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A Fifty-Year Architectural Journey: The Karadeniz Technical University Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital

Elli Yıllık Bir Mimari Yolculuk: Karadeniz Teknik Üniversitesi Tıp Fakültesi ve Araştırma Hastanesi

Şölen KÖSEOĞLU[1]

ABSTRACT

Design for disadvantaged communities, the role of architecture in addressing social inequalities, and its contribution to healthy societies are current topics of discussion in the field of architecture. The inequality between the eastern and western regions of Turkey has persisted since the early years of the Republic. One of the steps taken to address this issue was the decision to establish a university in eastern Turkey during the 1950s—a process that resulted in the foundation of Karadeniz Technical University (KTÜ) in Trabzon, along with a medical school within the university. In this context, architectural competitions were held starting in the 1950s to design health and educational buildings. This study offers a detailed analysis of the project for the KTÜ Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital, which was selected through a competition held in 1972. The aim of the study is to investigate which parts of the building complex—still in use today—were designed by which architects and at what time. The study first addresses the conditions of the period, the architectural competitions, the founding of KTÜ, and the award-winning project. Then, it provides a detailed analysis of the KTÜ Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital project and evaluates the current condition of the building. Findings reveal that numerous changes have been made to the structure over time. The research shows that the initial blocks built after the competition were later surrounded by additional structures. In conclusion, this article summarizes the transformation of a building that has been in continuous use for fifty years, documents a significant aspect of the Republican architectural heritage, and highlights the role of architectural competitions in the development of public health and education buildings in Türkiye.

Keywords: ***Hospital design, Architectural competitions, Architectural design, University campus, Access to healthcare***

ÖZ

Dezavantajlı topluluklar için tasarım, mimarinin sosyal eşitsizlikleri gidermedeki rolü ve sağlıklı toplumlara katkısı, mimarlık alanındaki güncel tartışma konularıdır. Türkiye'nin doğusu ve batısı arasındaki eşitsizlik, Cumhuriyet tarihinin başından itibaren varlığını sürdürmüştür. Bu sorunu çözmek için atılan adımlardan biri, 1950'lerde Türkiye'nin doğusunda üniversite kurma kararıdır. Bu süreç, Trabzon'da Karadeniz Teknik Üniversitesi (KTÜ) ve üniversite bünyesinde bir tıp fakültesinin kurulmasıyla sonuçlanmıştır. Bu süreçte, 1950'lerden itibaren sağlık ve eğitim yapılarının projelendirilmesi için yarışmalar düzenlenmiştir. Bu bağlamda bu çalışma, 1972 yılında düzenlenen bir yarışma ile elde edilen KTÜ Tıp Fakültesi ve Araştırma Hastanesi Projesi'ni detaylı bir biçimde analiz etmektedir. Çalışmanın amacı, bugün hâlen kullanımda olan yapı kompleksinin hangi bölümlerinin ne zaman ve hangi mimarlarca projelendirildiğinin araştırılmasıdır. Çalışma; öncelikle dönemin koşullarını, yarışmaları, KTÜ'nün kuruluşunu ve ödüllü projeyi ele almaktadır. Daha sonra, KTÜ Tıp Fakültesi ve Araştırma Hastanesi Projesi, detaylı bir şekilde analiz edilmekte ve yapının mevcut durumu değerlendirilmektedir. Bulgular, zaman içinde yapıda birçok değişiklik yapıldığını ortaya koymaktadır. Yapılan araştırma sonucunda, yarışma süreciyle ilk inşa edilen blokların ek yapılarla çevrelendiği anlaşılmıştır. Sonuç olarak bu makale, elli yıldır kesintisiz olarak kullanılan bir yapının değişim sürecini özetlemekte ve Cumhuriyet mirasının önemli bir öğesini belgelemekte; mimari yarışmaların Türkiye'deki kamu sağlık ve eğitim yapılarının gelişimine etkisini vurgulamaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Hastane tasarımı, Mimari yarışmalar, Mimari tasarım, Üniversite yerleşkesi, Sağlığa erişim

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INTRODUCTION

One of the six themes of latest UIA World Congress of Architects 2023 was “Design for Health” and what architecture can do for healthy communities (UIA, 2023). Within the scope of the congress, how architecture affects health was extensively discussed. During the congress, the UN Sustainable Development Goals and architecture’s influence on all seventeen goals were also addressed, especially goal number three “Good Health and Well-Being” and goal number ten “Reduced Inequalities”. In addition, UIA World Congress of Architects had the slogan “Sustainable Futures, Leave No One Behind” and they stated that people at risk of being left behind must be accommodated first when we plan the built environment (UIA, 2023). But according to AlSayyad, globalization does not include everyone and always leaves someone out (Çelik, 2012). The editors of the congress, Benimara and Hasan (2023), shared a similar approach in their panel statement for “Design for Health”:

“In societies where there is inequity and major social differences, there is usually a very strong anti-poor bias in planning. As a result, few healthcare institutions are built in the poorest settlements.”

When Türkiye is considered, the foundations of some of today’s inequalities are based on the past. The effort of the republican ideology to modernize society through architecture has started construction activities all over the country. Despite this, when we look at the history of the Republic, we see that spatial inequalities exist and that those who are excluded are those living outside the centers of the country, especially in the east. The inequality between East and West has remained an unsolved problem throughout the history of the Republic. This inequality could not be resolved with the shifting of the capital to the east, and an unending effort was made to make services such as very basic education and health accessible in the east. Today, on the contrary, the stat’s withdrawal from basic services such as health and education because of neoliberal policies is on the agenda all over the world. Despite this, this study, as an important example of the relationship between health and architecture, wants to bring up an example from the 1970s, when the state still took important steps in this area.

Looking at the history of the Republic, the opening of universities in the east and the establishment of medical faculties in these universities can be seen as important steps to reduce the inequalities between the east and the west. In this context, the subject of this article focuses on an important step in the field of architecture, a competition, and a building for health care access in the east. In an article published in the Mimarlık Dergisi in 1971, it is seen that the region with the highest population per physician in the country is the eastern Black Sea region between Giresun, Artvin, and Gümüşhane (Table 1). This region is followed by the central Black Sea region, where the cities of Samsun, Sinop, and Ordu are located (Atabek, 1971). This may be an important point to explain the process that led to the organization of a competition for the Karadeniz Technical University (KTU) Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital in Trabzon in 1972, in the middle of Giresun, Artvin, and Gümüşhane, which are the worst-hit cities in the table.

Table 1. Number of Patients per Physician in Different Regions of the Country in 1971 (Atabek, 1971)

Health Regions	Cities	Region Population/General Population Ratio	Number of Physicians	Population per Physician
1st Region	Edirne, İstanbul	10.1	4651	701
2nd Region	Kocaeli, Bolu	5.7	365	4981
3rd Region	Bursa, Balıkesir	5.8	352	5229
4th Region	İzmir, Manisa, Aydın	10.5	1326	2552
5th Region	Eskişehir, Bilecik	5.2	258	6477
6th Region	Isparta, Burdur	3.0	185	5253
7th Region	Ankara, Yozgat	10.1	1658	1964
8th Region	Konya, Niğde	4.7	181	8414
9th Region	Samsun, Sinop, Ordu	7.4	240	9957
10th Region	Tokat, Sivas, Kayseri	5.5	203	8713
11th Region	Adana, İçel, Hatay	9.2	593	4989
12th Region	Giresun, Artvin, Gümüşhane	5.6	159	11415
13th Region	Bingöl, Tunceli, Elazığ	4.4	146	9484
14th Region	Diyarbakır, Siirt, Urfa	5.0	254	6429
15th Region	Kars, Ağrı, Erzurum	5.5	386	4601
16th Region	Muş, Van, Bitlis	2.3	125	5855

For all these reasons, in this study, the fifty-year process of building the KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital will be examined. The project and the building are of great historical importance for the East.

1. Methods

The aim of the study is to document the details, such as design decisions about the project and the current state of the building. For this aim, this study employs a qualitative research approach to examine the establishment process of KTU, the role of architectural competitions, and the architectural and functional evolution of the KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital. The research is structured around four key areas: (1) the establishment of KTU and the architectural competitions held, (2) the achievements of architects Harun Özer and Özdemir Erverdi in competitions related to health and education buildings, (3) a detailed analysis of the KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital, and (4) the current state of the building, including modifications and additions over time.

The data collection process involves a combination of archival research, document analysis, and site observations. Archival research includes reviewing historical documents, competition reports, and project records to understand the initial design and planning stages. Document analysis focuses on published literature, official reports, and architectural drawings related to the selected buildings and competitions. Additionally, site observations are conducted to assess the current condition of the KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital, providing insights into the structural and functional changes it has undergone.

By integrating these methods, the study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the architectural and historical trajectory of the selected case. The findings are categorized and analyzed thematically to highlight key transformations and their implications for contemporary architectural discourse.

2. Results and Discussion

The findings obtained in the research conducted for this article will be presented under four headings. The establishment process of KTU and the competitions opened will be discussed first. This section will cover the initial steps of the university's formation and the various competitions that were organized in relation to its development. Next, the success of architects Harun Özer and Özdemir Erverdi in

competitions related to health and education buildings will be explored. Their significant achievements in these fields, particularly in relation to KTU, will be highlighted.

Following this, a detailed examination of the KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital will be presented. This part will provide an in-depth look at the design and functionality of the building, with a focus on its architectural and operational aspects. Finally, the situation the building has reached today will be discussed, including the changes and additions it has undergone. This section will reflect on how the building has evolved over time and its current state.

2.1 The Establishment of Karadeniz Technical University and Faculty of Medicine

KTU was founded in 1955 (Republic of Türkiye Official Journal, 1955), and as the fourth university of the country, it is the first university founded from scratch by the Republic of Türkiye, and its roots do not date back to the Ottoman period like those of Istanbul University, Istanbul Technical University and Ankara University (Kömürlü, 2019). The establishment of KTU is important because it is the first university established outside of Istanbul and Ankara, and it is a step in the Republic's decision to expand educational institutions beyond the administrative, economic, and cultural centers of that time. According to Polatoğlu (1971), although KTU was built in Trabzon, it was being established for the rapid scientific and technical development of the Eastern Black Sea Region covered by the cities of Ordu, Giresun, Gümüşhane, Trabzon, Rize, and Artvin.

In the decades following the official establishment of the university, efforts continued with the opening of new faculties, and in this context, various competitions were held for the university campus and its buildings. As a result of the competitions listed below, the campus and all the first buildings built were obtained through the competition (Polatoğlu, 1971; TMMOB of Ankara Branch, 1921a).

- *1960 KTU Campus*
- *1962 Urbanism and Architectural Project Competition for KTU Buildings (Institute of Physics, Institute of Chemistry, Institute of Economics, Institute of Mathematics, Faculty of Construction and Architecture, Dormitory Building-Infirmary, Cafeteria Building, Public Housing)*
- *1967 KTU Faculties of Machinery and Electricity*
- *1968 KTU Academic Center*
- *1968 KTU Sports and Social Facilities*
- *1968 KTU Faculty of Earth Sciences and Forestry*
- *1972 KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital*

This study will focus on the last of the above-mentioned competitions, the KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital competition opened in 1972, and the project obtained by this competition. The Faculty of Medicine was established as the sixth faculty of KTU, and since the building was not ready, the students admitted in the 1976-1977 academic year continued their education at Hacettepe University. At the same time, the KTU Faculty of Medicine is the tenth medical faculty established from scratch after the proclamation of the Republic. Below are the medical faculties opened after the proclamation of the Republic, with their opening orders (Vergili, 2011).

1. *Ankara Faculty of Medicine (1945),*
2. *Ege University Faculty of Medicine (1955) in İzmir,*
3. *Atatürk University Faculty of Medicine in Erzurum (1965),*

4. *Dicle University Faculty of Medicine (1966) in Diyarbakır,*
5. *Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine (1967) in Ankara,*
6. *Erciyes University Faculty of Medicine (1969) in Kayseri,*
7. *Uludağ University Faculty of Medicine (1970) in Bursa,*
8. *Çukurova University Faculty of Medicine (1971) in Adana,*
9. *Akdeniz University Faculty of Medicine (1973) in Antalya,*
10. *KTU Faculty of Medicine (1973) in Trabzon*.

2.2 Karadeniz Technical University Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital Competition

It is seen that various competitions have been held for hospital buildings in many parts of the country since the 1950s. The Guraba Hospital Orthopaedics and Psychiatry Pavilions Competition in 1951, the 1956 Ankara University Faculty of Medicine competition, which was the first medical school competition, and the 1961 Ege University Faculty of Medicine and Hospital Competitions, where the faculty of medicine and hospital project were obtained together, are the first examples in this field. After these competitions, there are many examples where faculties of medicine and hospitals were obtained through competitions (TMMOB of Ankara Branch, 2021a). According to Baran Atalay (2017), from the 1950s to the 2000s, [at least] 54 competitions were held under the title of hospital functions.

For the KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital competition, the Ministry of Public Works called for an open, national, and one-stage competition in 1972 (Anonymous, 1972a). The same announcement stated that the project delivery date was December 12, 1972. According to the TMMOB Chamber of Architects Ankara Branch Competitions Index (TMMOB of Ankara Branch, 2021b), the results of the competition and the teams that received awards are listed below.

- *1st Prize: Harun Özer, Özdemir Erverdi*
- *2nd Prize: Vedat Dalokay, Metin Çelik, Ersin Arısoy*
- *3rd Prize: Şaziment Arolat, Neşet Arolat*
- *4th Prize: Yüksel Erdemir, Umut Taluğ*
- *5th Prize: Alpay Aşkun, Işık Aydemir, Emin Necip Uzman, Ali Rıza Bozkurt*
- *1st Honourable Mention: Tülay Taşçıoğlu, Adnan Taşçıoğlu*
- *2nd Honourable Mention: Ziya Ok*
- *3rd Honourable Mention: Mustafa Polatoğlu, Ahmet Şimşek, Saip Ebesek*

It can be noted about the winning teams that the awarded architects were among the well-known competing architects of the period, and especially the architects who received the first three awards had previously achieved success in hospital competitions. It is worth mentioning that the duo of Şaziment Arolat and Neşet Arolat that won the third prize in this competition are the architects who won the first place in the Zonguldak Workers Hospital in 1963.

Different sources provide different data for the number of beds in the hospital; according to the university's own website (KTU, 2015a), the project has 600 beds. However, Altan (2003) stated that the constructed project includes 509 beds. The program of the competition included:

1. *For the Faculty of Medicine function:*

a) Deanery b) Library c) Classrooms d) Research Laboratories e) Lecturer Rooms

2. For Research Hospital functions (600 beds):

a) Bed unit b) Polyclinic c) Diagnostic treatment units d) Management e) Emergency room f) Blood bank

3. Public housings

2.3 Architects Harun Özer and Özdemir Erverdi

Winning architects Harun Özer and Özdemir Erverdi were both students of the Istanbul State Academy of Fine Arts. Below are the photographs of the architects in the photo album from the Academy (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Harun Özer and Özdemir Erverdi in Istanbul State Academy of Fine Arts, Department of Architecture, 1A and 1B Students Album, 1954 (Salt Araştırma, 1954)

A few years after their graduation, in 1961, Harun Özer won his first competition with Affan Kırmızılı, receiving the 6th honorable mention in the Middle East Technical University competition (Table 2). According to the accessible information, Özdemir Erverdi's first success in the competitions was the Zeytinburnu Student Dormitory Project Competition, in which he participated with Harun Özer and Gültekin Kurucaklı in 1964. The team won the first prize in this competition. From this date until the 1980s, the two architects worked together for competitions, and between 1964 and 1977, they achieved success in 18 competitions for 13 years. For more information about these competitions, the table below can be examined. After 1977, as before 1964, it is seen that Harun Özer participated in competitions alone or with other architects than Özdemir Erverdi.

Table 2. Competitions Harun Özer and Özdemir Erverdi Attended by Year (*compiled from the TMMOB* of Ankara Branch, 2021a; Karaaslan, 1977; Anonymous, 1963; Anonymous, 1964; Anonymous, 1967a; Anonymous, 1967b; Anonymous, 1967c; Anonymous, 1968; Anonymous, 1971; Anonymous, 1972b; Anonymous, 1972c; Anonymous, 1972d; Anonymous, 1974; Anonymous, 1981; Anonymous, 1983; Sönmez, 1977; Özgür, 2022).

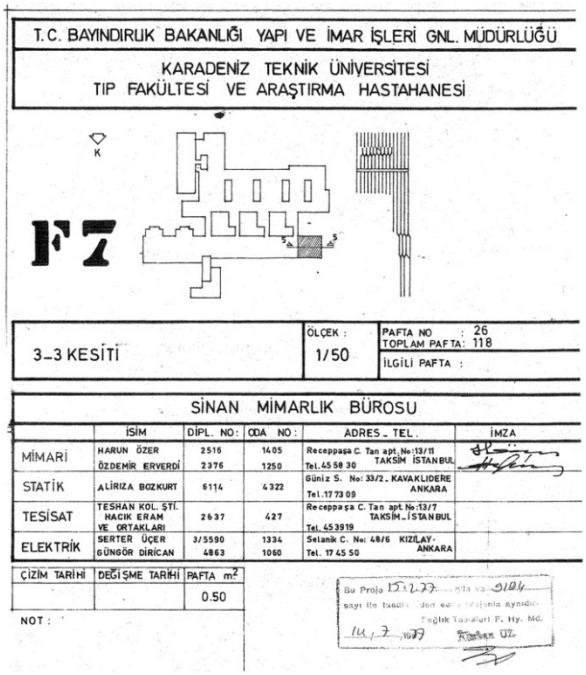
Year	Place	Competition	Award and Team
1961	Ankara	Middle East Technical University	6th Honourable Mention: Affan Kırımlı, Harun Özer
1962	Ankara	Ankara Municipality Çankaya (Botanical) Park Touristic Facilities	1st Honourable Mention: Harun Özer, Gürkan Alpay
1963	Zonguldak	Zonguldak Workers Hospital Project Competition	Honourable Mention: Harun Özer, Gürkan Alpay
1964	İstanbul	Zeytinburnu Student Dormitory Project Competitions	1st Prize: Özdemir Erverdi, Harun Özer, Gültekin Kurucaklı
1966	Şişli	İstanbul Şişli Children's Hospital	Purhcase: Harun Özer, Özdemir Erverdi
1967	Antakya	Antakya Fair and Entertainment Site	2nd Purchase: Harun Özer, Özdemir Erverdi
1967	Erzurum	Erzurum Atatürk University Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital Project Competition	1st Prize: Özdemir Erverdi, Harun Özer
1967	İstanbul	Istanbul Military Academies Facilities Architectural Project Competition	1st Honourable Mention: Özdemir Erverdi, Harun Özer
1967	Ankara	Ankara Refik Saydam Central Hygiene Institute	Honourable Mention: Özdemir Erverdi, Harun Özer
1968	Samsun	Samsun Chest Diseases Hospital (400 Beds) (Limited)	3rd Prize: Özdemir Erverdi, Harun Özer
1968	Ordu	Ordu Chest Diseases Hospital Architectural Project Competition with 200 Beds	3rd Prize: Özdemir Erverdi, Harun Özer
1971	Yedikule	Yedikule Health Site Architectural Project Competition	3rd Honourable Mention: Harun Özer, Özdemir Erverdi, Alpay Aşkun
1972	Erzurum	Erzurum Atatürk University School of Laboratorians and Medical Technicians of 200 Persons and Faculty of Dentistry	3rd Prize: Özdemir Erverdi, Harun Özer, Sıtkı Günemre, Kutlu Alemdar
1972	Erzurum	Erzurum Atatürk University Engineering and Architecture School Architectural Project Competition	4th Honourable Mention: Özdemir Erverdi, Harun Özer, Sıtkı Günemre
1972	Erzurum	Erzurum Atatürk University Agricultural Technology and Home Economics Building Architectural Project Competition	2nd Honourable Mention: Özdemir Erverdi, Harun Özer, Sıtkı Günemre
1972	Trabzon	Karadeniz Technical University Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital Project Competition	1st Prize: Harun Özer, Özdemir Erverdi
1972	Bursa	Bursa Faculty of Medicine	4th Prize: Harun Özer, Özdemir Erverdi, Osman Berksun, Sinan Atasoy
1974	İzmir	Ege University Academic Centre Competition	1st Place: Harun Özer, Özdemir Elverdi, Osman Berksun
1977	Etlik	SSK Etlik Headquarters Facilities	5th Honourable Mention: Harun Özer, Özdemir Erverdi, Sinan Atasoy
1977	İzmit	İzmit Coastal Planning Competition	Purchase: Özdemir Erverdi, Harun Özer, Sinan Atasoy, Enise Özdönmez, Saadettin Özdönmez
1977	Etimesgut	Türkiye Sugar Factories Inc. Education Centre Project Competition	3rd Prize: Harun Özer, Özdemir Erverdi
1981	İstanbul	Istanbul Maritime School Architectural Project Competition	1st Honourable Mention: Harun Özer
1983	Samsun	Samsun Government House Architectural Project Competition	1st Honourable Mention: Harun Özer, Tayyar Kumbasar
1987	Bursa	Bursa Courthouse	5th Honourable Mention: Harun Özer, Atilla Atlıhan, Mustafa Öztürk

Considering the functions of the projects in the competitions in which Harun Özer and Özdemir Erverdi participated and achieved success, it is seen that hospital buildings are in the majority. After the hospital buildings, the building type in which the duo achieved the most success was the educational buildings. Among these buildings, university buildings stand out. It is seen that Republic's decision to open new universities outside the centers created an important opportunity for the careers of the duo. Finally, administrative buildings, touristic buildings, and a planning project can be seen in the table. The duo won four first prizes together, two of which were for the Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital projects. They first won the Erzurum Atatürk University Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital Project Competition in 1967. Five years later, in 1972, they won the KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital Project Competition. In both 1967 and 1972, it is seen that the team drew more than one competition project, and according to the table, these two years were the years in which they achieved the most success in the competitions. The team won four awards in 1967 and five in 1972. It should be noted that from 1967 to 1972, the team also worked on the drawing and construction of the

implementation project of the Erzurum Atatürk University Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital. An article written by architects and published in Arkitekt in 1980 tells that the construction and works in Erzurum were still going on that year (Özer & Erverdi, 1980).

2.4 Karadeniz Technical University Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital Project

The competition, in which the KTU Medical Faculty and Research Hospital Project was obtained, was opened in 1972, and it is estimated that the results of the competition were announced in the first months of 1973. The approval date of the implementation project drawn by the architects Harun Özer and Özdemir Erverdi under the name Sinan Architecture Bureau is 1977 (KTU Project Production Center, 2021) (Figure 2). The construction that started in these years was completed in 1986 (KTU, 2015a). The first chief physician of the university, Prof. Dr. Güner Kemal Özgür states that due to the lack of funds, it took many years to complete the construction, and in the 1980s, the fine construction was completed and the furniture was purchased with the funds that were barely arranged by the coup administration, and the building was put into service (Özgür, 2022).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KARADENİZ TEKNİK ÜNİVERSİTESİ
TIP FAKÜLTESİ VE ARAŞTIRMA HASTAHANESİ

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SİNAN MİMARLIK BÜROSU

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MİMARİ	HARUN ÖZER ÖZDEMİR ERVERDİ	2516 2376	1405 1250	Receppaşa C. Tan apt. No:13/11 TAKSİM İSTANBUL Tel. 45 58 30	
STATİK	ALİRIZA BOZKURT	6114	4322	Güniz S. No: 33/2 - KAVAKLIDERE ANKARA Tel. 17 73 09	
TESİSAT	TEŞHAN KOL. ŞTİ. HACIK ERAM VE ORTAKLARI	2637	427	Receppaşa C. Tan apt. No:13/7 TAKSİM - İSTANBUL Tel. 453919	
ELEKTRİK	SERTER ÜÇER GÜNGÖR DİRİCAN	3/5590 4863	1334 1060	Selanik C. No: 48/6 KIZILAY - ANKARA Tel. 17 45 50	

ÇİZİM TARİHİ	DEĞİŞME TARİHİ	PAFTA m²
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NOT :

Bu Projo 15.2.77 ... 9106 sayılı ile tasdik ... aynıdır.
Sağlık Tesisleri F. Hiz. Md.
14.7.1977

Figure 2. Letterhead of the Project (KTU Project Production Center, 2021)

The KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital Project consists of two housing blocks designed in addition to a total of five main sections with hospital and education functions. The image below shows today's look at the locations and relationships of the buildings designed by the architects within the scope of the competition (Figure 3). While examining the image, it should be kept in mind that, unlike the image below, there were no other buildings in the area at that time apart from those designed by the architects.

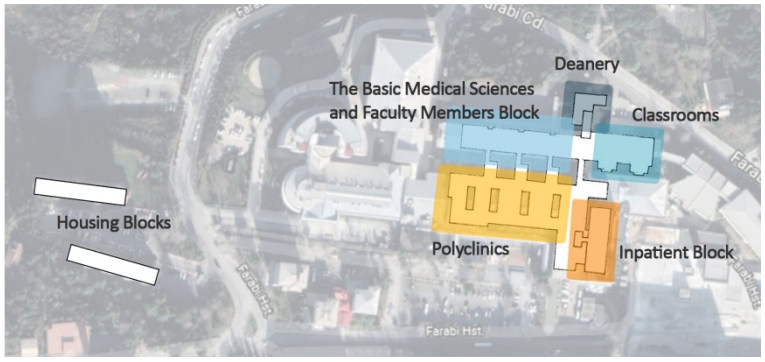

Figure 3. Housing Blocks and KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital

In the KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital Project, a building consisting of five blocks was designed for the hospital and education functions (Figure 3). For hospital functions, the Polyclinic Block and the Inpatient Block are positioned to the south of the building in the form of an L. The Basic Medical Sciences and Faculty Members' Block, which is connected to the Polyclinic Block by three bridges, are located in the north. It is also positioned in an L shape in the north, connected to the deanery, mirroring the two hospital blocks just described above. Except for the four blocks that are back-to-back in the form of two Ls, the last block with classrooms is located in the northeast, and this building is directly connected with the Faculty Members' Block in the same direction.

The general setup of the building is in the form of independent low and high blocks. Connections between blocks are sometimes established directly, sometimes through bridges, and in the latter case, the relationship is weaker. Different blocks are designed to be used with different functions. In addition, different blocks are planned to establish a horizontal relationship with each other. Instead of the project being a singular building, its fragmented settlement facilitated its localization on the sloping land characteristic of the Black Sea. The land typically descends from south to north, with the main campus located north of the building in the direction of the slope, between the sea and the building. The Deanery, faculty rooms, and classrooms are both in the direction of the main campus and are within walking distance of the Rectorate, public housing, dormitories, religious center, and the main cafeteria. After this general information, information about the blocks will now be given one by one.

The polyclinic block is a rectangular, prism-shaped quadruplex block located in the east-west direction. The main polyclinic entrance of the building is from the south side; there is a blood bank entrance on the bottom floor at the west end of the building on the north side. The most important distinguishing feature of the building is that it contains four large skylights. The building is largely successful in terms of the use of natural light. While the double-armed staircase at the entrance of the main polyclinic of the building continues to function without any problems despite the increasing number of users, the narrow service stairs located in the south of the polyclinic building, normally designed for the use of healthcare professionals, became very crowded as patients started using them. The inpatient block has the appearance of a tower rising on a rectangular base. There are inpatient care units across eleven floors. The building is located in the north-south direction, and its main entrance is from the west. The east end of the polyclinic block coincides with the northwest end of the inpatient block, thus forming an L facing northwest. An L-shaped concrete pergola covering the circulation connecting the main entrance of the two buildings was designed in front of the polyclinic block and the inpatient block. It is important that this pergola create a semi-open area that is heavily used by hospital users, especially considering the rainy Black Sea climate. At the lowest level of the building, on the south side, there is a service entrance suitable for the approach of large vehicles. Although the building was partially painted orange during renovations in the early 2000s, it is now blue (Figure 4).

Figure 4. The in Patient Block and the Pergola in 1986, 2000s and 2021 (KTU Farabi Hospital, 2021; KTU Department of Administrative and Financial Affairs, 2021. The third photo from the top is from the author's personal archive)

Some of the windows in the inpatient block appear to have been closed over the years (Figure 4). The most important loss regarding the current state of the building is the demolition of the concrete pergola at the entrance. Today, there is a new pergola with a plastic-based top cover instead of the original concrete pergola in front of two buildings on the northern facade. The concrete pergola, used on multiple facades of the original building, is an important symbol due to the human-scale perception of the building, the image it leaves in memory, and the reference it makes to its historical period. The use of a concrete pergola recalls the concrete pergola used for the door with a pool by Behruz and Altuğ Çinici at the Faculty of Architecture of METU and is an important reference and identity indicator for the period.

The basic medical sciences and faculty members' block is positioned as a rectangular prism in the south of the polyclinic block, parallel to hospital buildings. This building is connected to the polyclinic block by three bridges. In the original plans, it was seen that many research laboratories were settled in this building, and today, the lower levels of the polyclinic building are used for this function. The deanery and classroom buildings are joined to the basic medical sciences and faculty offices wing. A bridge starting from the midpoint of these three buildings reaches the inpatient block and the eastern end of the polyclinic block. To the east of this wing, between the classrooms and the inpatient block, a rectangular prism containing the library was positioned in the original drawings. Today, there is a student-staff cafeteria in this important location, and a new annex has been built at this point over the years.

The basic medical sciences and faculty members' block consists of four floors. The Deanery building and the classroom building consist of two floors. The entrance to these buildings is to the north. The basic medical sciences and faculty members' block and the Deanery building are joined in the form of an L oriented to the northwest, and on this facade, there is a long L-shaped concrete pergola

connecting the two entrances, as on the south facade. The distance of the pergola to the buildings is not the same for every building; the pergola starts at a far distance from the Deanery building compared to the other entrances. Thus, it is necessary to walk a longer distance to reach the Deanery building. By doing so, the architects gave the entrance a more monumental and impressive emphasis.

Today, the basic medical sciences and faculty block largely retain their original appearance. The classroom block is an important point for students, especially with the active use of the entrance. However, due to the inadequate classrooms in the building over the years, two more blocks were added to the east of the building, one of which contains an amphitheater, and the original classroom building is used as a study hall for students today and serves as an intermediate place where students gather during the transition from the hospital building to the lecture hall.

Finally, two housing blocks were designed by the architects, which are independent of the hospital building and included in the competition program of the KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital Project (Figure 3). The housing blocks have eleven floors and are placed in an east-west direction. Both blocks consist of two adjacent blocks with separate entrances, and there are 86 residences totaling 129 square meters (KTU Department of Administrative and Financial Affairs, 2021).

2.5 Attachments to the Building and the Current Situation

Many changes have occurred in the building in the past 37 years, from when it was first used in 1986 to the present. While some of these were limited to simple additions or renovations, some of them included large construction activities that competed with the mass of the original building. While the transformations experienced on the facades of the buildings are partially detectable through photographs, it is almost impossible to detect or record the dozens of changes made in the interior of the building over the years by looking at it today. In many parts of the building, especially indoors, it is very difficult for users who do not know the history of the building to distinguish between the original parts of the building and the new ones.

One of the first changes in the building was the addition of a fire escape to the east of the inpatient block. As can be seen from the photographs taken during the major renovation of the building in the early 2000s, the original east entrance was destroyed by the addition of the fire escape. Many other changes related to the building took place in the processes that followed the addition of other buildings. As explained in the previous section, for example, with the construction of a new block for the hospital emergency department, change has become necessary in the spaces that used to fulfill this function. Many similar situations have occurred in the building, one after the other. For this reason, in this part of the article, the new blocks added to the original building will be discussed.

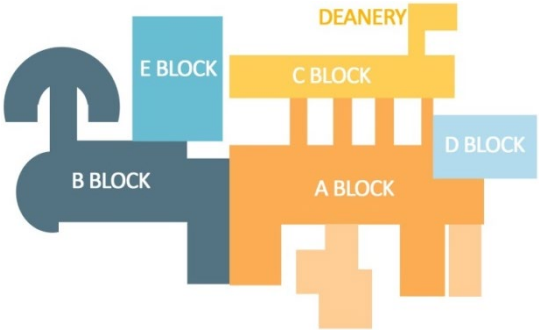

Figure 5. The Layout Showing Hospital-only Annexes Used in the Hospital to Inform Patients; Educational Blocks are not Shown Here (KTU, 2021)

Five more blocks have been added to the five blocks that make up the original building in the last two decades (Figure 5 and 6). In this process, besides the buildings built adjacent to the building, many

independent buildings were built around the outside of the building. In this section, firstly, the annexes built adjacent to the original building will be emphasized, and the change in the surrounding area of the building will be explained with the support of aerial photographs. The first annex in Figure 5, named B Block by the hospital users, was designed by Öncüoğlu Architecture in 1992. The building that was completed in 2004 is adjacent to the original building from the west and has a capacity of 308 beds (KTU, 2015a). The building consists of three different sections; these sections sit on different levels and have two, four, and eight floors, respectively. With the construction of this building, the hospital emergency department entrance was moved from the main building to the west end of the building in the south direction of this block. In 2015, this entrance was closed with the addition of a new block with an emergency department function. The form language of the building clearly distinguishes it from the original building, as it is finished with two cylindrical masses in the west and north. The part in the north resembles the university logo.

The second annex in Figure 5, named D Block by the hospital users, was designed by Okman Architecture in 2007. The block, designed as a rectangular prism, was built in the space between the Inpatient Block and the Classrooms, on the site of the original library. Since the building is surrounded by other buildings, it is not perceived at human scale or from the roads around the hospital. The third annex in Figure 5, named E Block by the hospital users, is the last addition built adjacent to the building for the hospital function. This building connects to the B Block, which was just described, from the north and was built for emergency service only. The building was designed by the Project Production Center of KTU in 2013 and built in 2015 (KTU Project Production Center, 2017).

Figure 6. All Annexes and Original Buildings Viewed from the North (above) and South (below) (KTU, 2015b)

Apart from these blocks that were built with the function of a hospital, two blocks with educational functions were built in addition to and adjacent to the classroom block, which became inadequate over time. The first of these buildings is very characteristic, with the rectangular prism-shaped circulation line added to the triangular prism-shaped amphitheater. The last building is also in the form of a rectangular prism. These buildings are located on a curved axis following the land boundary line at the eastern end of the original building (Figure 7). New buildings built after this addition was built around the building separately from the main building.

Figure 7. The View of the Entire Area in 2012 and 2023 (Google Earth, 2012; Google Earth, 2023)

There are other buildings that have been built around this complex over the years. These are the Faculty of Dentistry, the Faculty of Pharmacy, the Basic Medical Sciences Building, a hotel and restaurant building, a canteen building, and finally the Multi-Story Parking Garage and the Children's Hospital (Figure 7).

Looking at the interior of the building and the human-scale user experience, it can be said that the polyclinic building is easily perceptible, and one can rapidly find their way through it. The connection between the observation and imaging units located on the lower floor of the polyclinics and the polyclinics is easily provided through the main staircase at the entrance (Figure 8). Since all polyclinics no longer fit into this building, this situation changes when patients need to reach units outside of this building. It is difficult to find direction on the bridges in the north-south direction or on the ramp in the east-west direction, especially in the circulation units on the lower floor below the ground that provide the transition from this block to the other blocks. The hospital can be perceived as a labyrinth for a user who is experiencing these parts below ground for the first time.

Figure 8. 1. Deanery's Entrance and Concrete Pergola, 2. Ataturk Monument; 3. Faculty Members' Block and Concrete Pergola; 4. Blood Bank Entrance; 5. The Main Staircase at the Entrance of the Polyclinics; 6. The Annex to the Westernmost Bridge Connecting the Polyclinic Block and the Faculty Members' Block (The photographs are from the author's personal archive)

There are some transformations carried out for various needs in the space that should be noted about the current state of the original building designed by Harun Özer and Özdemir Erverdi. The first of these is about the skylights. One of the skylight spaces is used to provide an expanded waiting room for the polyclinic. Another skylight space is used as a warehouse, whereas in another, it was found that one of the imaging devices and the connected ventilation shafts that did not fit into the interior were located in the empty space under the skylight. The increasing need for space in the hospital necessitated the use of not only the skylights but also other spaces. It was observed that waiting rooms were built by closing the outer spaces between the bridges connecting the polyclinic building to the Faculty Members' Block at one floor height.

When it comes to the impatient block, it can be said that the changes made on the first two floors of the building are more intense than on the other floors of the building. The last example to be given in this regard is the exit made on the facade, probably with the addition of an elevator to the westernmost bridge connecting the Polyclinic building to the Faculty Members' Block during the renovation in the early 2000s (Figure 8). Although many buildings on the KTU Campus that were obtained through the competitions described in the introduction were painted orange and pink in the 2000s, it was noticed that this situation was attempted to be changed. Polatoğlu (1971), the architect of many important buildings on the campus, described that they used dark gray and white cement with scraped render on the facades of the buildings they designed. Accordingly, as a result of the studies carried out by the Project Production Center of KTU, it was noticed that the campus buildings were repainted in dark gray and white colors. This applies to both the new and old buildings on the campus and the interior and exterior walls of the buildings described in this article.

Originally designed in the 1970s, the blood bank section has lost its original function. The entrance of the blood bank and the use of concrete at the entrance are characteristic of the building (Figure 8). This entrance connects with other concrete pergola entrances in the building. At the same time, this emphasis on the entrance is also found in other buildings on the campus obtained in the competitions of the 1960s and is an important feature of its period.

CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS

In this study, KTU Faculty of Medicine and Research Hospital Project, the competition process of the building and the changes the building has undergone until today are discussed. For this purpose, the literature was scanned, examinations were carried out in the field and up-to-date information was collected from various individuals and institutions. As a result, in this article, a fifty-year process has been summarized and the building, which is an important Republican heritage, has been documented.

As a result of all the research, the program of the competition and the details of the project were presented in this article that were not published before as far as could be reached. The building has a setup consisting of five blocks with hospital and education functions and it is understood that in addition to this building, two housing blocks were designed and built within the scope of the project.

The hospital building, designed by architects Harun Özer and Özdemir Erverdi, is designed with human scale in mind, has high readability, and provides quick access to the department that is desired to be visited. All but one of the blocks are low-rise and spread over different levels. The decision to expand to different elevations on the sloping land of the Eastern Black Sea seems to be the right decision. Thus, spaces in large square meters are spread over the area without having a size that oppresses people hierarchically.

Over the years, five more blocks were added to the hospital. In addition to all these external interventions to the building, it was observed that many extensive changes were made inside the building over the years in order to meet the increasing needs. With these changes and new buildings added, it was seen that some features of the original building were lost from time to time. Despite all this, the original features of the building on the north and south facades are still legible and largely unchanged. Especially since the concrete pergola in the south was destroyed, it is pleasing to see that its twin in the north is still there.

Within the scope of this article, the establishment of Karadeniz Technical University, as the first university established in the east, and the establishment of a medical faculty and research hospital in Trabzon is seen as an effort to resolve an ongoing inequality in the country. It is thought that a fifty-year-old building still in use today contributes to the current debate on the relationship between health and architecture, with a local example.

A lot of information about the first days of the building and today was documented and recorded with this article. Apparently, the need for a hospital in the region was so great that the building constantly grew and developed. Many masses belonging to different formal languages, different periods and styles have been added to the old structure in this area and have survived to the present day.

As seen in this year's UIA World Congress of Architects and UN Development goals, access to fundamental rights such as health and education, recognizing and eliminating inequalities, leaving no one behind come to the fore as important issues today and they were also perceived as subjects with priority in Türkiye in the 70s. The problems encountered in providing the opportunity to live under equal conditions in all parts of the country continue to be one of the longest-lasting problems in the history of the Republic. In order to discuss the steps that can be taken to eliminate the ongoing inequality in the country, it may be useful to identify the strategies produced in the past to deal with

inequalities. By sharing information on the current state from regions outside the centers as in this article, it might be possible to produce theories in the mentioned areas.

Compliance with Ethical Standards

Conflict of Interests: *The author(s) declare that they do not have a conflict of interest with themselves and/or other third parties and institutions, or if so, how this conflict of interest arose and will be resolved, and author contribution declaration forms are added to the article process files with wet signatures.*

Ethics Committee Permission: *In this article, ethics committee approval is not required, and a consent form affirming that a wet-signed ethics committee decision is not necessary has been added to the article process files on the system.*

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