



Ankara Arařtırmaları Dergisi

Journal of Ankara Studies

From the Editors

Dear readers,

We are pleased to share with you our 13th issue, prepared with the hard efforts of our editors, referees, authors and designers. The articles in this issue bring forth different points of view and shed light on Ankara's history while also touching upon its present.

Our first article focuses on the heart of the city, on Ulus Square. Explaining the formation, development and transformation of Ulus Square, the article highlights the risks facing Ulus Square as a cultural heritage site in terms of its cultural qualities, authenticity and integrity. The second article presents a human-centered approach towards urban planning and design research to analyze spatial practices that are overlooked and labelled as ordinary and temporary. The fieldwork carried out at Yüksel Caddesi demonstrates the urban rhythms of daily life.

The number of research dealing with the impact of building materials on modern architecture in Turkey is very limited. Our third article aims to fill this gap and discusses the contributions of aluminum on architectural styles within the context of "Ankara Architecture." Similar to other cities, Ankara is undergoing a fast transformation as part of neoliberal policies. Our fourth article, which focuses on the Mamak Urban Regeneration Project, identifies spatial transformations and the socio-economic transformation that it caused, and investigates conflicts and contrasts between new and old spaces, as well as changing practices of daily life.

Our next article presents another new point of view, this time in terms of architectural history. By looking at films through an architectural lens, the article showcases representations of architecture by different disciplines and presents a method to identify intersections of these two disciplines. The following article concentrates on the social and cultural roles of the cinema in Ankara during the Early Cold War period.

The focus of the seventh article of this issue is on Vakko, the store brand that diligently juxtaposed fashion, art and architecture, and figured strongly in the urban life of Ankara. Going beyond the ordinary shopping center, this space, as a place in the urban memory of the city, is distinguishable through the culture of life that it presented spatially. Our eighth article is on Esat Neighborhood in the 1960s and discusses urban mobility and social transformation.

The first opinion article of this issue uses monographs on the districts of Ankara prepared over the last decade to discuss the political, spatial and social variables of districts. The article also presents assessments and makes comments on how these variables can impact important political events like local elections and how projections can be made in view of each district's own social realities and characteristics.

The second opinion article centers on the socio-economic state and the social and cultural lives of Armenians in Ankara through the Aydınyan family who lived in the city in 1828-1920.

Our final article aims to shed light on Posta Caddesi through contemporary accounts, memoirs, and architectural books, as well as Ankara guidebooks and maps.

Wishing you a pleasant reading.

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