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Evaluation of the Reuse of Historical Buildings: The Case of Osmaniye Salih Sefa Yazar Folklore House

Elife Büyüköztürk¹

¹ Department of Architecture, Osmaniye Korkut Ata University, Osmaniye, Turkey.

Abstract

The preservation of historical buildings, which convey the socio-cultural characteristics of their respective periods to the present day, is of great importance for the sustainability of cultural heritage. The adaptive reuse of these structures, which have become functionally obsolete due to their inability to meet contemporary needs, is a widely preferred method. This study examines the adaptive reuse of Salih Sefa Yazar Folklore House, one of the few registered buildings in the city center of Osmaniye, where architectural heritage conservation efforts are limited. The study aims to investigate, evaluate, and document the functional and spatial transformations resulting from the adaptation of this significant historical structure.

Originally constructed in the early 1930s by the Askerler family, the building was purchased by the Osmaniye Municipality in 2004. The restoration project was completed in 2009, and the building was reopened as the Salih Sefa Yazar Folklore House. During the restoration process, the original staircase located in the courtyard was relocated inside the house, altering the historical character of the building. Additionally, the structure was damaged in the 2023 Pazarcık earthquake, and its restoration process is currently ongoing, with plans for its future use as a museum. The transformation of the building has been evaluated based on design, participation, and usage criteria. The analyses emphasize the necessity of a holistic approach to the adaptive reuse process.

Key Words: Historical Building, Adaptive Reuse, Osmaniye Salih Sefa Yazar Folklore House, Design, Utilization.

