

DESIGN CHRONOLOGY TURKEY

LANDSCAPE



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ARE WE HUMAN?

The Design of the Species

2 seconds, 2 days, 2 years, 200 years, 200,000 years

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*This garden, this moist garden, this scent of jasmine, this
moonlit night
will continue to sparkle after I've trodden the earth and gone,
since before I came, and after I came they were there without
me
and appeared in me just as a form of creation...*

Nazım Hikmet

INTRODUCTION

Reading and perceiving landscape begins approximately 12,000 years ago, with humanity transitioning to settled life and the emerging fundamental needs of orientation, safety, and nutrition. This communication between landscape and humans evolves through the dichotomy of governance and belonging. In time, the concept of landscape begins to be tackled as a heterogeneous piece of land formed by ecosystems repeating in similar forms. The convergence of landscape and design occurs through the need to turn the outdoor space into a more readily legible medium. This practice develops as designers make various interventions first to the immediate surroundings, then at urban and regional scales.

The recognition of landscape as a designable phenomenon, which takes place in mid-19th century in other parts of the world, is only anchored in Turkey towards the end of the 20th century. The practice of designing outdoor spaces, which is imported step by step in the mid-19th century, grounds itself on a professional foundation with the first landscape architecture graduates in 1973.

Interventions in landscape are not monopolist but multidisciplinary. Natural and cultural landscape resources fall under the interest and influence of many professionals in the fields of politics, economics, and ecology. Istanbul and numerous other cities throughout Turkey, which never grew in a planned manner, are exhibiting a tendency to expand, hand in hand with the changes in socioeconomic statuses. The sequence of events, which is explored through various breaking points in the chronology, steers the contemporary practice of landscape design in Turkey.

Contemporary landscaping, while trying to ameliorate the deterioration of nature on the national scale and create outdoor spaces, also attempts to find solutions for universal environmental concerns. As can be discerned from its definition and applications, the concept of landscaping is a multipronged subject and its chronology is likewise complicated. Therefore, this attempt at a landscaping chronology has been compiled within certain limits. These limits have been drawn around some of the contemporary concerns of landscaping, namely integrated water management, urban agriculture, risk reduction, outdoor space memory and artificial landforms.



LANDSCAPE

18th CENTURY

THE CONCEPT OF NATURE DURING IN THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE AND ITS EVOLUTION

The 18th century Ottoman era is a period of time during which Istanbul and the Bosphorus were re-discovered, social dynamics reflected in urban space, and change and transformation assumed visibility. These transformations, occurring naturally with no intent to transform and/or change whatsoever, were merely lived instances of transformations. In other words, the ideological explanation for transformation during this period is that public authority is the sole driving force behind transformation, change and modernization.

Ottomans have not just experienced nature but also transformed the landscape in line with their own needs and desires, and in time have also learned to design urban space. Uğur Tanyeli underlines the fact that “the awareness of the built environment as a phenomenon that can intervene with” signals a modern comprehension which emerged in the 18th century, and associates the concept of “intervention” with the start of modern urbanism.

19th CENTURY

CONCEPT OF NATURE DURING IN THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE

At the beginning of the 19th century, the Ottoman conception and interpretation of nature start to change. Stepping outside nature itself, aesthetic experiencing begins to take place. The word *tabiat* (nature), as a contemporary concept, enters the Ottoman Turkish vocabulary.

Mesire (excursion spot) is defined as a one-day activity taking place on a part of nature; an aesthetic experience with the aim of social relationship building. While the concept of *mesire* does not exactly denote a picnic, this concept triggers the understanding of the concept “picnic”.

During this period, gardens are considered in two groups; excursion spots and pastures on one hand, and residence, mansion or palace gardens set in smaller closed spaces on the other. While excursion spots facilitate the transition to nature, gardens offer the means for the transition to architecture. Meadows and pastures have a natural quality whereas gardens are structured in geometrical layouts. The transformation of Göksü, Kağıthane, and Büyükdere Pasture

into Istanbul’s excursion spots leads to the emergence of daily excursion traffic.

THE CHANGE IN THE OF THE GARDEN

The Tulip Period is the time when Western influence becomes visible in Turkish gardens. Starting from the valley of Kağıthane, the area stretching all the way along the Golden Horn and the Bosphorus shores become filled with waterfront palaces and mansions, summerhouse gardens and groves built by statesmen and the wealthy class, turning Istanbul into a “garden and water city”.

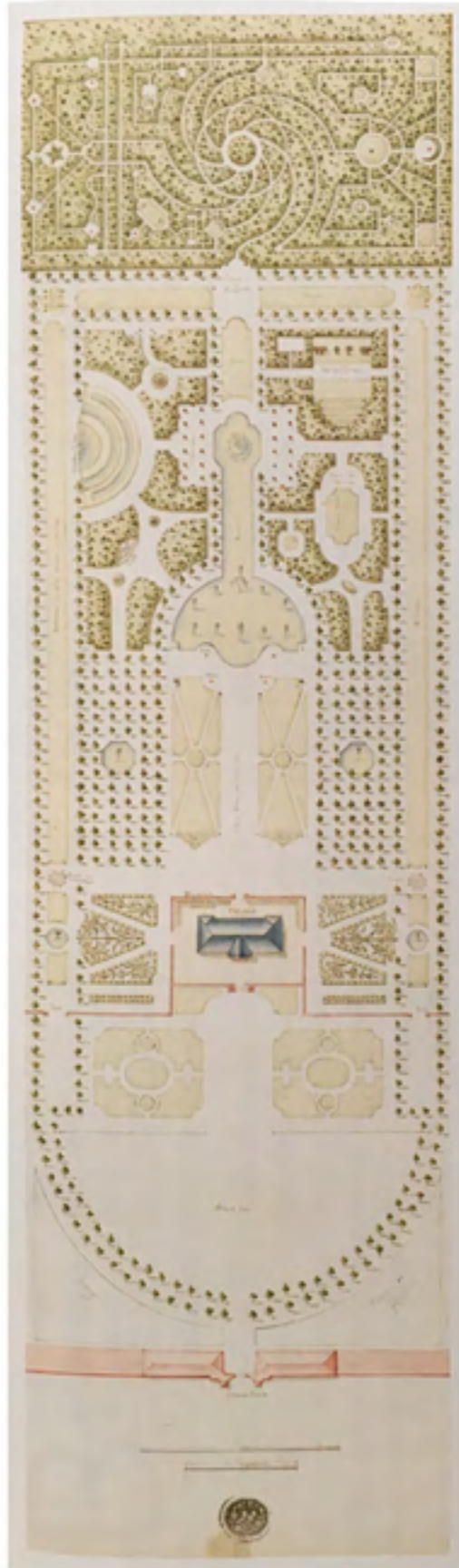
The small scale gardens of this period display the characteristics of an informal Turkish garden which is at one with nature. On the other hand, foreign influence begins to gradually manifest itself in larger scale gardens belonging to statesmen. While the Renaissance and Baroque style gardens in Europe are replaced by the English naturalist gardens, the Turkish garden is influenced by the splendor of the Baroque garden. The Ottoman garden drifts away from its natural and modest qualities.

The first documented Western garden influences can be seen in the gardens of Sadabad Mansion. It is the first case where usage of water is so extensive and glorious in the garden art of the Ottomans. The 1100 meters long, 25 meters wide and four meters deep marble canal becomes the most magnificent example of cascaded pool architecture in the Ottoman era.

1808 THE IMPACT OF THE CHANGE IN GARDENS

The real transformation reflecting the Ottoman Turkish spirit in gardens becomes discernable with the rule of Selim III (reign: 1789-1807). Foreign gardening experts adorn many palace and mansion gardens with Renaissance and Baroque garden elements. As a result, numerous examples of differentiated gardens start to emerge that are inconsistent with the land structure or climate and incompatible with the Ottoman way of life and tastes. Gardens become spaces “to watch, rather than to live in”.

During the era of Selim III, waterfront palaces, pavilions, mansions and summer houses are in competition with each other, not just in terms of architecture, but also the gardens they house. The stroll field plan proposal (the drawing in the following page), of which the designer and commissioner remains unknown, as does the location, is the “prototype garden” representation of the era. The changing Ottoman citizen of the period now intends to go outside the



A PROMENADE PROJECT DURING THE REIGN OF SELIM III

Source: Şahin, Turan. *Osmanlı'nın Çılgın Projeleri*
[Crazy Projects of the Ottoman Era]. İstanbul: Yitik Hazine
Yayınları, 2012.

boundaries of the courtyard surrounding his family home and wants to connect with larger masses through examples of garden art which have now become fashionable.

MONUMENTAL STRUCTURES AND MILITARY BUILDINGS

Large barracks built in Western styles, save for the new palaces of 19th century, are Istanbul's most important monumental structures and continue to be so today. During the periods when they were built, these barracks completely transform the landscape of Istanbul. All of these structures are built on the lands of private imperial gardens, mansions, pavilions and palace gardens, destroying them along the way. This construction approach marks the first time green spaces surrender to massive physical development.

1839 TANZİMAT FERMANI (IMPERIAL EDICT OF REORGANIZATION) AND AFTER

1839 IMPERIAL EDICT OF REORGANIZATION

The Edict of 1839 is read to the public at Gülhane Park. With the new opportunities regarding property acquisition the edict brings, new structures emerge along the Bosphorus strait, as foreign citizens build residences in addition to the existent properties of the palace officials.

During the Ottoman period, as in many other areas, Europe is followed also in garden designs with the influence of Westernization movements. Special tree and bush species are brought from nurseries in Europe to be planted in the gardens designed by European garden experts.

NEW WAVE GARDENS AND REFLECTION OF GARDEN ART ON DESIGN

Following Sadabad Garden, Istanbul Western influence is felt strongly in the palaces of Çırağan, Beylerbeyi, Dolmabahçe, and Yıldız in Istanbul. Aside from palaces, Turkish and Western garden landscaping principles appear together in Kuruçeşme Zekiye Sultan Bosphorus Mansion and the summer palaces of Ayazağa, Maslak, Levent and Kalender.

The phenomenon of the courtyard as the main part of the garden loses its significance with changes in the courtyard's use, design conception, and its role in social life. The garden grows in scale and assumes a different character. Graded terraces, large flat and ramped lawns, pergolas, steps, pools, multilayer sprinklers and fountains, cascades, squares with differing themes, and vegetation in large pots, all on different elevations, become rather common. Mazes, grottos

and nymphaeum are used in garden organizations. Botanical decorations become prevalent, with the recurring ornament themes of flowers symbolizing heaven or love in Turkish art, depicted in vases and fruits in bowls.

TRANSFORMATION OF GARDEN FLORA

In addition to the local vegetation growing naturally in Istanbul climate, many other possible exotic species which can thrive in the city's climate are imported and used in palace gardens. The purpose of their material and composition remain the same; however, overall plant variety increases. For Ottoman-Turkish gardens, the parameter for plant selection is "function". The new understanding of gardens abandons the function principle and opts for the choice plants that are more aesthetically pleasing. Landscape arrangements are now dominated by foreign plant species as well as colorful, formal and dense formations.

In this period, embroidery-like flower bed designs borrowing their name from the French-style *parterre en broderie* come to the fore as a form of art. The simple *gülistan* (rose gardens), *lalezar* (tulip gardens) and *çemenzar* (lawns), which before Westernization were comprised of single type and color vegetation and often got their names from the plants used, leave their place to formal plant beds formed of very colorful and very diverse species.

CHANGE IN USE OF WATER ELEMENTS IN THE GARDEN

In early Ottoman gardens, water elements are in shapes of rectangles, squares and hexagons. With the influence of Westernization, they first become round and oval, and in later periods expand to huge dimensions, turning into artificial lakes. The *selsebil* (cascade fountain), wall fountains, and three decker fountain pool, which are an indispensable part of Turkish garden culture, evolve into wide and still pools.

URBANIZATION AND CHANGING CITY BORDERS

At this time, the city has not yet expanded outside its walls. Apart from the daily excursion spots inside the walls, *külliye* (mosque complex) courtyards and the *atmeydanı* (hippodrome) are the large open spaces in the city. Gardens and vegetable fields occupy a long stretch parallel to the walls along Bayrampaşa Valley, Langa and Yedikule, all the way up to Davutpaşa. This layout will be preserved as is until the Republican Era.

DISTRICTS OUTSIDE THE WALLS

These neighborhoods are located in the area starting from the shores of the Golden Horn all the way up to Şişhane-Tepebaşı, parallel to Pera Avenue. Beyond these lie the cemeteries. Kabataş and Dolmabahçe are not yet residential districts. Construction is already taking place along the Bosphorus shoreline. As a result of the changing dynamics of 17th and 18th centuries and the influence of the early modern mentality on the Ottoman capital, the dynasty has moved to the shores of Bosphorus.

İLMUHABBERLER (URBAN REGULATIONS)

First Ottoman urban edicts include a series of legal regulations that shape urban formation. These regulations named *ilmuhabber* or *nizamname* propose the building of larger avenues and docks; elimination of narrow and dead end streets; adopting new construction techniques to reduce risk of fires; widening of roads in accordance with new transportation technologies; creating new residential areas around the urban periphery; and modifying the city center. A process of fundamental transformation starts in the capital and urban areas of rural provinces.

1837-1861 STRUCTURAL CHANGE IN THE CITY AND NEW TRANSPORT DECISIONS

Structural change in the city begins under the rule of Mahmud II (reign: 1808-1839) and the early years of Abdülmecid (reign: 1839-1861). This period sees the construction of bridges connecting the opposite shores of Golden Horn. In addition to their symbolic values, these bridges have an impact on daily life dynamics in the city as they improve inner city connections. With increasing cultural interaction and trade relations, Galata's scope of influence expands and Beyoğlu (Pera) grows toward the north.

1837 THE MOLTKE PLAN AND UNKAPANI PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

The first planned zoning activity is the construction of Unkapanı Pedestrian Bridge, which is not fully completed, proposed by Moltke in 1837 as part of the Moltke transport map.

1838 SEA TRANSPORTATION

Transport by sea begins with the production of the first steam ship.

1842 CHANGES OF URBAN SPACE

With the reign of Mahmud II, old palaces begin to wane in popularity. Beşiktaş and its shores, one of the larger coves along the Bosphorus, is a private imperial garden for sultans' recreation and entertainment. The group of mansions and summer palaces built in this area at various times are collectively called Beşiktaş Waterfront Palace. The Beşiktaş Waterfront Palace begins to be more frequently used during the reign of Mahmud II.

As Topkapı Palace, which represents a different government style and way of life, falls out of favor, shores of the Golden Horn and Bosphorus gain importance. Gradually preferred less and less by Ottoman sultans, Topkapı Palace is almost completely abandoned during the era of Mahmud II. The innovative attitude of the sultan will make itself visible architecturally, and Beşiktaş will become an alternative to the historical peninsula as a residential area for Ottoman sultans. As the Ottoman dynasty gradually moves toward Beşiktaş, the center of the city will also expand on the northern axis and the typology of the waterfront will become clearer and clearer.

At the start of the 20th century, as Beşiktaş becomes the primary residence of Ottoman sultans, Topkapı Palace becomes an iconic structure where symbolic and ceremonial functions are held.

1844 PUBLIC SEA TRANSPORT ALONG THE BOSPHORUS

The government, with its newly founded company Fevaid-i Osmaniye, starts passenger ferry service to the more populated villages along the Bosphorus during summertime. Thus begins the first public transit by sea.

1845 KARAKÖY BRIDGE

In 1845, Bezm-i Alem Valide Sultan, Mother of Sultan Abdülmecit, commissions the construction of the Validesultan Bridge between Eminönü and Karaköy, connecting the two sides of Golden Horn. The first modern bridge of the era, referred to as Validesultan or Karaköy Bridge among other names at the time, is presently called Galata Bridge.

1850s ESTABLISHMENT OF MUNICIPALITIES

A more de-centralized and local governance model is sought in city governance, resulting in municipal rule, under the name *şehremaneti*. Istanbul is divided into 14 municipal

districts. With the establishment of municipalities, the lack of urban necessities such as squares, roads, pavements and parks is suddenly realized.

Transformations affecting Europe have had a strong influence on Ottoman cities. The Ottoman Empire, while on the one hand shifting its governing style through centralized reforms in order to adapt to the new conditions of the world, on the other hand starts going through changes in its economic structure by opening its market to the world. During this period of late Ottoman Empire, alongside Westernization movements, early examples of urban parks start to appear in the shape of reorganization of old excursion spot locations, as seen in Gülhane and Kağıthane.

1854 THE NEW MİLLET (NATION) PARK CONCEPT AND SULTANAHMET PARK

The new park structured at Sultanahmet Square is later renamed New Nation Park. Recalling a large mansion garden, it has at its center a one story structure with a porch and a tile roof, used as a cafe. Domed pergolas are put up at appropriate locations around the park; flower beds and trees are demarcated with protective wooden material. Inside the park, which has only once entry gate, *ligustrum* (privet) and *pseudoacacia* (black locust) species of flowers are planted in linear order.

19th CENTURY PALACE GARDENS AND SUMMER PALACE GARDENS

Summer palaces and palace gardens are tranquil and simple spaces where sovereigns can be more in tune with nature, away from all the flashiness by engaging in activities such as horse breeding, horseback riding, and hunting.

Aynalıkavak Summer Palace is an example where Western influence and Turkish garden characteristics come together.

1855 DOLMABAĞÇE PALACE

During the reigns of Abdülmecid and Abdülaziz (1861-1876), a new, symbolic and highly ambitious palace construction starts with the aim of replicating the splendor of European kings' palaces. A mixture of Neoclassical and Baroque, the Dolmabahçe Palace gardens display similar artistic tendencies. This design approach is still preserved today. Dolmabahçe Palace gardens, in the hands of foreign garden experts, consist of certain formal sections adorned with Baroque flower beds and water elements with no correlation to one another.

1856 İNTİZAM-I ŞEHİR (CITY ORDER) COMMISSION

The commission consists of both Muslim and non-Muslim reputable Ottoman citizens who speak foreign languages and have visited other countries, as well as foreigners who have settled in Istanbul. This commission has worked on adding pavements to streets, their maintenance and also other civil works. For instance, the gas street lamps on Cadde-i Kebir (present day İstiklal Avenue) in Pera were added as part of a decision by the City Order Commission.

1860s NEW DISTRICTS

The microcosmos of the city, districts and neighborhoods, are regulated by a privacy principle, which governs the relation of city blocks. Practices such as building structures at different heights so the domestic lives of others cannot be watched; windows opening in a way to prevent disturbing the neighbors, and making sure to not align building doors against one another are all a part of this privacy principle. A rule of thumb is that whoever has built a structure first is always more in the right over newcomers. These basic principles have shaped all towns and especially their Muslim districts.

During the Abdülaziz period, with the influence of Westernization, Nişantaşı district is developed between Harbiye and Teşvikiye. This district is a representation of a different order than the district layouts used before with its city blocks and road geometry.

1861-1865 BEYLERBEYİ PALACE

It is an example of strong Western influence. The gardens of Beylerbeyi Palace are organized in a style combining late Renaissance and Baroque periods and have survived until today despite some minor changes. As the land rests on a steep slope, the gardens are situated on seven terraces. Because of this, Beylerbeyi Palace is often described as the "Garden of Terraces" and is distinguished from other Ottoman palaces.

1861-1876 TOPKAPI WATERFRONT PALACE FIRE

After the destruction caused by the fire, Sultan Abdülaziz, against his advisors' objections, orders the 1874 Edirne-Istanbul railroad, which he saw as a symbol of civilization, to extend to the Sirkeci terminal station through the palace gardens, and to realize this, palace walls bordering Sirkeci, İncili Mansion and Summer Palace are demolished, along with many other structures.

1863-1870 TRANSPORTATION

Galata Bridge becomes vehicle accessible. Kabataş-Üsküdar ferry service starts in 1872.

Istanbul-İzmit railroad is completed in 1873. Anatolian side suburbia starts developing as a result.

Istanbul's first underground metro, the "Tunnel" is constructed between 1871 and 1874.

During the reigns of Sultan Abdülaziz and Sultan Abdülhamid II (from 1876 to 1909), Istanbul's transportation infrastructure, which will remain unchanged until the Second World War, is set up, parallel to the country's initial industrialization efforts.

1864 HOCAPAŞA FIRE AND ISLAHAT-I TURUK (COMMISSION FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT)

The 1864 Hocapaşa fire destroys a very large area all from Sirkeci to Kumkapı. With the addition of fires at Kumkapı and Kadırga, a total of 3551 buildings are destroyed by fires.

This huge fire in 1864 causes a renovation of the city center on the Historical Peninsula and the implementation of the Buildings and Roads Regulations. Tasked with the mission of rebuilding the city center, the Commission for Road Improvement examines the polarity between the beauty of Istanbul's location and the backwardness of the urban fabric. Therefore, roads in the area are widened and buildings rebuilt with masonry. The Commission also clears the area around Hagia Sophia, Beyazıt Square, and opens the tram way that runs through Unkapanı Avenue, Azapkapı Karaköy Avenue and Beyazıt-Aksaray.

1865 WORKS OF ALTINCI DAİRE (6th MUNICIPALITY - PERA)

Walls of Galata are demolished on the Galata side of the Golden Horn. Streets are built along the wall route, including Galata-Yenikapı Street and Şişhane Street in the west, Büyük Hendek Street in the north and Boğazkesen Street in the east. Walls around Mumhane Avenue are also brought down and wooden houses are now replaced by brick houses. Yorgancılar Avenue, stretching from Karaköy to Azapkapı near the old bridge and Galata Avenue, connecting Karaköy to Tophane, are also widened and reorganized. In order to connect the Bosphorus shoreline to the two bridges on the Golden Horn, Galata is developed especially in terms of road construction.

1865 PERIOD OF SERVERPAŞA

First park-garden landscaping is done in the Çamlıca Sarıkaya area.

1867-1870 KISIKLI GARDEN

Kısıklı is a summer vacation and daily excursion area favored by Ottoman bureaucrats and Muslim bourgeoisie. Kısıklı Garden, built on the way to Kısıklı on Istanbul's Anatolian side and previously called Çamlık Garden, covers an area of 19,500 square meters. It is one of the first gardens open to public. It is also among the largest gardens in and around the Üsküdar district. Kısıklı Garden continues to exist under the name Nation Garden during the Early Republican Period.

1867 EUROPE TRIP OF SULTAN ABDÜLAZİZ

After a trip to Europe, Sultan Abdülaziz desires to create a different image in Istanbul. New exotic species enter Istanbul's landscape with imports of ornamental plants. Baroque flower beds of palace gardens are removed with naturalist inclinations, the city image and silhouette begins to transform.

1868 LAST IMPORTANT PROJECT OF THE 6TH MUNICIPALITY

The last important project realized by the 6th Municipality is the Şişhane Square situated en route between the old Galata Bridge and Cadde-i Kebir. The municipality's 1868 budget includes an additional fund to build itself a new office building. The 6th Municipality Palace is positioned in the middle of Şişhane Square, at the most glamorous location on the main road. This application displays similarities to the urban design projects of Haussmann. As opposed to streets of Paris, the streets of Şişhane are disconnected from other main roads in the city, and therefore, similarities with proposed European urban design projects are limited and only formal.

1864-1869 TAKSİM GARDEN

As Taksim-Pangaltı road is being built, the Christian cemeteries in Taksim are relocated to Şişli and a proposal is made to create Taksim Garden in the now empty area. It takes five years for Taksim Garden, the only one of its kind in the Ottoman capital, to be completed. The garden is rectangular and symmetrical. The center of the garden is arranged in line with *beaux-arts* principles, and parts near the periphery are adorned with more loose picturesque motifs.

After its completion, the garden becomes the favorite strolling spot for the residents of Pera. French and Italian ensembles perform operettas accompanied by live music in the afternoons, however, this new social sphere created in the garden is deemed immoral by the police and Muslim women are banned from going into the park either by carriage or on foot. Following Taksim Garden, Another picturesque garden built by the 6th District is created in Tepebaşı and opened to the public of Pera.

1869 TAKSİM-PANGALTI ROAD EXTENSION

Decorated with trees on both sides, the Taksim-Pangaltı road is completed in 1869 and extended to Şişli shortly after. This road will serve as an example to other cities in terms of implementation.

1872 ÇIRAĞAN PALACE

The construction of the palace, which starts during Sultan Abdülmecid's reign, is completed under Sultan Abdülaziz. The construction style of Çırağan Palace replaces the style of wooden palaces built up until the era of Selim III, and begins to transform architectural style of mansions, summer palaces, and waterfront palaces built with a traditional cultural approach.

1876 CONVERSION OF YILDIZ PALACE, GROVE AND HUNTING GROUNDS INTO A PRIVATE GARDEN

Confining himself physically to the Yıldız Palace to the extent possible, Sultan Abdülhamid II has made his presence felt through various symbols. Yıldız Palace is almost a city within the city with a population of 12,000 and a governance complex of 500,000 square meters combining different architectural elements.

Abdülhamid II has created a unique palace at Yıldız Palace and formed a microcosmos within its walls. The palace is surrounded by exterior and interior walls. Five gates with different names representing the hierarchical order serve different people depending on their rank and position. As in other Ottoman palaces, Yıldız Palace has a courtyard system, opening from the public area into the private. First courtyard houses administrative and social quarters, while the second courtyard contains the Harem and Sultan's Chambers. Known as the Outer Garden, the third courtyard is used today as Yıldız Park and houses several mansions and pavilions.

Before Sultan Abdülhamid II moves here, open spaces in Yıldız have a very dense green texture used as a grove

and hunting grounds. After being converted into a palace, mansions built one after another become surrounded by gardens, flower beds, terraces, and water elements. Distinctive gardens of mansions and pavilions are interconnected by an artificial lake large enough to dominate the landscape of the interior gardens.

1880 STATUS REPORTS AND A RIVER PROJECT

Sultan Abdülhamid II requests from governors reports (*lahiya*) documenting the general status and problems of their provinces. The educated intellectuals of the era are not insensitive to the problems of the areas they live in, and thus dozens of diverse projects and proposals are presented to the Sultan.

One of these is the project proposed by Hasan Fehmi Paşa. In his proposal he recommends building highways and railroads between certain centers in the empire; construction of new docks and ports; drying some swamps and using the land for agriculture; building banks on rivers; and revitalizing thousands of acres of land by irrigation.

Sultan Abdülhamid II supports the idea of building banks on rivers Tigris and Euphrates Rivers and turning dry lands into green havens by setting up a smart irrigation system. However, as many irrigation projects such as the Konya Plains Irrigation Project proposed by Hasan Fehmi Paşa come to life, his proposed Southeast Anatolia Project (GAP) will have to wait another century to become a reality.

1882 EBNİYE KANUNU (BUILDINGS LAW)

The purpose of the law is to reorganize areas affected by fires, reduce the cost of dividing land into plots, and drawing up a plan for these plots to be approved first by the municipality and then the Ministry of Interior Affairs and zone them for construction upon the sultan's orders. In this context, developments with the most effect on the city's physical structure and image are the ports, docks and station projects.

During this period, the once summer-places become residential areas with the help of suburban trains which facilitate rapid development. These settlements are built based on a grid plan.

1883 SEED IMPORTS

Seeds are imported from the Batavia Botanical Garden in the Northern Jakarta region of Java, which is a Dutch

colony. Medicinal plants such as brucea and cassia to be used against malaria; *quercus suber* (cork oak), which is used in industry and medicine; eucalyptus in order to dry out swamps; roses and ginger to be used in perfume and medicine, as well as tea and coffee saplings are imported.

1899 REORGANIZATION OF THE HIPPODROME AREA AND ITS VICINITY

The reorganization of the area which is to become the present Sultanahmet Park begins in 1899 by the reorganization of the Hippodrome area and around the obelisks by adding flower beds and planting of new trees. The landmark horse chestnut trees in the area were also planted at this time.

1899 EDIBLE LANDSCAPE AREAS IN THE PALACE GARDEN

Greenhouses that are warmed with hot water are set up in the gardens of Yıldız Palace. Various fruits and vegetables are grown in the greenhouses, including pineapple and strawberry in special sections. Strawberry seedlings are requested from the Stockholm Embassy. In addition to edible landscaping, exotic plants are also produced. Evergreen plants and orchids are grown in the greenhouses. 1500 different species of citrus, banana and vanilla plants are produced in the conservatories. Of the 160 species grown in the Yıldız Grove, 120 are imported species.

1899 PROPERTY ACQUISITION RIGHTS FOR FOREIGNERS AND THE IMPORT OF ORNAMENTAL PLANTS

Garden experts like Koch and Deroin have established the first nurseries in Istanbul, and produced and imported plants. Certain ornamental plants used in the newly built gardens are imported from famous nurseries of Europe. The importing of exotic plants starts primarily in Istanbul, but also in cities such as Bursa, Edirne and İzmir in collaboration with specialists who are consulted in their area of expertise. Horticulturists have also been imported.

20th CENTURY DEVELOPMENTS

Early Republican period parks have gone through quite remarkable changes from the time they were built until the present day. These changes manifest themselves mainly in the forms of: the imposition of new functions on parks; replacement of some functions; some functions gradually abandoning the parks; and even some parks being completely

rebuilt or changed with no trace of history left behind.

The focal points of social life in today's global cities are shifting from parks to spaces such as large shopping malls and the values parks once represented are being transformed. At this point, Republican era parks, as well as parks that were designed with the influence of this period, and their changing usage over the years are important in the sense that they document the evolution in daily life in Turkey during the process stretching from the state driven modernization to globalization.

After the Second World War, a very rapid urbanization process takes place in Turkey, and the increase in population, which was only apparent in Ankara beforehand, becomes marked also in all other cities. This causes cities to experience growth issues due to lacking infrastructure; cities assume a dichotomous structure, divided into districts that develop in accordance with modernity and districts that develop on their own. In order to solve these issues, in 1945 İller Bankası (Provinces Bank) is founded, followed by the enactment of the Municipal Income Law of 1948. The Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects is established in 1954; the Zoning Law no. 6875 goes into effect in 1956, and the Ministry of Zoning and Housing is established in 1958. However, even though all of these developments contribute to solving the problems, they remain insufficient in face of the transformation; and uncontrolled rapid urbanization lasts well into the 1960s.

Since new master plans are developed and implemented in the 1960s, the small parks that were built in the early years of the Republic are either cleared away to be used as roads, etc. or divided to lose their recreational function. Until the 1970s, cities in Turkey grow like oil stains. As a result of demolish-and-build processes, this growth leads to the destruction of historical and cultural assets in city centers, a constant increase of density, and the destruction of green areas. Consequently, city parks of the Early Republican Era that were built under very strenuous conditions have been either torn down or stripped of their original character in this period due to shortage of housing, illegal construction, inability to protect historical heritage, and the phenomenon of economic rent.

The concept of landscape architecture begins to become more grounded in this period. Landscape architects start to have a say in urban development by working in ministries, municipalities and other state institutions. Aside from these jobs, they produce projects of varying scale in private offices and thus shape the concept and perception of landscaping.

CEMİL TOPUZLU’S FIRST TERM AS MAYOR

After the İshakpaşa fire of 1912, Cemil Topuzlu becomes the mayor and begins urban zoning activities.

During the Cemil Topuzlu period, most of the urban improvement efforts consist of new squares and parks in the city. There is emphasis on green areas where the public can socialize and “breathe”. During this time, within the Ottoman tradition, parks are a novel and European concept.

GÜLHANE PARK REORGANIZATION

The park is approximately 40 acres and bears the qualities of a city park. The grove that constitutes a portion of the park’s greenery is the outer garden of Topkapı Palace comprising vast open areas where the sultan’s family and especially his young sons practice horseback riding and marksmanship. By the 19th century, the simplicity of the garden design is lost altogether as older motifs are applied haphazardly alongside the new additions brought by European gardeners.

Gülhane Park, where Mustafa Reşit Pasha reads out loud the Imperial Edict of Reorganization in 1839, is then neglected due to factors such as the Sultan moving to Dolmabahçe Palace in 1853 and the fire of 1860. Afterwards, as the European railway connects to Sirkeci through Sarayburnu, many trees are removed from the park and mansions are demolished because of their high upkeep costs.

Cemil Topuzlu procures this barren land located between Topkapı Palace, Alay Mansion and Sarayburnu from Hazine-i Hassa (the Imperial Treasury) in 1912 in order to create a park where the public can catch some fresh air and stroll about. He commissions the garden expert of the era, Monsieur Deruvan to design the park. When four of the giant century-old trees are cut down for the construction of the wide road designed to serve as the main arterial road within the park, Topuzlu faces strong reactions from the Istanbul press.

The buildings in the park are demolished, the vegetable-fruit gardens are removed, and the 20,000 trees Topuzlu has brought over from France are planted in the park. These demolitions ordered by Topuzlu in the name of beautifying the park continue with the tearing down of the four large barracks in the area. The Sarayburnu section is separated from the park in 1958, and this area of 13,000 square meters is reorganized as Sarayburnu Park.

The first of the Atatürk statues erected in Turkey (1926) is also located in this park.

SULTANAHMET SQUARE

Following the İshakpaşa fire in 1912, with Topuzlu becoming the mayor, this area begins to be reorganized. Banning construction in this area after the fire, Topuzlu expropriates all plots in the area including the Haseki Bathhouse. He wants to demolish the bathhouse, previously used as a gas depot and heavily damaged by the fire, in order to apply the square he envisions to Sultanahmet, and clashes with Muhafaza-i Asar-ı Atika Cemiyeti (Commission for the Protection of Antiquities) for this reason.

While the notion of conservation which emerges with the opposition to the idea of opening Sultanahmet Square and its vicinity to construction in a “Western Style” remains on the table as new demolitions are underway, the levelings meanwhile lead to a momentum in archeological fieldwork in the area. For this reason, Topuzlu cannot implement the square project he desires.

Buildings are demolished in the Historical Peninsula during the Lütüfi Kırdar period based on Henri Prost’s master plan, which was started in 1936 and completed in 1937. The area in front of Hagia Sophia is cleared in 1939, and its immediate surroundings are organized as a park. Surviving to this day, the pool there has been built around that time.

In the early 1980s, the 13,000 square meter area between the Sultan Ahmed Complex and Hagia Sophia is redesigned. According to Faik Yalıtırık, Sultanahmet Square consists of four separate parks.

In 1994 Sultanahmet Square and its surroundings have been declared a conservation area.

THE RENOVATION OF KISIKLI GARDEN

This green area established as a municipal park under the reign of Sultan Abdülaziz in scope of the beautification of Çamlıca is the first public garden of Istanbul. However, this garden falls to waste over time and becomes unusable in the beginning of the 20th century. This idle garden is renovated by Cemil Topuzlu and opened to the public, and begins to be used again. The park serves as a recreational area for the district of Üsküdar and its vicinity as a neighborhood park for almost 20 years. In the early 1930s it again falls out of use. It is redesigned between 1930 and 1935 and reopened to public use.

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1 - GÜLHANE PARK, ISTANBUL
Source: Atatürk Kitaplığı (Atatürk Library)

2 - 1919 HALİDE EDİP ADIVAR'S SPEECH AT THE SULTANAHMET SQUARE
Source: Oral, Atilla. *İşgalden Kurtuluşa İstanbul* [Istanbul from Occupation to Independence]. İstanbul: Demkar Yayınevi, 2013.

1914 THE OTTOMAN PERIOD'S LAST PARK –THE MONUMENT PARK

The last park built in the Ottoman period is Tayyare (Aviation) Park. This park is 6,000 square meters and houses the Aviation Martyrs' Monument.

THE FIRST CITY FOREST

During the rule of the Byzantine Empire (330-1453), the Golden Horn shores have a lush vegetation and fauna diversity and have therefore been used as a hunting ground and summer resort by the rulers of the era. In the Ottoman Period (1299-1922), this area is referred to as a city forest: the first documented city forest in Istanbul.

1923 DECLARATION OF THE REPUBLIC

Starting with the declaration of the Republic, cities are shaped by the city plans of Western modernist planners and architects. Cities become a space-stage for Turkish modernization. Public spaces are an important element of this stage and urban parks become examples of the new type of public space. City plans made for Anatolian cities invariably include spaces consecrated for large urban parks, especially in the cities that were destroyed after the War of Independence. In the first years of the Republic, urban parks are built in order to define an idealized Western and modern world.

1923 ANKARA THE NEW CAPITAL

Ankara becomes the capital of Turkey on October 13th, 1923.

TRANSFORMATION OF URBAN MEMORY

Once Ankara is declared the capital Istanbul becomes less populated and its demographic makeup is altered. The Grande Rue de Pera, which is a reflection of Istanbul's cosmopolitan structure, is renamed İstiklal Caddesi (Independence Avenue). The city's memory is affected by nationalization. In 1928, Taksim Square is turned into a symbolic city square with a landscape design made by Guilio Mongeri, featuring the Republic Memorial designed by Pietro Canonica.

THE CONCEPT OF PUBLIC SPACE, THE NOTION OF OPEN AND GREEN CITY PLANNING

A "Republic Square" with a bust or statue of Atatürk and a "Veterans' Avenue" that links the square to the train station is built in almost all cities with the purpose of rendering physically visible the slogan "to reach the level of modern

civilization." The locations of urban parks are chosen in a manner to reinforce the image of the Republic. The urban park is located on the city's only main avenue, mentioned above, and immediately adjacent to the government mansion and the city square that features a statue.

In the early Republican period, the mindset for building these parks is iterated as infusing a society—who in many small Anatolian cities still retained their ties to the surrounding nature, where they had never encountered the concept of "public urban green spaces" and had neither need nor use for them—with this new Western truth.

It is important to note that Atatürk declared the adoption of the new Turkish alphabet in a speech given at Sarayburnu Park, and that he again chose a park in Kayseri to unveil the new Turkish alphabet, both testaments to the unifying and socializing elements of urban parks.

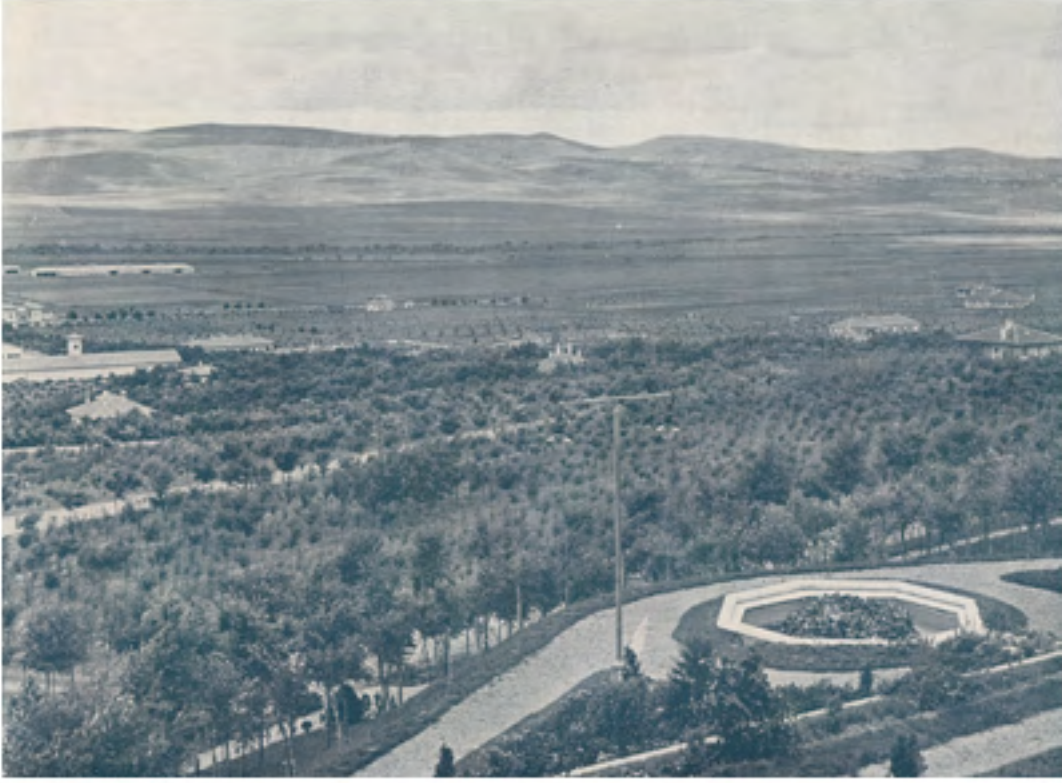
We see that in the Republican Period geometric sharp designs that symbolize the power of the regime dominate the public spaces and squares where natural shapes are preserved; structural elements are avoided as much as possible in design; the plant texture is enriched with species native to the city; and plastic elements representing particularly the struggle for and victories of independence are used.

In Ankara, Gençlik (Youth) Park, which grew out of the national garden concept, May 19th Stadium, Atatürk Orman Çiftliği (Atatürk Forest Farm) and Çubuk Dam Picnic Area become recreational spaces that are loaded with special connotations due to their designation as places where "the spirit of the Republic" is lauded.

1927 THE HERMANN JANSEN PLAN AND ANKARA GENÇLİK PARK

In 1927, an international master plan competition is held and Hermann Jansen is declared the winner, thus starting the organized development of the city.

Ankara Gençlik Park is the starting point of the tradition of urban parks. At the end of the invitation only competition held by the Ankara administration in 1927, Hermann Jansen, the winner, is tasked with preparing the new city plan. Jansen adopts a Baroque design approach that divides Ankara into habitable subdivisions according to the garden city model. Gençlik Park, which is an important part of the Jansen Plan, is located in a marshland that is partly an old cemetery. The administrators of the period are particularly keen for such a park space to be created.



**ATATÜRK ORMAN ÇİFTLİĞİ (ATATÜRK FOREST FARM),
ANKARA**

Panoramic view of the Gazi farm (top), Marmara pool
(bottom)

Photos: Sebah and Joaillier Photographs Collection
From an album titled *Ankara* published by Kanaat
Kütüphanesi (Kanaat Library), publication date unknown.
Source: Gökhan Akçura Archive

Urban parks are considered key spaces that can advance social change. In the period when it was built, the park serves as the center of social life in Ankara, and there is even a magazine published about the social life in the park.

1930 ANKARA DOĞANCILAR PARK

It bears the qualities of a neighborhood park. Designed as a rectangle, the park's surface area measures 8,000 square meters. It is located in the center of Doğancılar neighborhood. The park has two gates and two small central fountains. The fountains are surrounded by trees. The promenade is shaded by three rows of London plane trees (*Platanus x acerifolia*) and lined today with benches and swings and slides for children.

The park, which was used as a social activity center in the 1930s following the foundation of the Republic, serves the city's residents. Well-maintained and clean, it continues to function as a recreational space for surrounding neighborhoods today.

1930 MUNICIPAL LAW

The universal Municipal Law is enacted in 1930 and a new system is put into place for establishing new municipalities in Turkey. The first of the 1934-1939 Five Year National Development Plan is drafted. Starting in 1939, numerous projects for parks and squares are launched in Turkish cities.

TÜRKİYE TURİNG OTOMOBİL KURUMU (TURKEY AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION)

Founded in 1923, Turing carries out many restoration and preservation projects in the 1930s in its capacity as a quasi-public institution. The association, which continues to be active today, contributes significant resources to the history of landscape architecture with its publications and projects.

VILLAGE MODELS

Architects such as Abdullah Ziya Kozanoğlu, Abidin Mortaş and Zeki Sayar start working on various model villages, influenced by the design ideas and consultancy of Martin Wagner. These projects aim to preserve village life on site, while modernizing both the villagers and village itself.

1934-1952 HALKEVLERİ (PEOPLE'S HOUSES)

People's Houses are established on February 19, 1932 in 14 city centers and remain open until 1952. The purpose of these institutions is to strengthen social bonds and enable the mingling of cultures by hosting cultural activities.

1933 ISTANBUL MASTER PLAN COMPETITION

An invitation-only international master plan competition is organized for Istanbul. Hermann Ehlgötz's plan wins the competition but is not applied.

1933 ANKARA HIGHER INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE

The Higher Institute of Agriculture is established as a result of the university reform process which seeks to address the needs of Turkish society and of the period, and was an amalgam of the Agriculture, Agricultural Arts, Natural Sciences, Veterinary and Forestry departments. The Ornamental Plants Department, included in this structure, becomes the point of origin for today's discipline and profession of Landscape Architecture.

In this period, which is an important turning point for the history of higher education in Turkey, "German faculty members, who served between 1933 and 1942, contributed to the foundation of the Higher Institute of Agriculture and to its development, as well as to the inclusion of Western scientific tradition in education and research."¹

1936 İZMİR CULTURAL PARK

The park becomes one of the focal points of Izmir's urban memory. The İzmir International Fair, held in the park, wins the park national and international recognition. Meanwhile, the park assumes an important place in the everyday lives of the people.

1939 IDEOLOGY IN PUBLIC SPACE

The Taksim Military Barracks, dating from the late Ottoman period, is demolished in 1939. In its place, work is started on Taksim Gezi, a public promenade. The project is completed in 1943 and opened to public use. Taksim Square can be defined as a public space that has historically been shaped by the ideology of the period. For instance, following the coup d'état on May 27, 1960, a Bayonet Memorial is constructed at Taksim Square. In 1969, Atatürk Cultural Center (AKM) is opened. The Bayonet Memorial is demolished after the September 12, 1980 coup d'état.

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1 - BÜYÜKDERE NURSERY, TREE SURVEY PLAN

The nursery named "Büyükdere Fruit Improvement Station" is established in 1930 on an area of 60,000 square meters. Local and foreign fruit species brought from various parts of the country have been analyzed and quality fruit species compatible with the climate of our country have been selected. In order to promote fruit growing in the villages, an applied "Gardening Boarding Institute" has been opened with the purpose of training gardeners versed in the field of park and garden organization.

Source: Yaltırık, Faik., Efe, Asuman. and Uzun, Adnan. *Tarih Boyunca İstanbul'un Park Bahçe ve Koruları Egzotik Ağaç ve Çalılıarı* [Exotic Trees and Bushes in Istanbul's Parks, Gardens and Groves Throughout History]. İstanbul: İstanbul Büyükşehir Belediyesi Yayınları, 1997, 160-161.

2 - CULTURE PARK AND FAIRGROUND PLAN, İZMİR, 1943

Source: "1943 İzmir Fuarı" [1943 İzmir Fair]. *Arkitekt* 13, no. 11-12 (1943), 241.

1939-1948 NATION PARKS

In Istanbul; Beşiktaş Barbaros Park, Taksim Municipal Park, Maçka Park number 2 (Maçka Democracy Park), Nişantaşı Park (1939), Fenerbahçe Park (1940), Tepebaşı Park (1940), Bebek Park (1940) and Abbasağa Park (1940), Maçka Taşlık Park and Vişnezade Park are built. Eminönü Square and Üsküdar Square are designed (1948) in accordance with Henri Prost's development projects. Emirgan and Yıldız Groves (1948) are designed as recreational areas open to the public.

In Ankara, Kuğulu Park (Swan Park) is completed.

1939-1960 TRANSPORTATION MENTALITY

When Henri Prost starts his appointment in Istanbul as an expert the first thing he reacts to are the roads in Istanbul. With the exception of the roads serving the palaces of the sultans, Istanbul is a city that has no organized roads or squares. The situation is no different in the Anatolian provinces. Prost suggests roads and numerous squares for Istanbul. Prost's proposals are put into application for the most part during the Adnan Menderes Period. The haphazard and politically motivated attitude towards transportation that prevailed during the Menderes period and continues to do so today is eroding the urban fabric as well as traditional and monumental structures.

1940-1946 VILLAGE INSTITUTES

The village institutes, which aim to keep villagers in their villages, to train teachers for villages and instruct them on the cultural, theoretical and practical issues of the age, are established through legislation no. 3803 adopted on April 7, 1940. The institutes remain operational until 1946, when they are transformed into Village Teacher Schools.

1942 BALIKESİR ATATÜRK PARK

The furniture and animal market, which has been a part of the city since 1919, is included within the park in later years thus gaining the attributes of a fair. In the Balıkesir of the period, Atatürk Park is the most important recreational space for the experience of rapidly modernizing social life.

1943-1950 INCREASE OF CULTIVATED LAND AND MECHANIZATION IN AGRICULTURE

The Agricultural Produce Tax Act goes into effect in 1943. With this law, villagers engaged in farming have to turn over a certain percentage of their produce to the state as tax.

Meanwhile, the state embarks on several initiatives to boost agricultural production. Large-scale irrigation projects are launched in 1948 and the area of cultivated land reaches 16 million hectares. On May 19, 1949, tractors and other farming machines enter Turkey. In the first half of the 1950s, Turkey becomes a major grain exporter worldwide.

1944-1960 INCREASE IN MOTORIZED VEHICLES

In 1944, the total number of vehicle owners is 1917. Studies are conducted on the design and construction of a national highway system with a committee from the US Public Roads Administration in 1948. By 1949, the highway network expands to 930 kilometers. In 1955, the number of vehicles in Turkey has increased to 20,868. The expansion of avenues through filling the seashore, a practice that continues today, starts with the construction of Kennedy Avenue, which links Sirkeci to Florya. A portion of the city walls are demolished to construct the avenue, which changes the silhouette of the city from the Marmara Sea. The highway network in Turkey reaches a total of 7345 kilometers in 1960.

1945 URBAN FABRIC ALTERED BY NATURAL DISASTERS

Driven in part by the Westernization movement, government officials start making deals with insurance companies for the protection and restoration of cities largely affected by fires and natural disasters. Goad and Pervititch create insurance maps of Istanbul in different periods. The new prevention-oriented projects are based on grid plan models rather than the existing informal urban fabric.

1946 DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHED AT ANKARA UNIVERSITY

Education starts at Ankara University Faculty of Architecture under the Department of Landscape Architecture and Forestry.

1946 PUBLICATION OF FIRST LANDSCAPE BOOK IN TURKEY

Park ve Bahçe Sanatı (Stilleri, Projeleri ve Tekniği) (The Art of Park and Garden: Styles, Projects and Technique) by Professor Alexis Chenchine (1890-1950) is the first landscaping book published in Turkish, translated by İsmail Eraslan, an assistant at Istanbul University Faculty of Forestry, Forest Yield and Management Economics Institute. The book, which is 376 pages, contains information pertinent to its time period and remains relevant even today.²

1950 MASS HOUSING

With rapid population growth and immigration, cities start developing haphazardly. Illegal development abounds but mass housing projects are started as well to respond to the demand for rapid housing. In the 1950s, the Ataköy Konutları (Ataköy Housing) and Levent Evleri (Levent Houses) are built in Istanbul, and the Bahçelievler project is realized in Ankara.

To support the infrastructure efforts the İller Bankası (Provinces Bank) is founded as a bureau linked to the Ministry of Public Works. The budgets of municipalities are increased.

1951 PUBLIC SPACES OPENED TO DEVELOPMENT

Construction of the Istanbul Hilton Hotel is started in 1951 and completed in 1955. The Gezi Park route that connects to Nişantaşı and Dolmabahçe via Park number 2 (Maçka Democracy Park) is severed. Prost's urban green strip configuration is broken.

1952 PRESERVATION MENTALITY

The preservation approach, dating back to the Asar-ı Atika Nizamnamesi (Antiquities Law), continues after the foundation of the Republic with consulting committees. In 1951, the High Council of Immovable Heritage Items and Monuments is founded under the Ministry of National Education. The council's statute is published on May 10, 1952. The council, which plays a crucial role in master plan and zoning decisions, works in particular towards the preservation of immovable natural and cultural assets.

1954 IRRIGATION PROJECTS

The Directorate General for State Hydraulic Works is founded in 1954. Dam projects for energy and irrigation are launched. In the 1960s, cultivated land in Turkey increases to 25.3 million hectares. Turkey's natural landscape, resembling barren steppes starts transforming into fertile land and wide stretches of water.

1956 BURSA CULTURE PARK

Opened in 1956, the park's construction shows that the administrators of the period were influenced by İzmir Kültürpark (İzmir Culture Park) and that this influence even extends to the placement of the functions in the park. This park also becomes the center of leisure and recreational activities in Bursa for many years.

1956 THE APPROACH TO PRESERVATION OF NATURAL LANDSCAPE

In the scope of the Forest Law enacted in 1956, National Parks and other natural conservation areas are identified. In 1981, a reform is made with the goal of enabling planned and controlled development of these areas. Initially, their development is controlled with site-specific projects designed especially for these areas.

1960 URBAN IMMIGRATION AND GECEKONDU (INFORMAL HOUSING)

Due in part to the difficulties small scale rural producers have in paying taxes of small scale and in part to the mechanization of agriculture, immigration to the cities and especially to Istanbul begins. Since there is an unmet and rapidly growing demand for low-priced mass housing the first examples of *gecekondu* start appearing outside city walls of Zeytinburnu and Kazlıçeşme.

1960-2005 PUBLICATIONS

Books about landscape architecture are mostly limited to university textbooks between 1960 and 1990. The book titled *Yaşadığımız Çevre ve Peyzaj Mimarlığı* (The Environment We Live in and Landscape Architecture) by Professor Yüksel Öztan, published in 2004, is an important document that pertains to the author's own perspective regarding the profession, his experience as a university professor, the projects he has worked on.³

1966 FOUNDATION OF THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE ASSOCIATION

The Landscape Association is established in Ankara in 1966. Next, a branch office is established in Istanbul. The branch continues its activities with its competence in professional practice. It works systematically and busily on professional recognition. When the decision to become a chamber is ratified in 1994, the Landscape Architecture Association is closed down.⁴

1968 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Due to the increased importance of and work on landscape planning and design and the subsequent increase in the demand for knowledgeable professionals in the field, the Department of Landscape Architecture is founded in 1968 at Ankara University, as one of the 10 departments of the Faculty of Agriculture.

1968 ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEPARTMENT AT ISTANBUL UNIVERSITY

The Park, Garden and Landscape Architecture Department is founded in 1968 at Istanbul University in response to requests by Prof. Hayrettin Kayacık, professor of Forest Botany at the Faculty of Forestry, as well as other lecturers of the time period. Professor Besalet Pamay becomes the head of the department. Pamay's lecture notes from the 1970s, as well as his book *Park-Bahçe ve Peyzaj Mimarisi* (Park-Garden and Landscape Architecture), published in 1979, has served as a guide for many up until recent years.

1970 PEYZAJ MİMARLIĞI (LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE) JOURNAL

It is published as a publication of the Landscape Architecture Association. It starts out with four issues a year. The journal, which features articles by landscape architects, city planners, architects and other professional groups, defines its mission as "communicating and appropriating relationships between people and the environment." ⁵

It is clear that journals published between 1970 and 1980 (the golden period) approaches contemporary problems of the profession from a broad perspective and investigates solutions. Since young academicians of the time could publish their research in the journal as well, it can be said that the publication is considerably rich also in terms of academic identity. The status of the journal, whose editorial board consists of academic faculty from Ankara University, Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Landscape Architecture, is altered when the association is shut down and the Chamber of Landscape Architects is founded. The journal continues to be published as a chamber publication.

1972 BEGINNING OF URBAN LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION AND KUZGUNCUK VEGETABLE GARDEN

The Antiquities Law, which contains modern concepts regarding the field of conservation, is enacted in 1972. According to this law, the conservation of immovable cultural assets cannot be limited to one structure. The basis cited is that the structures must be conserved together with their surroundings and the resulting values as a whole. In 1974, Kuzguncuk Vegetable Garden is declared a Nature Reserve. Ownership of the Garden is later transferred to The General Directorate of Foundations. Leased out by the General Directorate of Foundations for various purposes, the garden is given 2nd group protection status in 2012.

1972-1985 INTERNATIONAL APPROACH TO CONSERVATION

In 1972, the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage is adopted by UNESCO. Ratification of the convention is approved with Law no. 2658 in 1982. Thus various conservation sites in Turkey are included in the list of worldwide protected sites and standards are raised to high conservation status. In 1985, the cultural and natural heritage sites that have entered the UNESCO World Heritage List are identified and published.

1973 FIRST GRADUATES OF THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT

In 1973, the Ankara University Faculty of Agriculture Department of Landscape Architecture graduates its first class of 14 students.

1973 ART IN PUBLIC SPACE

Numerous figurative memorial statues that celebrate national victories are placed in public spaces in various Turkish cities. In order to encourage art in public spaces, 20 different competitions are held for the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Republic, and artwork is produced to be displayed in different squares and public spaces in Istanbul. Of these, the *50. Yıl Heykeli* (50th Anniversary Statue) by Şadi Çalık, *Göçmen Kuşlar* (Migrating Birds) by Salih Acar, and *Göktaşı* (Meteor) by Atilla Onaran can still be seen on İstiklal Avenue in Istanbul. As the competitions continue representations of the art of abstract sculpture continue to increase in public spaces. An example of this is Ayşe Erkmen's work titled *Sculpture for Tünel* which is installed at the Tünel Square.

1973 OPENING OF THE ISTANBUL BOSPHORUS BRIDGE

Directed by transportation arteries, urban development gains a new momentum with the Bosphorus Bridge in 1973. The byways linking to the bridge and the D100 Highway are completed.

1976 IFLA CONVENTION

The 15th biennial International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) Convention is held in Istanbul on September 6-9, 1976. The convention is the result of two years' worth of effort by the Landscape Architecture Association and close cooperation with IFLA. It is considered

a remarkable success that this convention is held in Turkey where landscape architecture is yet not vocationally organized.⁶

IFLA Europe General Assembly is held in Istanbul on October 14-16, 2016.

1978 HISTORICAL GARDEN RESTORATION PROJECT

The Dolmabahçe Palace Gardens, which, until 1960, maintain their original contours, are damaged due to repair work being done at the palace. The gardens today are built through the application of restoration projects designed by the Ankara University Faculty of Agriculture Department of Landscape Architecture, and the result of conservation and restoration efforts under the available conditions of the time. After earning the approval of the Dolmabahçe Palace Park and Gardens Branch Director on several recommended changes, the project is, for the most part, put into application in its entirety.

EKREM GÜRENLİ

Ekrem Gürenli, who worked for many years as a director at the Parliament's Park and Gardens Directorate and assumed the post of Assistant Secretary General at the institution, played a leading role in taking the first crucial steps regarding the restoration of historical gardens in Turkey.

1980-1990 INTERNATIONAL HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS

The relatively low number of landscape architecture firms and the limited amount of national competitions on the subject may provide the reasons for why the profession has a short recorded history.

"The historical past and development of horticultural exhibitions dates back to the second half of the 19th century. While horticultural exhibitions were initially amateurishly handled, only held country-wide, and included just certain specific subjects, they came to be professionally planned on an international scale especially in Europe after World War II. These efforts are considered the most spectacular art & culture events and shows in the past 40 years of world history."⁷

IGA'83 (International Garden Expo '83) Munich International Horticultural Exhibition
Professor Yüksel Öztan and Turgay Ateş, PhD
Turkish Garden, 1st Prize

IGA'84 Liverpool (International Garden Festival) / International Horticultural Exhibition

Turgay Ateş, PhD
Turkish Garden, 2nd Prize

EXPO 90 Osaka (The International Garden and Greenery Exposition), Osaka, Japan
Professor Yüksel Öztan
Turkish Garden

1983 LAW NO. 2863

The first doctrine regarding the conservation of natural resources and assets other than forests is implemented with Law no. 2863. With this doctrine come various studies to record and research historically significant plants. In Istanbul specifically, inventories are made of monumental trees; the establishment of groves, parks and private gardens are documented; plants are recorded, and publications are prepared on all of these topics.

1988 FATİH SULTAN MEHMET BRIDGE

With the opening of the Fatih Sultan Mehmet Bridge, Istanbul's urban agglomeration rapidly increases. Istanbul becomes Turkey's first metropolis.

1990 TITLE

Although the Department of Landscape Architecture is a department under the Faculty of Agriculture in Ankara University, its graduates are given titles and diplomas as "landscape architect".

1990-2016 DAMS AND HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANTS

The Southeast Anatolian Project (GAP), which consists of dams, hydroelectric power plants (HPP) and irrigation facilities built on the Tigris and Euphrates rivers (Upper Mesopotamia), begins on August 30, 1990. GAP, which still has ongoing 5-year action plans, contributes greatly to the economy of Turkey and gives momentum to similar projects. Today, there are 571 HPPs and 210 dams active in the country. Currently, these HPPs and dams have interfered with one million 433 thousand hectares of wetlands that are significant in Turkey's natural landscape character and %25.9 important bird and nature areas. According to a 2030 projection, Turkey is a water poor country that will be further affected by global warming and it is thus essential that water efficiency must be increased and water loss reduced as much as possible.



**SOUTHEASTERN ANATOLIA PROJECT (GAP) BOZOVA,
ŞANLIURFA**

Atatürk Dam and Hydroelectric Power Plant constructed in
scope of the Southeastern Anatolia Project (GAP)

Images: ©2016 CNES / Astrium, Cnes / Spot Image, Digital
Globe, Landsat Map Data ©2016 Google

1991 FIRST STEP OUT OF THE FACULTIES OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

In 1991, the Department of Urban Design and Landscape Architecture is established at Bilkent University Faculty of Fine Arts, Design and Architecture. The Urban Design and Landscape Architecture Department at Bilkent University carries the distinction of being the first department in Turkey that embraced urban design and landscape architecture together and awarded a bachelor's degree in urban design.

The Department of Landscape Architecture at Istanbul Technical University, established in 2002, is the first landscape architecture department in Turkey that is contained within a Faculty of Architecture.

1992-2014 DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

The foundations of the first metro in Turkey are laid in Istanbul in 1992 under Mayor Nurettin Sözen, and construction work begins. The Taksim-Maslak line is opened to the public in 2000.

The first Metrobus service starts in 2007.

In 2012, construction of the Golden Horn Metro Passage Bridge begins with the feet of the bridge over the sea. The bridge is completed in 2014.

Marmaray is a 76 kilometer railway improvement and development project that runs between Halkalı and Gebze and joins the railroads on Istanbul's European and Asian sides with a tube tunnel that passes underneath the Bosphorus. The 14 kilometer segment of the project between Ayırlıkçeşme and Kazlıçeşme, which includes the Bosphorus crossing, is completed and opened to the public on October 29, 2013.

1994 TMMOB (UNION OF CHAMBERS OF TURKISH ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS) CHAMBER OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

The Chamber of Landscape Architects (PMO) is founded during the 33rd General Assembly of the Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects (TMMOB). Founded under TMMOB according to statutory provision 6235 (7303), and legally authorized to practice the profession and arts within the borders of Turkey, the Chamber of Landscape Architects is the only vocational organization for landscape architects in Turkey that holds the status of a public

institution. It has branch offices in Adana, Antalya, Istanbul and İzmir and 25 city representative offices throughout the country.

According to 2015-2016 educational year placement test results, the number of spaces available in the landscape architecture departments of universities in Turkey was 1046 and the number of students enrolled was 937. Education is provided in seven Faculties of Forestry, nine Faculties of Agriculture, six Faculties of Architecture, two Faculties of Engineering and Architecture, three Faculties of Fine Arts, Design and Architecture, one Faculty of Fine Arts and Design, one Faculty of Fine Arts, and four Faculties of Architecture and Design. Approximately 6500 landscape architects have graduated from these departments with bachelor's degrees to date.

1997 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS ACADEMIC COLLABORATION MEETING (PEMAT)

PEMAT (Landscape Architects Academic Community) is a network formed with the purpose of creating information exchange between all academicians in landscape architecture departments throughout Turkey, so that they may discuss current problems in education. It continues to bring together academicians and students throughout Turkey with annual meetings and workshops.

One of the reasons for its foundation is the need to address certain educational issues on a supra-departmental platform. The foundation of such a network is proposed and accepted at Ankara University Landscape Architecture Department and then announced to all the other departments in Turkey with a request for input; thus the foundation is laid for the first meeting to be held in Ankara in 1997. The purpose of the meeting is to help develop and maintain relationships in all areas between landscape architecture academicians and thus create a conducive environment to make common decisions. For this reason, PEMAT is initially an acronym for "Landscape Architects Academic Collaboration Meeting." It is later altered to stand for "Landscape Architects Academic Community."

1999 MARMARA EARTHQUAKES

According to official figures, a total of 18,243 people lost their lives and 48,901 people were injured in the August 17, 1999 Adapazarı and November 12, 1999 Gölcük earthquakes. The two earthquakes caused varying degrees of damage to a total of 377,879 buildings, 329,216 of which were housing and 48,663 of which were workplaces. After these significant

losses, earthquake regulations and retrofitting becomes a priority in politics of the country.

1999 TAKSİM GEZİ AND A PARTICIPATORY DESIGN INITIATIVE

In 1999 Taksim Square, Atatürk Cultural Center, the Historical Water Reservoir, and Taksim Gezi Park are declared a conservation area as a whole. Later various pedestrianization projects have been created to encourage pedestrian use, and in 2011, the demolished Military Barracks was registered as a cultural asset in need of conservation by the Istanbul Number II Regional Commission on Conservation of Cultural Property. On June 20, 2012, within the framework of the Taksim Pedestrianization Project trees begin to be cut down at Taksim Gezi Park. On May 28, 2013, protests against the destruction of Taksim Gezi Park grow into a 40,000 person vigil and then into a movement of urban resistance called *occupy gezi* that attracts international attention. Following protests throughout the summer of 2013, the project of rebuilding the Military Barracks is cancelled.

In September 2013, after the Gezi Park protests have ended, the public awareness that they have generated is channeled into neighborhood assemblies where periodical meetings are held in neighborhood parks. Yet, despite all the opposition movements, the desire of urban residents to have a say in the public sphere through neighborhood assemblies, and the resistance of non-governmental organizations, a significant portion of park and forest land continues to be partially or completely zoned for construction through plan renovations.

2000 EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION AND LANDSCAPE FEATURES

The European Landscape Convention is a treaty for preserving landscape features of European countries. The convention aims to encourage the definition and conservation of landscapes, and efforts are undertaken to this end. Turkey has signed the convention. The convention mentions the need for increased responsibility from local governments on the issue of protecting landscapes.

2005 RENOVATION AREAS

The law on local governance, reformed in 2004, increases the authority and responsibilities of local government regarding conservation. The Law on Conservation by Renovation and Use by Revitalization of the Deteriorated Historical and Cultural Immovable Property

is adopted in 2005. With this law, urban historical areas in particular are declared renovation areas and a new process starts with demolition and reconstruction projects.

Nature reserves, which are the most important element of the natural landscape today, constitute %7.24 of Turkey's surface area and a striking portion of these areas have begun to be designed as renovation area projects. Sulukule and Yedikule Vegetable Gardens have also become "renovation" areas due to this law.

FELLING OF URBAN TREES

In Beyoğlu, Istanbul, 400 trees that stood two meters tall were felled to make room for the new pedestrian way on İstiklal Avenue. This approach is still dominant in the new urban landscaping projects or road construction of many cities in Turkey. In the construction of the access road between Anadolu Avenue and the Konya Highway in Ankara 5,000 trees were felled from the Middle East Technical University Forest.

2009 MILITARY AREAS ZONED FOR CONSTRUCTION

In 2009, a significant portion of forest areas are zoned for construction when the Law for Authorizing Development of Military Areas and Military Security Zones is enacted. In July 2013, thousands of hectares of agricultural land and green spaces are zoned for construction by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization.

2009 EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT STUDENT ASSOCIATION (ELASA)

ELASA is an organization that promotes cooperation, and exchange of ideas and understanding between landscape architecture students throughout Europe. It organizes annual meetings in different European countries. The 2009 meeting is held in Turkey.

2010 ECLAS (EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE SCHOOLS)

The European Council of Landscape Architecture Schools (ECLAs) aims to encourage academic collaboration and information exchange between schools throughout Europe, and many of the landscape architecture departments in Turkey are members of the council. ECLAS 2010 meeting was organized in Istanbul by Istanbul Technical University.

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1 - YENİKAPI RALLY GROUNDS, ISTANBUL

Images: ©2016 CNES / Astrium, Cnes / Spot Image, Digital Globe, Landsat Map Data ©2016 Google

2 - HEVSEL GARDENS AND KIRKLAR HILL, DİYARBAKIR

Source: Diyarbakir Metropolitan Municipality Archive

2010 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENT HEADS COUNCIL (PEMKON)

PEMKON is a group where landscape architecture department heads meet biannually and exchange information about education in departments throughout Turkey.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE DEPARTMENTS STUDENT ORGANIZATION (PEMÖT/PEYZAJ GENÇ)

Its purpose is to facilitate communication among landscape architecture students. Besides education, the students participate in numerous artistic activities, field trips and seminars on various subjects. PEMÖT is Turkey's ELASA representative.

2011 THE CRAZY PROJECT

To add to the devastation caused by projects for the development and improvement of transportation, the Canal Istanbul project, named "the crazy project" is made public on April 27, 2011. In 2013, it is opened to tender. If this project is realized, the European side of Istanbul will become a peninsula. The current between the Black Sea and the Marmara Sea will be altered, as will the ecosystem between both inland seas, and biological diversity will suffer great damages. The topography of Thrace will change.

ALTERNATIVE MODES OF TRANSPORTATION

The Transportation Coordination Directorate opens 18 kilometers of bike lanes on both the Asian and the European side of Istanbul, for a total of 36 kilometers. In 2013, the BikeLab project is instituted in Istanbul. In 2014, the *Secure Bicycle Route Design Handbook* is completed and published.

3rd ISTANBUL BOSPHORUS BRIDGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Exploratory work begins in September 2012 for the 3rd Istanbul Bosphorus Bridge, which is to span Poyrazköy and Garipçe. In 2013, the bridge is exempted from the Environmental Impact Assessment. The Cabinet declares that the 3rd Airport will be constructed between Eyüp and Arnavutköy.

A report prepared by the TEMA Foundation (Turkish Foundation for Combating Soil Erosion, for Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats) in 2014 reveals that 8,715 hectares of forested land and 70 wetlands

will be entirely destroyed in the construction of the 3rd Airport and 3rd Bosphorus Bridge. The same year İMSAD (Association of Turkish Construction Material Producers) drafts a Sustainability Report. According to this report, environmental management, greenhouse gas emissions, and consumption of natural resources and water are high on the list of priorities for environmental sustainability.

SILHOUETTE CONSERVATION

Committees from UNESCO and ICOMOS report that the Golden Horn Metro Bridge spoils the Historic Peninsula silhouette, which is included in the World Heritage List. That same year the 1/5000 ration memorandum master plan "To Prevent Unfavorable Development Conditions in Areas that Affect the Historical City Center Outline (Silhouette)", which only includes certain neighborhoods, is approved and the height limit is declared to be 90 meters for the preservation of the silhouette. Consequently, many cities begin work on their city identity and silhouette.

URBAN TRANSFORMATION

Following the losses from the two devastating Marmara earthquakes of 1999, natural disaster management becomes a priority issue. Certain legal and administrative precautions begin to be instituted. On May 15, 2012, the law on the "Transformation of the Areas under Disaster Risks" is adopted in Parliament. In 2012, the bylaws for the law are issued. Demolition begins for the urban transformation of areas at risk for natural disasters.

RECLAIMED LAND AND MUTANT LANDSCAPE FORMATION

In June 2012, it is announced that an area of 578,000 square meters will be reclaimed for the Yenikapı Rally Area project. The construction of the 680,000 square meter area starts on April 28, 2013 and the venue can accommodate one million people.

Another project that will be realized through land reclamation is the Galataport project. In the Galataport project approximately 12,000 square meters of land will be reclaimed. Projects like these alter the shoreline and silhouette of many cities, Istanbul among them.

2013 YEDİKULE VEGETABLE GARDENS

In 2013, bulldozers enter the gardens in scope of the Project to Conserve Interior Land Walls between Yedikule and Belgrade Gate. Non-governmental organizations and neighborhood residents take legal action to prevent the demolition work in Yedikule vegetable gardens. Currently, many areas that have come to be used as vegetable gardens in Istanbul are losing their function and their place in the city's memory due to the intense demand for development and the construction of *gecekondular*.

2014 THE DESIGNATION OF OPEN GREEN SPACES AS POST- DISASTER MEETING SITES

Besides preventative measures for buildings, post- disaster meeting sites become a significant topic in densely populated cities. Disaster meeting sites are designated on the Environmental Plan. AFAD (The Disaster and Emergency Management Authority) publishes the Turkey Disaster Response Plan (TAMP) in 2014. Many neighborhood parks and city parks are designated as post-disaster meeting sites. The subject of disaster risk prevention and protection standards comes up in landscape architecture.

Following August 17, 2014, 235 post-disaster meeting sites are zoned for construction.

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION

Bergama and Diyarbakır Hevsel Gardens are designated as Cultural Landscapes on the World Heritage List. A 2016 UNESCO conservation report confirms that the Diyarbakır Hevsel Gardens have not been destroyed despite the conflicts taking place in the region. Hevsel Gardens continue their production.

2016 THE UPROOTING OF A 945 YEAR OLD OLIVE TREE

On April 23, 2016, a 945 year old olive tree is uprooted in İzmir and brought to Antalya for the opening of Expo 2016 Antalya, themed "Children and Flowers". The tree is replanted with the hope and the wish that "god willing, it will take hold."

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BIOGRAPHIES

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Landscape architect Arzu Nuhođlu completed her BA at the Landscape Architecture Department of Ankara University's Faculty of Agriculture, and worked as a research assistant at the same department for twelve years. During this period she received her MSc degree and started her PhD. Currently she works at her own design office she established in 1997.

BALIN KOYUNOĐLU

Landscape architect Balin Koyunođlu moved to the USA and received her MSc degree from Mississippi State University after graduating from Abant İzzet Baysal University. She then moved to Tokyo to work at the design office Keikan Sekkei. Since 2011, she pursues her professional career in Istanbul. At the same time she continues her PhD at ITU and works at FMV Iřık University.

ELIF TAN

Architect and urban planner Elif Tan received her BA in architecture and urban planning from Istanbul Technical University and completed her MSc degree at the Architectural Design Program of the same university. She worked in design offices in Istanbul and Rome. Currently is an instructor at Okan University, one of the co-founders of Architecture For All, and a new member of design team -trak.

