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**THE BOOK OF FULL TEXTS**

**Edited by**

**Prof. Dr. Osman ERKMEN**

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## TRADITIONAL HOUSING TYPOLOGY IN KONYA CITY CENTER

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### ABSTRACT

Architectural heritages lose their identities or face the threat of extinction with an increasing momentum due to the urban rent that has emerged due to the accelerating urbanization in recent years and the insufficient protection of the architectural heritage. This deformation, which is exposed to cultural values waiting to be transferred to future generations, is one of the most important problems encountered in ensuring cultural sustainability in the city of Konya. The aim of this study is to contribute to the transfer of information about the traditional texture to future generations by providing documentation about the historical texture in the rapidly transforming city center of Konya. For this purpose, examples of traditional houses in the city center of Konya, whose numbers are decreasing rapidly, have been examined and their periodical features have been introduced. In this context, primarily field and literature studies have been carried out and 80 traditional Konya houses that have survived to the present day have been examined. According to the characteristics of the houses examined, it was concluded that they were built in 4 different periods. The findings showing that the houses examined in this study were built in different periods according to the plan setup, facade type and construction techniques are explained in detail through a representative house sample belonging to each period. It is thought that the findings obtained from the study will form a basis for future typological studies for traditional Konya houses, which are in danger of extinction.

**Keywords:** Traditional Dwelling Style, Periodization, Traditional Konya Houses

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Among the cultural heritages, traditional residential buildings have an important place as civil architectural works. The fact that the traditional residential building properties mostly belong to the civilian population rather than the public institutions and organizations with expert personnel and budget creates systematic deficiencies in the protection of this building group. Due to these deficiencies, the traditional Konya houses, which are not adequately protected today and whose number is gradually decreasing; It has entered the process of losing its identity and faced the threat of extinction due to neglect, vandalism, urban rent and many similar reasons. Traditional Konya houses, which are an important part of the cultural accumulation in the Anatolian geography, constitute the group of works that need protection the most due to the reasons mentioned above. In order to raise awareness about the cultural values of Konya houses and to contribute to the preservation of the original urban identity in our age, when traditional Konya houses, which represent some of the most precious pieces of

Turkish house mosaic, are in the process of disappearing, 80 traditional Konya houses in the city center of Konya were examined within the scope of the study. In the light of the information obtained from the 80 traditional Konya houses examined, it is predicted that the traditional Konya houses may have been built in four different periods due to their typological differences (Figure 1). In this study, four different periods of traditional Konya houses are discussed in detail with their characteristic features through a house sample belonging to each period.

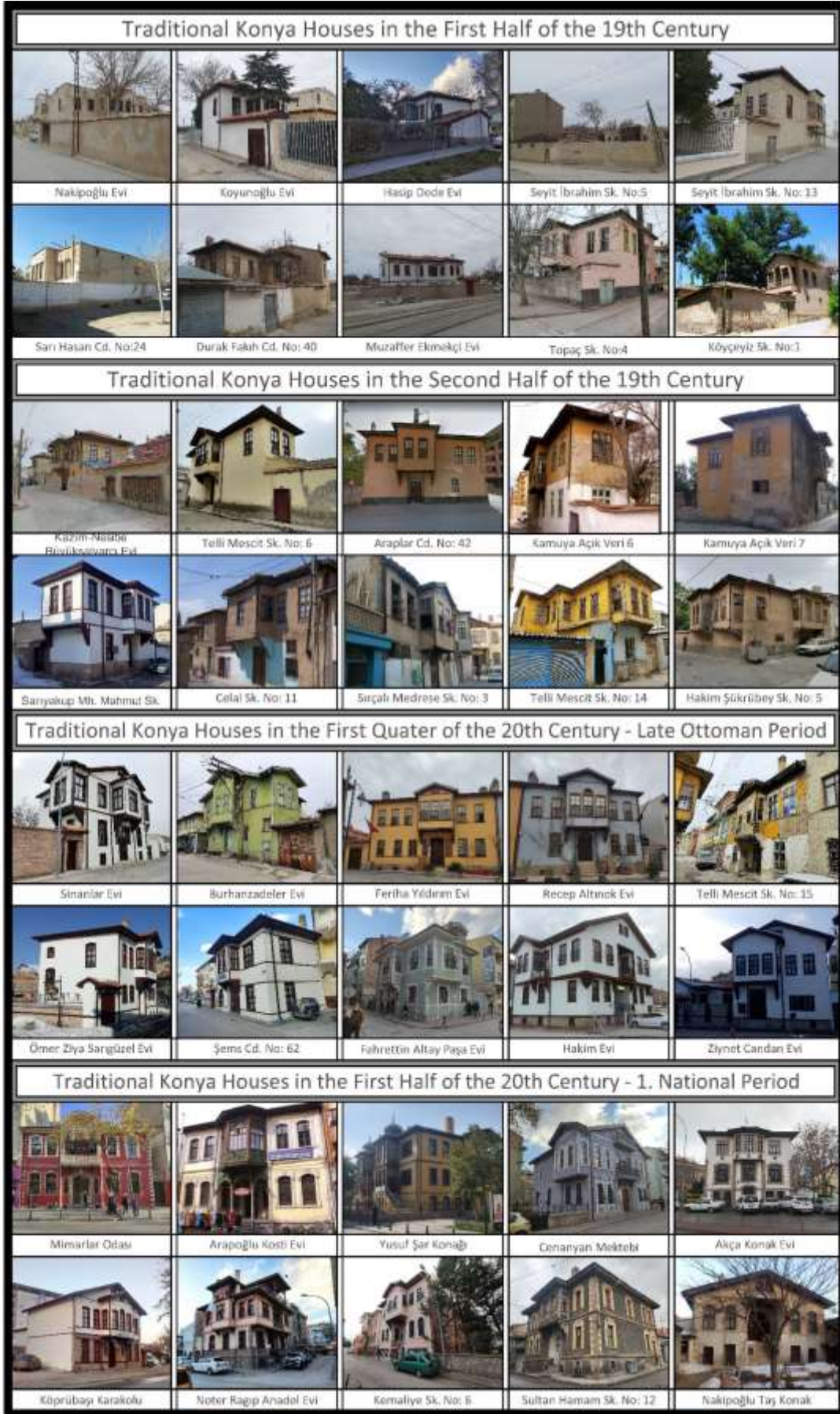


Figure 1. Traditional Konya Houses (Dönmez, 2021)

## 2. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

### 2.1. NAKİPOĞLU HOUSE



**Figure 2.** Nakipoğlu House Facade (Dönmez, 2021)

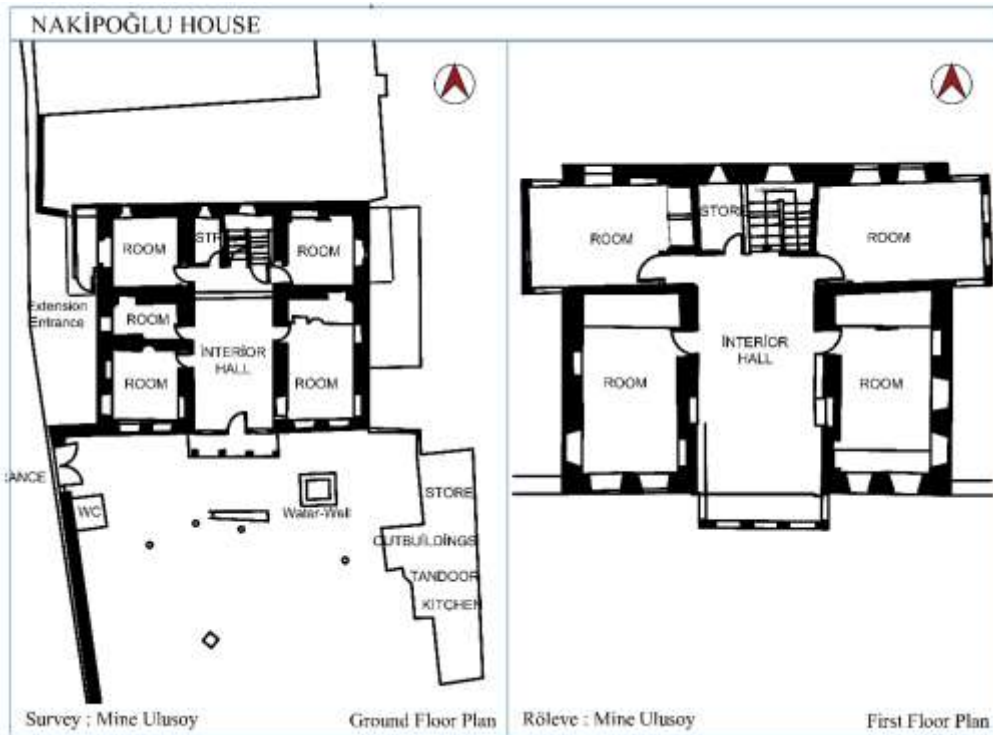
**Estimated Construction Period** : First Half of the 19th Century  
**Current Usage** : in ruins Condition



**Figure 3.** Nakipoğlu House Location (Island: 20355, Plot:14)

**Residence Address:** Nakipoğlu Mh. Seyit İbrahim Sk. No: 10 Karatay/KONYA

**Information About the Building:** The residence was built in a large garden surrounded by high walls with a design concept isolated from the street. The main façade of the house is the south façade facing the garden (Figure 3-4). In the garden of the house; There are traditional items such as kitchen, toilet, tandoor well and barn (Figure 3-4). In addition, although it is mentioned in some sources that guest room "Hariciye" is located in the garden of the house, it has not been found today (Aygör, 2015). The house is planned as two floors (ground and first floor) and an " iç sofa" interior hall (Figure 4). There are traditional equipment items such as closet, ghuslhane and triclinium in the rooms (Ulusoy, 2007). The façades of the building are mudbrick plastered and are quite plain. There are three bay windows in the house (Figure 4). The sofa bay window on the south and the room bay window's on the east and west have three sides (Figure 4). The bay window's of the rooms are carried with wooden brace, and the bay window of the sofa is carried by wooden columns. The bearing walls of the house and the outbuilding in its garden were built with rubble stone up to the basement level, the walls above the basement level were built with mud bricks, and wooden beams were used as binding elements (Ulusoy, 2007; Dönmez, 2017). The house is covered with a flat roof (Figure 2-3).



**Figure 4.** Ground and First Floor Plan of Nakipoğlu House (Dönmez, 2017)

**Periodic Features of the Building:** Based on the features of the house in a design approach facing the isolated garden from the street, the house (originally) not having a door opening directly to the street, the façades designed in a plain appearance without ornaments, the presence of a guest room, kitchen, toilet, water well and similar traditional outbuildings in the garden, the house has 19 It is thought to have been built in the first half of the th century. At the same time, the fact that the mains water, which was put into use in 1901, was not found in the house, is another data that suggests that the building was built before this date. In addition, the fact that the house is covered with a flat roof is another feature that suggests that it was built before the use of Marseille tiles in the houses became widespread.

## 2.2. KAZIM-NESİBE BÜYÜKŞALVARCI HOUSE



**Figure 5.** Kazım-Nesibe Büyükşalvarcı House Facade (Dönmez, 2021)

**Estimated Construction Period** : Second half of the 19th Century  
**Current Usage** : It is used as housing

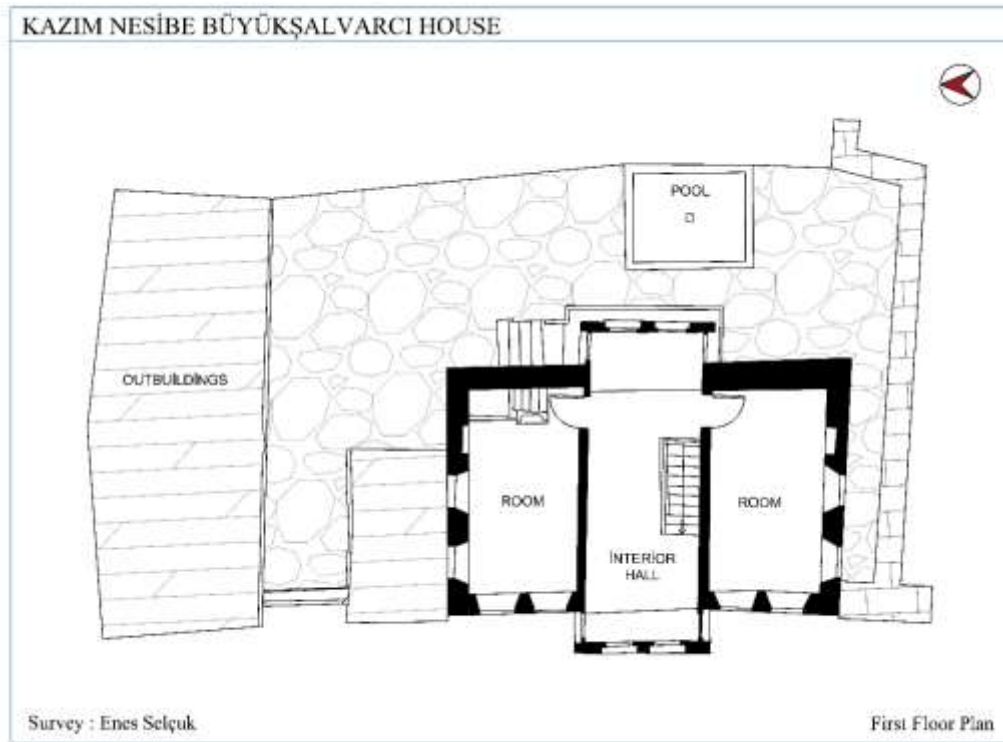


**Figure 6.** Kazım-Nesibe Büyükşalvarcı House Location (Island: 21462, Plot: 34)

**Residence Address:** Nakipoğlu Mh. Bağ Evliya Sokak No:27 Karatay/Konya



**Information About the Building:** The garden walls of the house join with the main wall of the building on the western façade after the entire parcel is surrounded. In addition to the entrances to the garden, the house has an entrance that opens directly to the street (Figure 5). In the garden of the residence, outbuildings such as traditional kitchen, toilet, tandoor and pool are included. There is one room on each side of the ground and first floor interior hall (Figure 7). The rooms have traditional design elements such as ghuslhane, closet and so on. The façades of the house were arranged quite simply, and the aesthetic concern was tried to be created with a structural form rather than ornamentation (Figure 5). A three-sided interior hall “Sofa” bay window is encountered on the east and west facades of the house (Figure 7). The bay windows are supported by geometrically shaped buttresses on the façade, resulting in an aesthetic appearance. The appearance of imitation cut stone is provided with the joint up to the ground floor level on the street façade (Aygör, 2015). When all the facades of the house are examined, it is seen that the window openings are concentrated on the street façade of the first floor (Figure 7). The house is covered with a hipped roof using Marseille type tiles (Figure 6). The dwelling was built using rubble stone up to the subbasement level and adobe brick in the remaining part using the masonry technique (Dönmez, 2021).



**Figure 7.** Kazım-Nesibe Büyükşalvarcı House First Floor Plan (Aygör,2015)

**Periodic Features of the Building:** Although a limitation was brought by placing high garden walls between the public area and the house in the layout planning of the house, it is seen that the house is oriented towards the street more than the first half of the 19th century examples with its windows concentrated on the street front of the first floor. In addition, imitation cut stone appearance is provided with the joint up to the ground floor level on the street façade and decoration is included. In addition to this, it is seen that the house preserves its early period features with the simplicity of the façades, the lack of room windows on the ground floor street façade, and the presence of kitchen, toilet and similar wet areas in the

garden despite the mains water being present in the house. When all the findings are evaluated, it is thought that the house was built in the second half of the 19th century.

### 2.3. FAHRIYE BÜYÜKMATÜR HOUSE



**Figure 8.** Fahriye Büyükmatür House Facade (Dönmez, 2021)

**Estimated Construction Period** : 20th century First Quarter Late Ottoman Period  
**Current Usage** : Foundation Building

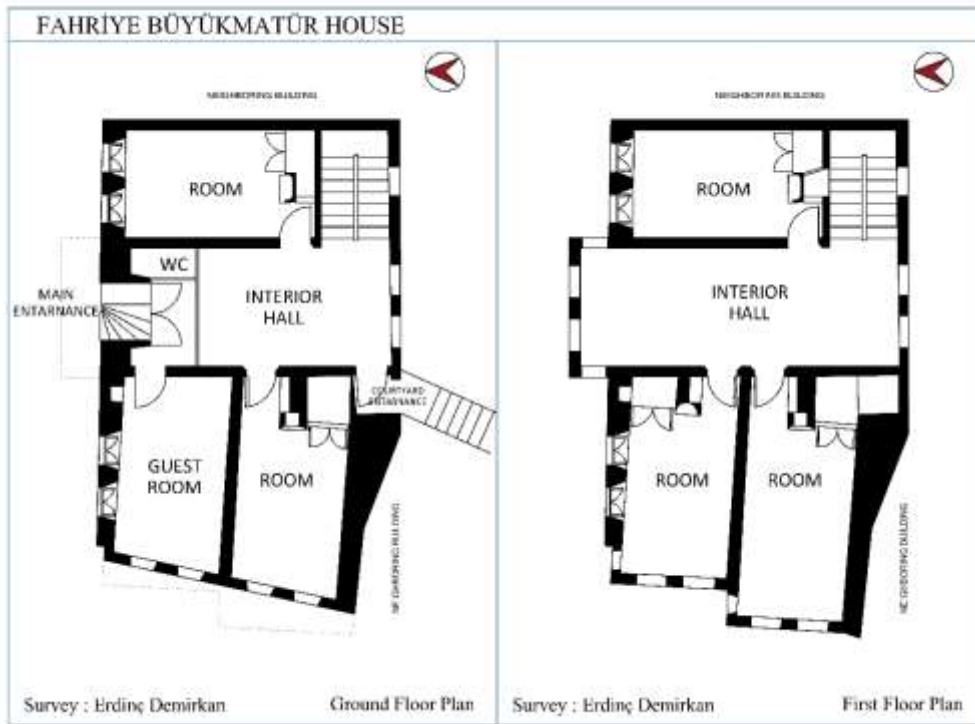


**Figure 9.** Fahriye Büyükmatür House Location (Island: 22584, Plot:1)

**Residence Address:** Akçeşme Mh. Mengüç Caddesi No: 18 Karatay/KONYA

**Information About the Building:** Except for the north and west façades facing the street, the other two façades of the building are blind due to the adjacent layout. The house has a small garden in the south direction (Figure 9). Traditional elements such as ornamental pool, toilet,

kitchen, coop and barn were included in the garden (Aygör, 2015). Kitchen and toilet are located both inside the house and in the garden. Mains water is connected to the house. The only entrance door of the house on the ground floor is located in a deep niche on the north façade, which is reached by a seven-step staircase directly connected to the Street (Figure 8). The house is planned with three floors and inner hall, including the basement (Figure 8-10). The ground floor and first floor reflect a similar plan scheme. The ground and first floor interior sofa divides the house into two on the north-south axis. There are two rooms perpendicular to the interior hall in the west of the inner hall, a staircase and a room parallel to the interior hall in the east (Figure 10). Traditional items such as ghushlane, cupboards and built-in wardrobes were designed in the rooms (Figure 10). There is a three-sided sofa bay window on the northern façade of the house, which has two types of bay windows. The wooden buttress of the bay window is placed inside the façade wall (Figure 8). These buttresses are "S" shaped and decorated with tasseled stalactites and small staves. There are two miter room bay window with three windows each on the western façade (Figure 8-10). The house is covered with a hipped roof using Marseille tiles. It is used in the attic warehouse function. The wooden eaves of the roof spill out 80 cm from the building (Dönmez, 2021). The street facades of the building were decorated with plaster (Figure 8). The main walls of the house were built using the rubble stone piling technique, and the inner walls were built with stone and brick filling material in the nogging technique (Dönmez, 2021). Bagdadi technique was used in the construction of bay windows and partitions, and the outbuildings were built with adobe material in the masonry technique (Aygör, 2015).



**Figure 10.** Fahriye Büyükmatür House Ground and First Floor Plan

**Periodic Features of the Building:** Although the house has a small traditional garden, it is seen that it was designed in a plan scheme that faces the street, not the house garden. Unlike the 19th century examples, the fact that the house has windows on the ground floor street front, that the house is directly accessible from the street, and that the bay windows are built

in close relation with the street, shows that the house was built with a street-oriented design approach. In addition, the fact that the street facades are decorated with spray plaster is another sign of the design for the street facade. The miter bay window, which was not encountered in previous examples, is seen in the house in order to increase the aesthetic perception towards the outside. Although there are toilet and kitchen spaces in the garden of the house, it is seen that a separate toilet and kitchen are designed inside the house. This situation shows that the house was built after 1901 in connection with the distribution of the mains water to the houses in 1901 in Konya. Although Berk (1951) stated that the kitchen was kept outside the houses in the houses produced in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, it is thought that the residential building was built just after 1901. In addition, another remarkable case is the inclusion of the basement floor plan in the house and the elevation of the ground floor level so that it can be reached with the help of a ladder in order to open a window to the basement floor. In this period's buildings, unlike the previous period's buildings, access to the residence is provided via a 6-7-step staircase. In this way, it was thought to meet the need for light and air by opening windows to the basement floors (Dönmez, 2021). This has resulted in the residences being half times higher than the previous period residences.

#### 2.4. MİMARLAR ODASI (DR. NEVZAT ÖZKAL) HOUSE



**Figure 11.** Mimarlar Odası / Dr. Nevzat Özkal House Facade (Dönmez, 2021)

**Estimated Construction Period** : 20th Century First Quarter 1st National Period  
**Current Usage** : Professional Chamber

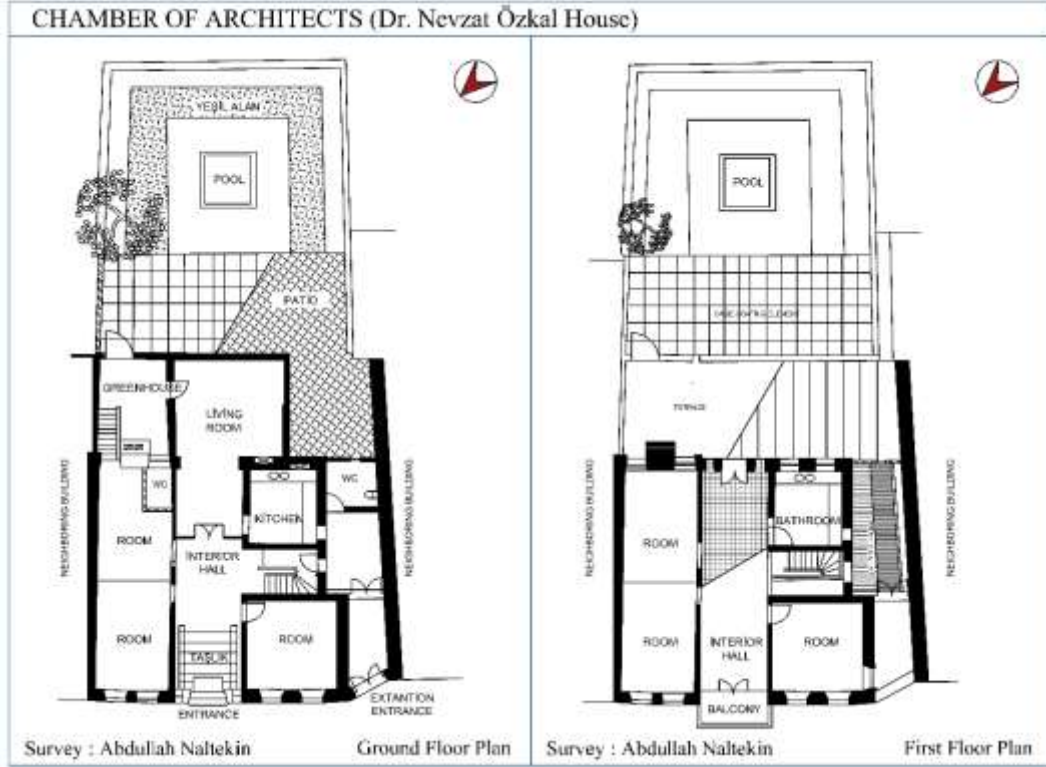


**Figure 12.** Mimarlar Odası / Dr. Nevzat Özkal House Location (Island: 344, Plot: 29)

**Residence Address:** Sahibata Mh. Atatürk Caddesi, No:15 Meram/KONYA

**Information About the Building:** The building was built in 1912 (Odabaşı, 1998). The building, which is used as the Chamber of Architects today, was later restored by the same institution (Aygör, 2015). During the restoration, changes were made in the plan of the building, but the facade layout was not changed (Aygör, 2005). The residence has three floors with a basement. The basement floor main walls of the residence were built by masonry construction technique using rubble stone, the ground floor and first floor main walls were built by nogging technique using adobe or rubble stone between the wooden frame. It is seen that the bagdadi technique is used on some interior walls (Aygör, 2015). Concrete material is used in the hall added in the south direction on the ground floor and in the construction of the stairs that provide access to the upper floor (Aygör, 2015). The garden in the south of the house is quite small. There are no traditional outbuildings such as tandoor, barn and so on. Since the house has mains water use, the kitchen and toilets are located inside the house (Figure 13). The east and west facades of the house are deaf-fronted due to the adjacent layout (Figure 11). The building has two entrances on its northern façade (Figure 11-13). The first is the main entrance to the north, which opens directly to the street, and the other is the garden entrance, which is located to the west of the main entrance, which was added later. From the double-winged main entrance door located in a 30 cm niche with a low arch, first the closed room with a stone floor is passed, and then the interior hall (Figure 13). The ground floor plan and the first floor plan are similar (Figure 13). There are no ghuslhane, closet and similar elements that reflect the traditional texture in the rooms today (Dönmez, 2021). The flattened arched stone jambs surrounding the windows placed symmetrically at regular intervals in the direction of the vertical and horizontal axes on the street façade of the house were protruded from the façade (Figure 11). The only bay window of the building is designed as a balcony, right above the main entrance, as a continuation of the first floor interior hall (Figure 11). The ornaments of the wooden balcony and the arched form of its eaves are remarkable examples of ornamentation not seen in previous examples. The house is a hipped roof covered with

Marseille tiles, and the garret is used as a warehouse. The use of staggered corner stones on the facades of the house and the horizontal floor separation formed by profiled moldings at the first floor level are included (Figure 11). Corner stones and profiled moldings are designed to overflow from the main wall of the building.



**Figure 13.** Mimarlar Odası / Dr. Nevzat Özkal House (Island: 344, Plot:29)

**Periodic Features of the Building:** The residence was built in the first national architectural style. In addition to the small size of the residential garden, the traditional guest room "Hariciye", tandoor, barn, poultry house and similar traditional outbuildings are not seen. The kitchen and toilets in the house, which has mains water use, are located only inside the house. With the change, the bathroom design on the upper floor took the place of the ghuslhane, which were in the examples of the previous period. As another indicator of the change, a balcony design, which was not seen in the examples of the previous period, is encountered in the continuation of the first floor interior hall. The residence is designed to be accessed directly from the street. On the street facade, the window design that starts at a low level can be seen on the ground floor. In addition, the windows on the entire street facade are distinguished by their low-arched and keystone jamb applications. The wavy fringe seen in the housing design and not encountered in previous periods has a striking appearance. These features show that the house was built with an understanding of a facade oriented towards the street facade, with intense decorations.

### 3. RESULT AND CONCLUSION

Traditional houses, which are an important component of Konya's historical urban fabric, are important cultural assets that should be transferred to future generations. Documentation of these examples of civil architecture with typological studies is extremely important for architectural history and conservation studies. Within the scope of this study, the house

typologies of four different periods were examined with their periodic characteristics and the general findings are given below.

When traditional Konya houses are evaluated in general; Although they show different characteristics specific to the periods in which they were built under social, cultural, economic and technological factors, it is seen that they have a stylistic unity based on common values. It has been observed that traditional Konya houses, apart from rare examples, were built with a maximum of 3 floors with a basement and designed in a plan setup with an interior hall. It has been determined that the houses were generally built in the masonry technique using rubble stone (sille and Gödene stone) up to the sub-basement level, and the ground and first floors were built in the nogging technique using adobe filling between the wooden frame. adobe plaster is used on the facades of the residences, where the aesthetic pursuit is largely met by the building form rather than the decorations. Apart from all these common features, it is observed that as time progresses, Traditional Konya houses are increasingly trying to establish a relationship with the public space. In this context, it is noteworthy that the entrance to the house from the street facades and the increasing use of windows, bay windows and decoration elements, especially on the street facades. In addition, with the shrinking of the courtyards and the transition to the use of mains water, as time progresses it is striking that the outbuildings in the courtyard were included in the interior plan of the house and the number of floors gradually increased. Thanks to the data obtained from this study, it is aimed to contribute to the cultural sustainability of traditional Konya houses.

#### 4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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