



Determining the Problems and Functional Needs of the Inns Area in Gaziantep Historical City Center

İrem Köse¹, Zehra Kaya Dinçer²,

¹ Dr., Hasan Kalyoncu University, Faculty of Fine Arts and Architecture, Gaziantep, Turkey

ORCID ID: 0000-0002-9994-3767, e-mail: irem.erkurt@hku.edu.tr

² Prof. Dr., Hasan Kalyoncu University, Faculty of Fine Arts and Architecture, Gaziantep, Turkey

ORCID ID: 0000-0003-2821-9998, e-mail: kaya.dincer@hku.edu.tr

Research Article

Araştırma Makalesi

ABSTRACT

Gaziantep is a city with many civilizations and cultural architectural heritage from past to present. There are historical buildings and inns area along the axis, which is declared as a cultural route, starting from the vicinity of the castle in the city centre of Gaziantep. Historical inns, which were used for accommodation and trade in the past, have lost their function over time. These inns, which cannot be used in today's conditions, were left to disappear as idle areas as the city centre lost its charm. In this study, it is aimed to identify the problems experienced in the district of inns and determine their missing functions and needs. In addition, it is desired to emphasize that the user types who use the region differ in their interpretations of the region. In line with the identified problems, suggestions were made for the revitalization of the region and the refunctioning of the inns. In order to achieve these goals, questionnaires were created in line with the interviews with the temporary and stationary users in the region and the literature review. As the scope of the study, the inns area on the Gaziantep cultural road has been examined. The questionnaires were applied to the participants in this area, by face to face interview method and the answers of the participants were noted on site. The obtained data were statistically analyzed. As a result of the research, it was concluded that the historical value of the region should be understood by the users, and in this context, the inns and other historical structures in the region should be regularly repaired and the idle areas should be re-functioned. It is thought that the revitalization of historically important buildings and the region and their sustainability are possible by determining the existing problems.

ARTICLE HISTORY

Received 05 / 01 / 2022

Accepted 22 / 03 / 2022

KEYWORDS

Inns
Idle building
Problems of historical sites
Refunctioning

Gaziantep Tarihi Kent Merkezindeki Hanlar Bölgesinin Sorunlarının ve İşlevsel İhtiyaçlarının Belirlenmesi,

ÖZ

Gaziantep geçmişten günümüze birçok medeniyete ve kültürel mimari mirasa ev sahipliği yapmıştır. Kent merkezinde bulunan kalenin çevresinden başlayarak kültür yolu ilan edilen aks boyunca tarihi yapılar ve hanlar yer almaktadır. Geçmişte konaklama ve ticaret amaçlı kullanılan bu hanlar zamanla işlevini kaybetmiştir. Günümüz şartlarında kullanılmayan bu hanlar kent merkezinin de cazibesini yitirmesiyle atıl alanlar olarak yok olmaya terk edilmiştir. Bu çalışmada hanlar bölgesinde bulunan sorunları tespit etmek ve eksik işlevleri, ihtiyaçları belirlemek amaçlanmıştır. Ayrıca bölgeyi kullanan kullanıcı tiplerinin bölgeyle ilgili yorumlarının farklılık gösterdiği vurgulanmak istenmiştir. Belirlenen problemler doğrultusunda, bölgenin canlanması ve hanların tekrardan kullanılması için önerilerde bulunulmuştur. Bu amaçlara ulaşmak için bölgede bulunan geçici ve sabit kullanıcılar ile yapılan görüşmelere ve literatür taramasına yönelik anket formları oluşturulmuştur. Çalışma kapsamı olarak Gaziantep kültür yolu üzeri hanlar bölgesi ele alınmıştır. Anketler bu bölgede katılımcılara yüz yüze yapılmış ve sorular tek tek kullanıcılara sorularak yanıtlar not alınmıştır. Elden edilen veriler istatistiksel olarak analiz edilmiştir. Araştırma sonucunda bölgenin tarihi değerinin kullanıcılar tarafından kavranması gerektiği, bu bağlamda bölgedeki hanlar ve diğer tarihi yapıların düzenli olarak onarımlarının yapılması, atıl alanların yeniden işlevlendirilmesi gerektiği sonucuna ulaşılmıştır. Tarihi önemi olan yapılar ile bölgenin canlandırılması ve sürdürülebilirliğinin, mevcut problemlerin tespiti ile mümkün olduğu düşünülmektedir.

MAKALE BİLGİSİ

Geliş 05 / 01 / 2022

Kabul 22 / 03 / 2022

ANAHTAR KELİMELER

Hanlar
Atıl yapılar
Tarihi bölge sorunları
Yeniden işlevlendirme

1. INTRODUCTION

Cultural identities come from the past and have a history, but like everything that historical, they are constantly transformed (Ali and Qi, 2020). The historical environment is a concrete document that proves the transformation and characteristics of the period they belong to. Witnessing important events in the past, this environment and the buildings in it are a bridge that transfers the past to the present in terms of history and culture. The continuity of these buildings and the environment for future generations is ensured by the continuity of use by protecting, maintaining and repairing according to the legally determined protection methods. Today, historical environments appear as the main parts of the cities and constitute the nodal points of cities. The ignoring of the historical centers of these cities has led to the loss of character and identity of the streets and to many of the functional, urban, visual and environmental problems, among others (Mehanna and Mehanna, 2019). Historical city centers with such important identity information should be protected in an original way and opened for improvement without damaging their historical texture. However, since there are sensitive points, it is significant to determine the problems that may occur correctly and take steps.

If historical buildings are not used after maintenance and repairs, they will wear out more quickly. When these buildings are desired to be used, two problems arise. First of all, some of the historical buildings, which have aged today, cannot respond to new structural technical developments and spatial relations with their current conditions. The other problem is that while they had the functions needed at the time, they have lost their value and become dysfunctional today. It is important to make these buildings liveable in order to preserve the values they carry and to reduce the costs to be spent on reconstruction, in order to ensure their sustainability. This continuity can only be achieved by giving a new function by making necessary repairs according to the infrastructure, organization and spirit of the building.

According to Ahunbay (1996) in the literature review on the subject, the problems that cause the deterioration of historical environments are divided into two groups as internal problems and external problems. Internal problems; damages that caused by the location of the building, ground properties, errors in the structural design, use of faulty materials, poor workmanship and details are listed as. External problems are divided into three groups; long-term natural factors, natural disasters and human-related damages. Natural disasters may be earthquakes, landslides, floods-typhoon-hurricanes and volcanic eruptions (Ahunbay, 1996). For this reason, historical city centers have certain sensitivities to both natural hazards and extreme climatic events (Trillo and Petti, 2016). Human-related damages are identified as abandonment, abuse and repairs, fire - arson, war, vandalism, public works, tourism, air pollution and traffic (Ahunbay, 1996). According to Ashworth (2011), as a result of these damages, the users leave their living spaces, the original

functions of the buildings cannot be maintained and similar reasons. According to Tekin (2021), these centers, which lost many of their functions and were abandoned due to the reasons stated, and where the consequences of this loss of function are seen in a wide variety, are now being renovated and put into use as housing or tourism areas.

It is important to determine the problems encountered in this area and to identify the missing functions in order to keep the historical city centers and historical buildings alive and transfer them to future generations. In this study, a questionnaire was applied to the users of the region in order to determine the problems and to identify the missing needs. As Arnstein (1969) stated; the participation of ordinary people or users of the regions where conservation plans are made should be considered as a cornerstone in the processes (Egercioğlu et al., 2016).

The aim of this study is to determine the usage characteristics, problems, positive and negative aspects, missing functions of the users on the cultural road axis in Gaziantep city center. Survey questions prepared in this context were directed to the users. According to the answers that had given; problems, needs and positive and negative aspects were revealed. In order to support these data, the functional distribution in the region and the usage situations of the inns were examined. In addition, the survey answers that had given in terms of user type were examined. In this way, it is aimed to reveal the problems experienced by historical city centers and buildings, which are indicators of the past and cultural heritage, and how the region can be improved, to increase the value of historical buildings in the eyes of the society and to ensure that measures are taken by local governments.

Conservation and Refunction in Historic Environment

The areas where the settlements and their remains from the past periods are located are defined as the historical environment. Urban, rural, historical and archaeological sites with historical and environmental value constitute the historical environment (Ahunbay, 1996). Bektaş (2014) also supported Ahunbay's discourse and stated that the historical environment is a source of documents and places where they exist, allowing us to learn the lifestyle, economic and social structure, structural and technical characteristics of the period in which they were located and built.

Historical buildings, which have existed for centuries, have been subjected to changes by making arrangements and adding structures bearing the characteristics of that period in order to adapt to the constantly differentiating living conditions in all periods. Due to these features, historical textures have multi-layered features both in terms of structure and environment (Gencer, 2018). In this sense, it is necessary to ensure that historical environments, which provide information in all areas related to the societies own past and which are of great importance in the transmission of the past, should be preserved so that they can survive and be passed on to future generations.

The concept of protection is defined as taking the necessary precautions for the survival of natural values, structures with historical and artistic value, and valuable urban parts (Hasol, 1995). Conservation practices and policies have a long history and development, the idea of conservation was shaped in the 18th century, it developed theoretically in the 19th century, and at the beginning of the 20th century, starting from a single building scale, it is related to the whole of historical, urban and rural settlements and It has developed in the direction that it should be protected together with the surroundings of the monuments (Jokilehto, 1999).

In order to protect the historical environment, first of all, it is necessary to determine the cultural property and to take it under legal protection by registering it. In our country, the concept of protection is maintained by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism in accordance with the Law No. 2836 on Natural and Cultural Heritage (Ahunbay 2019). The qualities that a building must possess in order to be considered as a cultural heritage are aesthetic, documentary, historical, archaeological, urban, symbolic, architectural, cultural with scientific concepts, identity, curiosity, continuity, emotional, economic, functional, social and cultural values that include symbolic values are listed as the usage features that include political values (Feilden, 1982). In the Law No. 2863 on the Protection of Cultural and Natural Assets, the concepts of protection and preservation are discussed together, and it is stated that preservation, repair, restoration and maintenance in movable cultural assets includes maintenance, restoration, preservation and change of function in immovable cultural and natural assets (Culture and Natural Heritage Protection Law, 2020).

As a result of restoration works, which include repairs and arrangements made by preserving the originality of historical buildings, their refunction can be ensured. However, historical buildings begin to lose their original functions in line with the changing living conditions and related demands over time (Ahunbay, 1996). In order to preserve historical structures that have lost their original function, they must be adapted to today's conditions (Göçer, 2003; Selçuk (2006) summarized the reasons for re-functioning as the loss of original function of the buildings, functional aging of the buildings, the effect of changes in the urban environment and zoning legislation, economic reasons and other reasons. Altınoluk (1998); stated it in three parts as historical and cultural reasons, economic reasons and environmental reasons.

One of the most important strategies of conservation is the reuse of architectural heritage that cannot be used with its original function (Plevoets and Van Cleempoel, 2011). The preservation of cultural assets in their original condition and their use in line with contemporary needs are an indispensable element of the conservation function (Tapan, 2007). The important thing in the re-use process of the buildings within the scope of protection was not the

function given, but the survival of the building (Cantacuzino, 1989).

Re-use, which is called the arrangement of existing buildings for a different use, supports the concept of contemporary restoration that the best way to preserve historical monuments is to open them for use by people. This protection method prevents historical buildings from being left empty and destroyed. In this way, it ensures the preservation of its economy and cultural identity (Bacon, 2001). The concept of re-functioning, in other words, functional transformation, with its most basic definition; it is defined as all of the interventions and the whole process of realizing these interventions in order to protect the cultural, social, architectural and aesthetic values of historical buildings and to meet the current user needs (Akaydın, 2018). To sum up, it can be defined as making the building suitable for new needs with renovations (Burden, 2004). In this context, it is very important that the changes and structural interventions to be applied to the building during re-functioning are compatible with the original structure and use, and that the interventions are both reversible and perceptible in terms of not losing the originality of the cultural property (Shopsin, 1986). In addition, which legal status is the monument protected in and the measures of intervention resulting from it directly affect the size of the new function to be given (Yaldız, 2003). It is important for the continuity of the function that the reused buildings are arranged to meet the needs of the new users and that the place's performance should be also satisfactory for the users. It shows that an inquiry about the adaptation of the cultural property to the new function can be carried out by focusing on the place's overall performance with the evaluation approach in the usage process (Aydm and Yaldız 2010).

2. MATERIAL VE METHOD

Within the scope of the study, the importance of historical city centers, the reasons for losing their vitality and the reasons for losing the functions of historical buildings in these centers were investigated. The concept of re-functioning, which is used as a solution proposal to bring back to life historical buildings that have lost their function, has been mentioned.

The historical city center of Gaziantep has been determined as the study area, and the Cultural Road (Figure 1), which has been implemented by the Gaziantep metropolitan municipality, which includes many streets, squares, bazaars and many registered immovable cultural assets, starting from the vicinity of the Gaziantep Castle, has been chosen as the research area. The inns, which are significant trade structures that extend to the south of the castle, contribute to the traditional texture of the city center and shed light on the socio-economic life of the period, are discussed within the scope of the study. In this context, the literature study was conducted that includes general information about Gaziantep's historical city center texture and inns in the area.

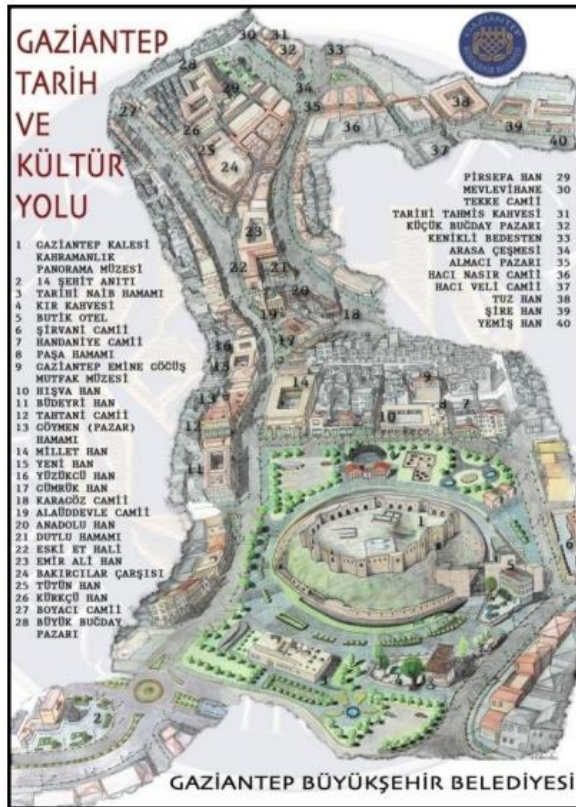


Figure 1. Gaziantep Culture Road project (KUDEB, 2008)

As a result of the researches and investigations, the functional distributions of the inns area has been revealed and data has been created for the missing needs and re-functions.

In the study, a questionnaire form was prepared in order to determine the problems of the area. Within the scope of the survey, questions were asked about the use of the Gaziantep city center – Culture Road and inns, their positive and negative aspects and their needs in the district. The questions were asked to the employees and visitors of the region, that are the community of the region. The questionnaire applied to the people in the inns area on the Culture Road consists of 3 sections and 16 questions. In the first part, there are 5 questions asked to determine the demographic characteristics of the participants (gender, age, education level and user type). In the second part, there are 4 questions to determine the characteristics of the users about the visits of the inns in the region and the usage of the region. In the third part, there were 7 questions and the users were asked what are the features that make the region different, positive and negative situations in the region, deficiencies and suggestions, what are the problems they frequently experience in the region, the ability to meet their needs in the region, which functions are missing in this region, which have lost their function. Questions such as what functions can be given to the inns, which are the inns, and finally what the weak and strong aspects of the region are, were asked. The questions in the questionnaire form were directed to the participants as closed-ended. In some of the questions, a single choice can

be selected, while in others, more than one option can be selected.

The survey was conducted on 14-28 September 2020 as a face-to-face question-answer by the study coordinator to the permanent and temporary users in the inns area on the Gaziantep Cultural Road axis, starting from the Gaziantep Castle vicinity. 61 people, including local area users, area employees and tourists in the area, answered the questionnaires completely. The data obtained from the questionnaire form were statistically analyzed using the SPSS 22.0 program.

- 1) Percentage and frequency analyzes were performed to view and analyze the variability of the demographic characteristics of the sample.
- 2) The Chi-Squared test was used to determine the relationship between the demographic characteristics of the users and the problems and missing functional needs in the Inns District.

3. RESEARCH FINDINGS

In this section, information about the study area and the inns in the study area is given, and the function distributions on the Culture Road are determined. In order to identify the problems in the region, the results of the survey applied to the relevant users are included. Problems that vary according to the user type have been expressed.

3.1. Field of Study: Historical City Center (Inns District) - Gaziantep Culture Road

Since the existence of the cities dates back to centuries ago, many of them have a long history and bring traces of many different historical layers to the present day. Historical cities are not just physical building stocks. It has hosted many civilizations such as Turkey; in countries with a rich cultural heritage, it is crucial to transfer this heritage to future generations (Özdemir, 2005). Gaziantep is an significant city, both spatially and historically, located in the Southeastern Anatolia region of Turkey, which has these valuable heritages.

Various researches show that the history of Gaziantep and its surroundings dates back to the Paleolithic Age (roughly 2.5 million years ago) (Çam, 2006). Due to its location between Mesopotamia and the Mediterranean, where the first civilizations were born, Gaziantep has been a settlement and frequented place for human communities since prehistoric times. Being at the crossroads of the passageways from the Mediterranean to the west, east and north has shaped the civilization history of the city.

The historical texture of the city of Gaziantep, which is a cultural and architectural heritage, has been taken under protection with the urban protected area declared in two separate regions. These areas, Gaziantep Castle and its surroundings, which can be called the I. region, the inns region (commercial area) and the area containing the dense traditional residential texture, II. The Bey neighborhood and its surroundings, which can be called the region, form the urban texture where examples of civil architecture are concentrated (Figure 2).

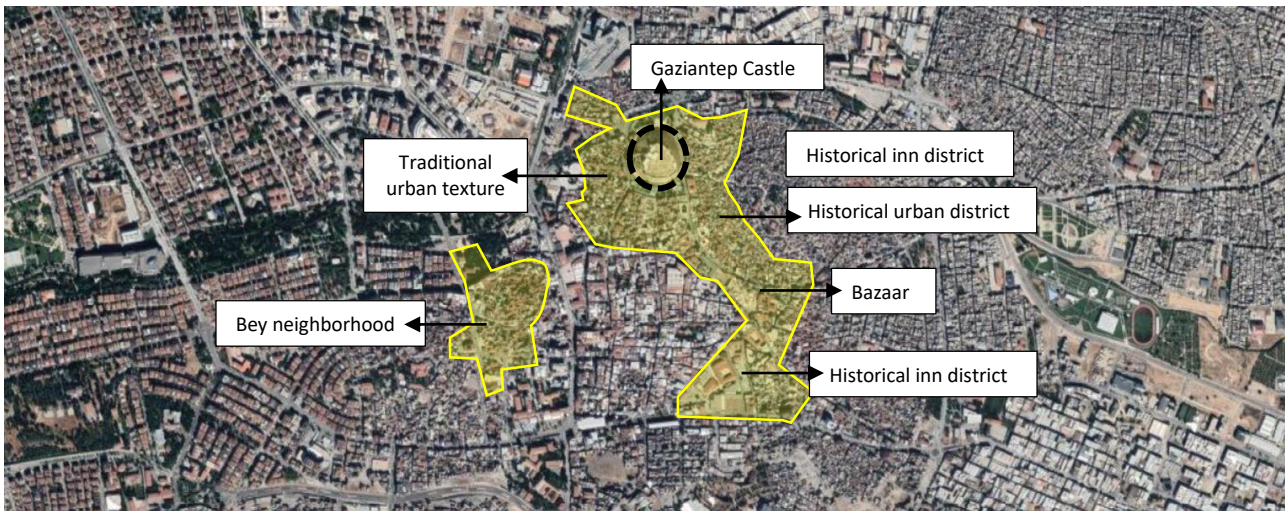


Figure 2. Gaziantep historical city texture and its surroundings

Within the scope of this study, Gaziantep Castle and its surroundings, which is the historical city center, are discussed. Gaziantep has become a trade center due to its location on the Silk Route. The axis starting from the vicinity of the castle and continuing is the line where the commercial life of the city developed. This area, which was the first settlement of the city, developed over time and many types of buildings housed functions such as residences, inns, baths, mosques, covered bazaars and bazaars. Historical commercial areas in historical city centers have many urban, architectural, economic and social values (Mehanna and Mehanna, 2019). Commercial streets are among the most important components of a city's urban heritage due to their continuity and organic growth. However, in the light of recent rapid developments, many of them have lost their importance and have been the subject of many informal uses and lost their historical identities (Mehanna and Mehanna, 2019). In this context, the Cultural Road Project was implemented in order to reintegrate the historical city center, which has lost its vitality, become obsolete and dysfunctional, to the society by local governments. It is aimed to increase the interest in the area with cultural tourism and to transfer local values to future generations as a result of the coming together of projects of different qualities in the Inns District, which includes many neighborhoods, streets and bazaars, and the completed Cultural Road Project. However, after the arrangements made, problems continue in the district. In order to solve these problems, Çevik et al. (2008), environmental improvement (removal of deficient, faulty and incompatible formations), creation of pedestrian areas, protection of the environment and city image, reduction of density, support of social and psychological needs, facade formations (remodels and changes), he stated that it is necessary to carry out studies such as the protection of buildings and important areas (protection of riches and areas with physical and vital value).

In addition, there are 22 inns in the area that have great dominance and importance. Inns are defined as the name given to the buildings on the intercity roads in the past,

where the passengers were accommodated, with rooms, warehouses, courtyards and barns (Hasol, 1995). It was seen that the inns were used as a trade structure until the 10th century, and from the Middle Ages to the beginning of the 20th century, local and foreign merchants and wholesalers left their cargoes, and there were workshops and sales units. They mostly appeared in trade cities. (Ozer, 2006). These heritage structures are representative of the culture, aesthetics, construction techniques and lifestyle of a certain period. However, with the change of time, it becomes difficult for heritage structures to meet the demands of today's society, and as a result, they lose their original functions. In this context, the biggest problem today is to find the most appropriate function that changes the building and offers new uses while preserving the historical essence of the district where the historical buildings are located and ensuring that these structures play an important role in the revitalization of the city (Ali and Qi, 2020).

3.2. Inns in the Historical City Centre

The commercial buildings, which are substantial for Gaziantep, are inns, as single-storey, two-storey and three-storey according to the number of floors; according to their courtyards, we can divide them into groups without courtyards, single courtyards and double courtyards. The inns without a courtyard are Sam Han and Küçük Buğday Han. According to their locations, there are Sam han outside of the city, Bayaz han (in Akyol street) in the city center, and other inns around the castle, which is in the city center as well. Starting from the castle surroundings, the inns located in the inns area are Hışva Han, Millet Han, Büdeyri Han, Sabuncu Han, Yeni Han, Ringcu Han, Gümrük Han, Anadolu Han, Tütün Han, Kürkçü Han, Pürsefa Han, Büyük Buğday Han, Küçük Buğday Han, Emir. They are listed as Ali Han, Şeker Han, Gayret Han, Mecidiye Han, Tuz Han, Şire Han, Kumru Han, Yemiş Han, Güven Han (Figure 3.).

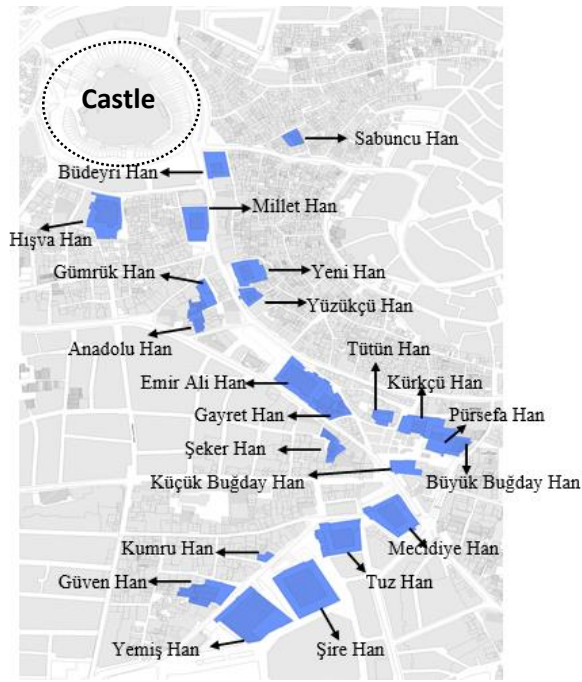




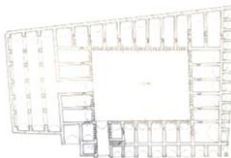

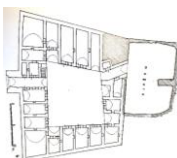



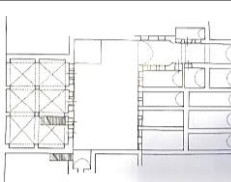

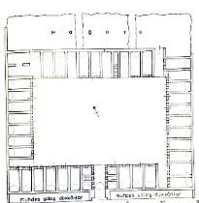

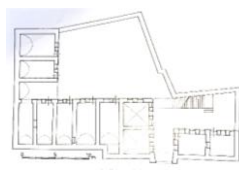

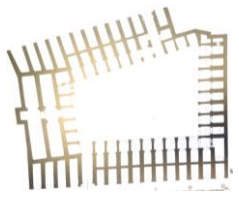

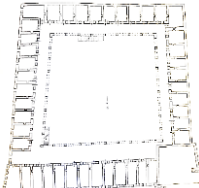

Figure 3. Inns on the cultural road

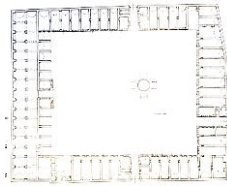

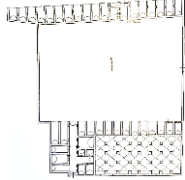



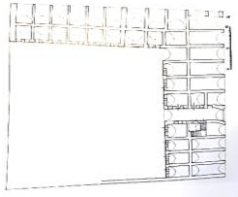

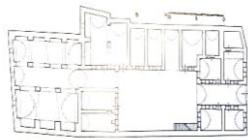

The topography of the area, where the plan schemes of the inns were made, took shape according to the land

boundaries and environmental data. It is in regular quadrangular or irregular quadrangular form. There are examples in which the spaces are lined up in each arm, two or three arms of the building. As a plan type, there is a courtyard at the center of the building and the spaces arranged around it. The spaces on the ground floor open directly to the courtyard with a window and a door and are used as warehouse, office and trade. Due to its function, the ground floor exterior is closed in terms of security. There are stables behind the spaces on the ground floor. At the entrance of the stables, there are rooms where the goods are weighed. In some inns, the barns were carved into the rocks and dissolved at the lower level. Kind of tiny windows have been opened to the outside of the inns to let the fresh air comes inside. On the facades of some inns facing the street, shops that are not connected to the inn are lined up on the back of the spaces facing the courtyard. The spaces on the upper floor open to the porticoes. The spaces here are used for accommodation and their doors and windows opened to the porticoes. Rooms' shapes are generally rectangular. Iwans are also used in inns. It is usually located next to the rooms in the corner and serves as the hall where these rooms are opened. Since the inns are close to the mosques, there is no maşjid. A few have toilets. Brief information about the inns in Gaziantep is given in the Table 1. below.

Table 1. Inns on Gaziantep Culture Road

Inn Name	Year of construction	Number of Courtyards	Number of Floors	Current Function	Plan	Image
Anadolu Han	19 th century	2	2	Restaurant Boutique Hotel		
Büdeyri Han	1896	1	3	Cafe- Trade		
Hışva Han	1563	1	1	Restaurant Boutique Hotel		
Sabuncu Han	19 th century	2	2	Soap and Molasses Museum		
Tütün Han	17 th century	1	1	Cafe- Trade		

Inn Name	Year of construction	Number of Courtyards	Number of Floors	Current Function	Plan	Image
Yeni Han	1531 before	1	2	Cafe- Trade		
Millet Han	1868	1	2	Cafe- Baklava Museum Trade		
Yüzükçü Han	17 th century	1	2	Restaurant		
Kürkçü Han	1890	1	2	Not Use		
Pürsefa Han	1887	1	3	Not Use		
Emir Ali Han	1719	1	2	Not Use		
Şeker Han	1850	1	2	Not Use		
Mecidiye Han	1725	1	2	Second-Hand Bookseller Bazaar		
Tuz Han	16 th century	1	2	Drapers' Bazaar		

Inn Name	Year of construction	Number of Courtyards	Number of Floors	Current Function	Plan	Image
Şire Han	1885	1	2	Boutique Hotel		
Yemiş Han	19 th century	1	2	Parking		
Kumru Han	19 th century	1	3	Trade		
Güven Han	1906	1	2	Trade		
Gümrük Han	1873-1878	1	2	Living Museum		

* The plans given in the table are taken from Çam (2006).

3.3. The Map of Workplace Functions on the Cultural Road

There are many functions in the area with the effect of the trade concentrated on the Gaziantep Cultural Road. All workplaces and inns along the axis of the Cultural Road

were examined one by one, and their functions and density were determined. Accordingly, their distribution is shown in the chart below (Table 2). This density table can be used while determining the functions to be given to historical buildings in the area.

Table 2. Percentage and Frequency Distributions of Functions on the Cultural Road

Functions and Intensities Found Along the Cultural Road					
Function	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)	Function	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Religious Facility	9	1.5	Traditional	153	26.1
Covered Bazaar	2	0.3	Apparel	70	11.9
Turkish Bath	3	0.5	Construction	54	9.2
Inn	21	3.6	Communication	22	3.7
Cafe/Restaurant	25	4.3	Textile	30	5.1
Accommodation	1	0.1	Food	90	15.3
Bank	6	1.0	General	98	16.7
Museum	2	0.3			
Trade	517	89.6			

Along the Cultural Road axis, which is the historical city center of Gaziantep and starting from the vicinity of Gaziantep castle, there are trade functions (89.6%) intensively. When the trade function in the region is examined according to its types, the most common trade function is the traditional (29.5%) trade functions, in which local products representing the area are sold and products such as Kutnu, Yemeni and silver are sold. Commercial functions related to communication (4.2%) are the least in the region. Apart from the trade function, the accommodation (0.1%) function is the least in the region

among the other functions that make up the minority. After the commercial units, inns (3.6%) and cafe-restaurant (4.3%) functions are also concentrated in the region.

3.4. Survey Results

Demographic Findings of the Sampling

Percentage and frequency distributions of the sample group according to their demographic characteristics are shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Percentage and Frequency Distributions Regarding the Demographic Characteristics of the Sample Group

Demographic Features		Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Gender	Female	30	49.2
	Male	31	50.8
Age Distribution	Under the age of 24	14	23.0
	Between the age of 25-34	12	19.7
	Between the age of 35-44	14	23.0
	Between the age of 45-54	12	19.7
	Over the age of 55	9	14.8
Education Level	Literate	2	3.3
	Primary School	20	32.8
	Middle School	10	16.4
	High School	15	24.6
	University	13	21.3
	Postgraduate	1	1.6
User Type	Regional Craftsman	33	54.1
	Local Community	23	37.7
	Tourist	5	8.2

When the distributions in Table 1 are examined in detail, the numbers of male and female participants are close to each other; it is seen that male participants (50.8%) are higher with a small difference. It is seen that the majority of the participant group is under the age of 24 (23.0%) and between the ages of 35-44 (23.0%), and there are enough participants in other age groups. Considering the education level, the majority of the participants (32.8%) are primary school graduates. The surveys made on the Cultural Road around the Gaziantep Castle were made to users who actively use the region, and when the user type of the

sample group is examined, it is seen that the majority of the tradesmen (54.1%) working in this region, the number of tourists (8.2%) is low due to the covid-19 pandemic.

Participants' Use of the Area and Visits to Inns Related Findings

Table 4 shows the percentage and frequency distribution of the sample group according to the region's mode of transportation, frequency of use of the region, reasons, and which inns they visited in the region.

Table 4. The Usage Characteristics of the Sample Group and the Percentage and Frequency Distribution of Visiting Inns in the Region

Usage Features of the Region and Recognition of Inns	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)	
Reason for Visiting the Inns District	Shopping	4	6.5
	Worship	0	0
	Business	33	54
	Travel	18	29.5
	Social Activity	6	9.8
Frequency of visiting the Inns District	2-3 times in a year	13	21.3
	Once in a month	6	9.8
	Once in a week	7	11.4
	One or two times in a week	3	4.9
	Everyday	33	54
Mode of Transportation to the Inns District	By foot	24	39.3
	By car	15	24.6

	By bus	20	32.8
	By tram	2	3.3
	Inn	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
	Yeni Han	24	39.3
	Mecidiye Han	13	21.3
	Anadolu Han	2	3.3
	Emir Ali Han	2	3.3
	Gümrük Han	7	11.5
	Yüzükçü Han	0	0
	Şire Han	21	34.4
	Hışva Han	16	26.2
	Pürsefa Han	4	6.6
	Kumru Han	3	4.9
	Tütün Han	33	45.9
	Tuz Han	5	8.2
	Sabuncu Han	6	9.8
	Yemiş Han	2	3.3
	Millet Han	16	26.2
	Şeker Han	3	4.9
	Kürkçü Han	15	24.6
	Büdeyri Han	16	26.2

Inns that Visited

(Multiple choices have been made.)

The sample group was asked about the reasons for visiting the first region as the usage characteristics of the inns region. The majority of the participants stated that they visited the region for business (54.0%) because they were tradesmen working in the region. The majority of the sample group, excluding the participants working in the region, visited the region for sightseeing (29.5%). Although the region hosts historical and important religious buildings from the past, none of the users chose the option of worship as the reason for their visit.

When the users are examined in terms of the frequency of visiting the inns region, the majority stated that they visit the region every day (54.0%) since most of them are tradesmen working in the region.

It is seen that the majority of users can reach the region on foot (39.3%) as a mode of transportation, and users who use buses (32.8%) have a rate close to those who come by foot. The least preferred mode of transportation is the use of the tram (3.3%).

It was asked which of the inns, which are located on the axis of Gaziantep Cultural Road, have great monumental value, are very numerous and are symbols for the region, are visited by the users. Users were able to mark more than one inn as an answer. Tütün Han (45.9%) is the most visited inn among the inns in the region. Yüzükçü Han in the region has never been visited by users, and Anadolu Han, Emir Ali Han and Yemiş Han (3.3%) are the inns with the lowest number of visitors. Şeker Han and Kumru Han are among the inns with the lowest visit rate (4.9%) after the other 3 inns.

Findings Regarding the Positive and Negative Aspects of the District Indicated by the Participants

The characteristics of the sample group that make the region different, the positive and negative situations experienced by the users in the region, the percentage and frequency distributions of the evaluation about the deficiencies are shown in Table 5.

Table 5. Percentage and Frequency Distributions of the Sample Group according to the characteristics that make the region different, positive and negative aspects, deficiencies and suggestions in the region.

Different features of the region, positive and negative aspects, deficiencies and suggestions	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Historical Structure	23	37.7
Features about trading	7	11.5
Features about being a center	17	27.9
Being a lively area	4	6.6
Being a tourist area	10	16.4
Traffic	31	50.8
Formlessness	5	8.2
Carpark	20	32.8
Crowdedness	34	55.7
Deterioration of historical texture	10	16.4
No tour guide	4	6.6
People's ignorance of the environment	19	31.3
Missing Functions	2	3.3
Inability to function historical texture correctly	2	3.3

	Unable to use historical texture according to the given function	2	3.3	
Adequacy to meet the needs of the Inns District	Always	8	13.1	
	Often	21	34.4	
	Sometimes	12	19.7	
	Rarely	16	26.2	
	Never	4	6.6	
Missing functions in the Inns Area (As the question has multiple answers, the number of people exceeds the sample size.)	Restaurant	5	8.2	
	Cafe	15	24.6	
	Library	3	4.9	
	Boutique Hotel	3	4.9	
	Shopping Units	14	23	
	Culture and Art Center	3	4.9	
	Summer Cinema - Concert Area	4	6.6	
	Market Area	12	19.7	
	Museum	14	23	
	Car park	12	19.7	
		Restaurant	4	6.6
Functions that can be given to Inns in the district (As the question has multiple answers, the number of people exceeds the sample size.)	Cafe	22	36.1	
	Library	6	9.8	
	Boutique Hotel	3	4.9	
	Museum	29	47.5	
	Culture and Art Center	7	11.5	
	Summer Cinema – Concert Area	3	4.9	
	Market Area	6	9.8	
	Shopping Units	21	34.4	
	Complexity	20	32.8	
	Traffic	28	45.9	
	Crowdedness	18	29.5	
Weaknesses of the Inns District (As the question has multiple answers, the number of people exceeds the sample size.)	Problems about car parking	34	55.7	
	Unplanned Urbanization	0	0	
	Not enough promotion	10	16.4	
	Failure to perceive historical buildings	8	13.1	
	Cleaning	6	9.8	
	Not enough open space	1	1.6	
	Not enough seating place	10	16.4	
	Not enough functioning	0	0	
	Malfunctioning	2	3.3	
		Historical Structure	26	42.6
	Strengths of the Hanlar District (As the question has multiple answers, the number of people exceeds the sample size.)	Being the center of commerce and shopping	11	18
Located in the city center		32	52.5	
Being a tourism center		11	18	
Combination of different functions		1	1.6	
Being lively and enjoyable		3	4.9	

The main feature that distinguishes the Inns district from other regions in the sight of the users is its historical structure (37.7%), and its central location (27.9%) is another feature that is chosen close to the majority. The livability of the region (6.6%) is at the end of the features that distinguish this region from other regions for users.

When the user evaluations of the problems experienced in the Inns District are examined; it was stated that the biggest problem was the crowdedness of the region (55.7%), the second most important problem was the heavy traffic of the region (50.8%). Problems such as missing functions (3.3%), inability to function correctly (3.3%), and inability to use historical texture according to the given function (3.3%) were seen as the least experienced problems by the users.

When the data on the ability to meet the needs of the users in the Inns District are examined, a large part of the participants (34.4%) stated that they can meet their needs,

while a small part of the users (6.6%) stated that they can never meet their needs adequately.

To the question directed to the sample group in order to determine the missing functions in the region, the majority of the participants stated that the cafe (24.6%) function was incomplete, and secondly, the museum (23.0%) and shopping units (23.0%) were missing. The functions that are seen the least in the region are stated by the users as the summer cinema and concert area (6.6%), the culture and arts center (4.9%), the library (4.9%) and the boutique hotel (4.9%).

The majority of the participants (47.5%) preferred the museum function when asked about the functions that can be given to the inn structures that have survived from the past and lost their function within the boundaries of the research. In the second and third rank, they stated that functions including cafes (36.1%) and shopping units (34.4%) would be given. The least preferred function by

users is boutique hotel (4.9%), summer cinema and concert venue (4.9%).

When the user evaluations about the weak and strong aspects of the Inns District were examined, it was determined that the weak points were insufficient parking (55.7%) and traffic density (45.9%). The unplanned urbanization and lack of functionality in the region were not seen as weaknesses by the users, while the lack of sufficient open space (1.6%) and malfunctioning (3.3%) were the least preferred options by the users. The strengths of the region are stated as being in the center of the city (52.5%) and the historical structure of the region (42.6%). While the combination of different functions in the region is not seen as a strength by the users, the fact that it is lively and active (4.9%) is another strength that is least preferred by the users.

The Effects of Differentiation in User Types on Identifying Problems and Missing Functional Needs in the Inns District

Table 6-10 shows the results of the hypothesis tests carried out in order to determine whether the differentiation of the user type, one of the demographic characteristics of the

users, on the different features, positive and negative aspects, problems and deficient functional needs of the inns area is statistically significant. In this context, the Chi-Squared test was applied. There is no relationship between the variables in the H0 hypothesis. In the H1 hypothesis, there is a relationship between the variables.

The fact that the Significance (Sig.) values of the Pearson Chi-Squared test stated in Table 6 should be less than 0.05, the H1 hypothesis should be accepted, in other words, the demographics examined with each question aiming to determine the determination of the problems related to the Inns area specifically to the users in the region. indicates that there is a significant relationship between the variables. Variables with a Significance value equal to or less than 0.05 are indicated in bold in Table 6-10.

Chi-squared independent test analysis was applied to determine the distribution of the user type differentiation of the participants on the features that make the inns region different from the other regions. As a result of the analyzes made, it was determined that the user type of the participants had a significant difference on the features that made the region different ($p=0.001<0.05$), (Table 6).

Table 6. The effect of the differentiation in the user type on the features that make the inns region different

The features that make the Inns District different from other regions		Historical Structure	Trade Feature	Being a center	Being lively	Being a touristic area
Regional Craftsman	Frequency (f)	17	5	9	0	2
	Percentage (%)	51.5	15.1	27.2	0	6.0
Local People	Frequency (f)	6	2	7	4	4
	Percentage (%)	26.0	8.6	30.4	17.3	17.3
Tourist	Frequency (f)	0	0	1	0	4
	Percentage (%)	0	0	20.0	0	80.0
P=0.001<0.05						

As a result of the chi-squared independent test analysis performed to determine the distribution of the variation in the user type of the participants over the most common problems in the inns, the user type of the participants and the parking problem ($p=0.037<0.05$), which is one of the problems experienced in the inns, and the deterioration of the historical texture ($p=0.019<0.05$), was found to be a significant difference.

It has been observed that there is no significant difference between the traffic, crowdedness, the historical texture not being used according to the given function, the lack of planning/ disordering, the lack of tour guides, the unconsciousness of the people towards the environment, the lack of functions and the incorrect functioning of the historical texture and the differentiation in the type of users (Table 7).

Table 7. The effect of the differentiation in the user type on the problems experienced in the inns

The most common problems in the Inns District		Regional Craftsman		Local People		Tourist		Sig.
		Fre. (f)	Percentage (%)	Fre. (f)	Percentage (%)	Fre. (f)	Percentage (%)	
Traffic	Problematic	21	63.6	8	34.7	2	40	$p=0.092>0.05$
	Unproblematic	12	36.4	15	65.3	3	60	
Crowdedness	Problematic	17	51.5	15	65.2	2	40	$p=0.454>0.05$
	Unproblematic	16	48.5	8	34.8	3	60	
Unable to use historical texture according to its given function	Problematic	0	0	1	4.3	1	20	$p=0.061>0.05$
	Unproblematic	33	100	22	95.7	4	80	

Car Parking	Problematic	15	45.5	3	13.1	2	40.0	p=0.037<0.05
	Unproblematic	18	54.5	20	86.9	3	60.0	
The lack of planning/disordering	Problematic	2	6.1	2	8.7	1	20.0	p=0.567>0.05
	Unproblematic	31	93.9	21	91.3	4	80.0	
Deterioration of historical texture	Problematic	5	15.2	2	8.7	3	60.0	p=0.019<0.05
	Unproblematic	28	84.8	21	91.3	2	40.0	
The lack of tour guides	Problematic	2	6.0	1	4.3	1	20.0	p=0.434>0.05
	Unproblematic	31	94.0	22	95.7	4	80.0	
People's ignorance of the environment	Problematic	9	27.2	9	39.1	1	20.0	p=0.548>0.05
	Unproblematic	24	72.8	14	60.9	4	80.0	
Finding missing functions	Problematic	1	3.0	1	4.3	0	0	p=0.879>0.05
	Unproblematic	32	97.0	22	95.7	5	10.0	
Incorrect functioning of historical texture	Problematic	0	0	1	4.3	1	20.0	p=0.061>0.05
	Unproblematic	33	100	22	95.7	4	80.0	

According to the results of the chi-squared hypothesis test conducted to determine the relationship between the user type differentiation of the participants and the missing functions in the inns region, the user type of the participants was found to be the restaurant function (p=0.04<0.05), the cafe function (p=0.006<0.05), which are the missing functions in the inns region. 0.05), a significant

difference was found between the street market function (p=0.014<0.05) and the museum function (p=0.003<0.05). When the results of the analysis were examined in detail, it was seen that there was no significant difference between the library, boutique hotel, shopping units, culture and arts center, summer cinema-concert area and parking lot, and the differentiation in the type of user (Table 8).

Table 8. The effect of the differentiation in the user type on the missing functions in the inns

Missing functions in the Inns District		Regional Craftsman		Local People		Tourist		Sig.
		Fre. (f)	Percentage (%)	Fre. (f)	Percentage (%)	Fre. (f)	Percentage (%)	
Restaurant	Problematic	0	0	4	17.3	1	20.0	p=0.04<0.05
	Unproblematic	33	100	19	82.7	4	80.0	
Cafe	Problematic	3	9.0	9	39.1	3	60.0	p=0.006<0.05
	Unproblematic	30	91.0	14	60.9	2	40.0	
Library	Problematic	2	6.0	1	4.3	0	0	p=0.832>0.05
	Unproblematic	31	94.0	22	95.7	5	100	
Boutique Hotel	Problematic	2	6.0	1	4.3	0	0	p=0.832>0.05
	Unproblematic	31	94.0	22	95.7	5	100	
Shopping Units	Problematic	5	84.8	6	26.0	3	60.0	p=0.076>0.05
	Unproblematic	28	15.2	17	74.0	2	40.0	
Culture and Arts Center	Problematic	2	6.0	1	4.3	0	0	p=0.832>0.05
	Unproblematic	31	94.0	22	95.7	5	100	
Summer Cinema - Concert Area	Problematic	2	6.0	2	8.7	0	0	p=0.765>0.05
	Unproblematic	31	94.0	21	91.3	5	100	
Market Place	Problematic	11	33.3	1	4.3	0	0	p=0.014<0.05
	Unproblematic	22	66.7	22	95.7	5	100	
Museum	Problematic	4	12.1	6	26.0	4	80.0	p=0.003<0.05
	Unproblematic	29	87.9	17	74.0	1	20.0	
Parking lot	Problematic	10	30.3	2	8.7	0	0	p=0.069>0.05
	Unproblematic	23	69.7	21	91.3	5	100	

According to the results of the chi-squared test conducted to determine whether there is a relationship between the differentiation in the user type of the participants and the identification of the weaknesses of the Inns District, it was found that there was a significant difference between the user type of the participants in terms of not perceiving

historical structures as the weaknesses of the inns area (p=0.001<0.05) found. It was observed that there was no significant difference between the other possible weaknesses in the Inns District, such as complexity, traffic, crowdedness, parking problems, unplanned urbanization, lack of promotion, cleanliness, insufficient open space,

lack of seating, lack of functionality and malfunctioning, and differentiation in user type (Table 9).

Table 9. The effect of the differentiation in the user type on the weaknesses of the inns area

Weaknesses of the Inns District		Regional Craftsman		Local People		Tourist		Sig.
		Fre. (f)	Percentage (%)	Fre. (f)	Percentage (%)	Fre. (f)	Percentage (%)	
Complexity	Weak	8	24.2	11	47.8	1	20.0	p=0.148>0.05
	Not weak	25	75.8	12	52.2	4	80.0	
Traffic	Weak	19	57.5	7	30.4	2	40.0	p=0.129>0.05
	Not weak	14	42.5	16	69.6	3	60.0	
Crowdedness	Weak	7	21.2	9	39.1	2	40.0	p=0.304>0.05
	Not weak	26	78.8	14	60.9	3	60.0	
Parking lot	Weak	18	54.5	12	52.2	4	80.0	p=0.514>0.05
	Not weak	15	45.5	11	47.8	1	20.0	
Unplanned Urbanization	Weak	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Not weak	33	100	23	100	5	100	
No promotion	Weak	7	21.2	2	8.7	1	20.0	p=0.449>0.05
	Not weak	26	78.8	21	91.3	4	80.0	
Failure to perceive historical buildings	Weak	5	15.2	0	0	3	60.0	p=0.001<0.05
	Not weak	28	84.8	23	100	2	40.0	
Cleaning	Weak	4	12.1	2	8.7	0	0	p=0.679>0.05
	Not weak	29	87.9	21	91.3	5	100	
Not enough open space	Weak	0	0	1	4.3	0	0	p=0.432>0.05
	Not weak	33	100	22	95.7	5	100	
Not enough seating area	Weak	3	9.0	6	26.0	1	20.0	p=0.234>0.05
	Not weak	30	91.0	17	74.0	4	80.0	
Lack of functioning	Weak	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Not weak	33	100	23	100	5	100	
Malfunctioning	Weak	1	3.0	1	4.3	0	0	p=0.879>0.05
	Not weak	32	97.0	22	95.7	5	100	

According to the results of the chi-squared test, which was conducted to determine whether the differentiation in the user type of the participants is related to the determination of the strengths of the inns region, it was found that there was a significant difference between the user type of the participants in terms of the strengths of

the inns region as a tourism center ($p=0.000<0.05$) found. It has been observed that there is no significant difference between the historical structure, being a trade and shopping center, being in the center of the city, having different functions together, being crowded and mobile, and the differentiation in the type of user (Table 10).

Table 10. The effect of user type on the strengths of the inns area

Strengths of the Hanlar region		Regional Craftsman		Local People		Tourist		Sig.
		Fre. (f)	Percentage (%)	Fre. (f)	Percentage (%)	Fre. (f)	Percentage (%)	
Historical Structure	Strong	15	45.5	9	39.1	2	40.0	p=0.888>0.05
	Not strong	18	54.5	14	60.9	3	60.0	
Being a trading and shopping center	Strong	8	24.2	3	13.1	0	0	p=0.309>0.05
	Not strong	25	75.8	20	86.9	5	100	
Being in the city center	Strong	18	54.5	12	52.2	2	40.0	p=0.831>0.05
	Not strong	15	45.5	11	47.8	3	60.0	
Being a tourism center	Strong	2	6.0	5	21.7	4	80.0	p=0.000<0.05
	Not strong	31	94.0	18	78.3	1	20.0	
Combination of different functions	Strong	1	3.0	0	0	0	0	p=0.650>0.05
	Not strong	32	97.0	23	100	5	100	
Being lively and enjoyable	Strong	3	9.0	0	0	0	0	p=0.262>0.05
	Not strong	30	91.0	23	100	5	100	

4. CONCLUSION

Historical city centers and historical buildings in these regions are structures that have important cultural values for the society. In order not to lose these values and to protect them, we need to protect historical buildings and

city centers, which are our cultural assets. In order to keep alive, revitalize and reintegrate the historical environment, which has been damaged as a result of internal and external factors, which has become inactive and outdated, it is necessary to re-function, which is a preservation method, of the dysfunctional historical structures in this

environment. In addition, it is necessary to determine and solve the problems and needs in the historical environment so that they do not adversely affect the historical environment.

In this study, the problems, needs, positive and negative features of the historical environment, which is the region of inns, were investigated by using the survey method to the tradesmen, tourists and the people of the district on the Gaziantep Cultural Road starting from the vicinity of the castle in the historical city center of Gaziantep. The results of the study were reached by analyzing the obtained data.

A total of 61 users of the region were surveyed and the number of men (50.8%) and women were close to each other. There is a similar age distribution, with sufficient number of participants from each age group, and the number of participants who graduated from primary school (32.8%) in terms of education level is high. Considering the occupational status, it is thought that since the majority of the participants (54.1%) are the tradesmen in the region, their education may have been incomplete, since the trading understanding in the region is traditionally passed down from father to son at a young age and continued to be mastered by apprenticeship. The least amount of tourists (8.2%) is the user type of the participants. Since the time period in which the surveys were conducted was a period when the covid-19 pandemic had just begun, the number of tourists as a user type remained low.

Considering the usage characteristics of the inns area of the sample group, the number of the participants coming for business (54.0%) as the reason for visiting the region is high. As can be seen in the user type, since the number of tradesmen in the region is high, the percentage value has increased at the same rate since all of the users use the region for business purposes. Again, depending on this, since the tradesmen constantly come to the region for their work and have to visit the workplace every day, the frequency of use of the region was chosen by the participants as every day (54.0%). The way of transportation of the participants to the region is usually on foot (39.3%) due to the density of the region; The number of participants using the tram is the least. Tram stop is not preferred because it is far from the region. Since the region consists of narrow and dense vehicle roads, transportation by private vehicle is difficult in terms of both traffic and parking. For this reason, it can be easily reached on foot. Tütün Han is the most visited among the many inns on the Cultural Road that are significant historical values. Tütün Han, located in the Bakırcılar Bazaar, the center of the tradesmen in the region, had been restored, re-functionalized as a cafe and brought into use. Making historical buildings functional and making them available for use becomes attractive for users. Buildings such as Şeker Han, Yemiş Han, Kumru Han, Emir Ali Han, which are idle, neglected or unusable due to destruction, were visited by very few participants. On the other hand, Yüzükçü Han, which is functional as a restaurant and does not appeal to everyone economically, was never visited by the participants and Anadolu Han was visited by very few participants.

In terms of the features that distinguish the Inns District from other districts, it was the most preferred historical structure (37.7%). However, most of the participants were not aware of the historical values of the region they located. As the problems experienced in the region, the sample group stated that traffic (50.8%) and crowdedness (55.7%) were big problems experienced. Afterwards, the parking lot (32.8%) was shown as a problem. Missing functions (3.3%), not functioning of historic fabric correctly (3.3%) and inability to use historic fabric according to the given function (3.3%) were seen as small problems by the participants. Since the Inns area is a busy commercial area in the city center and the participants can meet their basic needs adequately, they think that there is no lack of function. Alternative functions are not needed because it is thought that a region with such a density cannot handle the extra new function density. Based on this, the participants stated that they could meet their needs frequently (34.4%) in the inns. When asked about the missing functions in the inns area, the participants chose close values as cafes (24.6%), shopping units (23%), museums (23%), street markets (19.7%) and parking lot issue (19.7%). Although the region is a busy area in terms of cafes and shopping, the capacity of the existing ones is not considered sufficient because the number of users is high. Although there is no culture and art center in the region, it was not seen as a necessary thing by the participants. As it is a trading centre, the participants are not open to different functions. There are inns in the region that are not used or that cannot be used even though they were used before. Among the functions that can be given to these inns, the most preferred museum was (47.5%). Although most of the historical buildings in Gaziantep are functioned as museums, the participants preferred the see them as museums. The reason for this is that it is settled as a doctrine in the perception of the public and commercial mobility was considered because the more museums, the more tourist perception in the survey with the participation of the tradesmen. Parking lot problem (55.7%) was stated by the participants as the weaknesses of the region. Traffic (45.9%) and complexity about compound of the inns area (32.8%) were also cited as other weaknesses. Traffic is an inevitable problem because the Inns district is jammed between narrow streets and roads in the historical city center and the region is busy in terms of trade. Accordingly, it has become difficult for vehicles to find parking spaces. No matter how much parking areas are opened in the region, it is not enough to remove the density. Also, since it is a tourist attraction, in addition to the general mobility of the city, there is a density of tourists and intercity buses. For this reason, traffic and parking problems are increasing. Lack of function (0%), unplanned urbanization (0%), malfunctioning (3.3%), as in other questions, the answers of the participants were consistent and not seen as a weakness. According to the users of the region, all kinds of functions are found enough and it is seen that they are closed to different functions. It is not important for users to keep idle structures empty. A new function for tradesmen is a reason for competition. For the people, it is enough for them to meet only their basic needs. The awareness of

historical texture is weak for tradesmen and local people, while tourists are not aware of other structures because they see only tourist attractions. As its strength, users stated that the district is in the city center (52.5%). It gains importance in terms of its location, as tradesmen and people frequently use the region. The combination of different functions (1.6%) was not seen as a strength for the participants. The increase in functional options is not seen as a strength for the participants. It is considered sufficient for the people to be able to provide their basic needs. It is seen as a problem for tradesmen that functions that can compete with themselves arise.

By using the user type as a variable, the chi-squared test was conducted to determine the problems related to the region. It has been observed that there is a significant difference between the user type of the participants and the features that make the region different. While most of the tradesmen of the region chose the historical structure of the region as the feature that makes it different, the local people preferred it to be the center, and the tourists chose the feature of being a touristic area. The tradesmen of the area give more importance to the historical texture than other users. On the other hand, the local people, chose to be in the center because they could meet their needs more easily because you can find everything in the center of the region. Since the visits of tourists are for sightseeing purposes, it is important for them to have places to visit and see.

It was found that there was a significant difference between the user type of the participants, the parking problem, which is one of the problems experienced in the inns, and the deterioration of the historical texture. The tradesmen, who work actively in the region and come every day, are the type of the users who have big problems in terms of parking. On the other hand, 13.1% of the local people do not see the parking lot as a problem because they do not come often and visit the area, they come if they need to. On the other hand, most of the tourists, do not see parking as a problem, as they come with their sightseeing vehicles. The fact that the historical texture is deteriorating is mostly stated by the tourists as a problem. Tourists who come to visit the area know more about the value of the historical texture. The majority of tradesmen and local people do not see this as a problem. However, the artisans are more conscious of the historical texture than the local people.

As a result of the analyzes made, it was found that there was a significant difference between the user type of the participants, the functions that are missing in the inns area, the restaurant function, the cafe function, the street market function and the museum function. Since the tradesmen know the area, they are aware that there are many restaurants and do not see it as a necessity. Since a small part of the local people and tourists do not know the area, it needed the restaurant function. Since the shopkeepers knew the region, they were the group that saw the cafe function the least. Since most of the tourists do not know the area in detail, they found the cafe function incomplete. Also, the local people thought same as the tourists. The reason for this was that they thought that the existing ones

were not enough because the region was a busy area. They found the neighbourhood market sufficient because the tourists do not shop regularly and the local people generally meet their needs once or twice a month in line with their needs. However, the tradesmen, who are permanent users of the area, do not consider the number sufficient as they regularly supply their needs almost every day. Most tourists found the museum function insufficient. Museums attract their attention because tourists want to visit, see and explore. Since the local people and tradesmen live in the region, they do not attract their attention and consider the existing museums to be sufficient.

As a result of the analyzes made, it was found that there was a significant difference between the user type of the participants in terms of not perceiving historical buildings as the weaknesses of the inns area. Most of the tourists who came to visit and examined the region in detail see the fact that the inability to perceive historical buildings as a weakness. Also, the local people do not look around and examine them because they use the area in line with their needs. Since the tradesmen in the region come to the region with business concerns, the inability to perceive historical buildings is seen as a weakness for very few of them.

As a result of the analyzes made, it was found that there was a significant difference between the user type of the participants in terms of being a tourism center as the strengths of the inns region. The majority of the participants, whose user type is tourist, stated that the region's being a tourism center as a strength. Inns area is being a tourism center has been preferred as a strong aspect because it is a place that attracts the attention of tourists and reflects the culture of the region and is in their area of interest. The minority of local people and tradesmen user types stated that it is a tourism center as a strength. The priorities of the tradesmen and people in the region are different from the tourists. For this reason, it did not come to the forefront as a strength. The majority of the tradesmen and the public preferred the region to be in the center as a strength. Because for them, criteria that make their work easier in meeting their needs gain importance.

The results of this study also show that; historical city centers have lost some of their functions from the past and have completely turned into commercial centers. For the people of the region, historical city centers are the primary areas where they can trade and meet their needs, and their historical and cultural values remain in the background. It has different values for the local people who meet their needs in the region, for the tradesmen who trade in the region, and for the tourists who come to visit the region and get information. In this sense, the value and importance of the region should be primarily understood by the citizens, and first of all, the local people should be made aware of the historical texture with education by local government. In this way, it can be ensured that users can find the answers of the problems by experience in the region by considering the historical texture as well as their own. The region has a high population, but it causes problems because its capacity is small. Re-functioning, which is a method of repairing and protection, is essential for the

historical texture to stay alive. However, the traditional texture and characteristics of the area should not be overlooked by considering tourism and economy while re-functioning. In line with the studies and researches, it is necessary to carry out re-functioning studies that are suitable for the structure of the area and meet the needs of the local people. In this way, the acceptance and sustainability of the idle structures and the district by the users will be ensured.

Acknowledgement and Note

This article was produced from the PhD thesis titled “Gaziantep’teki Hanların Kullanım Sonrası Değerlendirilmesi ve Yeniden İşlevlendirilmesi için Model Önerisi” completed at Hasan Kalyoncu University.

The article complies with national and international research and publication ethics. Ethics committee approval in the study was obtained with the decision of the Ethics Committee of Hasan Kalyoncu University, dated 21.05.20 and numbered 04.

Author Contribution and Conflict of Interest Disclosure Information

All authors contributed equally to the article. There is no conflict of interest.

REFERENCES

- Ahunbay, Z. (1996). *Tarihi Çevre Koruma ve Restorasyon*. İstanbul: Yem Yayınları.
- Ahunbay, Z. (2019). *Kültür Mirasını Koruma İlke ve Teknikleri*. İstanbul: Yem Yayınları.
- Akaydın Ö. E., Türkyılmaz Ç. C. (2018). İşlevsel Dönüşüme Uğramış Yapılarda Ergonomi Kavramı; Üsküdar Nevmekean Örnek İncelemesi. *Mühendislik Bilimleri ve Tasarım Dergisi*, 279-292. <https://doi:10.21923/jesd.360654>
- Ali, N. and Oi, Z. (2020). Historical Study and Strategies for Revitalisation of Burt Institute (A Railway Heritage Building). *The Historic Environment: Policy & Practice*. 11(1), 40-55.
- Altınoluk, Ü. (1998). *Binaların Yeniden Kullanımı*. İstanbul: Yem Yayınları.
- Arnstein, S. R. (1969). A ladder of citizen participation. *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 35(4), 216-224.
- Ashworth, G. (2011). Preservation, Conservation and Heritage: approaches to the past in the present through the Built Environment. *Asian Anthropology*, 10(1), 1-18.
- Aydın, D. & Yıldız, E. (2010). Yeniden Kullanıma Adaptasyonda Bina Performansının Kullanıcılar Üzerinden Değerlendirilmesi. *METU JFA*, 2010/1, 27(1), 1-22.
- Bacon, K. (2001). The adaptive re-use of heritage buildings (Unpublished master's thesis). University of Calgary. <https://doi:10.11575/PRISM/19336>
- Bektaş, C. (2014). *Türk Evi*. İstanbul: Yem Yayınları.
- Burden, E. (2004), *Illustrated Dictionary of Architectural Preservation: Restoration, Renovation, Rehabilitation, Reuse*. New York: McGraw-Hill Press.
- Cantacuzino, S. (1989). *Re-Architecture: Old buildings/New uses*. New York: Abbeville Press.
- Çam, N. (2006). *Türk Kültür Varlıkları Envanteri Gaziantep 27*. Ankara: Türk Tarih Kurumu Yayınları.
- Çevik, S., Vural, S., Tavşan, F. and Aşık, Ö. (2008). An example to renovation–revitalization works in historical city centres: Kunduracılar Street/Trabzon-Turkey. *Building and Environment*, 43(5), 950–962.
- Egercioğlu, Y., Yakıcı, N. and Ertan, T. (2016). Urban Decline and Revitalization Project in İzmir-Tire Historical City Center. *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*. 216, 330-337.
- Feilden, M. B. (1982). *Conservation of Historic Buildings*. Technical Studies in the Arts, Archeology and Architecture, London: Butterworth Scientific.
- Gencer, T. Ç. (2018). *Tarihi Çevrede Çağdaş Ek Bağlamında Germir Surp Stephanos Kilisesi Restorasyon Çalışması* [Yayınlanmamış Yüksek Lisans Tezi], Erciyes Üniversitesi.
- Göçer, P.Ö. (2003), Devingen Toplum Esnek Mekânlar İster, *Arredemonto Mimarlık Dergisi*, 2, İstanbul.
- Hasol, D. (1995). *Ansiklopedik Mimarlık Sözlüğü*. İstanbul: Yem Yayınları.
- Jokilehto, J. (1999). A century of Heritage Conservation. *Journal of Architectural Conservation*, 5(3), 14-33.
- Mehanna, W.A.E. and Mehanna, W.A.E. (2019). Urban renewal for traditional commercial streets at the historical centers of cities. *Alexandria Engineering Journal*. 58(4), 1127-1143.
- Özdemir, M. (2005). Türkiye’de Kültürel Mirasın Korunmasına Kısa Bir Bakış. *Planlama Dergisi*, 1, 20-25.
- Plevoets, B., Van Cleempoel, K. (2011). Adaptive reuse as a strategy towards conservation of cultural heritage: A literature review. *Structural Repairs and Maintenance of Heritage Architecture XII, WIT Transactions on The Built Environment*, 118, 155-64.
- Selçuk, M. (2006), *Binaların yeniden işlevlendirilmesinde mekânsal kurgunun değerlendirilmesi* [Yayınlanmamış Yüksek Lisans Tezi], Selçuk Üniversitesi.
- Shopsin, C.W. (1986). *Restoring old buildings for contemporary uses: An American sourcebook for architects and preservationists*. New York: Watson-Guption Publications.
- Tapan, M. (2007). *Soru ve cevaplarla koruma*. İstanbul TMMOB Mimarlar Odası İstanbul Büyükkent Şubesi.
- Tekin, G. (2021). Tarihi kent merkezlerinde yeniden canlandırmanın kültürel boyutu. *Milli Folklor*, 17(130), 84-95.
- Trillo, C. and Petti, L. (2016). A novel paradigm to achieve sustainable regeneration in historical centres with cultural heritage. *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 223, 693– 697.
- Yıldız, E. (2003). Konya’daki medrese yapılarının yeniden kullanım koşullarına göre değerlendirilmesi [Yayınlanmamış Yüksek Lisans Tezi]. Selçuk Üniversitesi.
- 2863 sayılı kültür ve tabiat varlıklarını koruma kanunu. Resmi Gazete 18113 (23.07.201983). Erişim Tarihi: 15.12.2021, <https://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/mevzuatmetin/1.5.2863.pdf>