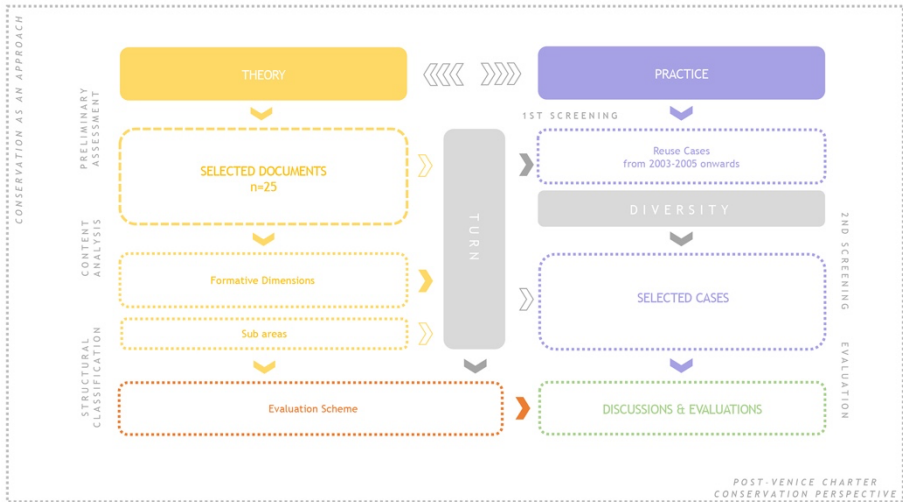


Figure 1. Methodological Flow Diagram of the Study (Authors)

Among a vast number of documents primarily examined, 25 guiding documents were deemed particularly important in terms of the research subject. Manual content analysis was conducted on these documents, and four formative dimensions were evaluated as fundamental areas: a) the object, b) reasoning, c) timeframe, and d) actors of conservation (Table 1).

Table 1. The Conservation Approach in Guiding Documents (1/2) (Authors)

Document	Year	Object	Reasoning	Timeframe			Actors											
				Past	Present	Future	International Organizations & community	Regional Bodies	State Parties & Authorities	Local Authorities/ Administrations	Institutions & NGOs	Experts & Specialists/ Academia	Professionals & Practitioners/ Commonality / People, Groups & Communities / Humankind	Users / Inhabitants	Owners	Private Sector & Industry	Visitors & Actors of Tourism	
The Admin Charter	1931	Historic monuments	the historic and artistic work of the past restoration of all ages of civilization	+	+	+												
The Venice Charter	1964	Historic Monument (including architectural works, urban and rural settings)	Of outstanding universal value represent the genius and the history of the people cultural value consensus of common history and future	+	+	+												
Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	1972	Cultural heritage world heritage (monuments, group of buildings and sites)	to retain the cultural significance emailed people's lives, provides a sense of connection (1999) historical records, expressions of identity and experience (1999) reflect the diversity of communities (1999) inter-generational equity (2011)	+	+	+			1979									
The Declaration of Amsterdam	1975	Architectural heritage, cultural heritage	improvement of the urban environment have the source and potential to promote and respond to new uses and new challenges and future development European identity	+	+	+												
Recommendation No. R (97) 24 of the Council of Europe concerning the Conservation of Architectural Heritage of States on European Industrial Towns	1987	Industrial towns	of outstanding universal value	+	+	+												
Recommendation No. R (99) 29 of the Council of Europe concerning the Conservation of the Industrial, Technical and Civil Engineering Heritage in Europe	1990	Industrial, Technical and Civil Engineering Heritage	the influence of environment and of social, economic and cultural factors of outstanding universal value	+	+	+												
Report of the Expert Group on Cultural Landscapes as World Heritage	1992	Cultural landscape	tripartite source of spiritual and intellectual richness vestiges of the past multiplicity of cultural diversity and a guarantee of sustainable development provides a sense of identity and belonging evidence of the profound changes of the industrial revolution is of universal human value technological and scientific, value, and may have aesthetic value	+	+	+												
Nara Document of Authenticity	1994	Cultural heritage, cultural diversity	defining characteristic of humanity striving for sustainable development progress of society at large independence for peace and security multiplicity and plurality of the identities & cultural expressions social cohesion	+	+	+												
Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage	2003	Intangible cultural heritage	Human development and quality of life construction of a peaceful and democratic society promotion of cultural diversity enhanced and expression of creativity, evolving values, beliefs, traditions and practices has shaped modern society and has great value for our understanding of how we live ecological and universal significance through processes of modernization, environmental and geographic conditions and cultural diversity	+	+	+												
Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions	2005	Cultural diversity	part of our constitutions, its significance and distinctive character scientific, social and spiritual, historic, artistic, scientific, universal, scientific, or other cultural values ensuring sustainable and social development	+	+	+												
Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Paris Convention)	2005	Cultural heritage		+	+	+												
Vienna Memorandum on "World Heritage Sites: Managing the Historic Urban Landscape"	2005	Historic urban landscape		+	+	+												
NYU Declaration on the Conservation of the Setting of Heritage Structures, Sites and Areas	2005	Setting of heritage structures, sites and areas		+	+	+												
Quebec Declaration on the Preservation of the Spirit of Place	2008	Spirit of place in tangible and intangible elements		+	+	+												

Table 1. The Conservation Approach in Guiding Documents (2/2) (Authors)

Document	Year	Object	Reasoning	Timeframe															
				Past	Present	Future	Actors	International Organizations & community	Regional Bodies	State Parties & Authorities	Local Authorities/ Administrations	Institutions & NGOs	Experts & Specialists/ Academia	Professionals & Practitioners Commonality / People, Groups & Communities / Humankind	Users / Inhabitants	Owners	Private Sector & Industry	Visitors& Actors of Tourism	
The ICOMOS Charter On Cultural Routes	2008	Any route of communication	as a common heritage a resource for sustainable social and economic development as an essential resource, an part of the urban ecosystem express the evolution of a society and of its cultural identity bring evidence of the past form part of daily human life to build tomorrow's societies, curbing the negative effects of globalization	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
The Valletta Principles for the Safeguarding and Management of Historic Cities, Villages and Urban Avenues	2011	Core, historic towns and urban areas consisting of tangible elements and intangible traditions and their settings	to build tomorrow's societies, curbing the negative effects of globalization fragile, crucial and non-renewable resource forms a crucial aspect of the development process with its value for identity, and as a repository of historical, cultural and social plays a part in social cohesion, well-being, creativity and economic appeal and promoting understanding strengthen the social fabric and advances social well-being enhance the appeal and creativity of regions a way to combat poverty in developing countries contribute to achieving the goals of sustainable development representative of processes, technologies, conditions condition containing achievements of global influence source of learning, illustrates aspects of history and interactions, innovative aspects related to development & innovation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Paris Declaration on Heritage as a Driver for Development	2011	Heritage	to build tomorrow's societies, curbing the negative effects of globalization fragile, crucial and non-renewable resource forms a crucial aspect of the development process with its value for identity, and as a repository of historical, cultural and social plays a part in social cohesion, well-being, creativity and economic appeal and promoting understanding strengthen the social fabric and advances social well-being enhance the appeal and creativity of regions a way to combat poverty in developing countries contribute to achieving the goals of sustainable development representative of processes, technologies, conditions condition containing achievements of global influence source of learning, illustrates aspects of history and interactions, innovative aspects related to development & innovation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Asian ICOMOS - TICCIH (Dushu) International Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Avenues and Landscapes	2011	Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Avenues and Landscapes (including all tangible & intangible)	to build tomorrow's societies, curbing the negative effects of globalization fragile, crucial and non-renewable resource forms a crucial aspect of the development process with its value for identity, and as a repository of historical, cultural and social plays a part in social cohesion, well-being, creativity and economic appeal and promoting understanding strengthen the social fabric and advances social well-being enhance the appeal and creativity of regions a way to combat poverty in developing countries contribute to achieving the goals of sustainable development representative of processes, technologies, conditions condition containing achievements of global influence source of learning, illustrates aspects of history and interactions, innovative aspects related to development & innovation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Tajik Declaration for Asian Industrial Heritage	2012	Asian Industrial Heritage	to build tomorrow's societies, curbing the negative effects of globalization fragile, crucial and non-renewable resource forms a crucial aspect of the development process with its value for identity, and as a repository of historical, cultural and social plays a part in social cohesion, well-being, creativity and economic appeal and promoting understanding strengthen the social fabric and advances social well-being enhance the appeal and creativity of regions a way to combat poverty in developing countries contribute to achieving the goals of sustainable development representative of processes, technologies, conditions condition containing achievements of global influence source of learning, illustrates aspects of history and interactions, innovative aspects related to development & innovation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape	2012	Historic urban landscape	to build tomorrow's societies, curbing the negative effects of globalization fragile, crucial and non-renewable resource forms a crucial aspect of the development process with its value for identity, and as a repository of historical, cultural and social plays a part in social cohesion, well-being, creativity and economic appeal and promoting understanding strengthen the social fabric and advances social well-being enhance the appeal and creativity of regions a way to combat poverty in developing countries contribute to achieving the goals of sustainable development representative of processes, technologies, conditions condition containing achievements of global influence source of learning, illustrates aspects of history and interactions, innovative aspects related to development & innovation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
ICOMOS Turkey Declaration on Heritage (Cultural Values of Turkey)	2013	Cultural, architectural, industrial, modern, underground, urban, landscape, historic urban landscape	to build tomorrow's societies, curbing the negative effects of globalization fragile, crucial and non-renewable resource forms a crucial aspect of the development process with its value for identity, and as a repository of historical, cultural and social plays a part in social cohesion, well-being, creativity and economic appeal and promoting understanding strengthen the social fabric and advances social well-being enhance the appeal and creativity of regions a way to combat poverty in developing countries contribute to achieving the goals of sustainable development representative of processes, technologies, conditions condition containing achievements of global influence source of learning, illustrates aspects of history and interactions, innovative aspects related to development & innovation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
The Florence Declaration on Heritage and Landscape as Human Values	2014	Heritage and landscape as human values	to build tomorrow's societies, curbing the negative effects of globalization fragile, crucial and non-renewable resource forms a crucial aspect of the development process with its value for identity, and as a repository of historical, cultural and social plays a part in social cohesion, well-being, creativity and economic appeal and promoting understanding strengthen the social fabric and advances social well-being enhance the appeal and creativity of regions a way to combat poverty in developing countries contribute to achieving the goals of sustainable development representative of processes, technologies, conditions condition containing achievements of global influence source of learning, illustrates aspects of history and interactions, innovative aspects related to development & innovation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Seville Charter of Industrial Heritage	2018	Industrial Heritage	to build tomorrow's societies, curbing the negative effects of globalization fragile, crucial and non-renewable resource forms a crucial aspect of the development process with its value for identity, and as a repository of historical, cultural and social plays a part in social cohesion, well-being, creativity and economic appeal and promoting understanding strengthen the social fabric and advances social well-being enhance the appeal and creativity of regions a way to combat poverty in developing countries contribute to achieving the goals of sustainable development representative of processes, technologies, conditions condition containing achievements of global influence source of learning, illustrates aspects of history and interactions, innovative aspects related to development & innovation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

As will be elaborated in the following section, three fundamental shifts were identified in terms of theoretical formation. The first screening criterion for the selected cases were then determined accordingly, and the recent applications, which mark the latest turn in the heritage discourse, were examined to better comprehend the contemporary standpoint and its practical reflections. Since the study initially aimed to focus on Istanbul, a metropolitan urban heritage with a deep-rooted history, most heavily affected by global threats, the reused industrial heritage of the city were examined.

The idea of examining cases with divergent backgrounds, dynamics, and production activities was prioritized as the secondary screening criterion. The focus was particularly on industrial complexes, while mega projects, ongoing or partly completed applications, reconstructions, and projects considered part of larger transformations/regenerations were excluded.

Within this scope, Bomonti Brewery, Beykoz Leather and Shoe Factory, Hasanpaşa Gasworks, and Ataköy Gunpowder Factory, which were established in various parts of the city, and to meet divergent era-specific needs were identified as case studies⁷ (Table 2). Despite having different settings and defining characteristics, these representative cases share the common feature of being conserved as sites, complexes, or even urban industrial landscapes, offering versatile use potential within the urban fabric of the city, and associated communities. In this respect, brief background of the cases, and aspects such as significance, conservation, and reuse, and current state and identity were outlined.

The structure used for the discussion and evaluations, as in the examination of the theoretical framework, consists of the four formative dimensions. These core areas were further detailed with sub-areas derived from documents from the third theoretical turn. In this context, a total of 7 object/conserved heritage sub-areas, 6 reasoning/distinctive factor sub-areas, a timeframe covering the past, present, and future, and 12 different groups of actors were utilized for evaluation. These aspects were evaluated based on their presence, absence, or partial presence to varying degrees, and discussions were developed.

⁷ Silahtarağa Powerplant and Cibali Tobacco Factory are excluded since they took place at the beginning of the last theoretical turn identified by the study, dated approximately 2003-2005 to onwards, and therefore the practical reflections cannot be directly evaluated.

Table 2. Reuse Projects of Industrial Heritage in Istanbul in the Last Turn (Authors)

Heritage	Classification	Est. Year	Production Type	Location	Reuse	New Function
Cibali Tobacco Factory	Group of Buildings	1884	Food & Beverage	Fatih	1999-2002	Higher Education
Silahtarağa Powerplant	Landscape	1914	Energy	Eyüpsultan	2004-2007	Higher Education
Kasımpaşa Salt Repository	Building	19th Century	Food & Beverage/Storage	Beyoğlu	2008-2009	Office
Terkos Pump Station	Building	1883	Infrastructure	Arnavutköy	2005-2010	Museum
Bomonti Brewery	Complex (Part of a Landscape)	1902	Food & Beverage	Şişli	2010-2015	Mixed Use
Mecidiyeköy Liqueur and Cognac Factory	Building (Part of a Complex)	1930s	Food & Beverage	Şişli	2009-2018	Art Gallery
Beykoz Leather and Shoe Factory	Landscape	1804	Clothing/Textile	Beykoz	2015-2020*	Mixed Use
Zeytinburnu Arm Factory	Group of Buildings (Part of a Complex)	1840-1881	Weapon	Zeytinburnu	2017-2020	Mixed Use
Hasanpaşa Gasworks	Landscape	1891	Energy	Kadıköy	2014-2021	Mixed Use
Galataport Trolleybus Power Center	Landscape Building	1907-1950s 1912	Mixed Energy/ Transportation	Beyoğlu Süleymaniye	2015-2021 2022	Mixed Use Library
Cendere Pump Station	Building	1899-1902	Infrastructure	Kağıthane	2006-2009 2002	Art Museum
Ataköy Gunpowder Factory	Complex (Part of a Landscape)	1702	Weapon	Bakırköy	2018-2023	Mixed Use
Fez Factory	Building	1839	Clothing/Textile	Eyüpsultan	2018-2023	Museum
Yedikule Gasworks (1st Stage)	Landscape	1880	Energy	Fatih	2022-2023	Mixed Use
Haliçport	Landscape	1455	Mixed	Beyoğlu	2015-	Mixed Use
Çubuklu Fuel Silos	Old Landscape	1930s	Transportation/ Storage	Beykoz	2021- **	Mixed Use

* Intervention interval is given. Altered use of the area were already ongoing at that time.

** When cases were being determined for the study, their restoration was still ongoing, and were completed in March 2024.

A Brief Look on the Heritage Discourse the Venice Charter and Beyond

Orbaşlı (2017) mentions that as the scope of conservation was widening in the post-Venice Charter scene, it followed two main paths: conservation as an approach and conservation as a science. To understand the general

positioning of conservation as an approach, identifying the object of conservation practices, can serve as an effective starting point. The Venice Charter implies the essence of “*what to conserve*” through its definition of a historic monument as not only the architectural work itself but also its urban or rural setting. This signifying expansion in definition has continued until today, as seen in “*cultural heritage*” consisting of monuments, groups of buildings and sites with World Heritage Convention (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization [UNESCO], 1972), “*places*” in 1979 The Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter, and “*cultural landscapes*” in 1990s (UNESCO, 1992). The following evolution towards the landscape-based approach evaluates heritage from a multi-faceted perspective, recognizing its perpetually changing value over time and through different actors (Veldpaus & Pereira Roders, 2014, p.246-256).

It is mostly because the social dimension has begun to come to the fore and the emphasis on the non-material nature, as well as the human relations of heritage, has intensified since the 2000s. The Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (UNESCO, 2003) highlights practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, and skills, having empowered with the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (UNESCO, 2005) two years later. The same year, the Xi'an Declaration (International Council on Monuments and Sites [ICOMOS], 2005) puts forward the prominence of the setting while the Québec Declaration (ICOMOS, 2008) mentions the “*spirit of place*”, as a combination of material and non-material aspects and a continuously reconstructed process. In this context, post-Venice contributions in terms of the object of conservation can be summarized under two fundamental tendencies. The first is to create a more inclusive and holistic understanding and definition that can better respond to both tangible and intangible qualities and complex dynamics. The second is, adjunctly, to enrich the theory with specific orientations and specialized articulations toward the emerging types of heritage.

This also necessitates the restructuring of the reasoning, timeframe, and actors of the efforts. The dominant historical document and artistic production approach of the Venice Charter has layered with various backgrounds including value-centeredness, shared commonalities, and concepts such as identity, continuity, and diversity. Although the issues faced by conservation have varied over the years, the need to respond to these issues has also increased accordingly. The understanding of heritage as a

non-renewable resource, its utilization in social wellbeing, and the development of communities has been gradually more highlighted in conjunction with the notion of sustainable development. This understanding may have reached its peak in the Paris Declaration (ICOMOS, 2011a), which described heritage as a driver of development, and Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (UNESCO, 2012), which considered it a "*condition sine qua non of development*".

The change in the positioning of heritage may also have caused a shift in the temporal relationship established by the process. The idea behind the concept of conservation, in general, which places "*heritage*" in the present primarily as a remain and reminiscent of the past, is shaped by its values, representativeness and provision of evidence, as well as its relationship with the present, particularly its state of "*being here*" and "*in use*". In fact, influenced by the idea of sustainability, the temporal stretch of transferring this heritage to future generations has heightened even further, and debatably, a more future-oriented perception has been established.

In terms of the primary actors of conservation, the Venice Charter defines restoration as a "*highly specialized operation*", following in the footsteps of the Athens Charter. In this regard, Rodwell (2012) asserts that the charter strengthened the idea of "*top-down*" decision-making. It is possible to assume that this expert-first approach has maintained its validity to a certain degree until today, despite the apparent changes in worldviews. The traces of this approach, in which experts are mostly seen as decision-makers and implementers of conservation while communities and other stakeholders are informed, consulted, and utilized as resources of information, can be found in documents such as the Vienna Memorandum (UNESCO World Heritage Convention, 2005) or the Valletta Principles (ICOMOS, 2011b). However, many documents, particularly the Faro Convention (Council of Europe, 2005), now offer a more horizontal and pluralistic perspective, referring different agents and actors in various aspects of conservation practices.

Ultimately, when we look at the general understanding and interpretation of the post-Venice Charter conservation scene, it is possible to argue about three fundamental turns, as Table 1 suggests. The first is the period that emerged in the 1970s, almost immediately after the charter, and is shaped by the understanding of "*cultural heritage*" or "*world heritage*" as

the “*common heritage of humankind*”, on the axis of the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO, 1972), and by the Burra Charter’s (The Australia ICOMOS, 1979) idea of “*place*”. The second turn, on the other hand, can be placed around 1990s when the concept of “*landscape*” was highlighted, and when the Nara Document on Authenticity (The International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property [ICCROM], The International Union for Conservation of Nature [IUCN], & UNESCO, 1994), one of the most fundamental counterarguments to the much-criticized Eurocentric perspective, was presented. Finally, the last turn can be dated from 2003-2005 onwards, when the intangibility of heritage, as well as associated wider concepts, gained precedence, and a more participatory, present, and future-oriented perspective was welcomed.

The Post-Venice Charter Conservation Perspective Through the Lens of Industrial Heritage and Their Reuse

Although the term “*industrial heritage*” is not directly mentioned in the Venice Charter, interest in these elements and their culture has increased in England since the 1940s and 1950s, with the initiative of volunteers (Trinder, 1981, p.10). Regarding a concept on which many academic studies have been produced today, one can argue that the use of the term “*industrial archaeology*” (Rix, 1967, p.5) in 1955 was a turning point. Developments led by events such as the organization of the first national conference on Industrial Archeology in 1959, the establishment of The Industrial Monument Survey in 1963, the creation of the National Industrial Monuments Index, and the publication of the Journal of Industrial Archeology in 1964 were also noteworthy in this context (Falconer, 2006, p.1-14; Hudson, 1963, p.23-24; Leavitt, 1969, p.587). Therefore, despite emerging as a product of the evolution outlined above, it is possible to assume that during the formation process of the charter, industrial monuments were already noticed, and identification and conservation efforts had begun.

Periods when the future of dysfunctional industrial structures began to be questioned and their “*heritagization*” are arguably run parallel. However, the formal concept of their conservation surfaced in international documents in the late 1980s and 1990s. Starting with the Council of Europe’s recommendations on the conservation of European industrial towns (Council of Europe Committee of Ministers, 1987) and industrial, technical and civil engineering heritage in Europe (Council of Europe

Committee of Ministers, 1990), issues regarding the conservation of industrial heritage, in general, as well as regional and other particularities, have been discussed. However, theoretically, they can be more intensely dated to the period corresponding to what this research defines as the third turn. A vast array of guidelines and reference documents (ICOMOS & The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage [TICCIH], 2011; The Fundación Pública Andaluza Centro de Estudios Andaluces, 2019; TICCIH, 2003; TICCIH, 2012) have been shared in this period.

Reuse is a significant topic in these documents. For instance, in Recommendation No (87) 24 (Council of Europe Committee of Ministers, 1987), the reuse of land, existing buildings, facilities and amenities is specifically mentioned. The same recommendation declares that, in this perspective, industrial towns need to create new reasons for their actors, and the heritage they encompass should, where necessary, be rehabilitated to provide a source and potential for future development. Whereas in Recommendation No (90) 20 (Council of Europe Committee of Ministers, 1990), both their historic value and the possibilities presented by the enhancement and new forms of use are emphasized. Additionally, subsequent documents introduce guidance for reuse and provide advice for respecting significant material, technical characteristics, and features, maintaining original patterns and activity, and interpreting former uses (ICOMOS & TICCIH, 2011; TICCIH, 2003). The Sevilla Charter (The Fundación Pública Andaluza Centro de Estudios Andaluces, 2019), the most recent document on the issue, highlights the importance of the demands of collectives for spaces that expresses memories and sociability, while adopting a more participatory approach and a broader meaning of use linked with the values of memory of work and places of production.

In retrospect, it can be stated that the Venice Charter (1964) also offers a guiding and implicative perspective on reuse by declaring that conservation practices can be enhanced by utilization of monuments for social purposes. The charter adds that modifications demanded by a change of function should be premeditated and permitted if they do not change the lay-out or decoration. The idea of reuse has an even deeper-rooted history that can be traced back to early documents. Use value, which Riegl (1093/1996) defined among present-day values at the beginning of the 20th century, is a significant indicator of the emphasis on the continuity of utiliza-

tion. Adopting a similar perspective, the Athens Charter (1931), for instance, advised maintaining the use of buildings to sustain their vitality, if the use is aligned with their historical or artistic characteristics.

Today, the use of heritage as a multi-layered concept is re-defined, with heritage becoming part of the life of the society and contributing to the creation of memories and the construction of a sense of place through its new functions (Şimsek, 2014, p.100). Due to its associations with flexibility, fluidity, and openness to change, other possibilities of heritage such as experience, perception, and re-interpretation are brought to the agenda, rather than merely function (Murialdo, 2017, p.208-215). With this new and expanded understanding of the role of urban heritage in the multi-faceted development of communities, sustainable preservation requires continuous use, with the contribution of all stakeholders, as mentioned by Rojas (2014) during the US ICOMOS Symposium "The Venice Charter at Fifty: A Critical Appraisal of the Venice Charter and Its Legacy". This arguably makes reuse a prospective agent of sustainable development regarding its multi-faceted attainments, as discussed by many (Chatzi Rodopoulou, 2020, p.41-44; Đukić, Špirić & Vujičić, 2017, p.61-64; Fragner, 2012, p.110-117).

Recent Reuse of Istanbul's Industrial Heritage

Ottoman Empire's attempts at industrialization were particularly significant in Istanbul, especially in the 19th century. Facilities that began to be established in Istanbul and its immediate surroundings have had an important place in the urban landscape. It can be argued that the abandonment of industrial structures in the following years, which continued to exist with different uses, followed a process similar to that in the world. The restorations of these elements date back to the end of the 1980s, and Baruthane-i Amire, the gunpowder plant, was converted into a cultural centre in 1993, serving as a pioneering example (Mihçioğlu, 2022, p.111-112). These areas, which have been on the agenda of many public and private actors since the 2000s, are now an important focus of conservation and reuse efforts. Within the scope of the study, four of these cases will be utilized to demonstrate the ongoing endeavours (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Selected Cases (Edited by Authors via Google Earth)

Bomonti Brewery

Brief Background and Legal Status

Bomonti Brewery was established at the dawn of the 20th century, near the newly developing urban areas of Istanbul, lending its name to the district. Founded as a modern and private company by the Swiss Bomonti Brothers, it was transferred to Tekel Enterprises in the 1940s, and continued production until the 1990s (Tanyeli & İkiz, 2009, p.110-112). The structures were registered in two stages with the conservation board's decisions 25.02.1998/9294 and 08.05.2008/1772. During this period, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism tendered the brewery complex in block 1018 plot 1 for use as a multi-purpose centre with cultural, entertainment, and accommodation facilities (Kültür ve Turizm Bakanlığı Yatırım ve İşletmeler Genel Müdürlüğü, 2006). However, a subsequent and contradictory decision (24.09.2008 /2079) in 2008 led to the delisting and demolition of three late-period structures. Finally, associated late-period buildings listed in 1998 (block 1548 plot 9-10) were also demolished in 2020, following their assignment to the Presidency of Religious Affairs.

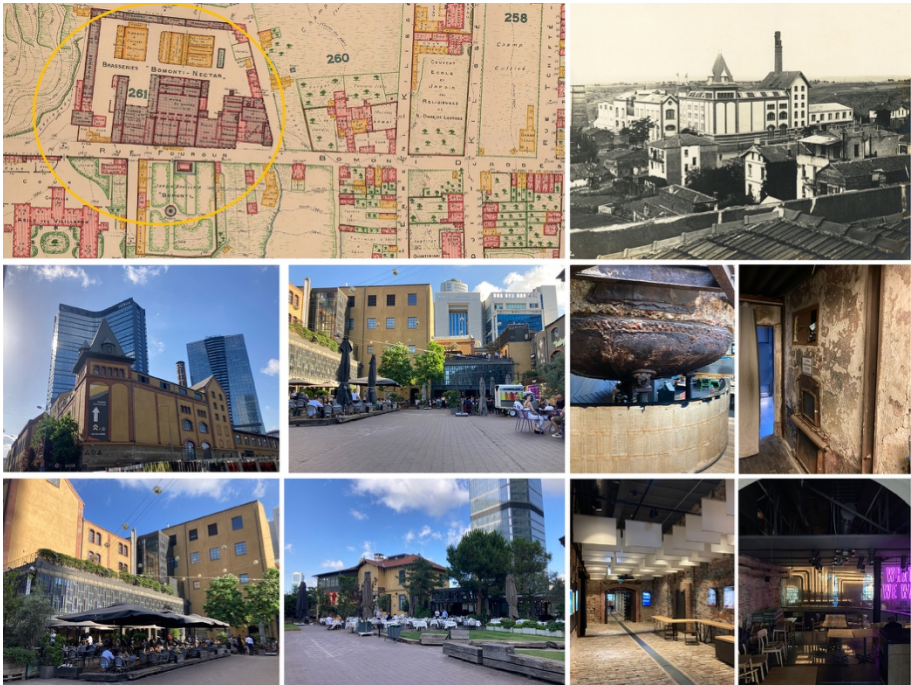


Figure 3. Chichli Pervititch Map (Upper Left: İBB Atatürk Library Collection); Bomonti Brewery (Upper Right: Salt Research, Photograph and Postcard Archive); and Bomontiada (Authors).

Significance

As the first brewery established with modern technology, the complex holds symbolic value regarding the state policies and economic privileges, as well as the west-oriented European lifestyle of the declining Empire. In addition to having a prominent place in our multi-cultural history, it is also one of the dominant private sector investments that played a major role in country's industrial development. However, very few traces of the production process remain today, as the original machinery has been removed. Similarly, the demolition of delisted buildings, and associated buildings have compromised the integrity of the complex⁸. The loss of its authentic setting, once integrated with pioneering beer gardens of its time and the surrounding greenery, along with the change in users, further in-

⁸ For detailed evaluations on the subject, see Güler (2020).

crease this damage. Thus, despite maintaining its location and architectural features, the complex only partially embodies its significance, due to the loss of its production and contextual integrity.

Conservation and Reuse

During the complex's conservation and reuse process, restorations were carried out to preserve the architectural character of listed buildings while a semi-conjunct hotel was built within the plot instead of the delisted buildings (Heinz, 2018, p.808-812). The complex was launched in 2015 as a common production platform with a post-industrial setup (Yapıkredi Bomontiada, 2024). It aimed to create a space that integrates with its environment while develops programs nurturing the network society (Ertaş & Şanal, 2016).

In addition to numerous food and beverage venues, the reused complex included a museum and research center, galleries, workshops, and a concert/entertainment hall. Its courtyard, serving as a public meeting place, was designed to host various events and activities (Figure 3).

Current State and Identity

Arguably, adopted approach positioned reuse as a key driver in transforming the neighbourhood into an area where upper-middle-income groups live, albeit conserving the complex as industrial heritage becomes of secondary importance. Partial access to areas with remaining traces of production and machinery is available, though the original production processes cannot be interpreted. Therefore, despite a private enterprise continuing to produce contemporary beer and its active, sustained use, the complex can be said to have largely gained a new identity as the focal point of a transformed district.

Beykoz Leather and Shoe Factory

Brief Background and Legal Status

More than 200-year history of the facility began with the conversion of a small leather workshop into a factory in the early 19th century to meet the needs of the army. The factory became particularly important during the Republic Era when the facility was transferred to Sümerbank, and it was continuously renewed and expanded until the 1990s, when production was stopped due to losses (Abay, Yıldırım, & Topaloğlu, 2021; Küçükerman, 1988, p.150). The complex was listed by the conservation

board's decision dated 27.7.2004/14823, almost simultaneously with its privatization. Some unlisted late-period additions within the complex, such as the iconic new shoe building and nursery from the 1950s, were also listed years later, further contributing to the complex's multi-layered character (Beykoz Kundura, 2024).



Figure 4. Nedjib Bey Map (Upper Left: İBB Atatürk Library Collection); Beykoz Leather Shoe Factory (Upper Right: Salt Research, Photograph and Postcard Archive); and Beykoz Kundura (Authors).

Significance

The complex is significant due to its establishment in connection with the late-era reforms and the changing army system during the Ottoman Period. Its production continuity was ensured during the Sümerbank years, one of the prominent state subsidiaries. Although the equipment changed over the course of two centuries, the architectural features have been mainly preserved, resulting the distinct layering from traditional to modern throughout the complex. Traces of old technology are limited, but the existing ones, including the rail system, are valuable for understanding the production process. Additionally, the complex, which goes beyond

being merely an economic instrument, offers a rather industry-centered living practice with its holistic model. Located on the shores of the Bosphorus, the facility is a rare and well-preserved industrial landscape of the city, integrated with the workers' settlement extending from the port to the slopes and the Beykoz meadow. Having offered venues for social, cultural and sports events, it holds an important place in the urban memory, not only for former employees and their families but also for all residents of the district.

Conservation and Reuse

Following its privatization, the factory began to be used for cinema and television productions. The decisions regarding its conservation and reuse were revealed gradually over time, in line with emerging needs and constraints. The most important of these include the conversion of a part of the boiler room into a movie theater and the creation of Kundura Stage, designed as a theatre, concert and performance hall. These efforts prioritized the conservation of historic buildings, details, installations, and their components, while maximizing opportunities for multiple uses with contemporary interventions (TenBrasWestinga, 2015).

The factory has evolved into a multifaceted complex featuring food and beverage venues, accommodation facilities, areas designated for filming, a museum, a cinema, a stage, a workshop and exhibition area, an archive and research center, and recreational spaces (Figure 4).

Current State and Identity

Today, the complex is a semi-public area, where visits are mostly possible through regular events or by making appointments. It is understood that the concern for giving the heritage a new language and identity also played a dominant role in shaping the interventions (Ermiş & Yıldırım, 2018), and the traces of this approach are visible throughout the area. However, the state of preservation remains important for understanding and sharing its values. Similarly, through the narratives supported by the museum and memory studies, a balanced framework can be presented where both new uses and heritage values are highlighted.

Hasanpaşa Gasworks

Brief Background and Legal Status

Hasanpaşa Gasworks was established to meet the gas needs of Istanbul at the end of the 19th century. It continued to develop with both spatial additions and technological renovations during the Republic Era. Following the instantaneous destruction after its closure in 1993, the conservation board decided to prohibit any interference with the structures. The conservation process started with the joint efforts of civil society and the local municipality and continued with the contributions of academics. As a result of the intense work of an expert team from Istanbul Technical University, the survey was approved by the conservation board's decision 04.04.2001/6000, and the restitution, restoration and new use projects were approved with the decision 22.06.2001/6091. Within this period, 20 assets of the complex were registered as heritage (Tanyeli, 2008).

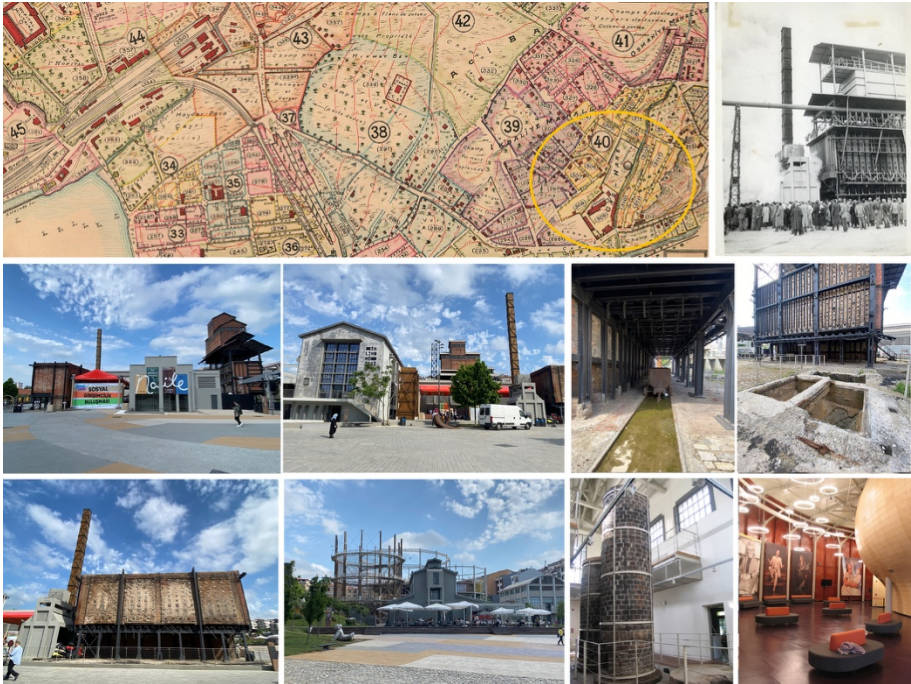


Figure 5. İstanbul: Haydarpaşa 2: Acıbadem - Gazhane Pervititch Map (Upper Left: İBB Atatürk Library Collection); "The new gas ovens in the Kurbağalidere Gasworks" (Upper Right: Salt Research, Photograph and Postcard Archive; and Müze Gazhane (Authors).

Significance

As one of the four main gasworks, Hasanpaşa Gasworks is also one of the most important industrial complexes in the Istanbul's history and development. The installations that were sold during the period when it was non-functional and the original equipment and materials that were dismantled until 2014, when the implementation works started, (Arkitera, 2021) represent significant losses in terms of its authenticity and integrity. Nevertheless, the surviving structures are important for documenting production technology, and historical value. In the social dimension, its formative role for Hasanpaşa residents and the surrounding settlement is undeniable. However, a cross-border rarity value can also be mentioned for the structures, of which only a small number of period examples have survived to the present day. Lastly, the civil society-oriented conservation struggle^{9 10} has a considerable symbolic value both on a local and national level.

Conservation and Reuse

As a result of the implementation process that took place between 2014 and 2021, the complex included exhibition spaces, a museum, multi-purpose stages, performance studios, workshops, a library, common study areas, a bookstore, food and beverage areas, and a parking garage (Figure 5). Among the factors shaping the reuse of the complex, the idea of creating mixed-use, self-sufficient public spaces that will serve the citizens can be highlighted (Tanyeli & Aslan, 2001). Narrating its own technology and production story, especially to emerging generations, and opening the area for their use, was also a priority (Batur, 2003, p. 82-83; Mimarlar Derneği 1927, 2021). The fundamental approaches can be summarized as: a) completely preserving some buildings, b) reusing others and adding contemporary elements, and c) proposing reconstruction and/or redesign with the same features, especially when losses are irreversible (Arkitera, 2021; Tanyeli, 2008).

The primary determinant in these decisions is understood to be the physical condition of the structures. Similarly, surviving equipment has

⁹ For detailed evaluations on the subject, see Kırac (2023), and Altınsay Özgüner (2021).

¹⁰ In fact, Ekinci (2003) states that this struggle, which he defines as "*the process of organization of urban consciousness*", is even more significant than the architectural and technical value of the gasworks.

been preserved in its current form. Reconstruction of the iconic gasometers, which gave the complex its landmark character, was undertaken to ensure the visual integrity. The removal of unqualified annexes and development of new designs were among other prominent interventions.

Current State and Identity

Despite various updates and changes throughout the process, the reuse arguably remained faithful to the fundamental approach. As a result of the persistent efforts of experts and local initiatives, the complex remains an important landmark in urban life. In addition to regular and everyday use by local residents, it serves as a key tool for social well-being through ongoing events. Accordingly, it was one of the two projects selected for the Gubbio Award Final List in 2021 and won the Building/Conservation Award at the 2022 National Architecture Awards.

Ataköy Gunpowder Factory

Brief Background and Legal Status

As one of the most important military facilities of the Ottoman Empire in the 18th century, the complex was established outside the city at the Bakırköy coast for security and accessibility reasons. While it had been renovated multiple times following fires, it was also adapted to the technology of the age and continued its development until the beginning of the 20th century (Erdoğan, 1956, p.122-124; Gölen, 2006, p.30-33; Kütükoğlu, 1940, p.96-97). After gunpowder production ceased following World War I, the facility was completely abandoned in 1955 (Çetin, 2001, p.23-196). Shortly after, the land of the facility was divided with the construction of the coastal road and Ataköy housing estates, the first planned housing settlement in the history of the Republic, and the structures on the coast were used as tourist facilities (Aydın, 2017, p.86). The structures within the complex were listed by the board's decision 20.03.1956/470. In 2009, the remaining area was again divided into three parcels and luxury housing projects were developed on both sides, while four listed buildings belonging to the complex, a fountain, and a Hünkar Mansion, which was built as a viewing and resting pavilion, have survived to the present day (Aydın, 2017, p.50-175).



Figure 6. Makriköy (Upper Left: İBB Atatürk Library Collection); Ataköy, İstanbul (Upper Right: Salt Research, Harika-Kemali Söylemezoğlu Archive); and Ataköy Gunpowder Factory (Authors).

Significance

The factory holds a significant place in our cultural history as a rare military production facility that has survived to this day. However, despite surviving references of location, plan layout, and formation of the buildings, the dismantled production equipment is a noteworthy loss in terms of the authenticity and integrity of the complex. Similarly, the gradual opening of the facility's land for development is problematic in terms of contextual integrity. Today, the complex can only partially maintain its values, including its landscape value.

Conservation and Reuse

The complex was given to the management of Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality for 25 years in 2018, and after comprehensive restoration work of IBB Heritage, it was transformed into a public living area. The

fundamental approach to its reuse can be described as making the area and structures available to the public (Figure 6). In this regard, a large part of the area was designed as a recreational green space, and the remaining structures were conserved and reused with mixed cultural functions such as a museum, library, black box, and multi-purpose hall. A pavilion/cafe was designed at the center of the courtyard, surrounded by remaining structures as a focal point, dividing the courtyard into subsections (Studio Per Se, 2023). The difference between the authentic and the new was clearly demonstrated in the design of contemporary additions and completions.

Current State and Identity

Through restorations, an industrial complex with multi-faceted significance has been restored to public use. Despite the contextual impact that had already been lost, the architectural identity of the gunpowder buildings, which had once again largely lost traces of their production history, was made legible with minimum intervention. By ensuring the continuity of the buildings and providing versatile opportunities for residents, community building processes have been fostered. Likewise, the diversity and number of visitors to the area have increased.

Discussions and Evaluations

Examined cases suggest that the concurrent theoretical framework has divergent reflections across different dimensions of the applications (Figure 7). A general understanding of heritage and the preservation status of its constituent elements form the initial discussion in this context. Except for the unusual example of the Gunpowder Factory, the legal conservation status of the cases follows the recommendations of the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers (1987; 1990) in a timely manner. Accordingly, the reuse of Gasworks and Leather and Shoe Factory has demonstrated an effective tool for registering some or all of the structures within the complex. The ability to conserve particularly the late period structures can be considered a significant achievement in these cases. Conversely, in the case of Brewery, the reuse and subsequent processes have impeded the preservation of the late period structures. Similarly, the Brewery, which lost its beer

gardens and surrounding structures, thus compromising its contextual relationships, and the Gunpowder Factory, which lost its parcel integrity, as well as its relationship with the associated elements over time, have deviated from the suggested theoretical path.

Unlike what is strongly emphasized in the relevant documents (ICOMOS & TICCIH, 2011; TICCIH, 2003), even when the complexes are conserved, the machinery and traces of production have been largely lost. Complexes such as the Gunpowder Factory, which lost their original function at the 20th century and underwent various adaptations over time, and others like the Gasworks and Brewery, which operated until the last quarter of the century, have lost their installations to some extent for various reasons, serve as illustrative examples. In these instances, the technical, educational, and documentary values linked to the interpretable production process, as well as the culture and testimonies of the original users have been partially or completely lost.

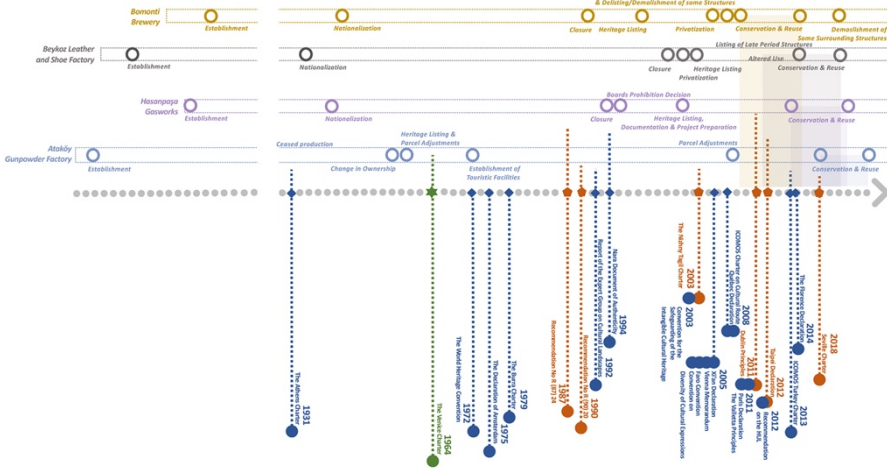


Figure 7. The Shared Timeline of the Selected Guiding Documents and Examples (Authors)

Examined cases also reveal that, as can be applied to other examples in Istanbul¹¹, preserving authentic qualities in a way that conveys historic value and distinguishes the contemporary from the historic in terms of

¹¹ Özçakır (2023), in his recent work, discusses the subject through reused industrial buildings that have received the National Architecture Award, and in this context, examines the Kasımpaşa Salt Repository, Terkos Pump Station and Hasanpaşa Gasworks.

design and materials reflects the guidance of the Venice Charter. However, other principles stated in the same and subsequent area-specific documents such as in-situ conservation with its authentic context and immediate environment, have not gained a similar response in practice. It can be interpreted that conservation of the integrity of the heritage in the physical environment where production takes place may remain secondary, as explained in detail.

The reasoning behind conservation and distinctive factors of interventions offers another discussion of interest. A common criticism of all examples, albeit to different degrees, can be the deficiencies in the presentation and interpretation of heritage identity and values, as well as in understanding and conveying their determinative power in the conservation processes. As highlighted in the ICOMOS Turkey Architectural Heritage Conservation Charter (2013), values are fundamental in determining the main approach to conservation. However, the values of the cases, along with their evidential character, have not been adequately proposed. The quality of interventions, which prioritize architectural elements and seek to enhance spatial utilization, is relatively weaker in establishing a connection with the heritage's past and is not directly associated with production processes. The Brewery and Gunpowder Factory sadly exemplify this approach, and similarly, in the application of the Gasworks, the lack of the presentation of production process draws attention despite being a prominent element in the project planning phase.¹²

Surprisingly, the history and memory of the complexes may become significant factors, although they cannot always take precedence in the conservation process. For the Leather and Shoe Factory, for instance, Kundura Memory has become an influential branding mechanism since they composed an archive of various documents as first-hand testimonies gathered from oral history studies (Kundura Hafıza Arşiv & Araştırma, 2024). Despite criticisms regarding the lack of emphasis on the value of union movements and labor history, the exhibition "*Kundura's Memory: The World That Fits in a Factory*", which was based on the lives of workers, civil servants, and their families (Koçak, 2021, p. 29-31), along with tools and machines that continue to be exhibited in the Sheet Metal Warehouse¹³,

¹² For a detailed criticism on the subject, see Bayrak Uluğ (2022).

¹³ Still, despite providing knowledge about the production technology, the fact that they are exhibited in a space functioning as a museum within the complex, rather than in-situ, creates a perceptual disconnect.

demonstrate meaningful efforts. The oral history studies carried out by Gazhane Environmental Volunteers for Hasanpaşa and Yiğit (2010) for Bomonti¹⁴, in a similar way, can be considered rather complementary but invaluable initiatives.

The interventions have made a significant contribution to the revitalization of complexes and areas. In addition to activating the potential of these complexes, which were partially or fully abandoned, contributions have been evident especially within the framework of social and public use, hence the criticisms regarding semi-public use of Beykoz. One can assume that the community building effect is particularly visible in Gasworks, providing a gathering place for many different groups. However, it should be highlighted that reuse has also resulted in accelerating the gentrification of immediate vicinities, especially in Bomonti and partly in Hasanpaşa, areas experiencing rapid growth in users, despite creating a positive economic and social impact.

The role of heritage in social sustainability and development, as well as the idea that new functions must also satisfy the need for sustainable development, as emphasized in the Valletta Principles (ICOMOS, 2011b), seems to have partial reflections in practice. Designed based on the well-documented history and production of the enterprise, the Kundura Memory Learning Program builds capacity with its context specific workshops, especially for children and adults. The ongoing and popular workshops in Gasworks, though, lack this focus and adhere to common templates created for other heritage areas. Similarly, in other cases, activities and events target a general audience with a broad range of topics, but these are mostly not relevant to industrial heritage and processes¹⁵.

¹⁴ Whereas it should be noted that various documents, such as employee records, were used for decorative purposes during the reuse of the brewery.

¹⁵ Specialization, within the framework of the target audience and the context of heritage, becomes even more important within the axis of the Dublin Principles (ICOMOS & TICCIH, 2011), which view industrial heritage as a source for learning.

Table 3. Comparative Evaluation of Examined Cases (Authors)

Examined Case	Bomonti Brewery	Beykoz Leather and Shoe Factory	Hasanpaşa Gasworks	
Object/ Heritage Conserved	Structures	+	+	+
	Complex	±		+
	Landscape	-	+	
	Surroundings	-	+	
	Equipment / Installations	±/-	+	±
	Interpretable Production Process	-	±	±/-
	Culture & Intangible Testimonies	-	±	±
Reasoning / Distinctive Factor	Values, Evidentiality & Representativeness	±	±	±
	History & Identity & Memory	±	+	+
	Social Public Use & Activated Potential	+	±	+
	Urban, Architectural & Environmental Enhancement	+	+	+
	Social Sustainable Development	-	+	±
	Economic Impact & Development	+	+	±
Timeframe	Past	±	+	+
	Present	+	+	+
	Future	-	+	±
Actors	International Organizations & Community	-	-	-
	Regional Bodies	-	-	-
	State Parties & Authorities	+	+	-
	Local Authorities/ Administrations	-	-	+
	Institutions & NGOs	-	+	+
	Experts & Specialists/ Academia	-	+	+
	Professionals & Practitioners	+	+	+
	Commonality / People, Groups & Communities / Humankind	-	-	+
	Users / Inhabitants	-	-	+
	Owners	+	+	-
	Private Sector & Industry	+	+	-
Visitors & Actors of Tourism	+	-	-	

In this light, it is possible to assume that in all examples, the idea of presentness related to use is prioritized (Table 3). As discussed in detail above, the relationship with the past can remain weak despite qualified interventions and restorations that care about the historic value. Likewise,

it can be argued that, in certain respects, practices may relatively lag behind the theoretical framework in positioning heritage as an active tool for sustainable development with a future-centered approach.

Lastly, it is possible to observe the traces of an expert and professional-oriented approach in the applications. Local or central governments also stand out as the fundamental decision-makers, while private capital is the main driver in Bomonti and Beykoz. On the other hand, with regard to the previously mentioned role of Gazhane Environmental Volunteers, the pioneering works such as heritage tours and narratives, traditional festivals, and oral history studies that they actively carry out are among the rare examples of multi-actor, community-, and locally-driven conservation, as stressed in The Florence Declaration (ICOMOS, 2014), in Turkey. Similarly, the civil society organization established in 2021 under the name of Kundura Memory Cultural Heritage Preservation Association can be seen as a significant step towards civilianization of conservation.

Conclusion

As the conceptual depth of conservation has increased since the second half of the 20th century, its fields of action have also expanded and diversified. It can be understood that conservation as an approach now has a wider context, which not only refers to a larger physical scope but also to more complex relationships, and their dynamics. In this sense, examining the reuse of Istanbul's industrial heritage offers significant opportunities to understand the contemporary agenda, as well as their implications in practice, from the post-Venice Charter conservation perspective.

Retrospectively, the heritagization of industrial assets, as well as their conservation and reuse, have shown a temporal parallelism with the principal documents specialized in the sub-discipline, allowing many to be listed, and legally protected. The evolution of conservation and the emphasis on culture in the current context has also made it easier for these elements to be perceived as heritage. However, especially the late-period layers or contextual elements cannot always be conserved in a holistic and multi-layered manner despite the theoretical emphasis in respective documents. The authenticity and integrity of structures have only partially survived to this day, mostly due to the lost production mechanisms and

components. This also occurs because production technologies and processes are evaluated separately from “*architectural spaces*” and their values, and the spirit of place is not fully recognized.

Another reflection of this is the difficulty in reading and interpreting the human stories, historical dynamics, and multiple memories in the background of the industrial structures, as well as the values that make them heritage. In some examples, this difficulty can even extend to documenting and keeping records of the complexes' own history and conservation processes. However, on the broadest scale, documentation regarding the human dimension in general, and labor history that has improved the quality of life for humankind, as mentioned in the Seville Charter (The Fundación Pública Andaluza Centro de Estudios Andaluces, 2019), is an important deficiency and affects the perception of heritage merely as an architectural element.

In this light, the need for further questioning the reasoning and temporality in the practical dimension of conservation is also among the significant conclusions of the research. Issues including, but not limited to, the conservation-use balance, public use, and purposeful participation are still worth consideration despite the architectural quality of the interventions. In the best-case scenario, examined cases provide means of sustained production on another level through reuse. However, interventions that prioritize only spatial use, even if for public purposes, and approaches that position architectural production separately from heritage's past, deepen the discussions on the “*industrialization*” of heritage. Interventions, therefore, should also be enhanced to reflect the past, adhering to the main starting point of the idea of conservation.

It is also essential to establish a heritage-centered, inclusive ecosystem that will enable multi-actor conservation and management processes, and to develop comprehensive capacity building to ensure its continuity. This necessitates structuring the narratives about values, integrated with the interpreted production processes to strengthen and systematize their spatial counterparts in practice. Respectively, at least some of the thematic workshops should be specified as a systematic training program in line with production and technology while improving the user experience in general. Finally, it stands out as a prominent need to reformulate the national law with a content that aligns with the conservation of industrial heritage in line with contemporary theory.

In this perspective, it is not possible for the Venice Charter, or any document, to respond alone to these multi-dimensional needs or to singularly provide the comprehensive themes put forward through cumulative knowledge of decades to meet them. Therefore, this study suggests that the-six decade-old charter should not be viewed as a standalone recommendation, but rather as a historical and foundational reference for understanding ongoing evolution and responding to emerging challenges, as previously argued by prominent theorists in the field (Erder, 1977, p.25; Jokilehto, 2021, p.362). On the contrary, it should rightfully serve as a pioneering and living landmark whose fundamental principles must be acknowledged. However, it should be recognized that it only forms a cohesive whole with subsequent additions within this perpetual evolution, enriched by continuous research and best practices.

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