Panel 10. Paper 10.1: From Understanding to Action for Conservation and Sustainability of a Rural Heritage Place: Kemer, Turkey

CANSU EKICI
Middle East Technical University, cansuekici@gmail.com

MIRAY KISAER
Middle East Technical University, miraykisaer@gmail.com

AZIME ALADAG
Middle East Technical University, azimealadag@gmail.com

AYSE GULIZ BILGIN ALTINOZ
Middle East Technical University, bilginaltinoz@gmail.com

OZGUN OZCAKIR
Middle East Technical University, ozgunozcakir@gmail.com

See next page for additional authors

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umass.edu/icomos_isccl

Part of the Architectural History and Criticism Commons, Historic Preservation and Conservation Commons, and the Urban, Community and Regional Planning Commons

EKICI, CANSU; KISAER, MIRAY; ALADAG, AZIME; BILGIN ALTINOZ, AYSE GULIZ; OZCAKIR, OZGUN; YAVUZATMACA, MERCAN; and YILDIRIM ESER, SIBEL, "Panel 10. Paper 10.1: From Understanding to Action for Conservation and Sustainability of a Rural Heritage Place: Kemer, Turkey" (2019). Rural Heritage - Landscapes and Beyond / PATRIMOINE RURAL: Paysages et au-delà. 43. https://scholarworks.umass.edu/icomos_isccl/2019/papers/43

This Paper in a panel / paper dans un panneau is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@UMass Amherst. It has been accepted for inclusion in Rural Heritage - Landscapes and Beyond / PATRIMOINE RURAL: Paysages et au-delà by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@UMass Amherst. For more information, please contact scholarworks@library.umass.edu.
From Understanding to Action for Conservation and Sustainability of A Rural Heritage Place: Kemer, Turkey

CANSU EKİÇİ, MERCAN YAVUZATMACA
MİRAY KİSAER, AZİME ALADAĞ, AYŞE GÜLİZ BİLGİN ALTINÖZ, ÖZGÜN ÖZÇAKIR, SİBEL YILDIRIM ESEN
- Western Anatolia
- very good representative of rural heritage places of this geography with on-going traditions
- Sardis ancient city goes back to 15th century BC. Daldis ancient city is known

Nature _ People _ Built Environment
Use of spolia

Proximity to cities of Lydia

Had a town hall, Friday mosque and became a market village

Declared urban conservation area in 2016
Main sources of income
- Agriculture (acorn, olive, grape, cherry, almond, pear)
- Animal husbandry

- Part of a historic rural network and an important center of trade
Sources of Building Materials

- Use of local materials
- Construction technique
- Structural properties

**Stone:** Sarıkaya, Kıırıkkaya
**Brick mortar:** Gölcük area, Osmankızı Gölcüğü
**Mortar and plaster:** soil and bitter water from Mülke
**Lime:** Cırt alanı
**Timber:** pine and fir tree
Slate stone texture
Courtyard doors, projections, eaves, chimneys, corner chamfers and *kesme* (natural bedrock) determine the street character.
Traditional Kemer Village Houses

- Original architectural elements
- Stone and timber workmanship
- Unique features, spatial organization of a rural settlement
- Ceilings, doors, windows, cupboards, fireplaces...
Continuing intangible values;
- Traditions
- Beliefs
- Rituals
- Indigenous knowledge
- Documentation and physical surveys
199/230 lots
36 inside, 142 outside/174 traditional bld
- Social surveys
- Mappings and analysis on Geographical Information Systems
- Strengths, weaknesses and expectations of the villagers were identified by focus groups and meetings
The problems in the village are due to:
- Changing policies
- Planning decisions
- Difficulties of agricultural and husbandry activities
- Lack of social infrastructure
- Unemployment

- Abandonement
- Incompatible material use
- Loss of authenticity

Decrease of Population
Significance of the Place

- **Region**: Being a part of the historical rural network which conserved its integrity up to today

- **Surrounding**: Continuation of the relation between built and natural environment and their reflections on the rituals

- **Settlement**: Existence of the built-open space relation and original texture shaped by the social structure

- **Bldg**: Continuous existence of original architectural elements like fireplace, oven, ornamented ceiling and doors and their construction techniques

**Network**

**Context**

**Connection**
CONNECTING KEMER VILLAGE, AS A PART OF A HISTORIC RURAL SETTLEMENT NETWORK, TO TODAY AND TO THE FUTURE WITH ITS NATURAL, PHYSICAL, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL CONTEXT

Policies, Strategies and Actions
Strengthening/establishing the connection between the local people and the ‘place’

- Reviving the **market** of the village
- Introducing new **agricultural production technologies** and supporting organization
- Providing technical and applied training for **natural/organic agricultural production**
- Meeting the demands; internet, cultural trips, sports areas, canopy for the market
- Providing **accessibility**
- Upgrading the living environment in accordance with the **inhabitants’ needs**
- Improving infrastructure
- **Participatory planning**
Conserving/sustaining the ‘place’ in the integrity of natural-physical-cultural-social contexts

- Conservation of the **built environment**
- Keeping the touristic activities **limited on the commercial axis** of the village
- Creating **archives** and making further research
- Determining intervention decisions
- **General principles** for building new structures
- Using social media, preparing informative booklets, exhibitions and organizing events
- **Participatory planning**
- **Generator projects**;
  - Village Culture House
  - The Mill: Production, Sales and Tasting
  - Hanönü: Public space of the village
  - Museum-archive House
  - Street rehabilitation
Strengthening and sustaining the rural network of the ‘place’

- Reviving the **market** of the village
- Sustaining the **cultural landscape**
- Giving suitable **conservation status** for the elements of the cultural landscape
- Determining the **pasture areas** and providing conservation
- Creating cultural and natural **routes**
- Improving **infrastructure**
- Increasing **public transportation**
Gathering, sharing and transmitting the information about the ‘place’

- Conservation of the **built environment**
- **Interviews** with old people, local masons etc.
- Creating **archives** and making further research
- Compatible and limited **touristic activities**
- Creating cultural and natural **routes**
- **Ecological** tourism, archeological investigations
- Accommodation **proposal**: Albergo diffuso/dispersed hotels
Strengthening/establishing the connection between local people and the ‘place’

Conserving/sustaining the ‘place’ in the integrity of natural-physical-cultural-social contexts

Strengthening and sustaining the rural network of the ‘place’

Gathering, sharing and transmitting the information about the ‘place’

Conceptual Diagram
An action plan was prepared for 10 years time period. These actions were prepared after understanding the place from its local inhabitants. Then the decisions and projects were shared with the inhabitants and local authorities.
In this case,

- develops conservation decisions for a historic rural settlement including its inhabitants through a shared decision making process
- Considers the know-how and approaches of locals to understand and assess the place
- illustrates the importance of considering the demands of the inhabitants to gain their trusts for facilitating future processes
- Proposes principles, strategies and actions in different scales: from region to a single building

Timeline:

- 2017
  - Pre-survey
  - Field survey in Kemer Village
    - Meeting with the Mayor
    - Site survey
    - Social surveys
    - Public Panel organization
  - Preparing the project
    - Understanding, assessment and proposals
  - Final presentation
    - to academicians, students and delegates of the stakeholders

- 2018
  - Second visit to Kemer Village
    - Presentation of the project to the local people and delegates from the municipality
    - Meeting with the Mayor

- 2019
  - Third visit to Kemer Village
    - Field survey in Kemer Village
    - Documentation of a traditional house complex (Ağa House)
    - Meeting with the Mayor
  - Preparing the project
    - Analysis, Historical research, Comparative study, Evaluation and Conservation Interventions
  - Final presentation
    - to academicians, students

- 2020
  - Municipality decided to initiate a tender for the Conservation Master Plan of Kemer Village

Today
THANK YOU!