

Reclaiming the Sounds of Silenced Walls: Urla Design Library

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Abstract

A 400 hundred years old Ottoman school is purchased by the author with an intention of converting it into a library open to public. The building is part of a Kapani Mosque complex in Urla, Izmir, Turkey and its three facades are being illegally enclosed by private houses. In the first stage of the project the purpose is to restore and revitalise the building as it is. In the second stage, it is planned to free it from the surrounding buildings. The process is complex, the regulations and practices are various, and the numbers of qualified experts in Turkey are limited. However, the author/owner is keen to establish a good practice of restoration, conservation and management scheme despite the challenging factors.

Introduction

Anatolia, as part of Asia Minor, has hosted countless rich cultures and civilisations of which traces and remnants are found and seen all around Turkey. While archaeological excavations are regularly undertaken, many existing buildings require urgent attention, conservation, restoration and sensible management.

The aim of this project is to renovate an old listed Ottoman building, called 'Sibyan Mektebi' which used to serve as a small primary school for children, and provide it with a new function. However the project is more complicated than it appears because three facades of the building are surrounded by (in all probability) illegally-built, attached houses. This is a project of rescue and emancipation of the historical building which will probably be realised in three stages that can be summarised as below:

1. To restore the building based on the present property situation. A new function will be given and the building will be opened for use without any exterior alteration which is, in any case, not possible due to private ownership of attached houses and constructions.

2. To purchase the attached buildings and the site nearby and demolish those that block the facades of the building. This will enable the restitution of the building. In other words, at the end of this process it is expected that the building will be reverted into its original form.

3. The restoration project and the function attributed in the first stage will be reviewed in line with the developments achieved at stage two. It is likely that a new restoration plan will be made and the functional areas extended.

This paper focuses on Stage One which is being realised step by step in accordance with the laws and regulations concerning the restoration of listed architectural monuments and buildings. Stage Two is essential for the expansion of the project, which, obviously depends on the financial power of the owner as well as the willingness of the neighbours

Background

Geography

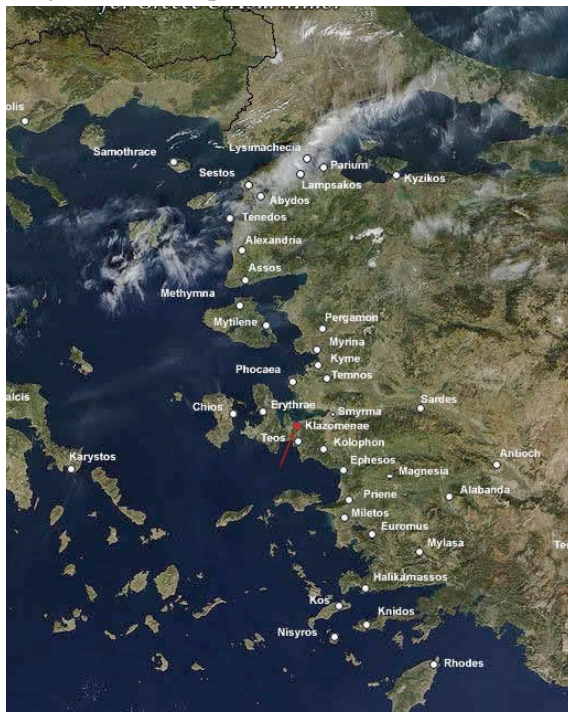
The surface contours in Izmir province are the result of a recent geological history. The landform varies due to the east-west directed range of mountains and plains located in between, together with the fertile lands formed by the rivers. The city of Izmir is surrounded by the Madra Mountains on the northern side and the Boz mountains on the southern side. At the eastern end of Izmir Bay lie the Kemalpaşa Mountains. On the Karaburun peninsula to the West of the city, Mt. Akdağ has a summit of 1,212 meters. The lower path of the Gediz River, which is one of the most vital rivers of the Aegean region, and the Küçük Menderes River lie within the boundaries of the province of Izmir. The Gediz River, originating from Mt. Murat, flows into the sea just south of the town of Foça. The Küçük Menderes River, originating from the Boz Mountains, meets the sea south of Izmir near the town of Selçuk.

Since Izmir has a Mediterranean climate, indigenous plants include the drought enduring juniper, wild olive, mastic and broom trees. A large part of the highlands are covered with Turkish pine (Brutian), valonia oak and pine trees. Plane, chestnut, willow, poplar, elm and cornelian cherry trees grow along riverbeds. Olive groves and vineyards are found all over the region.

History

In ancient times there were various explanations for the name "Aegean." It was said to have been named after the town of Aegae; or Aegea, a queen of the Amazons who died in the sea; and or Aegeus, the father of Theseus, who drowned himself in the sea when he thought his son had died.

The Aegean coast of Turkey had been a birthplace of many civilizations and has been inhabited by Persians, Romans, the Byzantine Empire, the Seljuk Turks, and the Ottoman Empire. For this reason it possesses some of the most spectacular and significant of Turkey's archaeological sites with a rich cultural legacy from early Greek, Roman and Ottoman civilizations. Ancient civilizations have left important archeological sites such as Troy, Pergamum and Ephesus, and some smaller sites both sacred and ordinary but



all decorated with monasteries, temples, churches, mosques, defense walls, fortresses, fountains, and cemeteries. The city of Izmir is surrounded with the ancient cities and ruins. The most important of these sites starting from the north to the south are: Pergamum, Pitane, Gryneion, Aegean, Phocaea, Magnesia, Clazomenae, Erythrae, Teos, Metropolis, Colophon, Claros, Notion, Ephesus and Magnesia. Izmir is in fact also one of these ancient cities, originally called Smyrna.



History of the Urla area

The early settlements had been established in the Urla Region around 4000 BC as discovered by the excavations undertaken in the region. Ionian cities such as Teos (Seferihisar), Laros, Lebedos, Erythrai (Çeşme), and finally Clazomenai (Urla) were established during the ancient Times in the region, which has been ruled by Lydians, Persians, Romans, Byzantines, Seljukids, and the Aydınogulları before Ottomans. The region was completely taken under Ottoman rule by Murat II. in 1425 (Reyhan 2004).

The 15th and 16th Centuries generally witnessed the rise of Ottoman Empire. Its reflection can be seen in Urla and in its environment, which had enjoyed a great social and economical development mostly thanks to the trade between western Anatolia and Central Anatolian cities. 'As a result of the significant commercial activities, the population of Muslims increased' (Reyhan 2004: 9). There is no doubt that this had required new buildings fulfilling the social needs of people, such as baths, mosques and schools.

One can assume that the Turan Kapani Mosque was built within this economic atmosphere and the Sıbyan Mebtbebi was added later, as was the usual practice.

Climate¹

The climate in Izmir in general shows the characteristics of the Mediterranean. The summers are hot and arid followed by mild and rainy winters. Climatic data refers to measurements taken both from the Izmir



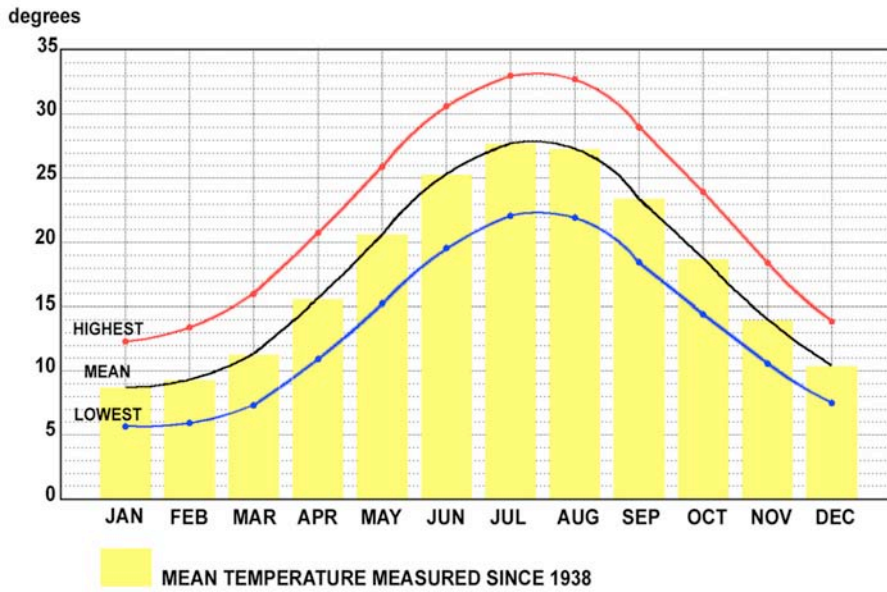
Hacı Turan Kapani Cami

¹ The section about the climate was taken from a research undertaking by Arch. Ozlem Caglar Tombus, a lecturer used to teach at Izmir University of Economics. She had prepared this information for another occasion for which we were working with.

Institute of Meteorology and Adnan Menderes Airport.

Air Temperature:

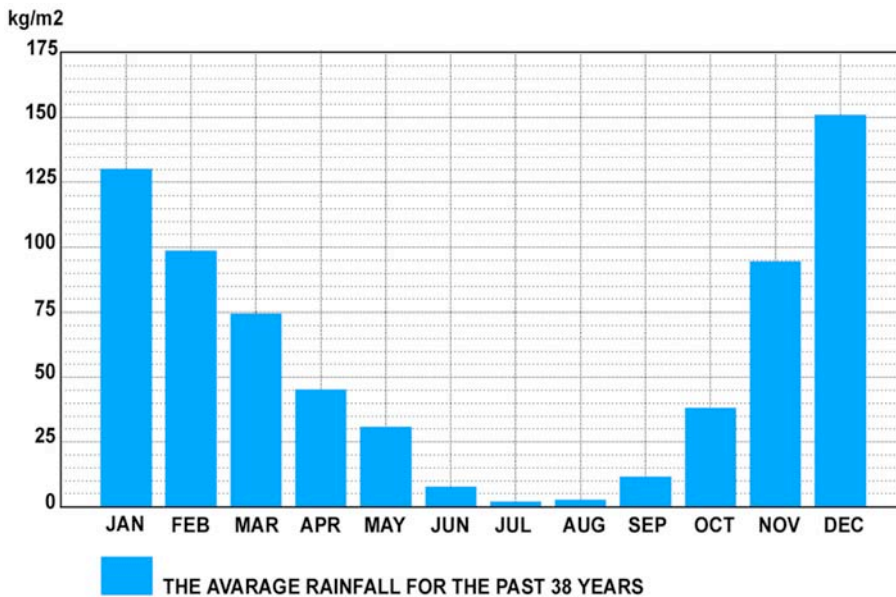
According to temperatures measured for the past 68 years, the mean air temperature is around 25 degrees Centigrade from May to October, in extreme conditions it can climb up to 33 degrees. In the winter months, from November to April, the mean air temperature is around 10.5 degrees Centigrade ranging from 8 to 14 degrees Centigrade



Temperature by months (from the Izmir Institute of Meterology)

Rainfall:

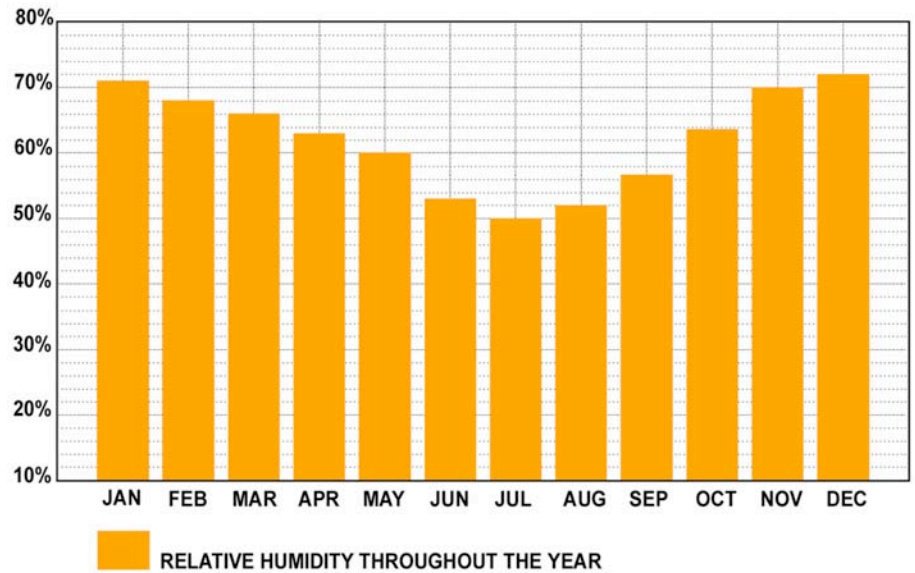
The average rainfall for the past 38 years is around 57kg/m2. Although the amount of rainfall varies from year to year, most of the rainfall is in December and January. Average rainfall in December is 151 kg/m2 and 130 kg/m2 in January. July and August receives minimum rainfall ranging between 2-3 kg/m2. Snow is a type of precipitation that can be seen but rarely, however the mountains surrounding the city can be covered in snow.



Relative Humidity:

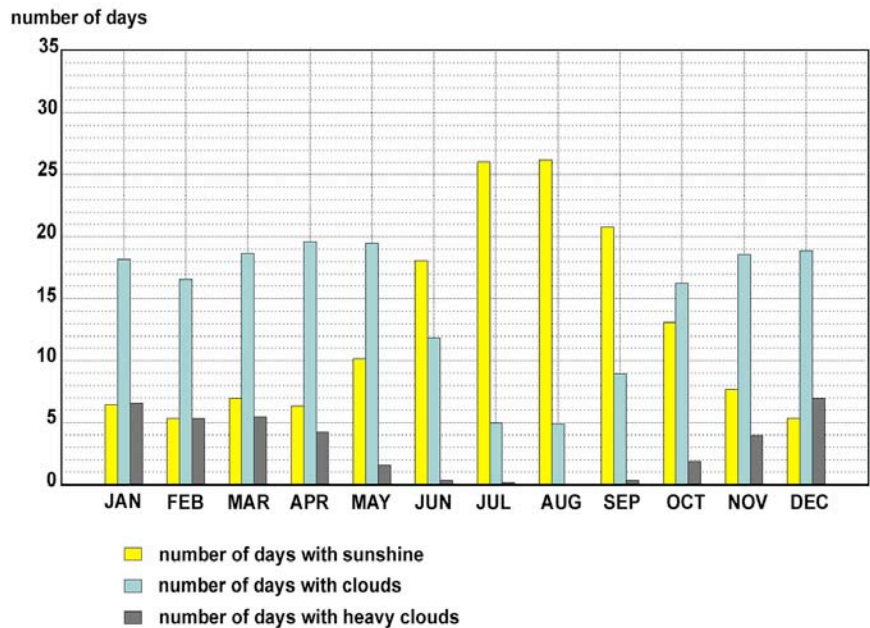
Relative humidity in Izmir is lower in summer time when it is hot and less

cloudy. However, this increases with the coming of winter. The values of relative humidity tend to decrease after March and the lowest values can be seen in July, which is 57%. The winter average is around 70%. These high values of relative humidity results in the feel of hotter summers and colder winters.



Mean Sunshine:

The number of cloudy days increases with the coming of winter, and decreases during the summer. July, August and September are the months that have the most sunshine with an average of 24 days with sunshine. The number of rainy days starts increasing with the coming of October and reaches its peak in December and January. If we divide the days of a year in Izmir, 152 days are with bright sunshine, 176 days cloudy and 36 days with rain.

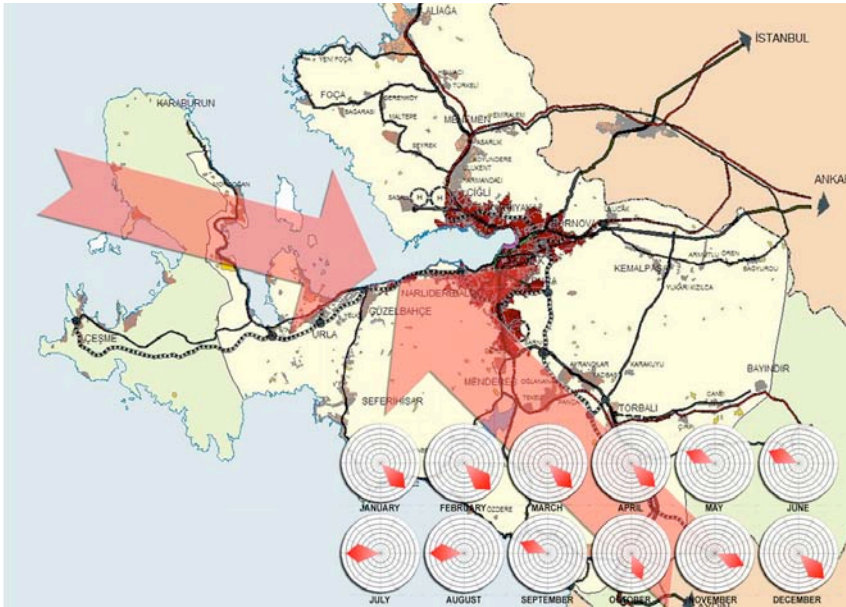


The number of days with and without clouds distributed by month

Wind:

The main wind directions in Izmir Bay are North-Northwest in summer time and Southeast in the remaining seasons. The mean wind speed is higher in

wintertime starting from December and lasts in February. Wind speed is relatively lower in summertime especially in May, September and October. The number days with very high wind speed are low in summer, whereas starting from November, the stormy days increases and reaches its peak in February. By July this number decreases and become as low as 0.40 day per month.



Dominant wind directions of the Izmir Bay

The Building: ‘Sıbyan Mektebi’

The building is a former Ottoman Primary School approximately 450 years old, situated in the heart of the town Urla on the Aegean coast of Turkey. ‘Sıbyan Mektebi’ has become a normal feature of mosque complexes after the Conqueror of Istanbul, Fatih Sultan Mehmet who used to build small schools next to mosques. The function of these schools, which are normally composed of a single room, was to educate children who were 5 to 10 years old.

Building history

No substantial research has been conducted so far to reveal the history of the building. It is likely that there will be a limited amount of written source unless a thorough archival research is undertaken. It was probably built as part of a larger mosque complex. A mosque built in 1554, called the Kapan Mosque (also known as Hacı Turan Mosque or Unkapanı Mosque), is about 100 metres away and is still in use. Based on observation, stylistic similarity and the position of the building give an impression that it used to be part of the Turan Kapanı Mosque complex.

Building location

The building is in the town of Urla, 38 km west of Izmir, Turkey. Urla and its port (called *Urla İskele* –Urla Quay), 8 km from the town centre, was originally the site of the Ionian city of Clazomenae, probably the most ancient regularly used port in the world. Excavations in Clazomenae, the birthplace of ancient philosopher Anaxagoras, are carried out by Ege University with the support of the Ministry of Culture.

Urla Quay incorporates a small harbour mostly for fisherman boats with fish restaurants serving locals as well as people living nearby and tourists. Both Urla



The Building: Sıbyan Mektebi

and Urla Quay have 19th Century buildings that are in need of restoration. Urla has an abundance of historic buildings and has a district identified and listed as architectural heritage by the Turkish High Council of Monuments and Antiquities. There are one or two old mosques and Ottoman baths near the 'Sıbyan Mektebi' as well as in and around of Urla, many of which are not systematically and scientifically studied yet.

Context and Surrounding

Urla, located in the south of Izmir Gulf and having a close relation to tourist centres such as Çeşme, Mordoğan, Kuşadası and Gümlüdüz and also the city centre of Izmir, acts as a transition point both for local and international tourism in the region. There are three universities not far from Urla, which is now becoming a new attraction point for new housing

Old houses of Urla



developments, organic agriculture, olive and wine. Famous ancient cities like Ephesus and Pergamon can be also reached easily from Urla because it is well connected to Izmir and other sites via a main highway. Urla is also becoming a popular place for recently retired high-level civil servants, administrators and governors. Urla has a potential to emerge as a fashionable area thanks to all these advantages and for its capacity of attracting intellectuals.

Function

The Building has been used for different functions. Although originally designed as a school for children, this function ceased at one point, probably in the early Republican period (1930s) and the building has become a private property. According to the findings of the initial observation, the lower floor has been used to keep domestic animals from time to time. It is likely that people lived on the first floor and utilised the ground floor also for storage.

The present situation of the building

The building consists of two storeys. The ground level, which has a very low ceiling, contains a toilet facility and a room, which are in good positions but are very rough and damaged. A narrow wooden stairs reaches the first floor, which is also made out of wood. This first floor is a single space covered by a brick dome. Earthquakes from 2005 produced cracks on the dome and the walls

Size

This is a small building, of which the base is 7.23m x 7.20m (52 m²) and the height is 8.28m from the ground level to the top of the dome. The net use area on the first floor is 5.59m x 5.60m (31.3m²) and the height in the centre, just under the dome, is about 5.80m.

Materials

The building is composed of walls made from stone and brick as main structural materials. The walls especially those near the dome do not always have a homogenous look and contain mixed materials. The floor of the entrance area is rough and has separations. The rear room has a concrete floor, which is obviously not old at all. The first floor is wood, likewise the windows which have original iron bars. The brick dome is plastered and painted. The ground floor walls are lime plastered.

Exterior walls

There are three neighbouring houses connected to each side of the existing building except the north elevation. Therefore, the actual state of those walls is not clearly identified. Although the unrevealed bottom half of the exterior sides could not be inspected, from the upper halves and the interior perspectives, both the original parts and recent repairs were classified after a more detailed examination. Further plans include purchasing the lands connected to the school in order to raise those structures and reveal the hidden parts of the walls which will probably answer the rest of the questions that exist for now.

North Elevation

The settlement pattern and the structure of Kapani Street has important information that north elevation of the existing building was not the original entrance facade. In addition, there is no real evidence to conclude that there was even a street on the northern side. Recent repairs around the door, down to the materials used, has proved that originally there was not an opening on that elevation used as an entrance.

The second floor which is constructed with wooden beams, starts exactly from the bottom point of the two windows, but a question appears after observing the change in the type of the stone that was used in the construction of the wall. White colored clear-cut stone rows end at the top point of the windows and surround the perimeter of the building in that way. However, after that level colored (somehow deformed) stones with more varied dimensions were used until the dome. Following this style on the all facades beginning and ending at the same levels, perhaps this building should be examined in two parts on the facades (upper and lower). The reason behind this shift was not clear at this level of the study yet since the shift did not occur for differentiating the ground and first floor.

There are two brick arches on the north façade and they are connected only on this facade. The original function of the arches should be questioned. They could either define the windows or share the load of the dome since the polygon that connects the circular shape of the dome to the rectangle beneath has eight feet two of which are on this facade. Moreover, the wooden framed windows might have been constructed later than the original openings were formed, because the arches were filled with stone different than the upper level type and later covered with mortar which makes it difficult to give an exact reason.

No deformation related to damp (such as mold growth) has been observed at the bottom level of the wall. This may point out that no underground water existed close to that site. A color-change on the upper northwest corner of the wall was obviously soot probably caused by an external chimney or an oil lantern.



Ground floor ceiling
Entrance to first floor



North Elevation
& Entrance



South West view

West Elevation



South Elevation

South Elevation

The bottom half of this facade is hidden because of the neighbouring concrete roof. However two arches and the undeformed upper level stonewall gives some sense about it. This time the arches were filled with brick, which leads to an idea that the reason might have been to avoid visual and physical connection between the two structures. Since the building next door was quite young, that attitude might be a recent development.

Another point is the chimney which could be observed from the exterior reaches the fire place (the bottom part) in the first floor.

West Elevation

There is only one arch on this façade, located in the middle. The bottom part of this facade was hidden behind the wall of the neighbouring building. It is likely that this is the facade of the main entrance since there are two potential openings underneath this brick arch as it appears in the ground floor. The stones filling the openings are not well mortared and do not form a proper wall but are haphazardly placed on top of each other.



East Elevation,
Blocked



East Elevation

Unfortunately, whole of this facade is unrevealed because of the neighbouring building.

The interior

A. The ground floor level

As observed, the space has been divided into two volumes with a stone wall after entering from the wooden framed door which was obviously built recently. This unoriginal entrance leads to the first space which has low ceiling and a lowered concrete floor as an obvious 20th century addition. The ceiling of the space built with wooden beams leaving a small hole for a narrow staircase on the right side. This ceiling in the first space has two variety of heights. The left half close to the entrance door is higher than the other half, which covers the top of the toilet area. In addition, the ceiling in the second volume is also at the same level with the lower one. Since the construction details reveal that the first half was elevated later, the lower level is probably be the original ceiling.

The staircase (obviously not original) is illogically located and almost in front of the opening connecting the first and the second spaces of the ground floor. It is next to the interior wall that separates the volumes from each other, and is directed towards the west facade. On the right, towards the west



elevation wall, there is a small space observed Next to the thick wall behind the stairs, there is another structure not higher than 50cm in the shape of a quarter of cylinder. As it seems this structure was used as a storage for instance recently for roof tiles. On the left however, nothing in addition to the exterior wall exists. Only a thin threshold (10 cm thick at most) lies longitudinally on the ground connecting the entrance facade to the interior wall which separates the two volumes.



Entering from the second door in the middle of the interior wall, the second volume appears to be empty. The wooden door was again a later addition. The only eye catching detail is the gap on the right half of the west facade wall which was filled with stone. Since the exterior side of the wall was hidden behind the neighbouring building, further research about the reasons behind this attitude and even the use of west facade was left to a later date. Nevertheless, one of the most possible location of the original entrance was probably on the west facade.



First floor, North view

B. The first floor level

On the upper floor, which is made of wood, the higher level, (north-east corner of the first floor level), can be observed clearly.

The north wall has two window openings, and the wooden framed windows are located in the outer side of the wall. The glass of the windows is broken but the iron bars were still attached although corroded.

The east wall has two gaps with different dimensions. The first gap has a wooden frame and no shutters. The second gap is also wooden but there are two shutters on the each side. They might have been used as storage cupboards, but from the exterior which is totally closed by the neighbouring building, the unrevealed parts might tell more about the original form and functions in later studies.

The south wall has three gaps, one of which is the bottom part of a fireplace. The chimney is revealed at the top, close to the dome on the south facade. One of the gaps seems like an opening to outside, but it is covered with wooden plates. However there is also a brick filling in fill below the arches that are visible from the exterior. The other gap is totally cosed with the wooden plates from the interior, and another brick filling covers the exterior. A shelf like furniture for dishes hangs on the surface.



First floor, South view

The west wall again has three gaps. The one in the middle is a wooden cupboard, but from the exterior an arch can be seen which requires further examination. It is probably another window, but closed at a later date. On the left and right side of this cupboard, there are two small gaps. One is rectangular and wooden with a shutter, and the other has an arch. The function was probably to hold a candle inside these gaps.

The dome is a brick structure covered with lime plaster and paint. The deformations coused by earthquakes reveal some parts of the original materials through the cracks.



The dome



First floor, East view



First floor, South-west view

Description of needs

The building has suffered from recent earthquakes and has cracks on the main façade and on the dome. This may not be vital at the present but repairing the structure is essential to avoid further damages. However, the main issue is to free the building from the adjacent houses and storage sheds, which are built illegally and rest on the walls of the historical monument blocking its main entrance and windows. All windows and the door must be reinstated to their original positions. Glazing and plastering are also needed together with a new door. The wooden beams holding the floorboards are not in good condition and may be replaced depending on the restoration strategy to be adopted.

The Project: Design Library

The Property

The building has been used for different public functions and has become a private property during the course of history. The author of this project recently purchased the building with the intention of converting it into a Design Library

The Rationale

A library will be established by donations, mostly from retiring academics who wish their personal collection of books and design archives to benefit by young researchers and the public in general.

There is no design specific library in Turkey. This will be the first of its kind. There are libraries of powerful art, architecture and design faculties of universities but no public design library containing mostly English books and private collections.

Regarding the location Urla is well situated for there are three universities and many design students to undertake an advance design research.

Those who are donating books will be dully acknowledged and will be offered a room to stay within the library for a limited and scheduled period of time for the cost of expenses only. These people may do their own research and if they wish, make themselves available for consultation to those students using the library. This means that an experienced person will be boarding residence most of the time.

The Design Idea

The ground floor will contain a small office, a sleeping area for two persons, a kitchenette and a bathroom. The upper floor will have a self-standing shelf system up to the base of the dome. It would be mobile so that the floor layout can be rearranged according to various functions. Desktops will be attached to the walls and be removable to create larger space in the middle of the room. The space will be furnished with proper lighting, computers and equipment.

Finance

There are State funds (from the Republic of Turkey) that may be available for this project. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism has launched a support grant scheme for the restoration of historic buildings including those, that are private properties. The scheme has two aspects, the first one covers the planning expenses the other supports the actual restoration of heritage buildings. Approximately, 4.5 million USD budget has been distributed to 1/10 of all project applicants and 1/3 of restoration support applicants. Considering the age and importance of the building, it is possible that the project will receive some contribution. EU funds may also be considered. In any case the owner will pursue the idea and will try to finance the project.

Actions taken

1. On the Planning

1. Two architects are employed to complete the survey of the building, the drawing of the present situation and plans for restoration according to the instructions given by the author who is an architect himself. However, it is essential to work with practicing architects in Turkey to complete the entire processes, to get permission from the chambers of architects as well as from the Number One Regional Committee of the Conservation of Natural and Cultural Heritage.
2. The initial survey was complete in September 2007 and the architects submitted the drawings of the building to the owner/author. It appears that certain parts of the building, including the dome, were not studied carefully. (See appendix I)
 - a. After October 2007 the architects have begun to work on the restoration projects and submitted their alternative plans. (See appendix II)
 - b. The three plans suggested by the architects were discussed in length and it was understood that their main concern was to get the approval of the Committee and to get the work done. They have developed these plans to accommodate a reasonably sized living area on the ground floor. To gain space, they felt free to carve the thick walls and to make them thinner. They are convinced that carving of the existing historical walls to expand the interior is something the Committee would accept.
 - c. The architects were informed that the owner does not want original walls to be altered and wish to make his own plans accordingly. The plan (see appendix III) has proved that it is perfectly possible to accommodate a minimum living space without touching the original walls.

2. On the Restoration Project

- a. It was understood that for a proper restoration plan, experts' views and reports are needed. (Although the approving body may not formally require this information). After a visit to Izmir Institute of Technology and conversations with established scholars in Ankara, the following strategy was adopted to make a more scientific restoration project.
- b. The Baskent Higher Education Institute of Ankara University has advanced laboratories and has an experience with Ottoman Stone buildings. They work closely with restorers, do plasterwork, stone and wood analysis, write reports and make suggestions. A contract was received and agreements were made to work for the Urla Project.
- c. An art historian, an Associate Professor from the above mentioned Institute, who is also an expert on the buildings of the period, was also hired to make a detailed survey since the original plan of the building has not yet been discovered. The original entrance and the original location of stairs leading to the first floor are not clear. In addition to these, it is expected that these reports will:
 - a. Complete the documentation and the survey of the building
 - b. Examine the surface painting and try to uncover previous levels
 - c. Examine the originality of the wall on the ground level
 - d. Examine the originality and the dating of the wooden floor
 - e. List all the materials used and indicate on the plans and elevations with further details

- f. Conduct an archival research on the history of the building
 - g. Conduct a research on similar Ottoman buildings and have a comparative analysis
- d. A structural engineer, a professor at Middle East Technical University, was identified to get an engineering report for the structure of the building.
- e. The proper restoration plan will be suggested after all these studies are successfully completed. However the initial idea was:
- i. To secure the structure
 - ii. To restore the building in line with its authentic form
 - iii. To create a new structure within the existing building which is self standing and entirely independent
- If it is proven that the wooden floor is original, the initial idea of a self-standing structure will be left aside and the floor will be properly restored.

3. On Application(s)

- a. The Director of the Department of Monuments and Antiquities in Izmir was visited in November 2007. It was found that there is no document about this building in their archives. Furthermore, the building is indicated as a small mosque (*mescit*, or prayer room) in their records. The Director admits that this may be incorrect and will make it right when the application for restoration is made.
- b. A formal application was made in February 2008 to get permission for the above-mentioned analysis of the building. In this application, it was also stated that the concrete floor is not original and limited, testing excavations are necessary to find out the original floor if it exists. No reply has been received to date (27 February 2008).
- c. The architects made an application on behalf of the owner to get funds from the state. As mentioned before, limited state funds are available for the planning as well as the restoration of buildings. The result is not revealed so far.

4. On the Library

- a. A new concept is being considered for the establishment of the Library. The idea is to allocate a special place for each individual who donates or sells his collection of books to the library. Could the Library develop a policy to accommodate individual collections of books separately? Could, keeping the entire collection (and related personal archives) together honour the individual and be an interesting approach for a library as such? Probably it is worth exploring this idea simply because there are some offers of collections in this line.
- b. A computer programme entitled 'delicious library' was studied and understood that it is an easy way to cataloguing the collections systematically, electronically and visually. However, it is essential to discuss these issues with librarians before any decision taken.

Restoration and Management Proposals

Restoration

The plans shown in Appendix III indicate the Stage I restoration strategy. The basic principles of this approach can be summarised as follow:

- a. The present entrance door will be replaced with one consisting of two wings opening to the outside. Just after that, a new, second, sliding glass door will be placed inside. Thus, during the day, the

- main door will be kept open to let the daylight in through the second set of glass doors.
- b. The concrete floor will be removed and additional height, which is especially needed for the entrance volume, will be obtained. This will also enable the construction of an even and continuous ceiling for the ground floor.
 - c. A new staircase will be built along the entrance wall where there are two windows. This will enable some extra daylight to come into the ground floor.
 - d. The first floor will have an even floor surface as a continuation of the original layout. The floorboards and some wooden beams will probably be replaced in accordance with the results of the analysis and experts' reports.
 - e. No other main alteration will be made. Of course, cracks will be repaired and plastering will be done with the same materials and techniques used in the original building.
 - f. Furnishings and a shelf system will not interfere with the structure and main features of the building and will be designed accordingly.

The Stage III restitution and restoration plans will inevitably require radical changes in the first restoration strategy outlined above. For instance, once the original entrance is discovered, the present door will be removed as well as the stairs suggested above. The walls will be restored and the library will have a new shape in line with the restitution.

Management

There are two issues of management. The management of the building and the management of the library.

The library will be a reference library. The collections will be composed of the authors' books and those who are donating their books. Purchasing an entire collection of individual collections will also be considered as discussed before.

In essence, the Library will have public access and will be run by the members and friends of library, research students and volunteers. A simple subscription system will be introduced with a reasonable fee scheme. Those who are staying there will be responsible for running the Library and for the announcement of public opening hours. Major members of the Library will have the right to use it any time and in principle, once there is a major member using the Library, it will be open to public. Lets say, 'When the lights are on, the Library is open'. Obviously, librarians will be consulted about the validity of a system as such, and the system will be finalised through their advice.

The management of the building can be achieved by regular controlling. Those experts being involved with the restoration process will be kept in touch and invited yearly to keep the building under surveillance and to test its overall performance. Failures will be noted and minor repairs will be done as necessary. However, it is to true that the only income-generating facility is the daily renting of the accommodation in the ground floor. Therefore, a sustainable management scheme will be essential and hopefully be formulated in due course. Once the neighbouring sites are gained and the property is extended, it would be possible to establish a Foundation, which is a safe way of running institutions like this in Turkey. Foundations are traditional institutions and well-protected by law. This should be considered in the future.

Conclusion

The Urla Design Library project has gained a new impetus thanks to the programme offered by the SIDA/Lund University. The approach used by the Swedish Board of Antiquities, examples of restorations in Sweden and abroad, techniques and detailed management plans studied in Lund have made a considerable impact on the handling of the Library project. In light of this experience, more systematic and scientific methods are employed and applied to save the cultural heritage. As explained before, it turned out to be a three-stage project to set precedence. Proper experts are being involved in the project, which is developing step by step, hopefully without any mistakes. Actually, the whole project and the Library itself are about bringing people together. Therefore, increasing the numbers of people involved with it is a positive sign of progress.

The first stage of Library project can be materialised within a year or so, and will contribute to the educational, social and cultural life of people with its historical value as well as its content and new function. The story will definitely continue until the entire building is rescued and freed from its neighbours.

When the building was a school, students were studying and reading there. Although the age group will be different, soon students will again study and read in the building when it becomes a library, re-claiming the sounds of the silenced walls.

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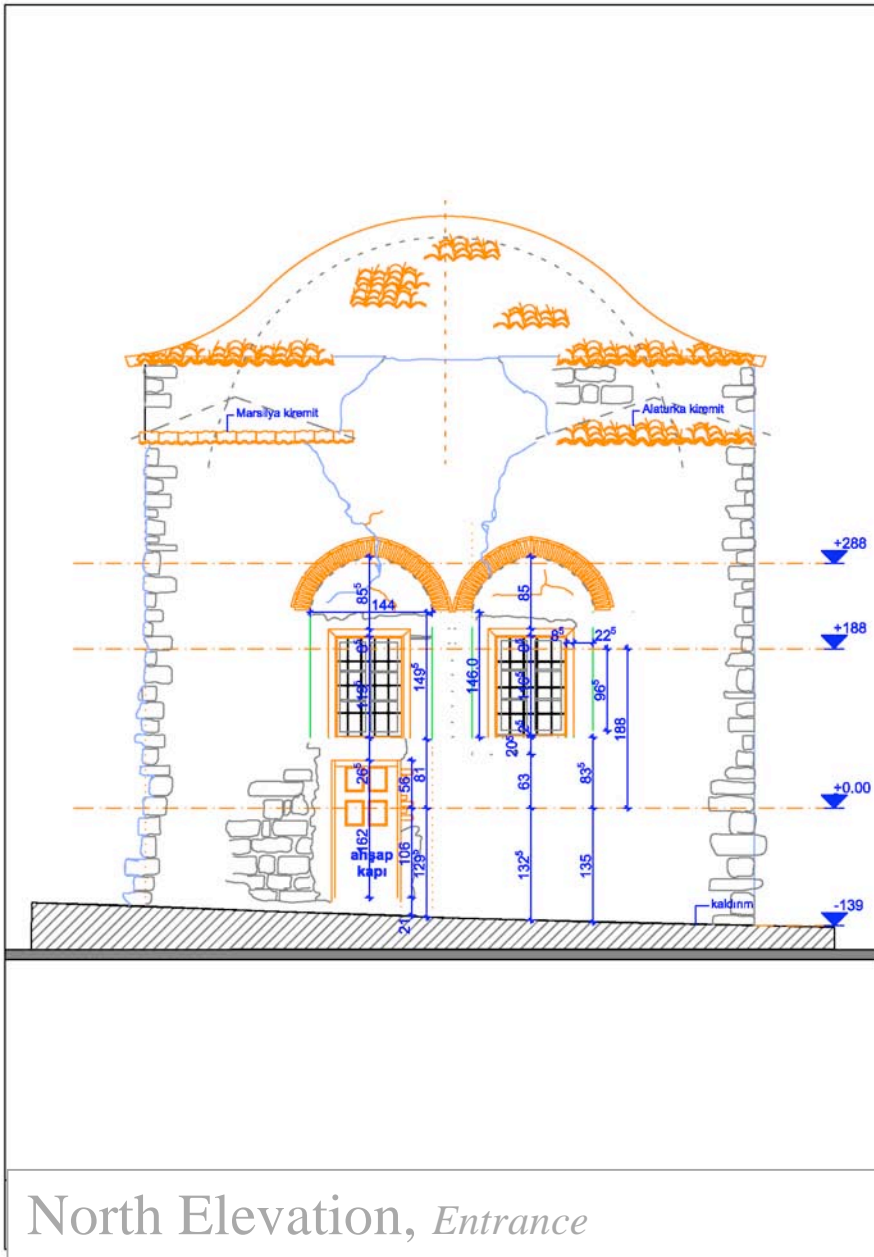
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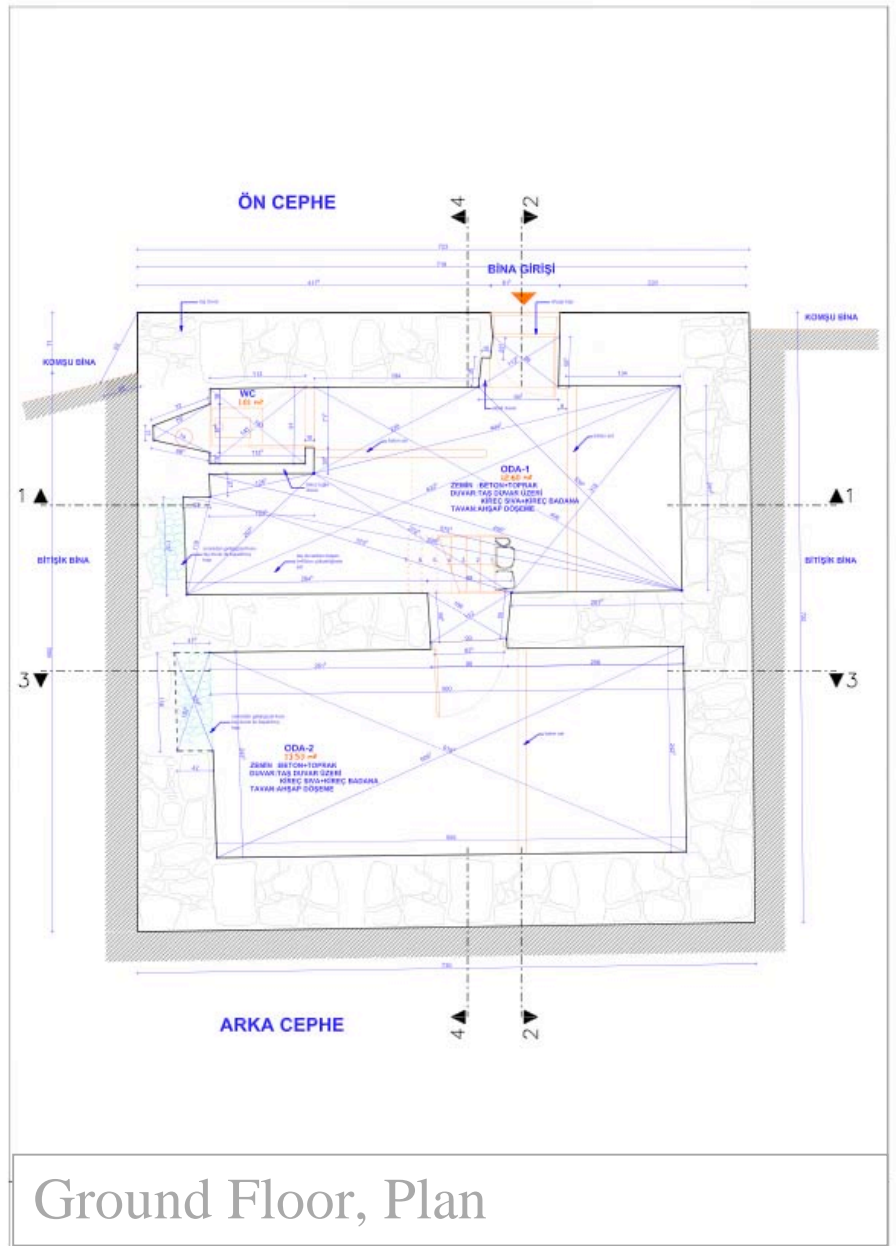
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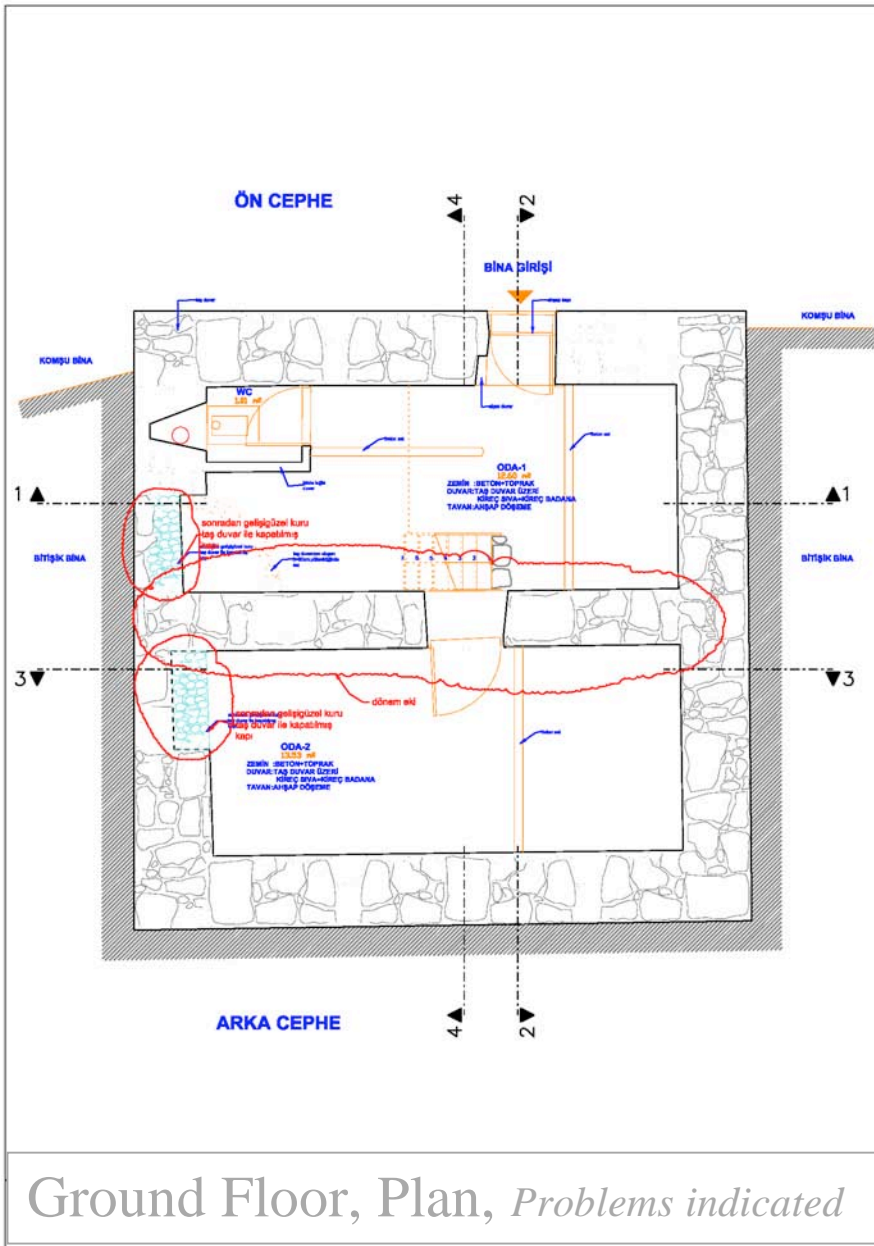
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Appendix I

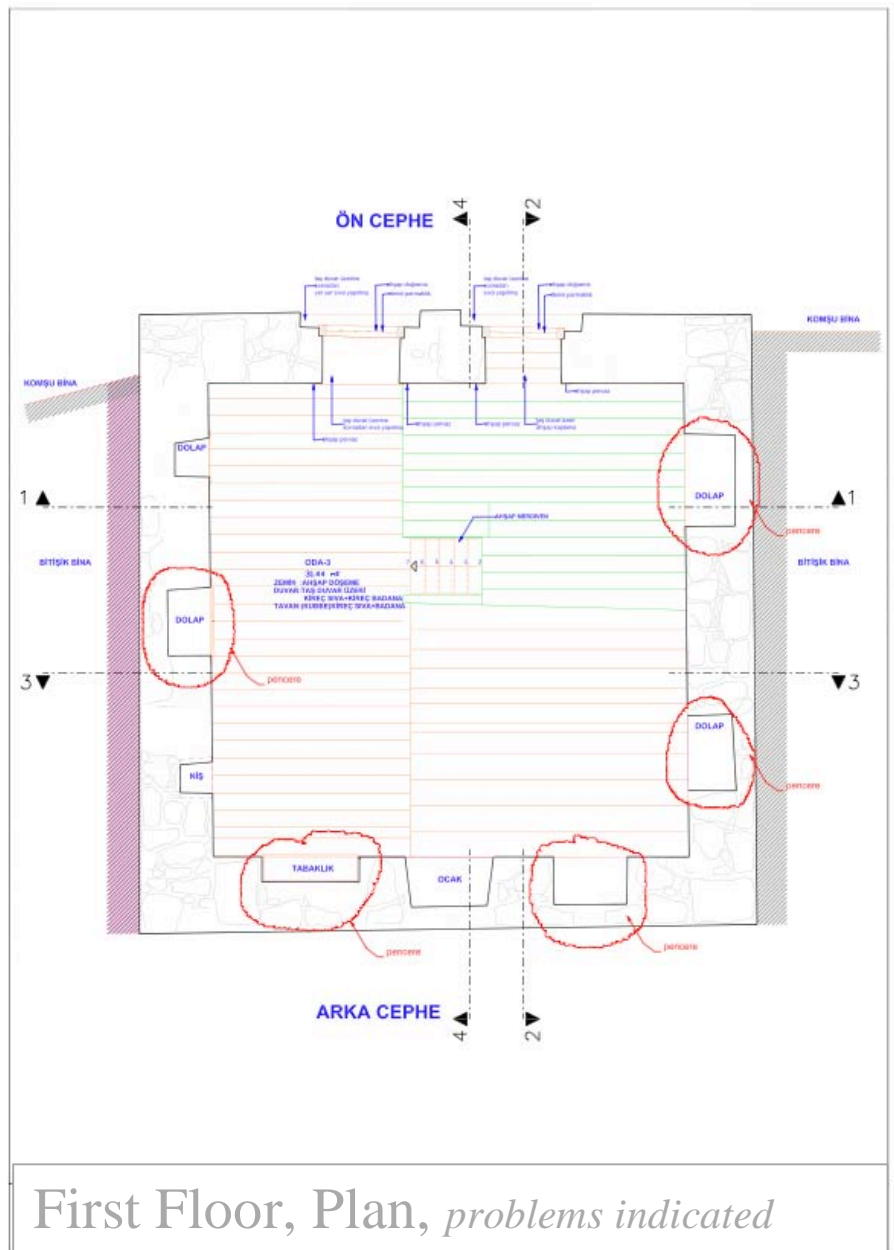


North Elevation, *Entrance*

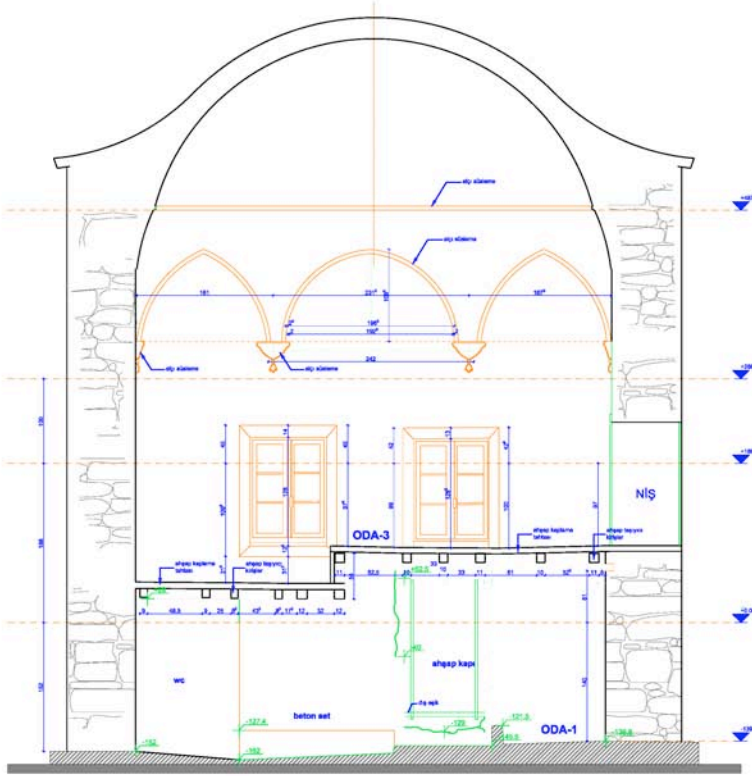




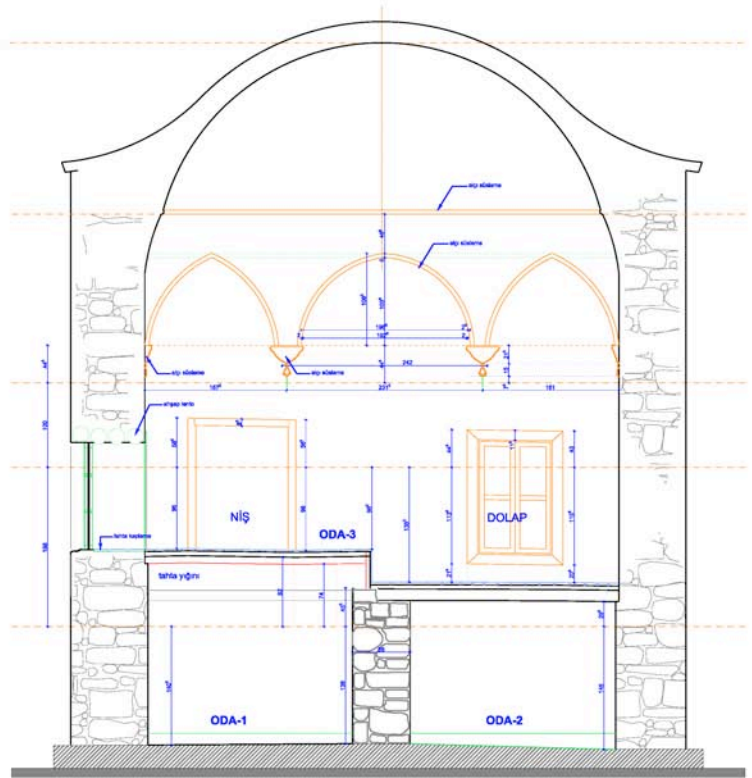
Ground Floor, Plan, *Problems indicated*



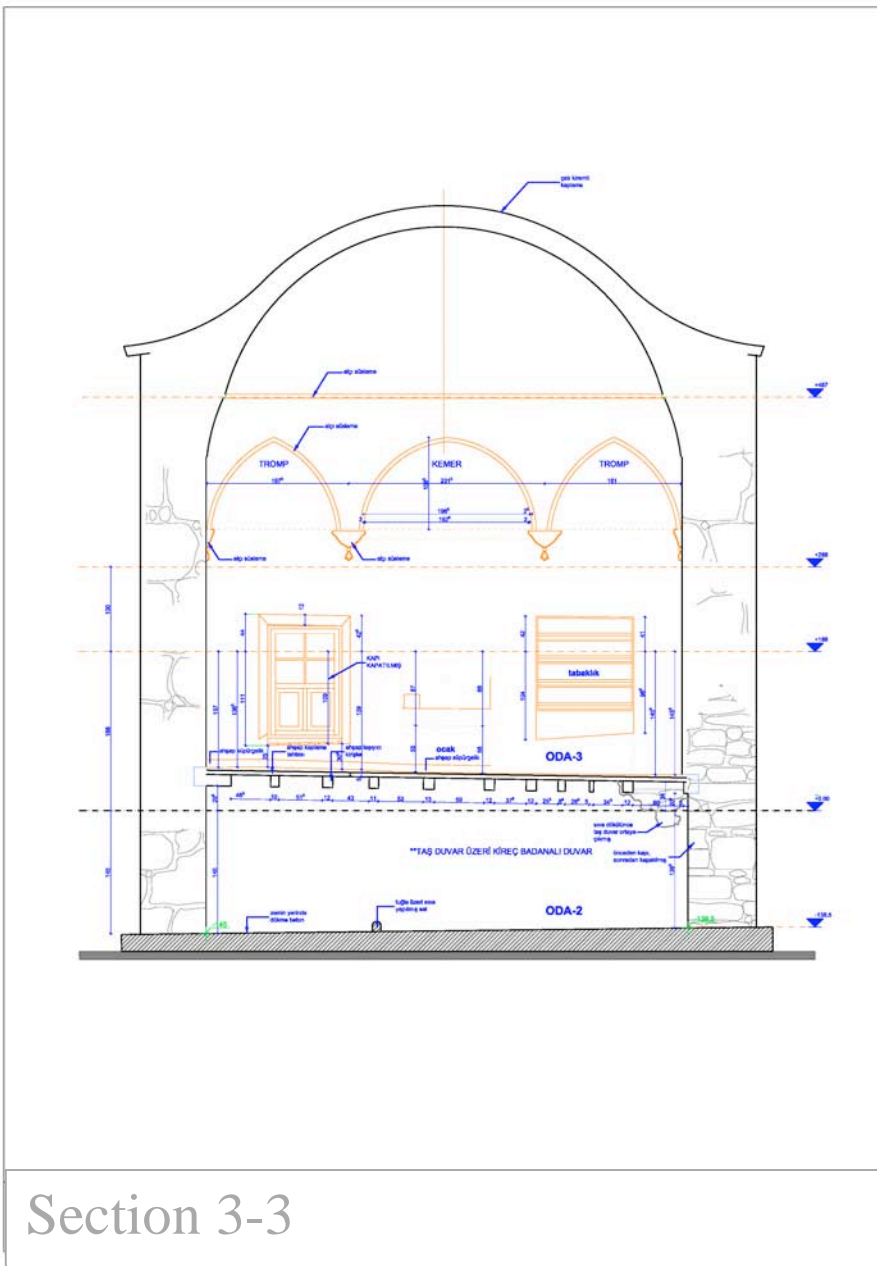
First Floor, Plan, *problems indicated*



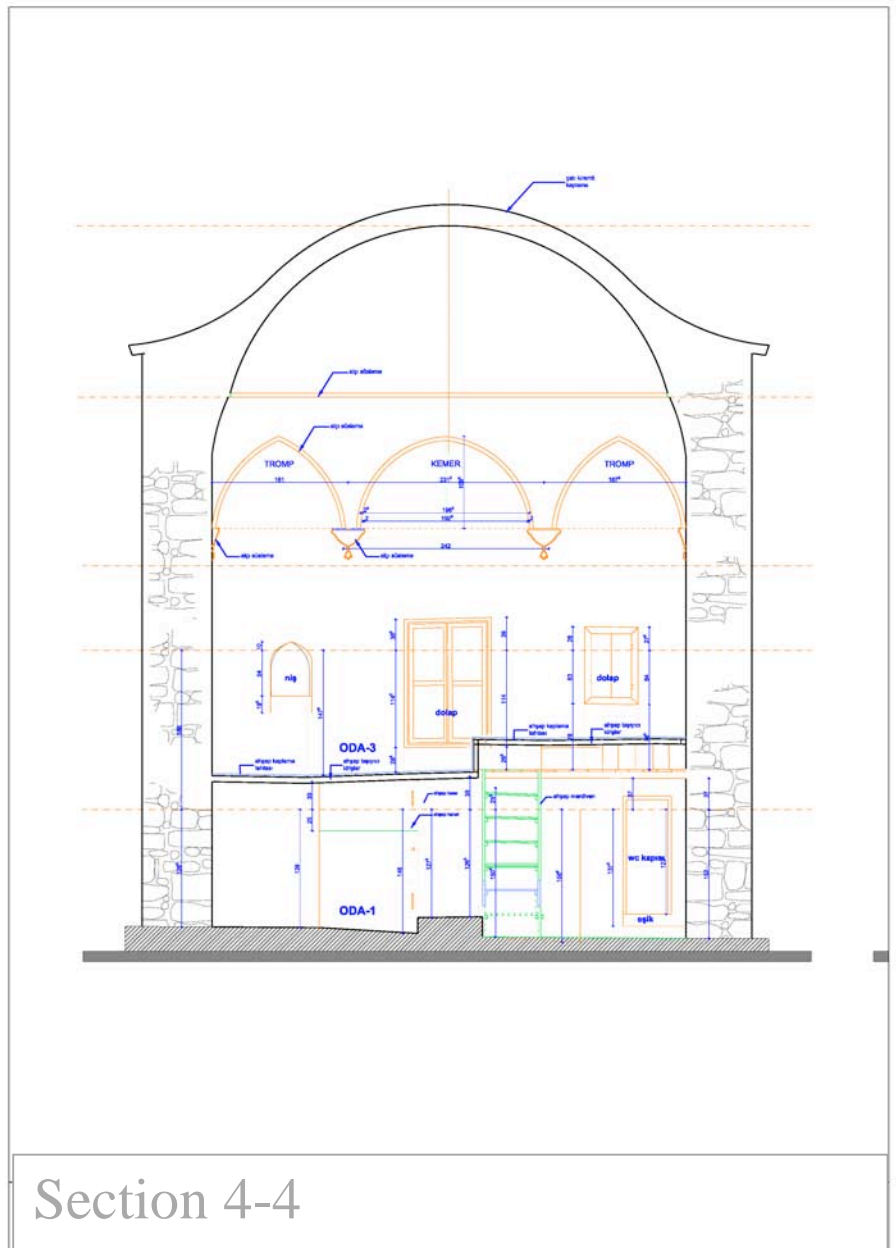
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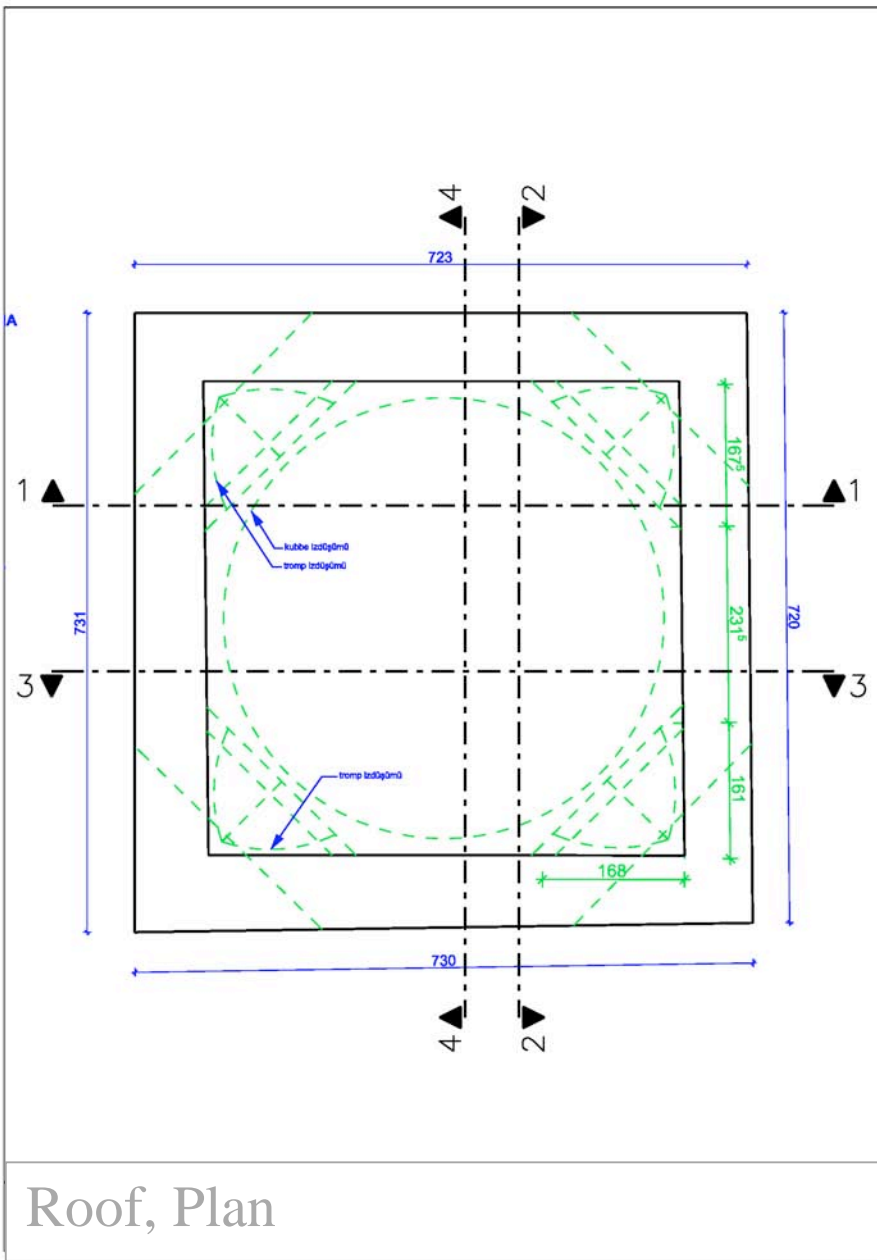
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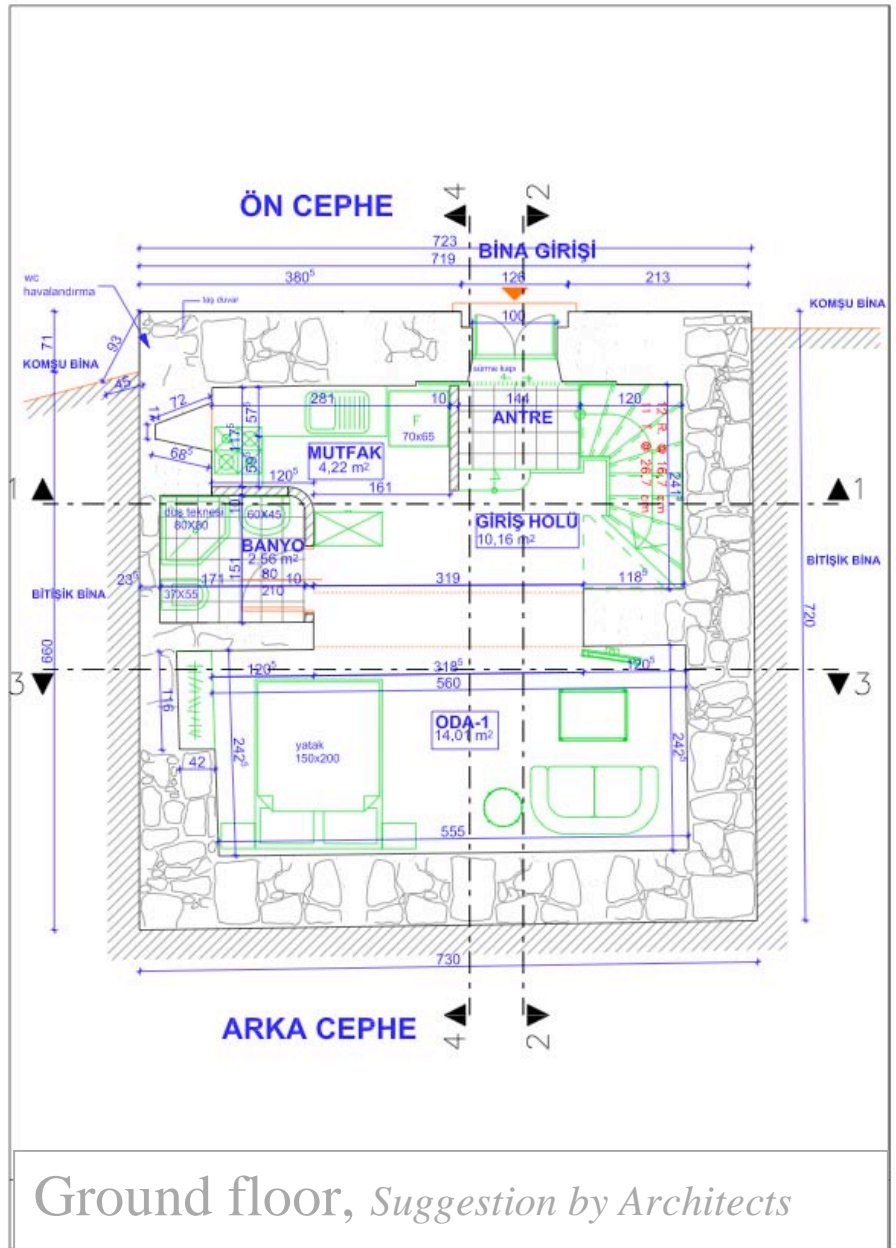
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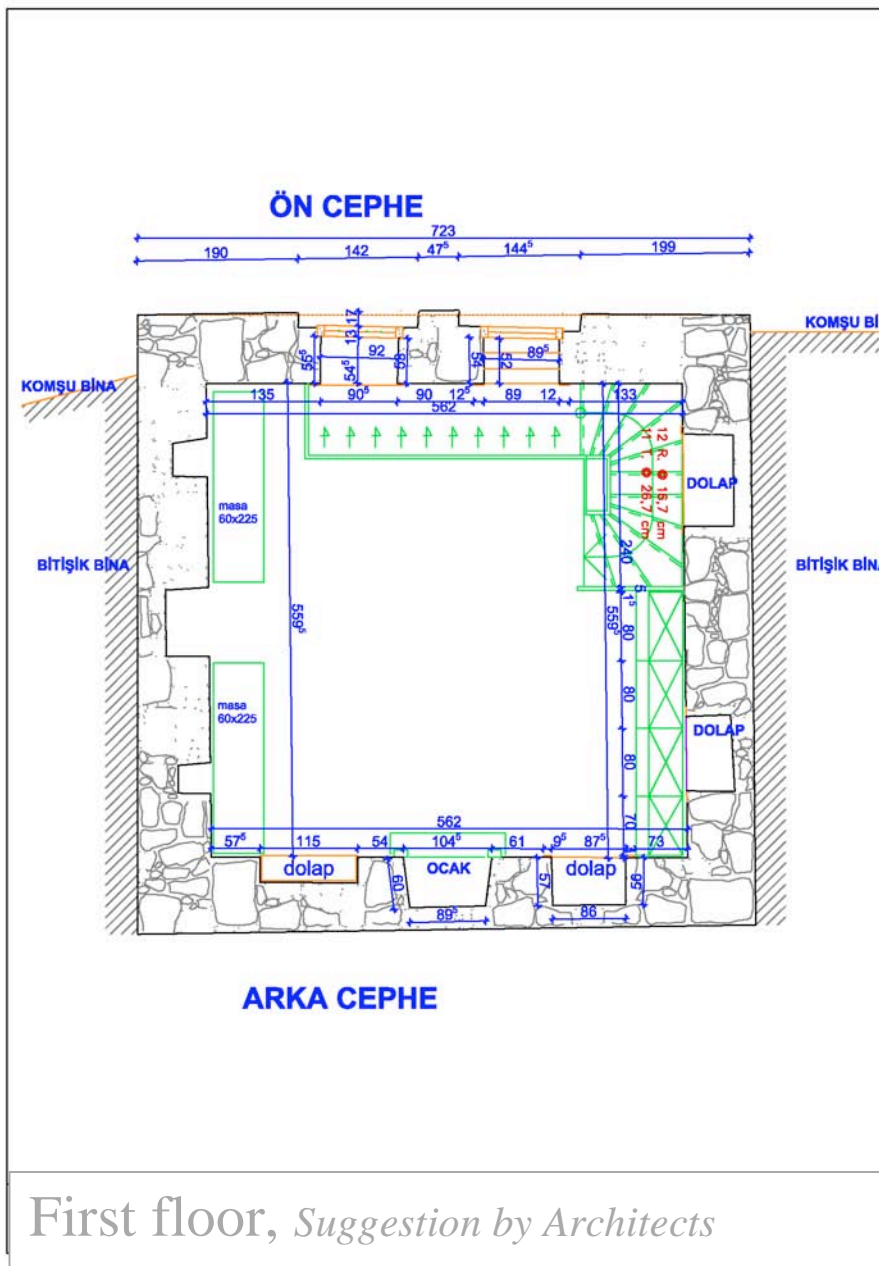
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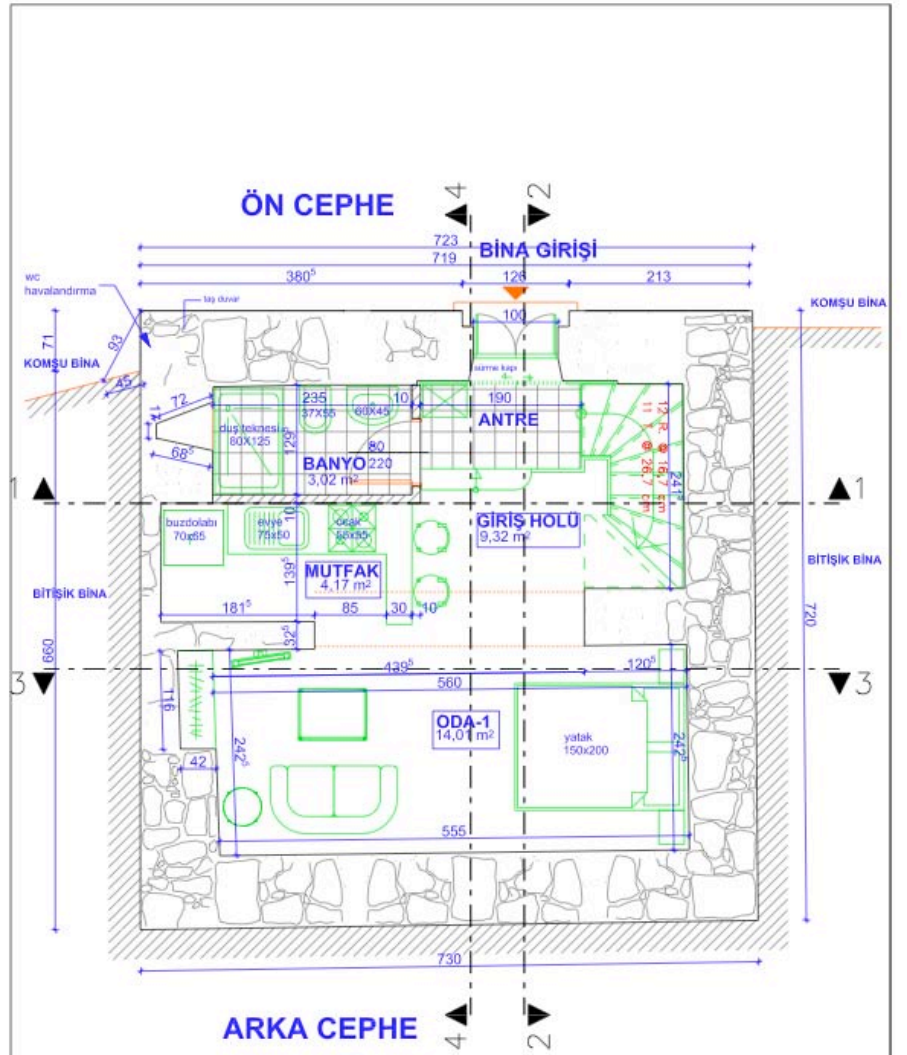
Appendix II



Ground floor, *Suggestion by Architects*



First floor, *Suggestion by Architects*



ALTERNATİF 11

Ground floor, *Suggestion by Architects*

Appendix III

