

New Horizons On Architecture: Creating The Future While Conserving The Past On Historical Peninsula, Istanbul

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ABSTRACT

Historical Peninsula is not only the historical center, but also it is the commercial center of ancient Istanbul. Four major empires had been ruled from this magnificent point, with a unique Bosphorus view. It is also an open air museum with various historical sites and buildings, such as Suleymaniye Mosque, Topkapi Palace, etc. Thus, the site is chosen for an architectural search on new forms and concepts on an existed historical area while preserving the historical heritage and learning the details of the project management by 14 students of the Faculty of Architecture, Department of Architecture of Yildiz Technical University, The Design Studio 4 has been searched to find the best places and related architectural concepts to create new architectural forms on Historical Peninsula according to the modern project management rules during the winter semester of 2013-2014 educational year. During the semester an atmosphere of professional design office was created to let the project group to understand and to feel the details and necessities of the project management on the real architectural field. Thus the paper will have the long process of the Design Studio 4, with 14 different location and concept proposal projects to Historical Peninsula.

Keywords: architecture, historical peninsula, concept, conserve.

INTRODUCTION

Project management is the brand new title on the architectural field for the last 5 to 10 years, to make the architectural project processes much more powerful and convenient.

As it is known that especially for the last 10 years, parallel to the developments on the market of the neo-liberal economies, project management title became very popular and useful on the *praxis* of the architecture. Thus, with this point of view, during the 15 weeks of the Design Studio 4 a new kind of approach has been carried out. Therefore, the main emphasis of the studio was made on the title of the project management and students were asked not only to design a project but also think on the issues of the project management regarding to their own architectural project designs.

METODOLOGY:

A way of designing which is passing through project management

Within the first 2 weeks of the Design Studio 4, 4 different seminars were given to the group regarding to the title of the project management, which were titled as;

What is project management? How can an architectural project be successful on the world of neo-liberal economies? What is different in between "planning" and "designing"? and Living on the architectural world of competition, as chronologically. So let's see what is the project management. Project management has a point of view from which the architectural world is formulated out of "working stages"; 4 stages plus the control stage as "closing". According to the traditional approach on the *praxis* of the architecture, there are 5 sequence of steps to be completed, which are developmental components of a project can be distinguished. These stages are:

- Initiation,
- Planning and design,
- Execution and construction
- Monitoring and controlling systems,
- Completion (closing)



Fig.1. *The Typical development phases of an architectural project, (Sebastian, N)*

Here we have a schema on which these “working stages” can be seen. This schema is also called as the typical development phases of an architectural project. On the schema it is seen that after a basic initiation stage, some projects are going through the 2nd, 3rd and the 4th stages multiple times. It is known that architects are generally using some sub-stages on this system as well, such as, analysis as pre-planning, schematically used diagrams showing functional distribution, synthesis as conceptual design, construction drawings as contract documents, and finally construction management issues.

Initiation stage is processing the determining of the nature and the scope of the project.

Planning or design stage includes variations of synthesis of conceptual project.

Executing stage has quality assurance and plan contracting issues.

Monitoring and controlling stage consists of a process, which is performed to observe project execution, so that, potential problems can be identified and it also provides feedback between project stages, in order to implement corrective or preventive actions to bring the project into compliance according to the project management plan.

Closing includes not only the formal acceptance of the project but also the contract closure.

2.2. *Defining and Using Project Management Process*

What is a project?

Understanding the project management process groups

How to scope a project?

How to launch a project?

How to monitor and control a project?

How to close a project?

CONTENT AND CONTEXT OF THE LECTURE

The project creating process of the Design Studio 4 has 6 main steps:

1.site seeing, 2.making of analysis, 2.a. SWOT analysis, 2.b. Concept Hunt, 2.c.physical analysis, 3.preparing of synthesis, 4.the creating of conceptual background, 5.specifying decisions of making ecological based projects or creating contemporary architectural examples, 6.the design process of the project; preparing of the technical drawings, plans, sections and elevations, 7.creating of details of landscape, 8.making presentations on the auditorium, 9.discussions of each project on final jury.

Moreover then this, during 15 weeks long semester, informative seminars related with the history of the site, the economical and cultural potentials of the site were given to the students on the first 2 weeks, and from the 3rd week to 10th, three digital programs, which are chronologically photo-shop for architectural representation, sketch up for understanding 3 dimensional modelling quickly and rhino 5 for creating the design of the project, were shown to students on three different workshops. During this process, also 5 seminars about project management, 1 about architectural patterns and geometrical form creating and 2 about light-weight structures were given to the group, as well.

Thus, during the 15 weeks of one semester education on The Design Studio 4 of the Faculty of Architecture, Department of Architecture of Yildiz Technical University, first, it was asked to create one contextual background from each of the 14 students. The project site was Historical Peninsula, Istanbul. Historical peninsula of Istanbul is located on the hearth of the city Istanbul, from where not only Byzantium Empire (East Roman Empire), but also Ottoman Empire has been ruled chronologically. Thus, the Peninsula has a great potential of historical sites and tourism. Also because it has shores surrounded by Bosphorus, there is the main barracks of Istanbulian fishermen and many raki & fish restaurants across the Peninsula. The main line of the central trains is crossing the Peninsula. The historical Station of Sirkeci is also located on this site.

Thus, students searched to find the best places and related architectural concepts to create new architectural forms

on the site while trying to act like real actors on the *praxis* of the architectural field and understanding the process of the project management.

The project group went to the site not only to make analysis of Historical Peninsula, but also to create the best concept and select the most suitable place for their projects according to the analysis on the first three weeks of the semester, two times during the week. Students also made some interviews according to their concepts with the citizens of the Peninsula. From the 4th week to the 8, the process had the synthesis period. During this period, each and every student prepared the synthesis of their projects according to the income datas from the site analysis and the interviews that have been done in the site in the early period of the project process. During the whole of the semester in an office like atmosphere every detail related with the project management were created and each and every student acted like being the actors of a real project management actors.

4. PROJECTS AND DISCUSSIONS

There were 14 submitted projects from the group of the Design Studio 4, on which students searched to find the best places and related architectural concepts to create new architectural forms on an office like atmosphere regarding to the details of a project management during the spring semester of 2013-2014 educational year. The best 5 projects of 14 different location and concept proposal projects to Historical Peninsula are:

1. *Historic-a Museum*, by Okan Karaman

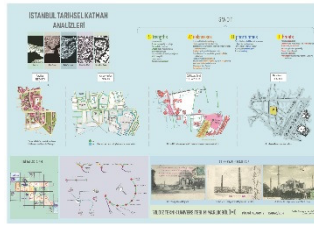


Fig.2. *Historic-a Museum*

The project has a context, which emphasizes the layers on the memory. Therefore, it shows on its design that there are different levels of the culture through years on the same point of the geography. The museum stands on the right center of the project on which different layers of the city memory is showed with different hint points.

2. *Loop- Yenikapi*, by Nesibe Kinatas

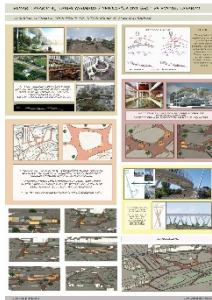


Fig.3. *Loop- Yenikapi*, by Nesibe Kinatas

The project includes a LOOP, around and inside which the daily life goes on. There is also one building of an institute Yenikapi on the herath of the LOOP project which also was designed by the same student with the similar design criterias.

3. Parametric Train Station, by Kadir Kosem



Fig.4. Parametric Train Station, by Kadir Kosem

The central train line of Istanbul is from Eminonu to Halkali and the train station of Yenikapi is the 2nd central station of this line after the Sirkeci Main station. This project emphasizes the importance of the Yenikapi train station as re-designing it according to the contemporary architectural language and thus the new station is an example of the parametric architecture.

4. RAKI- The Fishermen’s Restaurant, by Orkun Yersel

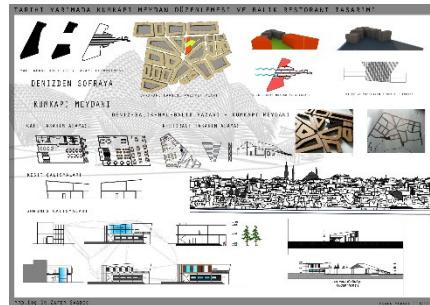


Fig.5. RAKI- The Fishermen’s Restaurant, by Orkun Yersel

This project emphasizes to build a new relationship among the fishermen’s barracks on the sea shore of the Marmara sea in Yenikapi region, fish restaurants and the fish market. Therefore, just on the center of a triangle of these three already related topics, on a triangular island one parametric fish restaurant has been designed.

5. The Music Academy of Yenikapi, by Bilal Kivrak

This is a project de-constructivist music academy on the Yenikapi region by the sea shore of Marmara sea. The project area is located just next to the ruins of the ancient Istanbulian city walls. Thus, the project emphasizes the importance of these city walls as de-constructing and re-creating their forms from the beginning. Here is a music academy for young hoods of Gitano families on the region.



Fig. 6. The Music Academy of Yenikapi, by Bilal Kivrak

CONCLUSION

Among multiple benefits of the exercise some that stand out are: (1) students participated in solving a creative design problem, (2) students learned to work on an estimated time period, (3) students familiarized themselves with creating designs on a relationship among history and project management while thinking on architecture, (4) students learned to appreciate different point of views on the same project site, (5) students were able to visualize their designs in context, (6) students learned important digital programs for their future designs.

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