Evaluation of the Corner Buildings' Identity in the Walled City of Nicosia

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ABSTRACT

Corner buildings can be considered as one of the most significant elements that affect cities' identity. Accordingly, in historic urban quarters, corner buildings play a great role in determining the characteristic of the city. However, together with the development in technology, and the rise of new building typologies, inappropriate conditions have emerged which affected the identity of corner buildings that act as nodes of cities.

In the light of this perspective, the study aims to evaluate the corner building identity in the Walled City of Nicosia which is of significance to historic urban quarters. For this purpose, 16 specific corner buildings have been selected from this area of which 8 belongs to the British period and 8 belongs to the modern period built after 1960. The comparative analysis of these examples have proved that corner buildings in the British Period possessed more ornamentation and curved lines; which helped towards creating a specific urban identity. On the other hand, the analysis of contemporary examples have displayed that they have simpler geometric forms and more horizontal lines. Although they are respectful to the corners, they do not have the same impact on the identity of cities.

Key words: Identity**,** corner buildings, historic urban quarters, Walled City of Nicosia

ÖZ

Köşe binalar kent kimliğini etkileyen en önemli öğelerden biridir. Özellikle tarihi kentlerde, köşe binalar kent kimliğinin oluşumunda önemli roller oynar. Bu nedenle, çalışmanın amacı, önemli bir tarihi ketsel alan olan Lefkoşa Surlariçi'ndeki köşe binaların kimlik değerlendirmesini yapmaktır.

Günümüzde, teknolojidek gelişimler mimariyi etkilediği gibi, tarihi kentlerin kimliğini de ektilemektedir. Kimi zaman da bu gelişimler, tarihi kentlere tanımsız ve/veya uygunsuz köşe binaların eklenmesine sebep olmaktadır. Özellikle, kentlerde bir düğüm notlası oluşturan köşe binaların kimliğinde, bu problemler daha da fazla göze çarpmaktadır.

Bu çalışma dört bölümden oluşmaktadır. İlk bölümde problemler, amaç, method ve limitasyon yer almaktadır. İkinci bölümde ise kimlik kavramı ve köşe binalarla ilgili teorik bilgi verilmektedir. İkinci bölümün ilk kısmında kimlik tanımı, kimliğin önemi ve kimliğin köşe binalar üzerindeki önemi tartışılırken, ikinci kısımda ise köşe binaların kentsel alanlardaki tanımı ve önemi yer almaktadır. Bunun yanında, köşe tipolojilerinden ve onu oluşturan elemanlardan da söz edilmektedir. Üçüncü bölümde ise Lefkoşa Surlariçi'nde yer alan 16 köşe binanın analizleri ve değerlendirmeleri yer almaktadır. Seçilen 16 binanın sekizi İngiliz Döneminden, diğer sekizi de 1960 sonrasında inşa edilen binaladan oluşmaktadır. Son kısımda ise, yapılan analizler ve sonrasında elde edilen bulgulara yer vermektedir.

Elde edilen bulgular, İngiliz Dönemi'nde yapılan binalarda genellikle, sarı taş kullanıldığınını ve bina üzerinde haha çok süsleme ve yuvarlak cizgiler kullanıldığını

göstermektedir. Bunun yanında, 1960 sonrasında yapılan binalarda ise köşe tanımlarının korunurken, betonarme binaların inşa edildiği, bina cephelerinde daha basit geometrik forumların kullanıldığını ve yatay çizgilerin cephede hakim olduğunu göstermektedir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Kimlik, köşe binalar, tarihi kentsel alanlar, Lefkoşa Surlariçi.

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To My Beloved Family

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INTRODUCTION

Identity is defined by many urban designers and planners. Sustainability of city identity is one of the most essential goals for the future of better urban life. Lynch (1981) defines identity as: “the extent to which a person can recognize or recall a place as being distinct from other places.” Moreover, Lynch (1990) argues that identity leads to the creation of livable environments. In addition, it is indicated that specific places should have a perceptual identity; memorable, recognizable, vivid, differentiation to the other locations, because it creates a sense of belonging. Goldstein and Elliott (1992) define it as a “characteristic combining uniqueness, dissonance, and mystery.” The special corner buildings create unique places in cities and also have a great significance on a city’s identity. Corners buildings are part of streets which are defined as midsection of streets. In general, they have special designs that improve quality of street frames and urban spaces.

Unfortunately, today, most of the cities in the world face problems of identity due to rapidly growing high-rise buildings that have similar plan types, and building materials. Therefore, day by day cities are becoming more anonymous. Similar problems are also applicable for corner buildings. Inappropriate buildings are added at corners into the newly developing areas.

As is observed, there are many special corner buildings in the Walled City of Nicosia that are not also seen in the newly developing areas. Therefore, this study aims to

analyze the corner building identity in the Walled City of Nicosia in order to draw lessons from the past and transfer this knowledge to contemporary architecture.

1.1 Problem Statement

Throughout observation, it is recognized that most of the newly developing areas lack corner buildings of character that play significant role in the city's identity. Within this perspective, the study looks at the corner buildings of the Walled City of Nicosia in order to understand the characteristics of this typology.

By rapid growing of cities with similar plan types and materials, the world is under the threat of losing its variety. Consequently cities are becoming meaningless. Unfortunately, similar problems have occurred in most of the urban areas in Nicosia. This is why corner buildings' characteristics are important and worthy of further research.

1.2 Aim and Objective of the Study

In this study, it is aimed to analyze the corner building identity in the northern part of the Walled City of Nicosia. The Walled City possesses many historical corner buildings that have a unique identity. They have significant contributions to the city identity. With these in mind, this research attempts to clarify the identity of the corner building in the Walled City of Nicosia in order to learn lessons from the past for the future.

1.3 Methodology of the Study

The methodology of this research is mainly based on qualitative research which includes literature survey, documentary and case study. In addition, below steps introduced to get the information:

1. Theoretical framework on the basis of literature review

2. Case study which includes gathering of information, analysis, and evaluation

The thesis is composed of four chapters. First chapter presents problem statement, aim and methodology of the study. Second chapter includes theoretical structure collected through literature review which is about the subject of the thesis: corner building identity. For the case study, a total of sixteen corner buildings were selected from the Walled City of Nicosia which are located on the Kyrenia Avenue, the main distributor in the Walled City, and the immediate surrounding street parallel to it. Eight of these buildings belong to the British period and the remaining eight belong to Modern period that are believed to be good examples for corner definition. Finally, the conclusion and remarks of the thesis is exhibited in the forth chapter.

1.4 Limitation of the Study

The study is limited to the evaluation of only sixteen examples of which eight are selected from the British Period and the remaining from after 1960. They are located on the Kyrenia Avenue or immediate parallel streets. All the selected buildings have either curved or angular street corners. The analysis specifically focuses on the ground floors.

Table 1: Research Methodology

INTRODUCTION

Definition of subject and explanation about problem statement

Definition of aims and objectives

Methodology of the study

THEORITICAAL FRAMEWORK

• Corner building definition • Importance of corner elements in urban environment • Corner building typology	• Definition of identity • Significance of identity for cities surrounding • Factors affecting identity of the corner buildings

Obtaining the factors that affect identity of corner building

DATA COLLECTION

Physical analysis (man-made)	Documenting research	Observation

DATA ANALYSIS

Analysing the physical characteristic of corner building as a factor of identity in Walled City of Nicosia

CONCLUSION

Chapter 2

IDENTITY OF THE CORNER BUILDING

2.1 Identity

This section will focus on the definition of identity, the role of identity for cities and factors affecting corner building identity.

2.1.1 Definition of identity

In a simple form, identity can be defined as one of the significant goals for the future of livable surroundings. In a real sense, an urban environment is a place that should have a visible insightful identity, recognizable, unforgettable, attracting people and distinguishing itself from other places (Lynch, 1990).

In fact, there are too many explanations for identity. According to the Longman dictionary (1980), it is “who or what a particular person or thing is”. In addition, identity is the objective bases for comprehension. So, special places should have very effective images in cities. It is an act of supporting the sense of belonging and a way of making a behavioral region. Members of a city should feel that some region of the environment belong to them, in individual form and in a collective manner, some region that they care for and rely on, whether that area belong to them or not . At the urban level, the environment should be an area which support and encourage people to declare themselves and become engaged to decide what they need and act on it (Oktay,1998, Appleyard and Jacobs.1982).

Moreover, another significant factor for the image of the city is identity. Corners are playing significant role for diminishing or improving the sense of identity. Urban identity is created through the complex interaction of natural, social and artificial built element (Oktay, 1996).

In this part, several meaning of identity has been given. In this research, identity is explained as the remarkable characteristics which distinguish one environment-organic and man-made from the other part of environments. Therefore, in the following section, the idea of identity of a city is going to be appraised.

Accorrding to Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary (1983) identity is 'the distinguishing character or condition of a person or a thing'. Also Lynch(1981) defines identity as :"the extent to which a person can recognize or recall a place as being distinct from other places." Like individuals, cities should have unique character and differences; this flavour is made up of many distinguishing quality, or recognizable elements.

Cities are always changeable; it means the city is never static. In procedure of growing cities, some parts can be also destroyed or replaced. In addition, fundamental factor for obtaining identity in an urban area as reminded by many theoreticians, such as Relph (1976) and Punter (1991) is a creation of "sense of place".

"A place is a space which has a distinct character. Since ancient times, the 'genius loci', or sprit of place, has been recognized as the concrete reality man has to face and come to terms within his daily life. Architecture means to visualize the genius

loci and the task of the architect is to create meaningful places where he helps man to dwell." (Christian Norberg-Schulz,Genius Loci,1979).

Production of urban identity is among the complicated interaction of natural, social and artificial built elements. Actually, between these, elements of buildings are the most crucial factors which can be considered for changing the identity in negative and positive ways in a short time. Generally these elements include the built urban structure; however, all urban objects participate in urban identity. By considernig the subsequent qulaities they can be considered as elements of urban identity.

Visual qualities of object makes distinction, from one object to another by distinguishing texture, color, form ,size,scale and dimension.Meaning of the object: it is distinguished from other objects in connection with emotional or historical factors.

For attracting and holding people in space, urban environment should develop a powerfull and an independent image for improving recognizability and impressiveness by people (Oktay, 2001). On the other side, unfortunately, the goal of modern development and/or redevelopment, is productivity of enormous scale of structure and maximum use of site. Therefore, the design guide to produce a repetitive, standard instead of improvement of tradition increase the identification and proud of citizens.

Pride of place, is most successful achievement by holding the scale and space of squares and streets and increasing the characteristic and qualification of buildings. One of the excellent and cheapest ways of growing a positive image for an urban area is preserving existing architectural framework.

2.1.2 The Role of Identity for Cities

In Lynch (1961) point of view, for having a wonderful physical identity, the well arrangement of environment, definition of the buildings and the activity of people in that area are very important. Also, the elements which produce the city should illustrate the society instruction, the necessity of people and the tradition of that society. Every association and law should be regarded from this point of view (Öngül, 2011).

Cities should have distinguishable characteristics and be memorable places by design. Correspondingly, the first aesthetic problem of design for the district is, how to produce physical identity for the area, and how to create distinguishable character for the area. As highlighted by Berglund (1998, p 30), "old trees, old houses, and old places are all symbols of survival. They remind us of those who lived before and those who will live after us."

As Lynch (2010) explained, the time is an important factor for a city design It can be said that the identity of cities created during the time, not suddenly. It means the city's identity is not static; it changes over time. Also it is important to mention that "Cities are known by the identities that they create; the growth of cities are slow and most of the cities have a long history which cause to the creation of different historical layers along the time, this identity is very well kept.

Moreover Kaypak (1994) believe that the unity can sustain the concept of "consistency" where the city identity has to change.

So, the concept of identity can be evaluated on the basis of three features such as strength, integrity and truth (Kaypak, 1994, p.8). Cities are known by the identities that they make by them.

2.1.2.1 Street Identity

Possibly, history is the best evidence of the livability for significance of public urban area. From the past until this time, there is some basic human desire for streets and open spaces which make them more functional and essential. In addition, old cities' activities help to create a better looking for citizens who live in the community. This discussion is particularly true for "the street". Actually street is the principal external space of the city which is the most intrinsic component in the pattern of the city.

The street provide an arrangement for group of people that share common characteristic or interest in public open space directly outside their homes. Also, identification of significance of streets as structure of public open area is a second basic element of public open space (Barnett, 1982, Moughtin, 1992). It can be strongly said that identical qualities of streets play a prominent role in the image of a city (Lynch, K. 1961).

Generally the quality of a street mainly depends on the handle of volume, but predominant emotion or character of the street is produced by its architecture. The best definition of the street is a surrounded, three dimensional spaces in the middle of two lines of adjoining buildings and the corner definition.

2.1.2.2 Square Identity

The other clearest element for urban structure is the square. It is easily imaginable, and it can be represented as a goal for movement. The square is affected by the similar formal factors with street, with the distinction that buildings should be

designed in connection with the surrounding environment. Because of the squares' size, it prepares the essential perspective for impressing main buildings of the town, which by means of that, psychological purpose and physical functions are emphasized as "landmarks".

2.1.2.3 Architecture Identity

In the paper 'Towards an Urban Design Manifesto', Jacobs and Appleyard (1 987, pp. 1 1 5-1 6) suggested seven goals that were 'essential for the future of a good urban environment'; that one of the most important goal is identity and control which cause people feel that some part of the environment 'belongs' to them, individually and collectively, whether they own it or not.

As Lynch stated, the minor theme of city orientation grew into the major theme of the city's mental image. Observation of cities with districts, landmarks and pathways that were easily identifiable and easily grouped into an overall pattern, led to the definition of what Lynch called 'imageability', 'that quality in a physical object which gives it a high probability of evoking a strong image in any given observer'. It can be mentioned that the architecture of buildings in the city has a significant effect on identity and imageability. For example specific corner building along the street, influence on the mind of people as an identical and memorable object.

2.1.3 Factors Effecting Corner Buildings Identity

So many ideas have been used as an analyzer of architectural composition to understand the quality of an urban area that decides about the types of a corner building; good or bad. As Zevi (1957) mentioned, the list of architecture characteristics that are usually used as an exact specific meaning for corner building includes: 'movement, vitality, harmony, scale, character, proportion, light and shade, solids and voids, symmetry, rhythm, mass, volume, etc.

Corner building as one of the element of urban identity, should have distinctive qualities. Also, it should have a visual effect and unique meaning. In particular, at the scale of city, identity is obtained by building facades of similar character between the corner elements.

2.2 Corner Building Definition

In two dimensions, a corner can be defined as an encounter of two surfaces, and in three dimension expression, street corner is an area where two streets meet each other at the intersection point. Also, the buildings where located in this area are described as corner buildings.

"While 'corner' can be articulated by simple contrasting the surfaces of the adjoining planes, or obscured by layering it with an optical pattern, perception of its existence is also affected by the laws of perspective and the quality of light that illuminates the form" (Ching,1979 p .96).

For having an active corner area, in vision attitude, physical characteristics of a building should be more than small deviation because these formal deviations can be consider as a sharp angle. Moreover, the form of corner space is made in this angle spaces.

Continuity of a building's surfaces depends on the rounding of the corner; also the scale of the radius is another significant factor. In visual point of view if the radius of the corner building is too small, it becomes visually unimportant corner building; on the other hand, if the size of radius is too large, the interior area is affected by that.

FiFigure 1: Erich Mendelsohn, Mosse building (URL 1)

The design attitude should be well thought out in order to provide a functional and aesthetical corner façade. The process which is very significant for the corner definition in an urban area, can be obtained by using all of the horizontal and vertical components of corners as well as the visual characteristics of form and space.

The corner has huge significance for producing or improving the quality of an urban area. In Moughtin point of view (1995.p.40), the design of the corner where two planes meet is a visual problem giving scope for expression in the design of any artifact, the design of the urban scene is no exception to this rule.

Throughout the past decade, the importance of corner has been completely forgotten and corner attitude was harsh and undecorated. From the first period of modern architecture, the impact of corner concept become less effective or valuable and designers refused to recognize the significance of the street corner (Moughtin,

1996.p.49). In addition, public areas disregarded the importance of physical and functional style of corners that are refused or destroyed in a systematic way (Gosling and Maitland.1984.p.69). Furthermore, the abandonment of the corner has a negative influence on the traditional urban quarter of most of the cities and one reason for the main urban areas is having the appearance of a declined area.

Since, form's articulation relies on the huge amount of how the environment or spaces are specified and encounter at corners, how conditions of corner find a solution to explanation and clearness of importance of form.

2.2.1 The Significance of Corner for Urban Design

It is important to emphasize that one of the most significant characteristics of the urban scene is corner buildings. So, corner site design has great importance for producing and improving the quality of an urban environment. Corner area controls the visual and spatial continuity and defines space. Therefore, the corner can be consider as one of the most significant area in an urban environment and is obviously involved with the connection of two streets. Moreover, some authors, regarded street corners as 'potential focal point', that unique corner buildings raise the legibility of these regions and visual permeability of each area depends on the form of the corner building (Bentlet, 1985).

Figure 2: Corner building as a focal point. Gooderham Building (URL 2)

2.2.2 Dimension of Corner Buildings for Improvement of Urban Quality

It is important to mention that the dimensions of corner buildings can be measured by the other buildings proportions. Also, buildings which are located in the corner spaces should be in harmony with others for increasing urban quality of the city. From another point of view, the existence of harmony in elements of corner buildings has a great importance for creating a harmonious composition. As figure three shows, harmony in buildings can be exhibit on the material of buildings, skyline and details of architecture.

Figure 3: Harmony of corner building with others for increasing urban quality of the city Joseph Loth & Company Silk Ribbon Mill, 1828
(Amsterdam Avenue, Manhattan, New York City, United States) (URL 3)

Dimension of corner buildings for improvement of urban quality include; surface articulation and articulation of form which will be explained in the following section.

2.2.2.1 Surface Articulation

The meaning of surface articulation on the building is the pleasure viewer has by diversity of visual experiences, which is called richness (Bently, 1985). The façade is one of the most significant element in surface articulation because it shows the diversity of experience to the resident, the quality of visual richness rely on the contrast:

1. Window and wall as a contrast of elements

2. The color and texture as a contrast of building material

3. Finally light and shadow contrast of highly modeled surface.

By making a contrast in colors of surface and the surrounding of buildings, shape of façade can be articulated. High or low visual quality of a façade depends on the value

of its model of materials, surface color, the facades building texture, scale and quality of light reflection (Ching, 1979, p.96).

As figure four and five show, quality of surface articulation depends on the rhythm of the surface elements such as door and window shapes, materials, details, color blend and height. In addition the quality of the corner elements are an important factor for corners.

Figure 4: (Former) James Hampden and Cornella Van Rensselaer House (URL 4)

Figure 5: Qufu Lu / Gansu Lu (URL 5)

2.2.2.2 Articulation of Form

In this section building forms and edges of corner will be explained under articulation of forms.

- **Building Form**

Articulation related to the style of surfaces that come together to define its shape and volume. An articulated form obviously exhibits the precise nature of its parts and their relationship to each other and to the whole. Its surfaces seem as discrete planes with distinct shapes and their overall formation is readable and easily felt. In a similar manner, an articulated group of form accentuates the connection between the component parts in order to visually declare their uniqueness.

The articulation of form includes:

- Distinction of joint planes by replace in color, pattern, texture and material
- Improving corners as clear linear elements which is autonomous from the adjoining planes
- Physically separation of neighborhood planes by removing corners
- To create sharp contrast between the corner and edges, consume lighting in form**.**

On the other hand, for emphasizing the continuity of surfaces, the corner can be rounded. In addition texture, color, material and pattern can emphasize the volume of a form and de-emphasize the unique surface across a corner to the adjoining surfaces.

Also, the most significant factor for the articulation of a form is the encounter of surfaces at corners, and the solution of critical definition and clearness form for edge conditions (Ching, 1990).

- **Edges & Corner**

As long as a corner can be expressed by clear opposing the surface qualities of the attached planes, or made indistinct by layering their joining with an vision pattern, its existence is also influenced by the rules of viewpoint and the characteristics of light that explain the form.

For having a formally active corner, there must be more than a minor difference in the angle between the neighboring planes. For instance, a wall plane that is curved only a little will appear to be a single flat plane, perhaps with a surface limitation. A corner would not be supposed.

The meeting of two planes is defined by corners. The presence of the corner will rely on the optical behavior of the joint of appearance, if the two planes easily join and the corner stays undecorated, in this condition, corner emphasizes the impact of a shape.

The situation of corner can be improved in visual term by divided and distinct component introduction which is free from the surface attachment. This component expresses the corner as a linear condition, explains the adjoining planes border, and become as a clear characterize of the form.

One side of the corner can be considered as an opening, and planes will bypass by another one. The corner condition is reduced by opening; weak definition of the volume inside the form, and show the importance of the characteristics of planer in the neighboring outward appearance.

If neither plane is increased to explain the corner, a volume of area is produced to replace the corner. This corner condition declines the volume of the form, permits the interior space to leak to the outside, and obviously display the surfaces as planes in space.

As figure 6 shows, the connectedness of the bordering surfaces of a form is emphasized by rounding of the corner. Measure of the degree of a curve in the radius of the corner is significant. If excessively small, it visually becomes unimportant; if large, the internal space which is enclosed and exterior shape that is described by this corner will be influenced. Size, scale, shape, proportion and visual weight of a plane is dependent on people feeling which is affected by its exterior appearance as well as its visual background (Ching, 1990).

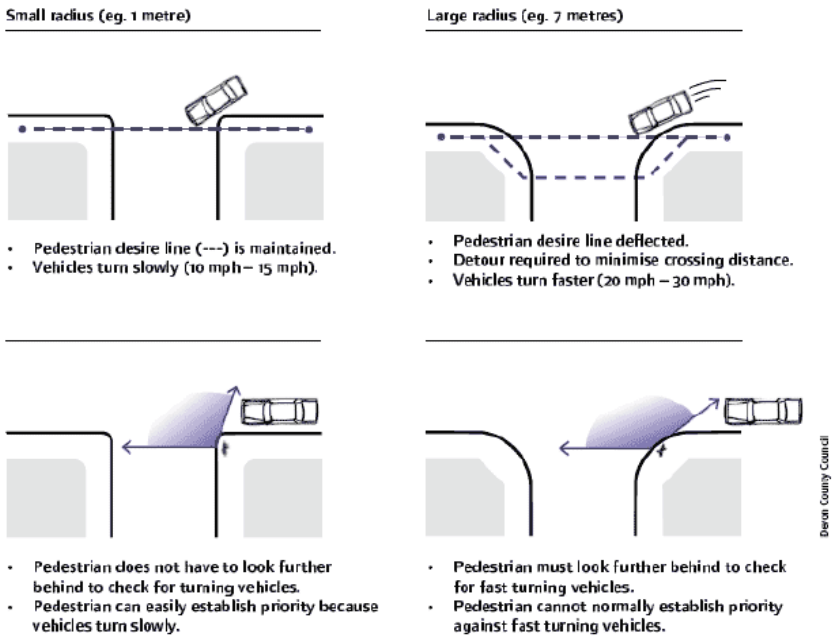


Figure 6: The effects of corner radius on pedestrians (URL 6)

As long as visual weight can be either raised or reduced by modifying its tonal value, a clear difference between the color of the external part of layer and enclosure field can be explained its shape:

- The view at the front exhibit the genuine form of plane, which on the other hand, indirect views cause to make a plane deformation.
- For perception of size and scale in visual context of a plane, elements of known size can help.
- Visual weight, scale of the plane and the reflection of light can affected by texture and color.

Deformations of form or the proportion of plane seem greater or more important than it really is and can be affected by very large visional or directional patterns.

2.2.3 Significance of Street Corners at City Scale

Cities are for people. In order to conceive a city, a person has to move in city space by perceiving each street corner. The first step in the process of perception is to orientate one's mind as fully as possible to the concept of space as a dominating force, to respond to space as a basic element in itself, and to conceive designs abstractly with it (Oktay,1996).

According to dictionary's definition of Collins Cobuild, 'Street runs between two lines of the building or shop'. In addition in Jacobs point of view (1965,p.39, in Moughtin 1992) "streets and their sidewalk, and the main public place of a city, and they are the most vital organs. Think of a city and what comes to mind? Its streets. If a city's street look interesting, the city looks interesting; if they look dull, the city looks dull."

The physical factor which are visible and mostly effect streets include: mix land-use, communication between pedestrian and vehicular, arrangement of elements and background, land-use and density (Schymacher, 1986, p.133). It seems that most of the activity in the street happens when large numbers of pedestrians feel comfortable to use the street in a variety of ways. Furthermore, it appears that a diversity of land uses are a prerequisite for liveliness of street. The interaction of pedestrian and vehicular form in street depends on the function of the street. For developing livable and active street, complete separation of vehicles and pedestrians causing damage, while many pedestrianized spaces are highly successful. The connection between liveliness of streets and mix of land-uses with high density can be true in a general way. In addition, it is necessary to consider both aspects with more attention by considering street's function (Moughtin,1992).

In Moughtin's (1992.p.133) point of view, path and place are two main characteristics of street which are directly related to form. Definition of street space as a vehicular road is different from design of street as a 'path'. Therefore, path is one of the important symbols demonstrating the basic characteristics of human life (Lynch, 1960).

Lynch underlines the importance of the memorable path more than standards of traffic engineering. This kind of path has both a beginning and an end, which clear nodes or places inside the length of the path can be utilized for spatial use and activity that its consider as the street corner spaces. Although such path having scale and have comparable elements, above all else, they have to make a motivation and memorable image of places in the memory of spectator (Lynch,1960, p.47-51).

By regarding function of street as an exterior room or location in the city, enclosure and public square should dominate same qualities in the street Collins (1986, p.199) points out that "the dimension of street should remain within logical proportions. In wide and long street, with ordinary frontage buildings, achieving a sense of enclosure is very difficult."

In this situation, spatial enclosure of the street corners is the fundamental quality for comprehension of street spaces. In addition, the connection of street walls are the basic creator of the character of the continuous evolvement (Ellis,1986,p.120,in Oktay,1990). Therefore, special street corners have an important role for the creation of sense of place.

Corners buildings in the street can be regarded as strategic points in the city. It seems to be fair to say that because corner buildings located in a particular position, it can be considered as a familiar place for guiding or leading. Corner buildings may be regard as an important focal point because of their physical form such as: corner buildings which are located on opening of squares that maybe saved particular uses.

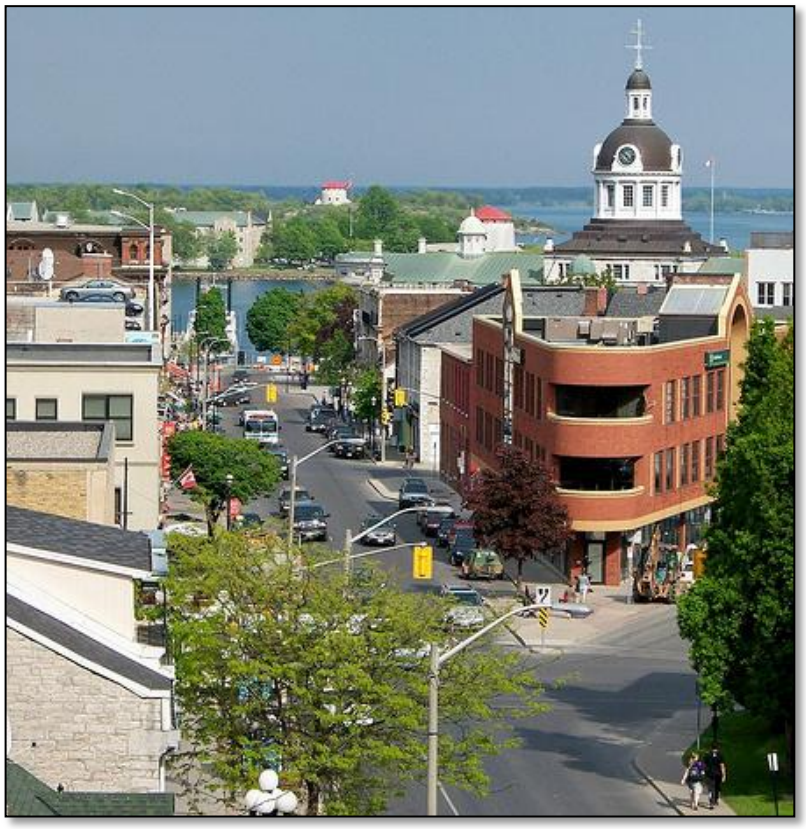


Figure 7: Corner building as a focal point, with intersection Brock Street, at Bagot and Clarence, tilt-shifted **(**URL 7)

It can be said that corner building can be concerned as a physical object that because of the shape and position, distinct from the surrounding area. In fact, corner buildings may have a special design; it can be large or manmade objects like curved, hemispherical roof, tower, playing a role as a distinction form from other points in the city. Corner of the building include: entrance of building in the corner, the frontage of shop or a façade of the corner building. By considering the significance of the corner building, it can be said that the concept of the corner and their details effect on the image of people and their comprehension about the space in an urban environment.

According to Sitte, (1901), buildings that are located on the corner, become more important in urban design scene than other buildings.

Figure 8: Special design of corner building which creates a difference in the context Oderham Building in Toronto **(**URL 8)

Corner building facades that stand alone in space, encounter at exterior angle and are perceived by the spectator as a mass. For this reason, relationship between form of building and ground plane is significant, which this relation shows the method of using ground for corner area. Some built form details such as entrances, sculpture, benches, planting and others symbols, show the relationship between corner element and land.

Quality of urban areas is affected by corner buildings in positive or negative way with its shape, position and form. Sometimes, the building uses curve form in the corner building not only to create a separation from other buildings in space, but also as a piece for the easy movement experience inside the city.

Figure 9: Art Deco corner building, curved corner building for ease of movement Vic, Wellington (URL 9)

Furthermore, for comprehension of image of an urban area, some factors are significant such as: the reaction of people in front of corner space, connection of corner element and movement, imageability of motion of users for perception of corner. So by regarding regular use of corner, corners can be considered as a focal point and symbolic object.

Figure 10: The National State Bank, Corner building as a focal point and gathering area in Boulder (URL 10)

Lynch (1981) as an important architectural theoretician of corner design points out in *The Image Of The City* (1981) that the corners can be regarded as one of the most significant elements which make city recognizable and understandable. In summary, it can be said that, the corner is a significant element that make city 'imageable'. Lynch (1981) also emphasizes the role of the corner as the conceptual anchor point in our cities.

Lynch does not only stress the inevitability of the desirability of the process, but also the symmetrical tendency of centers. But he advocates the achievement of identity for the corner by the continuous equality of the wall, floor, details, lighting, topography or skyline as the main prerequisite of perceptual support. In any composition there is a need to emphasize corners and subordinate others; this is the art of design (Moughtin, 1992, p.90). As Unvin emphasizes (1995, p.63): "the best way to achieve this in town planning is 'to have definite corners'. It is only in this

way that a relationship and proportion can be established between the different parts of the town design".

On the contrary, because of the importance of the corner, it should be legible in form and has a precise image for people. In addition, corner not only plays a key role in the component of the image, but also, playing as a legible role in the district, because inside of each district should be legible. In the scale of the city, the district includes minor paths, corner components as nodes, corner building as an edges and corner element as a landmark. Therefore, this idea has a clear role for making the image of the city as a whole (Bentley, 1985).

In addition, decorative treatments of the corner building can emphasize the memory of the corner in the mind of viewer. The role of the corner building as a significant node of pedestrian activity can be seen in residential areas which are identified by corner shops and public houses. Until after the Second World War, the buildings with angled design at street corners was more built for big private house, large luxury stores, spacious and wide apartment blocks and famous banks. These corner activities which were enclosed by buildings are usually existed at the opposite of less prestigious neighboring buildings (Moughtin,1995,p.51).

Therefore, corner design can be considered at the scale of the single building. Although architectural analogy is significant for performing urban design, the building in the townscape setting is of greater relevance for this purpose.

2.2.4 Significant of Corner Buildings at Building Scale

Corners are very significant part to emphasize the continuity of surface at the scale of a building. The definitions of joint of buildings and meeting of spaces in corners

have a great degree to understand the density of volume and show the importance of volume of a form. For instance: corners which are undecorated show the importance of the volume of form, and corners which are rounded, emphasize on the continuity character of surface, density of volume and smoothness of form. The form of the buildings can be produced by corner buildings as clear element for visualization and quality of order.

Figure 11: Honolulu, HI Downtown , rounded corner building (URL 11)

Figure 12 : Queen City Survey, Undecorated corner building (URL 12)

The context and background which is related to the adjoining elements affect the appearance of scale and size of architectural element. These elements include doors, building entrances or windows. In addition for these elements the apparent size of proportion depends on the change of details.

Into the greatest basic level, the building dimensions or a corner space size indicate the relationship between heights to width to length. In urban design, the meaning of proportion is relationship between three dimensional parts to each other and to the buildings as a whole. In other words, it is a system of proportion applied to the whole building or group of building (Moughtin, 1992).

2.2.5 Corner and its Components (building forms, ground plans)

In this section building forms and ground planed will be explained.

- **Building Forms**

According to Ching (1979,p140); ‘vertical elements of a form are used to visually establish the vertical boundaries of a space’ . Visual and spatial continuity between a

building and the exterior environment should controlled. In addition, it should be considered that no volume of space can be established without the definition of its corners and edges (Bentley,1985).

One of the most significant elements in an urban environment is corner building, because they help to create a memorable area and ease of movement. Actually buildings which are linear elements in space can be defined as vertical edges of corner area. The significant element for defining corner spaces include: the building surface shape, scale, material, proportion, position, and generally visual weight. Also, the harmony of a corner building with surrounding is the other important factor which should be considered.

Figure 13 : Arnold Constable Building (URL 13)

Figure 14 : J. & W. Seligman & Company Building (URL 14)

Arcades, balconies and bay-windows are the most significant parts of the corner buildings. These elements tend to provide a better view of the urban environment; in addition they are very appropriate for functional structure of the façade. Corner building can increase the legibility of the environment. Most of the time corner buildings which are surrounded by cylinder, supply space for a terrace. This quality helps to create a monumental corner building especially in distance view. Arcades, bay-windows and balconies are the special autonomous part of the corner elements,

consider as the most significant ingredient of the corner buildings. These elements are very appropriate for functional structure of façade. Also, these elements provide a better view in urban life which clearly assists to growth of the legibility of different floors (Moughtin, 1995).

Figure 15: Arcades, balconies and bay-windows are the most significant parts of the corner buildings Delmonico's Building, New York City (URL 15)

One more element of the corner is tower which aids to create the most influential phrase of the corner. Indeed, tower can be considered as a focal point or landmark in the district or neighborhood (Bentley, 1985, p.43).

Figure 16 : Tower corner building as a focal point Aeolian Building (Elizabeth Arden Building) Fifth Avenue, Midtown Manhattan (URL 16)

- **Ground Plan**

Form of the corner spaces significantly depends on the types of the ground plan. In addition building's form structurally and visually was supported by ground plane. Improving the image of the corner building in landscape relies on the elevation of the ground plan. Also, sheltered corner spaces in underground building usually uses the internal corners (public place\square) where two planes encounter and desire to surround by space.

- U-shaped: Arrangement of plan form can be considered as the definition of corner space. It can concentrate on the importance of the element inside their fields. The form of the ground planes in environment has an effect on the shape of corner buildings. A "U"-shaped corner building form can be considered as a container which arrange inside a form and space.
- L-shaped configurations of vertical plane define a field of space along a diagonal from its corner outward. While this space is strongly defined and

enclosed by the corners, it moves away from an element that joins two linear forms together. A building can have an “L” form to establish a corner of its site, enclose a field of outdoor space to which its interior spaces relate, from undesirable conditions around it. They can be used with other elements of the form to define a rich variety of spaces.”L”-shaped planes will mark the junction of streets and usually use the external corner where two planes meet and present a three-dimensional view of the building. The quality and appearance of a corner space can be modified by a range of elements placed in the corner space.

Table 2: Corner and its Components

Corner and its Components	Visual Element	Example
1.Building Form -Balconies -Bay window -Arcades -Tower	-Surface shape -Scale -Material -Proportion -Harmony **-Feature:** -Helps to create a better view in urban life -Increase legibility - Considered as a focal point or landmark in district or neighborhood	 Figure 17:St. Nicholas of Myra Orthodox Church New York, United States (URL 17)
2.Ground Plan Joint of two linear forms together	**U-shaped** **Features:** - A "U"shaped corner building can be considered as a container which arrange forms and space of inside - A "U" shaped use internal corner	 Figure 18:Summerset court (URL 18)
	L-shaped **Features:** - A "L" form establish a corner of its site, enclose a field of outdoor space - A "L"shaped plane will mark the junction of streets, usually used in the external corner	 Figure 19:Worcester Street (URL 19)

2.2.6 The Corner Typologies (street corner and square corner)

Development of post modern theory in urban design and architecture regularly has searched insight from previous history. Frequently, investigation for these information have guided the meaning of typologies (Krier,1979;Rossi,1982). Generally urban corner typology is based on physical form more than usage or figuration, and it is obtained through the traditional urban form examination or as a reaction for modernist approaches ofr urban form and design (Moughtin,1995, p.51)

The corner typology idea used in the townscape brings the ability of arrangement in subgroup. For this point the individual categories identified are relatively distinguishing and separate while they are not so general as to be worthless. The goal of this typology is to bring comprehensiveness and completeness without the use of a 'catch-all' category into which all odd and maverick corners defying definition are neatly swept. As a limit between archetype, and since this study is based largely upon historical precedent, new and evolving forms of corner may not fit inside its parameter (Moughtin, 1995, p.51).

Different type of corner building illustrates the unique character or explanation of a group of objects. The classification is usually based on physical typology, which this interest for identification of spatial forms and the construction of physical typologies can be considered as a reaction of modernist approach about urban design and urban form. Indeed, interest about typology is not a new issue. As Zucker (1959), defines spatial archetypes for the analysis of urban squares. Zucker typology is based on the subjective impression of spatial quality and is entirely independent of the specific function of that space.

Decoration of corner details can be regarded as a significant factor that could be categorized in two general kinds of the corner: the' piazza or internal corner:' the place which two planes meets each other and desire to surround spaces. This type is generally found in the public place/square. And the 'street or external corner': the meeting area of two planes which demonstrate a three dimensional view of the building. This type can be seen in the junction or intersection of streets. In addition Moughtin (1995,pp.51-52), emphasize on the role of these types in urban environment.

Figure 20: Piazza or internal corner, as a public place, Piazza Navona, Rome (URL20)

Figure 21 : Street or external corner, as a junction or intersection of streets Eastgate Street Corner Panoramic (URL 21)

In Moughtin (1995,p.52) point of view, the street corners on intersection can be classified as : the angular corner, the curved corner and the towered. The angular corners can be considered as a simple angle corner, or a faceted corner.

The corner buildings can become memorable in the mind of the viewer by emphasizing on the decoration treatment. In this situation, corner performing the role of landmark in urban space becomes important for improving the imageability of the city. In addition, another function of the corner can be mentioned which is the role

of unifying two adjacent façade which is usually used as a vertical foil or in contrast as a horizontal element for the street scene.

The categorization of piazza which enclosing corner includes: the curved corner, the angular corner and the non-corner. While the curved piazza corner building has both ‘geometric’ and ‘sinuous’ characteristic, the angular piazza corner that may be a simple internal corner or complex, can be considered as the most common corner for a general square. Furthermore, non-corner is a place where the surrounding buildings do not meet each other to create an intersection, which this kind of corner has a potential to create a shape as: ’open’, ‘arched’ or ‘pavilion’. Within the curved corner type it is possible to distinguish four sub-types: ’flowing’,’wrapped’,’hinged’and’quartered’corners, while the towered types can be ‘attached or ‘detached’ (Moughtin, 1995).

2.2.6.1 Types and Characteristic of the Corner Buildings

The types and characteristics of corner buildings are extremely significant for image of the city. In the following sections it will be discussed.

2.2.6.1.1 External (Street) Corner

The external street corner can be explained under three sub headings; the angular street corner, the curved street corner and the towered street corner.

- **The Angular Street Corner**

The angular corner is generally connected with buildings of the Modern Movement period. While intersection of walls emphasis on the meaning of probability of corner, anyway corner have been designed with awareness: not only they are not the result of neglect such as negative corner , but also they are a reaction of undecorated

encounter of planes on a vertical lines effect in the majority of enjoyable appearance for such an intersection.

When two street facades encounter at a connection of the corner, to create simple clearly defined line, the simple angular corner appears. In some cases the importance of the corner is less significant than two facades in this situation, and the joining of facades may or may not occur at ninety degrees. The same streets or different streets come together with equal or different importance.

These types of corner are less than excellent type where the frontage of shops is needed on the corner of both facades.

The faceted corner is a corner which has many sides or aspects and it is an attempt to arrive functional and expressive requirements of corner forms by using 'modern lines'. In addition, chamfered corner simply finish the angle of the corner. In this sub-type that cause to improvement of vision light for traffic congestion. It produce the occasion for organize shop window and/or entrance of the corner (Moughtin, C. 1995).

- **The Curved Street Corner**

In this case, the meeting of two street-facing at the corner do not make an angle, but the chance of direction is discussed through the curve. It may be strong horizontal elements which create a movement around the corner, or strong vertical elements that shows the importance of the corner as specific design element in frontage of street.

The flowing corner is a place where the frontage of building completely forms the corner. The curve is made quiet and the corner is closely undetectable. Importance of the corner can be showed by using ordinary decorative characteristics.

Cutaway ground floor within curving corners, unless carefully detailed and integrated with arcade and colonnade, can destroy the sweeping lines of the particular townscape feature.

Figure 22: Right building is an example of flowing corner
James' corner, Katoomba 1930, New South Wales, (URL 22)

The wrapped corner is a close curvature angle with an unbroken curve which effectively details arrangement of opening in a wall or building can be restated from one street's facade to the other surrounding of the curve without any replacement of rhythm. It is mainly practical with strongly cut activate form of window, where the wall plane into flowing horizontal bands with rather decorative cornices and string curves.

The hinge corner can be considered as an impartial procedure which makes a linkage between two street frontages. In addition, the opportunity of decoration can be demonstrated by a hinge that clearly recognizes the extra meaning of the corner. This kind of corner is worked out by the additional curved or faceted building element

which is completely separate from the frontage of building that created corner. According to ideal manner, the element that form the hinge should begin at an impressive level and stay on the lower edge of a roof of the building which overhangs the side: furthermore, it is clearly distinguished from the street elements of neighboring by vertical obstacle in the wall. The joint of neighboring facades may be kept by holding of edges and string courses surrounding of corner.

The quartered is another type where building completely created by corner. Half of the curve is soft and the corner is nearly unnoticeable which this type is usually connected with modern movement building.

Cutaway lines of half of these particular townscape ground floors within curving corners can destroy the sweeping lines.

- **The towered street corner**

The tower cause to make the most powerful characteristic for corner. Actually one of the most famous ways for turning of the corner is making emphasize for roofline or silhouette of the corner building. By understanding the importance of vertical influence of the tower in the urban scene, tower can be considered as a focal point or landmark for neighborhoods or region.

The attached tower appears in four different types. In the first type which is the embedded type; the tower is inserted inside the building structure. Principally the project of the turret is obtained as the effect of the tower. The embedded type can be constructed as a curve form which can be considered as a curved attached form. The third type is an ancient effort for reaching to expression of function and meaning necessity of the towered corner.

Expressiveness and aggressiveness of the tower is more. This kind of tower should be changed for those important landmarks that indicate the nodes, in the city structure.

On the other hand, the detached tower type apparently is the most uncommon type of corner type. In this model, tower completely isolated from the corner. And this type is performs as the visual focal point turning the corner.

Table 3: Types of Street or External Corner

Street Corner Typology	**Sub Types Classification**	**Features**	**Example**
The Towered Corner	Attached corner	-It is embedded within the building fabric -does not project beyond the building lines of the adjacent street facades	 Figure 23:500 Fifth Avenue Building New York, United States (URL 23)
	Detached corner	-The most unusual type of corner -the tower stand in complete isolation from the corner -act as a visual focal point	 Figure 24:Piazza San Marco (URL 24)

Street Corner Typology	Sub types Classification	Features	Example
The angular corner	Simple angular corner	Meeting of two street façade	 Figure 25:The Lincoln Building (URL 25)
	Faceted corner	-Chamfered simply finish the angle of corner -Cause to improvement of vision light for traffic congestion -Produce the occasion for organize shop window and entrance of the corner	 Figure 26:Sint-Gillis, Buxelles Capital region of Brussels (URL 26)
The curved corner	Flowing corner	Frontage of building completely forms the corner corner can be showed the importance of the using ordinary decorative characteristic	 Figure 27:Honolulu, HI Downtown (URL 27)
	Wrapped corner	Continuous curve with a firmly curvature angle	 Figure28:Erichmendelsohn,mosse bldg,Berlin(URL 28)
	Hinge corner	Makes a linkage between two street frontages	 Figure 29:Wiesbaden(URL 29)
	Quartered corner	Building completely created by corner This type is usually connected with modern movement building.	 Figure 30:S.Jarmulowsky Bank Building(URL 30)

2.2.6.1.2 Internal (Square) Corners

The interior space between two or more planes which are joined at a common point and tend to surround space is usually found in the public square, or piazza. As Sitte (1901) pointed out that the most significant qualification of the public place depends on the sense of enclosure. The corners can be considered as a key point for the closure of the area. On the opening of street corners to the public square, always not has been given great ornament and since its spatial characteristic have been supply with another place (Moughtin,1992).

- **The non-corner**

This type of corner square happen when the wall planes-frames- in the square do not encounter: there is not real physical corner. The sense of confinement, the feeling of being inside a place is provided by some other procedure such as intensity and unity of effective architecture or with an arch connection of two adjoining facades of the square.

- **The curved square corner**

Usually the curved square corners are used for the design of some street corners which are occurring at the same time to the definition of urban space. Actually design of the corner cause to design of the urban space. In addition, the size of the corner proportionate and the size of the space are depended to each other .In this case the design of the space itself is generally more prominent than the surrounding buildings.

- **Angular square corners**

The angular square corner or piazza, same as its duplicate of angular street corner, is not a factor which is noted for its ornamental behavior. In contrast with the street corner where has a huge occasion for the liveliness of urban surroundings. Two sub-

types of angular square corner: the ‘simple’ and the ‘faceted’ square corner. The simple square corner is perhaps the most common situation for the corner of the faceted square corner can take the geometric shape. This type of corner can also take the form of the multi angular plan. Or it can take the more obviously faceted form of the some corners of square.

Table 4: types of Square or Internal Corner

Corner Typology:	**Piazza(Square) Or Internal Corner**		
Types of Square Corner:	The Curved-Corner	The angular-corner	The non-corner
Feature:	Consider as a ‘geometric’ and ‘sinuous’ characteristic	Consider as a general square	Consider as a ’open’, ‘arched’ or ‘pavilion ‘shape
Example :	 Figure 31:The Circus, Bath,Somerset, England (URL 31)	 Figure 32:Amalienborg Palace, Copenhagen, Denmark (URL 32)	 Figure 33: piazza del campidoglio, Rome (URL33)

2.2.7 Entrance Definition

Entrance definition directs passage from public exterior domain to the private interior space of a building and it is greatly effect a building identity. The entrance creates a transition between inside and outside. As is stated by Alexander (1977, p. 551) the experience of entering a building influence the way you feel inside of the building. The entrance definition is too abrupt; there is no feeling of arrival. In order to donate function and add characteristic to building, the position of the entrances of building is very important. In addition entrances make connection between different area with distinguishing characteristics and functions (Berkman, 2004). Indeed entrance of

building exhibit the strong background to the public space; moreover, it shows the significance of transition from public to private space (Marcus & Sarkissian, 1988). Also characteristics of the façade were influenced by definition of the entrance to that space. Therefore, entrances of building can be considered as one of the most significant elements for identity creation.

2.2.8 Façade Characteristic (Door, Window, Balcony, Roof-line)

Façade is the external frame of a building. Doors , windows, balconies and roofline are the main components of facades. The façade characteristic has great significance on the city identity. They give city their look, by contributing to their silhouettes. Especially the traditional facades have greater significance since they have to transfer cultural heritage to the future generations (Fasli, 2008).

- **Door**

The main connector of inside and outside is doors which are necessary for security, weather isolation, sound and privacy. The variety of exterior doors includes proportion and materials. In addition two fundamental types of doors contain panel and flush. The dimension of standard door is approximately 198.12 inches for height and 81.28 inches for width which are flexible and changeable according to customer (Atkinson, 1993).

- **Window**

Windows are put in buildings as objects for lighting; freshens the environment and provides entry, sight to outside and etc. Although windows in different neighborhood may look different in some parts such as sizes, frames and shapes, they can be divided into three categories:

Basic window types: casement, sliding, awning, hopper, fixed glass.

Unique windows: bay window, bow window, greenhouse unit and glass block.

Skylight models: self-flashing, curb-mounted, ventilating unit, roof window (Atkinson, 1993).

- **Balcony**

Balcony is an external extension which is located in the upper floor of building. The minimum height of balcony is about one meter and surrounded by a solid or balusters or rails. The balcony can be used as living space or possible activities for residence without garden. In some apartment, balcony is made as a niche for seeing sunshine and shelter or shade. The balustrade is usually made by stone, wood, metal, glass or different materials (Mecomber, 2013).

- **Roof-line Properties**

As functional elements, roofs can be considered as shelter, but in elevation, it can be regarded as an ornament same as doors, windows and balconies. This element same as other construction materials has different style which depends on several factors, such as durability, cost and aesthetic.

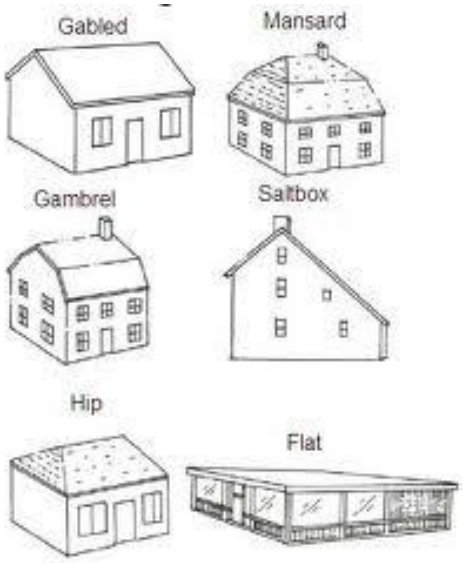


Figure 34 : Roof-lines, (URL 34)

Gable/pitch roof is a kind of roof which has two straight slopes from top of house to lower edge of a roof of a building, and produce triangular appearance for façade.

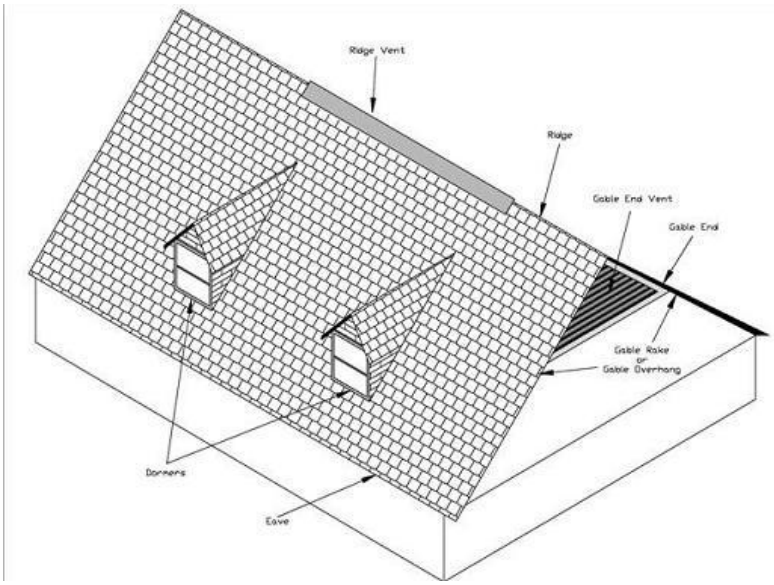


Figure 35, Gable Roof. (URL35)

Flat roof is a kind of roof with slope of 10 degrees or less.

Hipped roof is a traditional roof which has four slops instead of two.

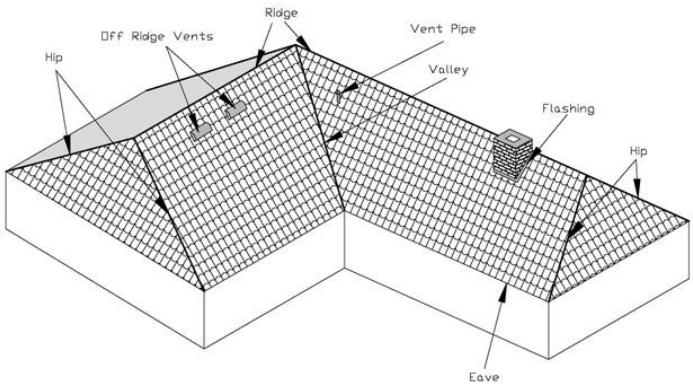


Figure 36 : Hipped roof, (URL36)

A gambrel roof which is usually seen in barns, this type is symmetrical roof that has two sides which meet at the top and centre of the roof.

Figure 37: Gambrel Roof (URL 37)

2.2.9 Summary of the Chapter

In this chapter definition of identity was discussed. In addition, mainly corner building definition and typology were considered. According to the information gathered, two types of corner buildings exist; street (external) corner building and square (internal) corner building.

Furthermore, some factors which effect identity of building were analyzed such as:

1. Types and characteristic of the corner building
2. Entrance definition
3. Façade characteristic

In the next chapter, corner building identity in the Walled City of Nicosia will be analyzed.

Chapter 3

CASE STUDY: EVALUATION OF THE CORNER BUILDING IDENTITY IN THE WALLED CITY OF NICOSIA

3.1 Brief Information about Nicosia

Cyprus is the third biggest island in the Mediterranean sea (with 9,251 km2) after Sicily (25,460km2), and Sardinia (24,090 km2). The most significant point which differentiates it from other islands is its strategic position and rich history. This island is located between three countries, Turkey with 75 km at the north, Egypt with the 420 km at the south and Syria with the 105 km at the east of island, where each country is located in different continents (Europe, Asia, Africa). Nicosia (Lefkoşa) is the capital city of Cyprus.

Figure 38 : Location of Cyprus (URL 38)

The architecture of the capital city is affected by the history of the country, which is visible in design development or process of construction. One of the main

source for consideration of tradition, culture and lifestyle of people is architecture style of cities. History of Cyprus was affected by many world powers in different periods of time because of the unique situation of the island. As an example from the history, Cyprus faced Byzantines, Venetians, Ottomans and British periods. From 1960 until 1974, it was controlled by the Republic of Cyprus as an independent country that separated into two individual parts with a buffer zone. Nowadays, north part of Cyprus is under the rule of Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) (Hadjistephanou and vassiliades, 2004).

The identity of Cyprus was shaped by the mixture of several important cultures. The built environment of Cyprus has evidenced the wealthy life style and various communications between different Mediterranean cultures along continuous generations. Cyprus has seen the invention of some architectural styles with a clear identity which have a great physical linkage with their sources. Architecture of the Walled City of Nicosia is unique because of the continuous cultural layers of Byzantine, Frankish, Venetian, Ottoman, British and post British periods. This area since the Lusignan period has always has been the centre of social life and management, so it was settled by governor class of people, such as the Lusignan princes, Venetian period, Ottoman pashas and British colonial commissioners.

Urban characteristic of Nicosia as a multicultural city can be categorized in three parts: firstly: the urban form of Nicosia, which showed the city's limitation through a geometrical access, is transported by the Renaissance period. Development of this city wall was according to the architectural style, life style and technology of the Venetian period. Secondly, pattern of street built in Lusignan period shows medieval characteristics which were improved by Turkish-

Islamic urban pattern. Finally, historic part of Nicosia can be considered as a typical Ottoman city which inserted inside a post medieval Walled Latin city with its common house forms. Since the selected corner buildings for case study are from the British Periods and afterward more detailed information about these periods will be give in the following sections.

3.2 History of Walled City of Nicosia in British Period and Afterwards

3.2.1 The British Period (1878-1960)

British period which was one of the most effective periods of Cyprus appeared after the Ottoman Empire. In British period new kinds of materials and new method of architecture emerged. In addition, by arrival of British to the island, a new culture and laws influenced the form of architecture of Cyprus. In the eighteenth and nineteenth century, Neo-Classical style that revived architectural form of ancient Greece and Rome occurred and generally was used in the public buildings and architecture of houses. In this period, balcony that was decorated by iron was supported by ornamental frame. This style was related to the Victorian period of British, that in 1878, it was came to island by the British empire (Dreghorn, 1979).

Usually, they built houses and governmental offices by considering the harmony with replacement of life style during the time and equipped with technology. Nowadays these kinds of buildings are still used of which some still preserve their original functions, and some of them have been changed as a new function which is in harmony with the environment.

According to the architectural characteristics, the British period (1878-1960) can be separated into two parts; the I. British period (1878-1930) and II. British period (1930-1960).

3.2.1.1 I. British period (1878-1930)

In political and architectural point of view, the first British Period was the most respectful period, the performance of this period was keenly about the previous and existing culture and architecture of Cyprus, it means the effect of Lusignans, Venetians, and Ottomans in architecture is visible. Particularly, the plan of the houses was nearly same as the ottoman period. In addition, in this period, buildings were constructed from yellow stone material (Ozay, 1998, p.73).

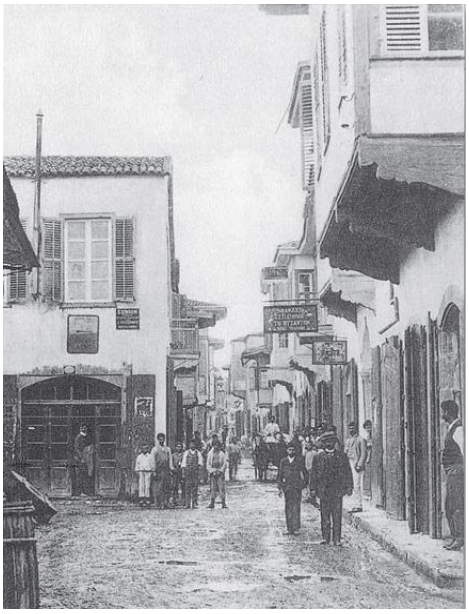


Figure 39 : The cityscape of Nicosia at the beginning of twentieth century (URL 39)

By birth of British period in Cyprus architecture and affect of that on life-style of people, new spaces supplied for houses, for example, since 1880 until 1920, by came of balcony (as a semi-open space) into forefront of houses, more extroverted life style is appeared on architecture of Cyprus.

Figure 40: Form of balcony in walled city of Nicosia (URL 40)

In the following lines some information is given about façade elements characteristics.

- **Door**

  Most of the doors have a rectangular shape which are surrounded by stone frames. Arches with different shapes were used as clearness for decoration of doors. Over the front of doors, semi-circular or rectangular windows are located. In the first period rectangular doorway and curved doorway were used. As a characteristic of doors in this period, central keystones on the top of the doors are observed (Ozay, 2005).

Figure 41: **a:** Semi-circular and **b:** rectangular window above the door, (URL 41)

- **Window**

  In the first British period, windows same as doors confirmed with stone frame. This period saw the stained glass that affected importantly fanlight. Despite the fact that this period liked bright color, mostly they used them to make the interior looked darker. As it is visible in below picture, the main material of the window's shutter construction was wood. Shutters were covered with grey, green, blue, brown and white colors. But between these colors; green color was the most favorable color (Calloway, 1990).

Figure 42: Rectangular window with shutter, (URL42)

- **Balcony**

  It can be explained that, the bay window which is a kind of semi-open space, came from the traditional Turkish house and believed as a balcony (Ozay, 1998). In addition, during first British period, most of the buildings had bay windows.

Figure 43: Building with bay window, (URL43)

- **Roof line properties**

  In this period, default roof were pitch roof, which were used because of the low cost and easy construction (Ozay, 1998).

3.2.1.2 II. British period (1930-1960)

By change of political situations of British Empire, the growth of second British period was not the same as the first one. After World War I, and success of British Empire, they start to show their occupation on Cyprus which it had a direct effect on architectural products. Therefore, this period brought the different life-style to the island which was clearly distinctive from the existing Turkish-Islamic life. As an example, introvert life style which considered as an important characteristic of Turkish family and influenced by Islamic attitude, disappeared in British society. Thus, the privacy and introversion of houses was not important as many as Muslim society of that time. In addition to these conditions, equality replaced hierarchy so

woman and man had an equal situation in society. Women started to participate in the house economcy which has strongly affected the form of the architecture.

Moreover, during the second British Period building materials and structures were affected. For instance, at the first of British period, yellow stone were used as a building material which by influence of the world changes, concrete and reinforced concrete were used for structural system of buildings. As a result it made some innovation on architecture of buildings such as raise of number of floors and increased the amount of opening.

In the following section, some information is given about façade characteristics.

- **Door**

  As Faslı (1997) explained, houses were generally open to the street directly in Walled City of Nicosia. In addition, most of the forms of door in this period were rectangular form and infrequently arched doors were observed. Windows above the doors (fanlight) permit light came inside. The materials of doors were wood with iron work and glass parts. They were mostly built in 1:2 or 1:2.5 proportions.

Figure 44: Fanlight above the door, wooden material, glass and iron (URL44)

- **Window**

  To receive more light inside the living room, windows were furnished at every side of the entrance door. Circular and rectangular small windows were set for freshness of air. As you can see in below picture, in most of building in Nicosia, decorative and simple window with shades or shutter were used. In addition the main material of shutter construction was wood which was divided into equal horizontal parts. On the other side, in some houses, windows were separated by different ratios but generally they were built in 1:2 or 1:2.5 proportions. Which reason of this kind of design were vertical opening shutter and two side, shade and privacy (Ongul, 1998). Usually, color of windows and doors of buildings were dark brown, blue, grey, green and black.

Figure 45 : Wooden shutter window, second British period (URL45)

- **Balcony**

  The size of the balcony for this period was larger than first British period. So it was more useable. The location of balcony usually was over the main entrance door. In most of the buildings a balcony was located near a bay window. During the second British period, in Walled City of Nicosia, most of the building had a balcony.

Figure 46: Building with balcony in second British period (URL46)

- **Roof line properties**

  During second British period, using pitch roofs were common because of the simple construction and by considering useful aspect in that weather. However, at the end of eighteenth century, slate roofs were more stylish because of the adaptable design in functional aspect (Calloway, 1990).

3.2.2 After Republic (1960-)

By conclusive acceptance of London and Zurich about Cyprus as an autonomous state, British colonial (1878-1959) finished in 1959 and in 1960, the Republic of Cyprus was introduced. Physical separation of Cyprus was happened in 1974 which in that time Cyprus divided into two parts: North part which were populated by Turkish Cypriots and south part where Greek Cypriots were settled there.

Safety and peace were presented to Cyprus by Turkish peace institutions after 1974. Therefore, increase of population during the time cause to raise of house requirement in Nicosia. Thus, since 1978, the government and the private companies constructed a huge number of housing units. In addition, because of the economic situation of government, multi-storey apartments were more supported. The most common building materials of this period were concrete and reinforced concrete skeletal structure which were used according to harmony of modern movement principle.

Unlike previous period, use of decoration style were decreased, on the other hand, horizontal and vertical structures like columns, cantilever and slabs began to used. Simple geometric forms are preferred on façades.

3.3 Methodology of the analysis for the case study

The following items are used for evaluating corner building identity in the Walled City of Nicosia.:

1. The Walled City of Nicosia is selected as a case study area. A total 16 corner buildings that are located in the Kyrenia Avenue or from the immediate parallel street to the Kyrenia Avenue are selected. 8 of these units reflect the characteristic of

British period where others are from the Modern period. In the evaluation of these units, physical analysis method as well as literature review have been used.

2. Before going to the site, inventory forms have been prepared. They mainly include three main issues that affect corner building identity:

- Type and characteristic of the corner building
- Entrance definition
- Facade characteristic (door, window, balcony, roofline property)

3. On the site, pictures are taken, sketches are drawn, and necessary information are noted.

3.4 Evaluation of the Case Study

In this study, 16 corner building of Walled City of Nicosia (from Kyrenia avenue and parallel alley) are selected and identity of them are evaluated according to literature review which include: types and characteristic of the corner building, entrance definition and façade characteristics (such as door, window, balcony and roofline). According to the findings, 8 corner buildings from the British Period and 8 corner buildings from post 1960 are angular and curved corner buildings. In the following figure, their locations are shown on the city map.

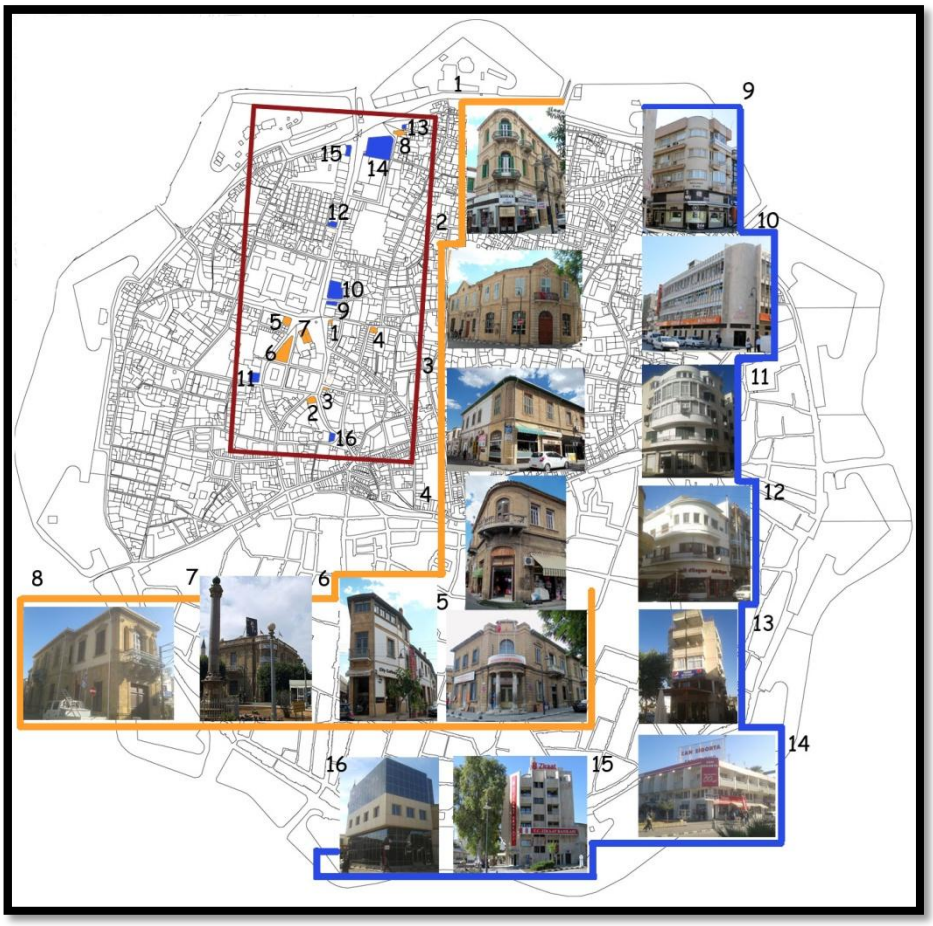


Figure 47: Location of the Selected Buildings in the Walled City of Nicosia

3.4.1 Evaluation of Corner Building Characteristic in British Period

Figure 48: Building 1 (Taken by Author)

The ground floor of the first building is used for pharmacy. It has three floor heights. The main building material is stone and the main construction system is load bearing system. Its entrance is defined from corner and directly from street. It has a decorated balcony over the entrance that emphasized the entrance definition.

It has vertical door that made by timber and it has two wings. It has sunscreen on the door. Also, this building has a vertical window from timber. The window has semi circular heading as well. It has green shutters. It has small linear balcony with round chamfer as well as decorated iron balustrade. It has pitch roof. Therefore, by considering all of these features, it can be said that this building has a unique characteristic which affects the identity of this area.

Figure 49 : Building 2. [Iş Bankasi] (Taken by Author)

The second building is the Iş Bankasi. It is a curved street corner that is built during the British Period. Function of this building is bank and has two floors. The main building material is yellow stone and the main construction system is load bearing system.The entrance is directly from the corner from the main street. For emphasizing the entrance more, it has a balcony over the door.

It has a curved shape by ornamentation elements at the top of the door. The door is made of timber and it has two wings. It has also vertical window that has semi circular heading as well with key stone. At the second floor, it has shutters. At the corner it has a small balcony with round chamfer as well as iron balustrade. It has a pitch roof and a triangular pediment. By considering all of these characters, this corner building creates special identity for the Walled City of Nicosia.

Figure 50: Building 3 (Taken by Author)

Third building has a curved street corner that was constructed in British Period. It has two floors of which the ground floor is used as jewellery shop at the corner. The main building material is yellow stone. The main construction system is load bearing system. This building has several shops on ground floor. These shops have direct access from the street.

It has a vertical door that is made by glass. Also, it has a vertical window that use as a showcase. In addition, second floor has vertical windows that are covered by grey shutters. It has a pitch roof, and this building does not have any balcony.

Figure 51: Building 4 (Taken by Author)

Forth building is a curved street corner that was constructed in British Period. It has two floors that ground floor is a commercial shop. The main building material is yellow stone and the main construction system is load bearing system. The entrance is directly located at the corner side of the main street. In addition, to emphasize of entrance, it has a balcony over the door.

It has vertical door with circular shape at the top of the door that is made by timber and it has two wings. In addition, it has vertical windows that are useable as a showcase as well. Also, it has sun screen at top of the window. It has a small linear balcony with round chamfer which is decorated by iron balustrade. Thus, all of these features make this building as a special corner building in this area.

Figure 52: Building 5 Period (Taken by Author)

Building number five is Lefkoşa ilçe Merkezi. It is an angular street corner. It was made in British Period. It has two floors. The main building material is yellow stone and the main construction system is load bearing system. The entrance is defined in corner from the main street. It has decorated with two columns. In addition, it has emphasized by round balcony that is located over the door and defining on the entrance.

It has vertical doors that made by iron with two wings. In addition, Eaves of balcony from the second floor play a role as a sun screen for first floor. It has also vertical windows that are decorated by grey shutters. Furthermore, beside of the balcony, it has a special window that has a semi circular heading as well. It has a pitch roof.

Figure 53: Building 6 (Taken by Author)

Building number six is the city coffee on ground floor. It is an angular street corner. It was constructed in British Period. It has three floors that ground floor is used as a coffee shop. Main material of this building is yellow stone .The main construction system is load bearing system. The entrance of this building is located directly at the corner. In addition, it has a small balcony over the entrance that emphasized the main entrance.

It has vertical doors that are made by glass and sun screen located over the door. Also, it has vertical windows that are framed by iron. It has small balcony that is located over the main door, it is decorated by iron balustrade. It has a pitch roofline.

This building can be considered as a unique corner building because of the special building form.

Figure 54: Building 7 (Taken by Author)

The number seven building is a governmental building from British Period. This building has two floor The main building material is yellow stone and the main construction system is load bearing system. Entrance is defined directly from the street.

Also there is a semi open space in front of this building that is used as a gathering area and communication.

It has vertical doors that made by wood. Windows are at the parallel of doors and windows have shutters. This building has a balcony over the entrance. In addition, it has a pitch roofline.

Figure 55: Building 8 (Taken by Author)

Building number eight is Kamu hizmeti komisyonu. It is an angular corner building that is constructed in British Period. It has two floors. The main building material is yellow stone and the main construction system is load bearing system.

Entrance is defined from corner directly to the street. It has a decorated balcony over the entrance that emphasized on the entrance.

It has a vertical door that made by wood with two wings. Also, it has vertical windows which one of the window has a semi circular heading as well. In addition, it has a small balcony which decorated by iron balustrade. As it mentioned before, balcony of second floor create a sunscreen for ground floor. It has “s” figure under balcony from stone.

3.4.2 Evaluation of Corner Building Characteristic in Modern Period

The effects of Modern Movement on buildings were assertively appreciated during this time. These influences could be seen in building elements and materials. The popularity of Iron window ornamentation and frames of doors from the prior period began to lose. On the other hand, simpler door frames and window types would be more used. The main material of the door was glass that had usually one door leaf, that at the above of leaf, it was a small horizontal window. In this time, glass wide windows were popular. In addition using the wooden louvered shutters were continued same as earlier period. Balustrade of door and windows were designed by different types of materials such as; iron, glass and concrete. Reinforced concrete structural system, higher buildings with terrace roofs were built.

Figure 56 : Building 9 (Taken by Author)

Building nine have shops on ground floor. It is a curved street corner that was made after 1960. It has four floors that ground floor is Zen jewelery, and other floors used as a residential. The main building material is concrete and the main construction system is skeleton system. Entrance is located on the main Street. There is a showcase directly at the corner which causes to invite people to main entrance.

Ground floor has a vertical small door that made by glass. Also, it has four huge windows that play a role as a showcase. In addition, second floor, third floor and forth floor has a linear balcony that is decorated by concrete balustrade. It has a flat roof.

Although this corner building is made in contemporary period, in some opinion, it has harmony with older buildings of this area; such as color of building that is combination of cream color and white color.

Figure 57: Building 10 [Turk Bankasi] (Taken by Author)

Building ten is a curved street corner that is constructed after 1960. It has four floors that ground floor is used as a bank. The main building material is concrete and the main construction system is skeleton system. The entrance of this building is defined directly at the corner and it has an access from main street. There is a advertisement for Turk Bankasi over the entrance that is cause to lead people to entrance.

There is a vertical door that made by glass and it has grey shutter. Also, it has parallel vertical windows and horizontal window above it to allow light to pass through inside of the building. Besides, it has vertical sun breaker on façade. Furthermore, there is an orange billboard of Turk Bankasi between first floor and second floor as a special character of this corner building. It has a flat roof. It is respected to the corner.


Figure 58: Building 11 (Taken by Author)

Building eleven is a curved street corner. It was constructed after 1960. It has five floors. The ground floor is retail and others are residential. The main building material is concrete and the main construction system is skeleton system. The entrance is defined directly from the corner, and there is a round balcony above the entrance to make a sun screen and also emphasized the entrance.

It has a vertical glassy door with two wings. It has also vertical window next to the door as a showcase. As it mentioned before, second floor has a round balcony with round chamfer which is decorated by green iron balustrade. It has a flat roof.

Figure 59: Building 12 (Taken by Author)

Building twelve is an angular street corner that was constructed after 1960. This building has three floors. The ground floor used as a pharmacy and others as a law agency. The main building material is concrete and the main construction system is skeleton system. Entrance is defined at the corner and has an access from the main street. In addition, there is a sun screen over the entrance.

This building has a vertical glassy door; also, vertical window is located next to the door as a showcase. In addition, there is a small linear balcony over the entrance (at second floor) that has a straight iron balustrade. It has a flat roof.

Figure 60: Building 13 (Taken by Author)

Building thirteen is also an angular corner. It was constructed after 1960. It has four floors that ground floor is used as a restaurant and other floors as residential. The main building material is concrete and the main construction system is skeleton system.

The entrance is defined directly at the corner and it has an access from main street. Also there is a big sun screen at top of the entrance that made a semi open space and sitting area in front of the restaurant.

It has a vertical door that made by glass with two wings. Also, it has a vertical window next to the door. Third floor and forth floor has a small balcony with concrete balustrade besides the horizontal window. It has a flat roof.

Figure 61: Building 14 (Taken by Author)

Building fourteen is an angular corner building that was constructed after 1960. It has two floors. Ground floor possesses various shops. The main building material is concrete and the main construction system is skeleton system. Entrance is located at front facades and it has an access from the main street. Also advertisement of Telsim is located above the entrance for leading people.

It has vertical door that made by glass and vertical windows next to the door that is used as a showcase. There is a small balcony in second floor that is decorated by concrete balustrade.

A lot of red billboards and advertisements for Telsim and Can Sigorta that are located around this building make a special characteristic for this building. It has a flat roof.

Figure 62, Building 15.[TC,Ziraat Bank] (Taken by Author)

Building fifteen is an angular corner. It was constructed after 1960. It has four floors and it functions as a bank. The main building material is concrete and the main construction system is skeleton system. The entrance is located directly at the corner and it has an access from the street. Also vertical red advertisement for Ziraat Bank is located over the entrance to emphasize the entrance.

It has a vertical automatic and glassy door with two wings. Also, it has small horizontal windows and there are small linear balconies as well. Balconies have a concrete balustrade. It has a flat roof.

Figure 63 : Building 16 [Yakin Dogu Bank (Taken by Author)

Building sixteen is an angular street corner that was constructed after 1960. It has four floors and its function is bank. The main building material is concrete and glass. The main construction system is skeleton system. Its entrance has direct access from the main street and three stairs are located in front of the entrance.

It has vertical automatic and glass door with two wings. Indeed the main building material is glass, first floor and third floor is transparent, only second floor has small windows. In addition, this building does not have any balcony.

This corner building is a contemporary building and unfortunately material and physical characteristic does not have harmony with environment. It has a flat roof.

3.5 Summary of the chapter

In the following tables, the types of street corners and façade characteristics are shown.

Table 5: Curved Corner in British Period

According to analysis; 50% of the selected corner buildings are curved corner buildings which are constructed in the British Period. These are: Buildings 1,2,3,4			
 Building 1	 Building 2	 Building 3	 Building 4

Table 6: Angular Corner in British Period

Analysis shows that 50% of the selected corner buildings are angular corner buildings that are made in British Period. These are: Buildings 5,6,7,8			
 Building 5	 Building 6	 Building 7	 Building 8

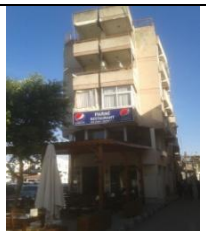
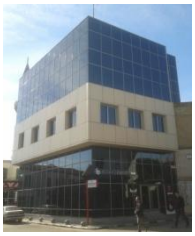
Table 7: Curved Corner after 1960

According to the analysis, 50% of the corner buildings are curved corner buildings that are built after 1960. These are: Buildings: 9,10,11,12

 Building 9	 Building 10	 Building 11	 Building 12

Table 8: Angular Corner After 1960

According to the analysis, 50% of the corner buildings are angular corner buildings that are built after 1960. These are: Buildings: 13,14,15,16

 Building 13	 Building 14	 Building 15	 Building 16

Chapter 4

CONCLUSION

The analysis of the cases selected shows that corner buildings have influenced the comprehension of urban environment in positive and/or negative aspects. In addition, corner buildings act as a key role in the image of urban settings. This means characteristic of corner buildings have great influence on the image of the city. They also help towards creating more legible environments which is one of the most important factors for the establishment of unique areas.

Corner buildings' identity has been formed by a variety of impacts of physical and natural factors. Main findings of the comparative analysis of the British and the modern period are given under the three subtitles as follows:

- Types and characteristics of the corner building
- Entrance definition
- Façade characteristics

In the case study, 16 corner buildings of Kyrenia Avenue in the Walled City of Nicosia are choses. These include 8 selected corner buildings from British Period and 8 selected corner buildings from Modern Period.

The analysis have clarified that in the British Period both angular and curved street corners were used. They have various functions, for examples some are banks. In

general they are two storey in height. They were constructed from yellow stone with load bearing system. Entrances are given from corners. In general, they have small round/chamfered balconies over the entrance. They have more decoration/ornamentation for doors, windows and balconies. Key stone is used for doors. Besides they have pitch roofs and sometimes triangular pediments.

On the other hand, after 1960 both angular and curved street corners have been used. They have various functions; in general commercial facilities. Generally they are three or four storey high. They are constructed from concrete with skeleton system. Entrances are given from corners or sides. More simple geometric forms are used for doors, windows and balconies. Horizontal lines are dominant on facades. Sometimes sun breakers are used. Besides, they have flat roofs.

To sum up, in the British period great significance is given to corner definition and architectural characteristics of the buildings. On the other hand, in the modern period, respect is given to corner definition. However, the buildings architectural characteristics are not emphasized. Therefore, simpler buildings have been designed after 1960.

In the following tables door, window, balcony and roofline characteristics in the British Period and afterwards are given.

Table 9: Door Characteristics in British Period and Afterwards

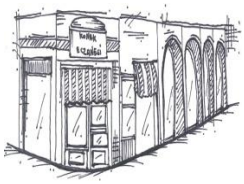
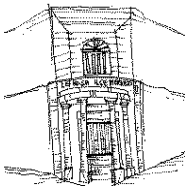
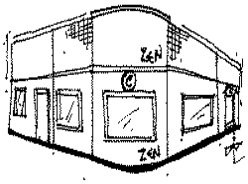
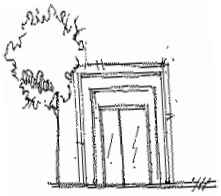
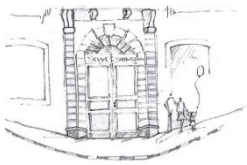
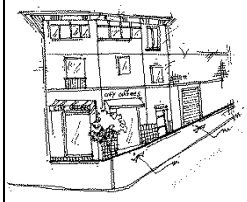
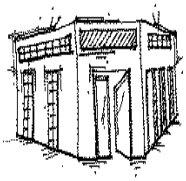
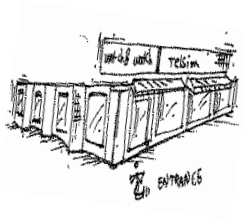
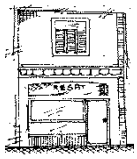
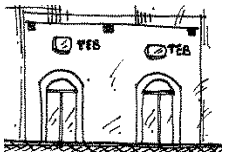
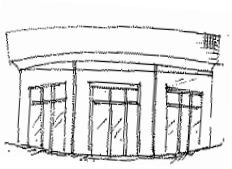
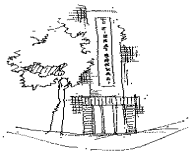
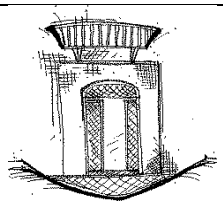
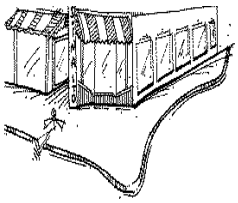
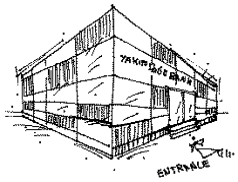
	British period		**After 1960**	
Door Types	 Building 1	 Building 5	 Building 9	 Building 13
	 Building 2	 Building 6	 Building 10	 Building 14
	 Building 3	 Building 7	 Building 11	 Building 15
	 Building 4	 Building 8	 Building 12	 Building 16
Evaluation	As analysis shows, 81% of corner building in this evaluation has a vertical doors from British Period and after 1960, and just 19% of buildings has a curved shape door that are made in British Period(building: 2,7,14)			

Table 10: Window Characteristics in British Period and Afterwards

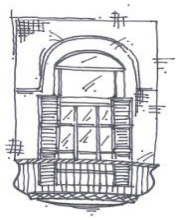
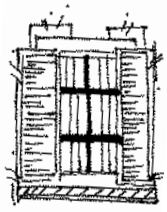
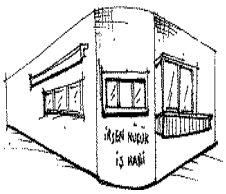
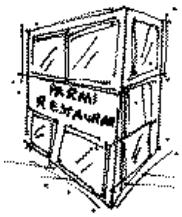
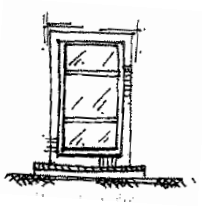
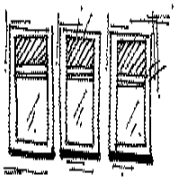
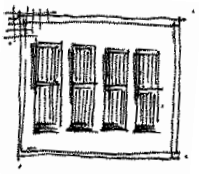
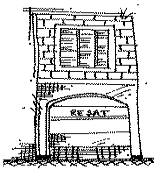
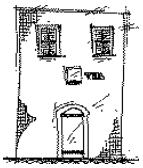
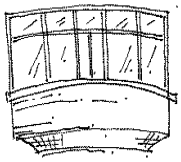
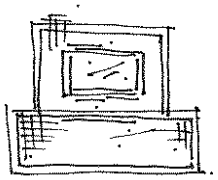
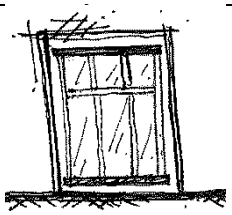
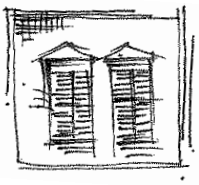
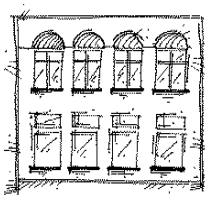
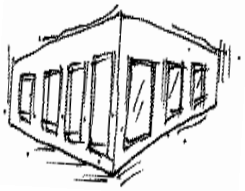
	British period		After 1960	
Window Types	 Building 1	 Building 5	 Building 9	 Building 13
	 Building 2	 Building 6	 Building 10	 Building 14
	 Building 3	 Building 7	 Building 11	 Building 15
	 Building 4	 Building 8	 Building 12	 Building 16
Evaluation	According to analysis, 55% of buildings have vertical shape that are include building(4,5,6,7,8,10,11,14,16), 25% of buildings have a square shape by ornamental elements at the top(1,2,3,12) , and 20% of buildings has a horizontal window(9,13,15)			

Table 11: Balcony Characteristics in British Period and Afterwards

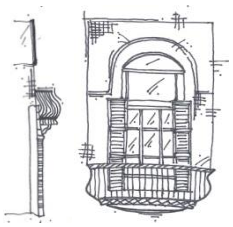
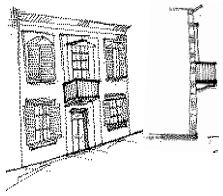
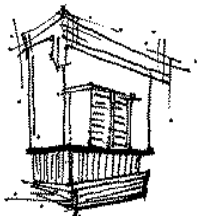
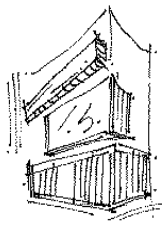
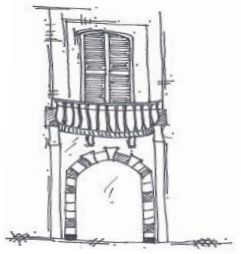
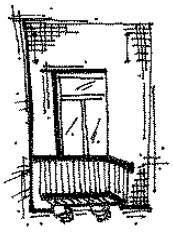
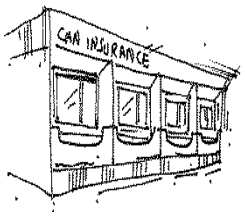
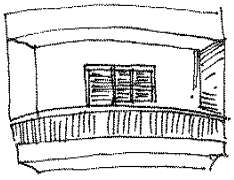
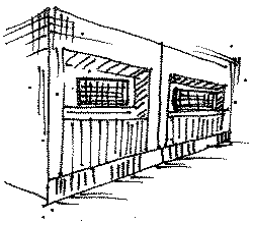
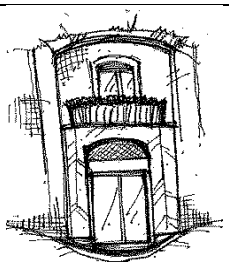
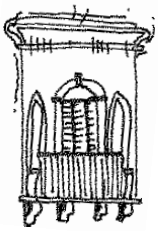
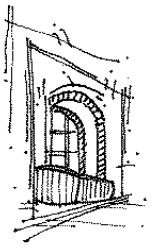
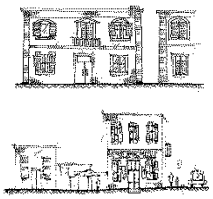
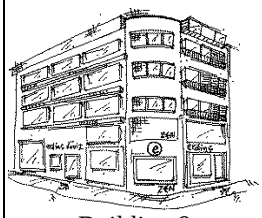
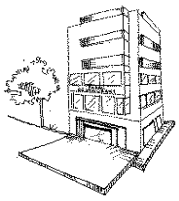
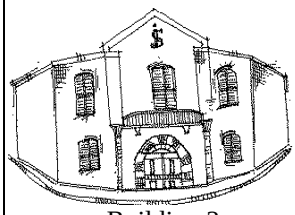
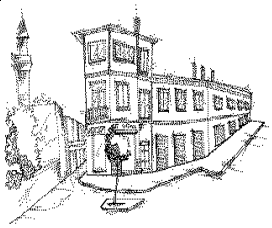
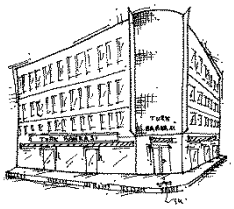
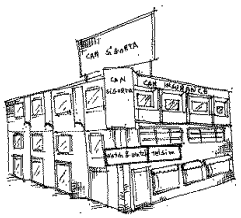
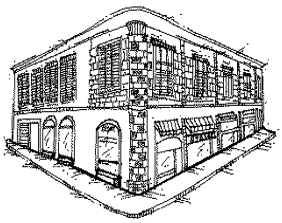
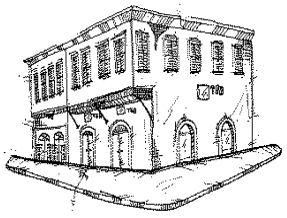
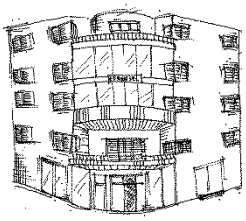
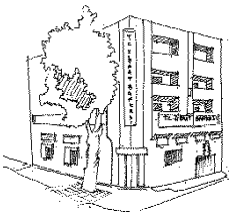
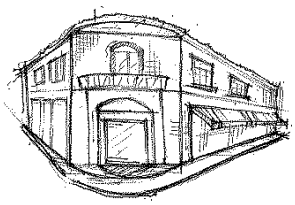
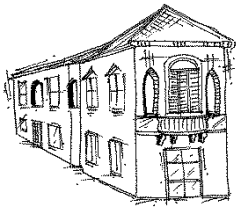
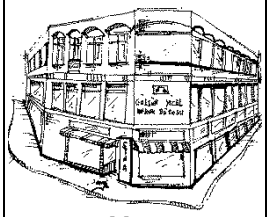
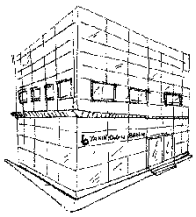
	British period		**After 1960**	
Balcony Types	 Building 1	 Building 5	 Building 9	 Building 13
	 Building 2	 Building 6	-	 Building 14
	-	-	 Building 11	 Building 15
	 Building 4	 Building 8	 Building 12	-
Evaluation	In North Cyprus, because of the climate, balconies are important elements. Indeed in such hot climates, balconies are considered as the only 'breathing space', in addition a place for various function like; sitting area for summer evening, drying laundry and etc. the idea of balcony came in Cyprus from about 1880 to 1920.and in this case as it is visible 75% of the corner buildings from British Period and after 1960 have had balcony.			

Table 12: Roofline Characteristics in British Period and Afterwards

	British period		**After 1960**	
Roofline Properties	 Building 1	 Building 5	 Building 9	 Building 13
	 Building 2	 Building 6	 Building 10	 Building 14
	 Building 3	 Building 7	 Building 11	 Building 15
	 Building 4	 Building 8	 Building 12	 Building 16
Evaluation	According to analysis, 12.5% of buildings have triangular pediment as ornamentation. These buildings are: 2, 8. Also 33.3 of buildings used curved on the façade such as: building 1,3,4 9,10,11. And 50% of buildings have straight roofline. These buildings are:5,6,7,12,13,14,15,16.			

This research can be of benefit to other researchers who want to work further in this field, and professionals from the field of architecture and urban design so that more emphasis is put on the design of corner buildings in practice.

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URL44,http://www.shutterstock.com/pic-55119328/stock-photo-window-shutters-closed-in-the-old-house-in-the-heart-of-lefkosia-nicosia-cyprus.html

URL 45, http://cyplive.com/eng/articles/arttyr/turizm-nicosia.html

URL46,http://www.airportparking.co.uk/8-great-places-to-visit-on-your-cyprus-holiday/

APPENDIX

Samaneh Sohrabi M.S Urban Design Program
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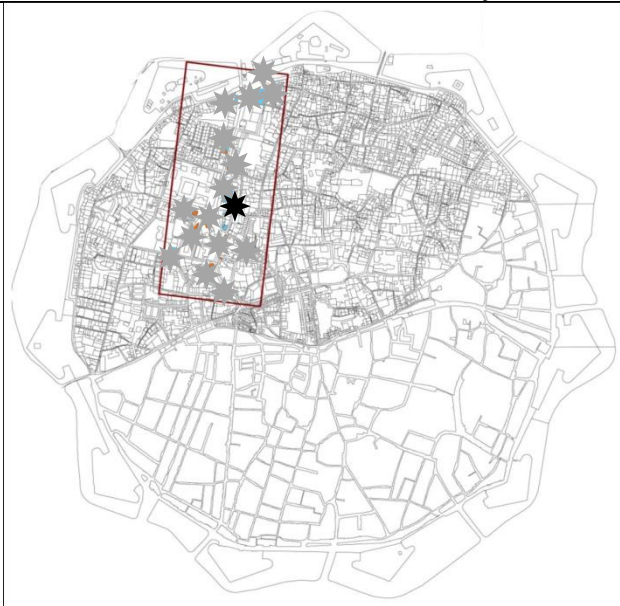
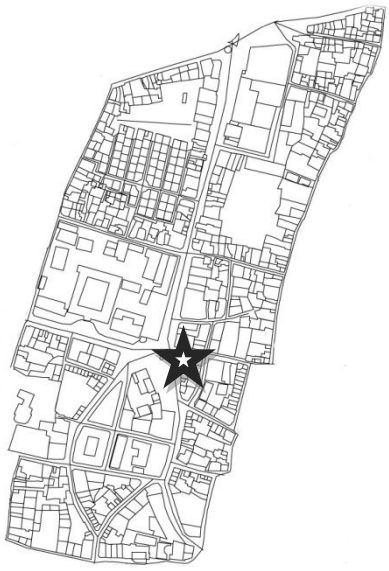
Analyzing Identity of Corner Buildings in Walled City of Nicosia



Corner Building Analysis: 1

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Location map



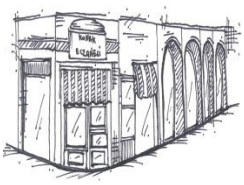
Scale:1/10000

Entrance definition :

Entrance is at corner, under the balcony

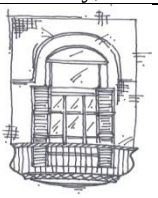
Façade characteristic :

characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline



Door

-Vertical doors with two wings from timber and it has sunshade at overhead



Window

-Vertical windows from timber. it has semi circle heading and it has two green leafs were made by wood

Balcony

-Small linear balcony with round chamfer, It has iron balustrade.

Roof-line properties

-it has a pitch roof

Types of corner: Curved Corner Building
Period of construction: British Period
Function: Pharmacy in ground floor
Height: 3 Floors
Main building material: stone
Main Construction system: Load bearing system

Comment:
-It is special curved corner that Architectural characteristics of building are uniqu

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Analyzing Identity of Corner Buildings in Walled City of Nicosia

Corner Building Analysis: 2

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Iş Bankasi , Walled City of Nicosia

Location map

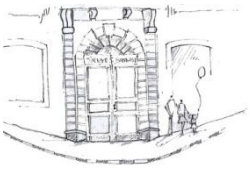
Scale:1/10000

Entrance definition :

Entrance is defined under the balcony

Façade characteristic :

characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

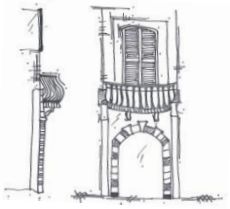


Door

-Vertical doors with two wings from timber and it has semi circle heading with key stone

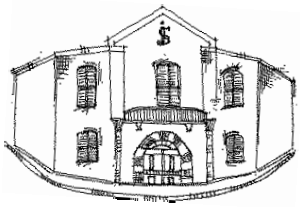
Window

-Vertical windows from timber and it is framed by stonework



Balcony

-Small linear balcony with round chamfer at two corners. It has iron balustrade



Roof-line properties

-Triangular pediment at skyline

Types of corner: Angular corner building
Period of construction: British Period
Function: Bank
Height: 2 Floors
Main building material: Yellow stone
Main Construction System: Load bearing system

Comment:
-It is special corner definition with angular chamfer. Besides, the building is unique with its architectural characteristics

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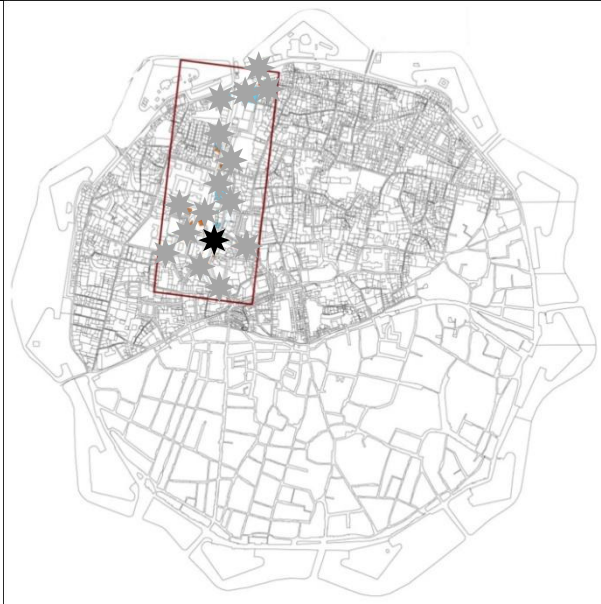
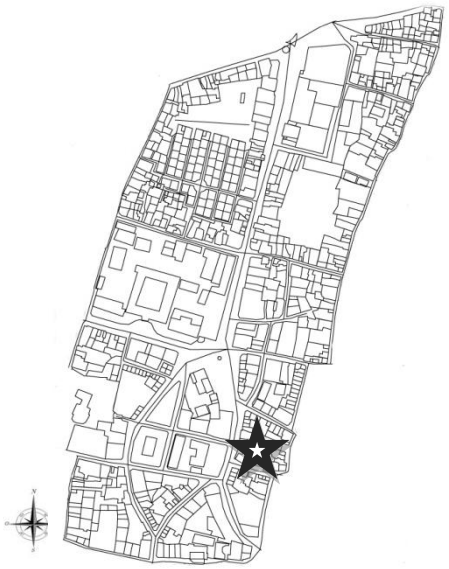
Analyzing Identity of Corner Buildings in Walled City of Nicosia



Corner Building Analysis: 3

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Location map



Scale:1/10000

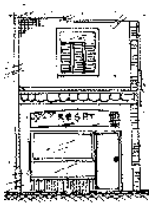
Entrance definition :

Direct access from the main street

Façade characteristic :

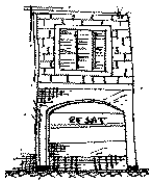
characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

Door



Vertical door at one side of corner.A horizontal vitrine is located next to the door.

Window

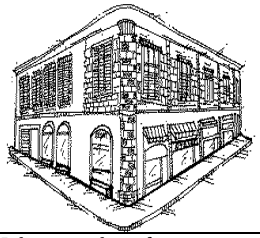


Semi circular window which is a kind of vitrine exhibite the inside of shop. Also, there is a leaf for second floor windows

Balcony

–

Roof-line properties



Types of corner: Angular corner building
Period of construction: British Period
Function: Jewellery shop on ground floor
Height: 2 Floors
Main building material: Yellow Stone
Main Construction system: Load bearing system

This angular corner does not have a balcony.

It has a pitch roof.

Comment:
It has distinguish characteristic and material.

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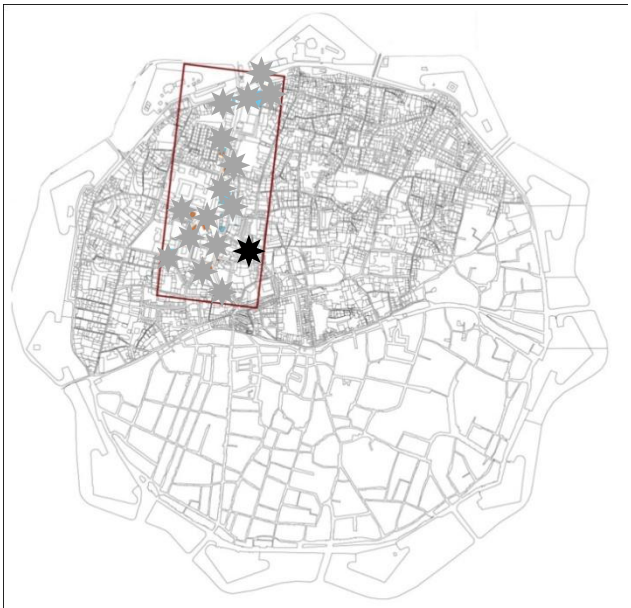
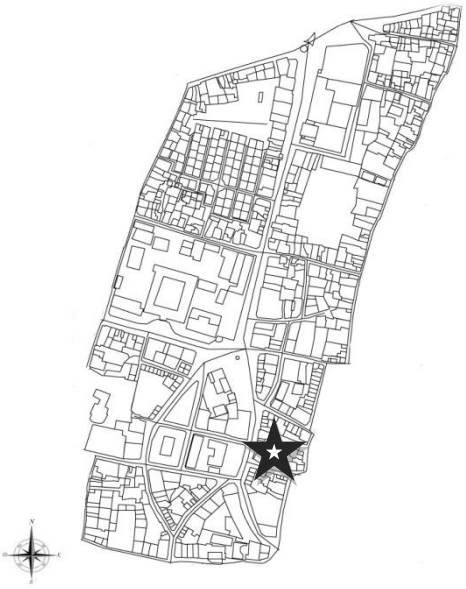


Corner Building Analysis: 4

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Location map



Scale:1/10000

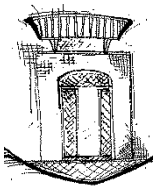
Entrance definition :

Entrance is defined under balcony at the corner correctly

Façade characteristic :

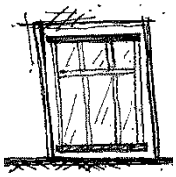
characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

Door



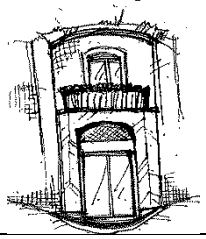
-Vertical doors with two wings.door made by timber.

Window



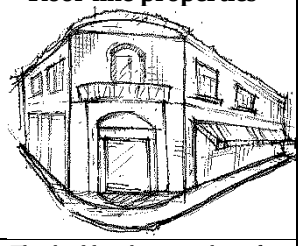
- windows border made by iron. Window of corner has semi circle heading.

Balcony



-Small linear balcony with straight balustrade which is made by iron emphasizing the entrance.

Roof-line properties



-This building has a pitch roof.

Types of corner: Curved corner building
Period of construction: British Period
Function: Commercial facilities on ground floor
Height: 2 Floors
Main building material: Yellow stone
Main Construction system: Load bearing system

Comment: It is a special curved corner building with unique architectural characteristic.

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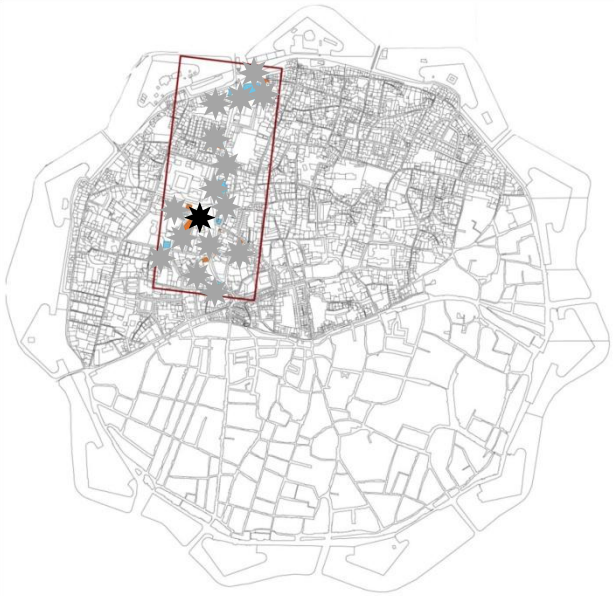
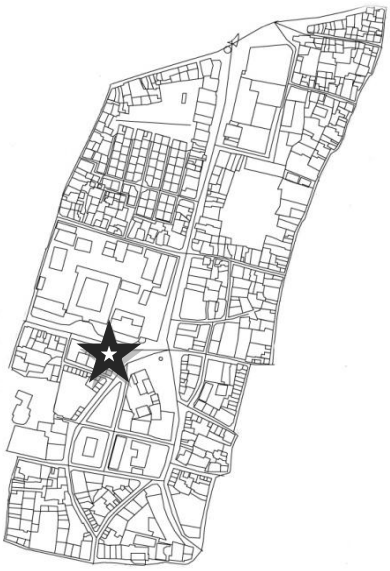
Analyzing Identity of Corner Buildings in Walled City of Nicosia



Corner Building Analysis: 5

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Location map



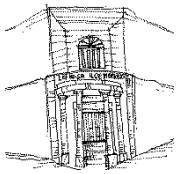
Scale:1/10000

Entrance definition :

Entrance is defined under the balcony, two columns are located at gate for holding the upstairs' balcony

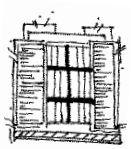
Façade characteristic :

characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline



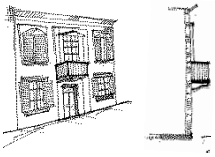
Door

-Vertical doors with two wings from iron material and it is sunshaded by overhead balcony.



Window

-it is made by timber, it has two grey shutters which is made by wood.

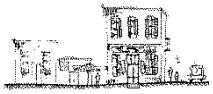


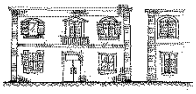
Balcony

-Small linear balcony with straight balustrade which is made by iron.

Right

Left





Roof-line properties

-It has a pitch roof.

Types of corner: Angular corner building
Period of construction: British Period
Function: Ulusal Birlik Partisi Building
Height: 2 Floors
Main building material: Stone
Main Construction system: Load bearing system

Comment:

-It is special curved corner that Architectural characteristics of building are unique.

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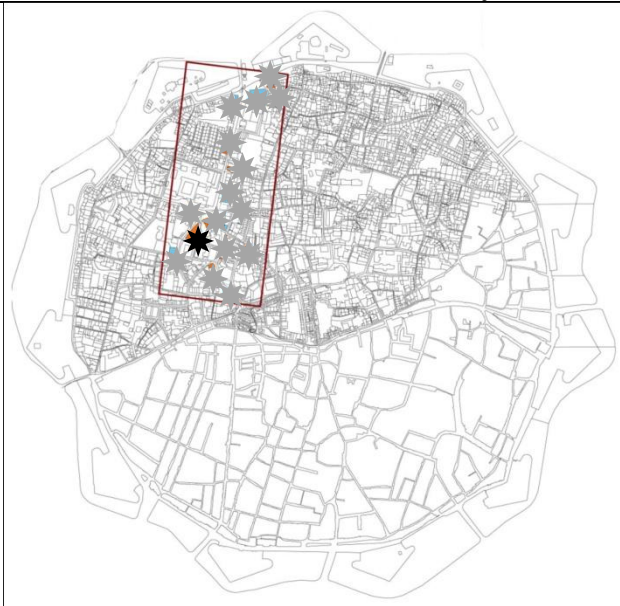
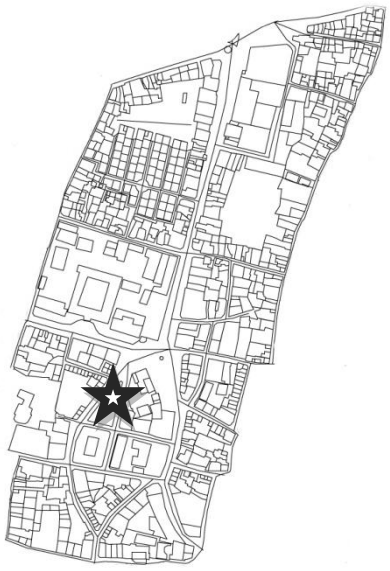
Analyzing Identity of Corner Buildings in Walled City of Nicosia



Corner Building Analysis: 6

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Location map



Scale:1/10000

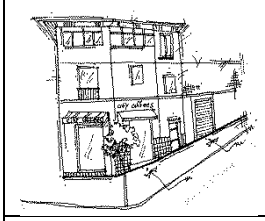
Entrance definition :

Direct access from the main street

Façade characteristic :

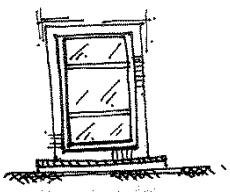
characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

Door



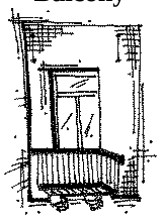
Vertical door that is made by wood, located under the balcony.in addition there is a sunshade between balcony and door .

Window



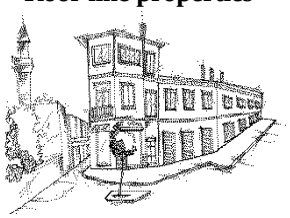
There is a vertical window which is bordered by grey wood.also each window has two leaf.

Balcony



There is a small balcony which is located at the corner.

Roof-line properties



It can be considered as a protrusion building.

Types of corner: Angular corner building
Period of construction: British Period
Function: City Coffees on ground floor
Height: 3 Floors
Main building material: Yellow Stone
Main Construction system: Load bearing system

Comment:

Unique building because of its form.

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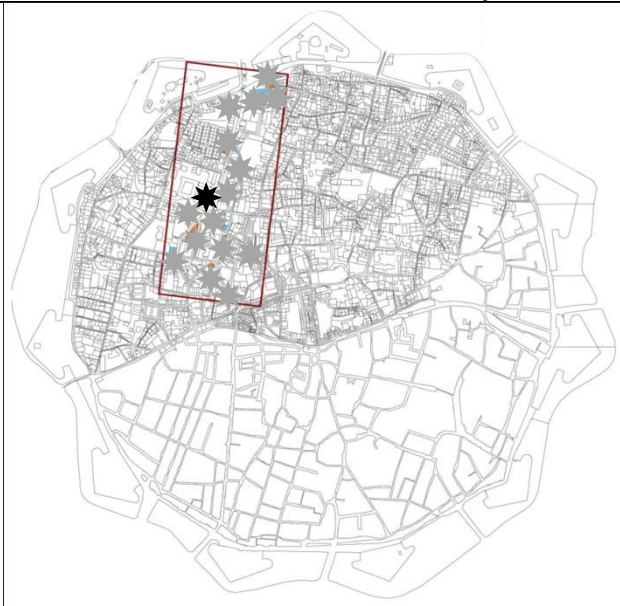
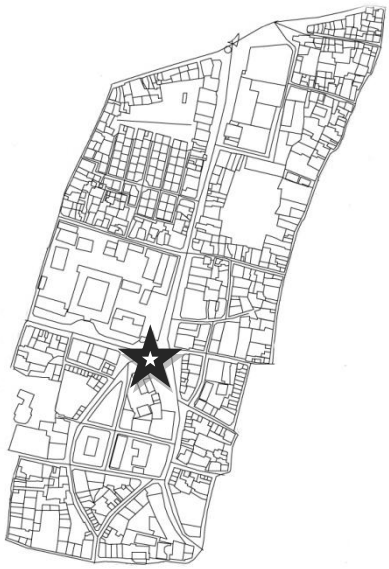
Analyzing Identity of Corner Buildings in Walled City of Nicosia



Corner Building Analysis: 7

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Location map



Scale:1/10000

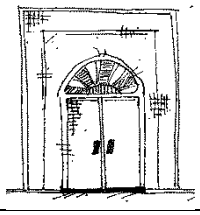
Entrance definition :

Direct access from the street

Façade characteristic :

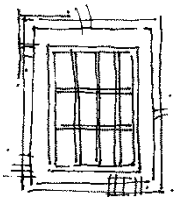
characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

Door



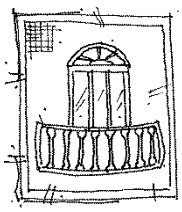
There are two semi circle decorated doors that made by wood.

Window



There is semi circle windows at the second floor and vertical bay windows with sunshade at the ground floor.

Balcony



Linear balcony over the entrance that has iron balustrade.

Roof-line properties

There is a balcony at the roof line that is made by is iron balustrade.

Types of corner: Angular corner building
Period of construction: British Period
Function: Governmental Building
Height: 2 Floors
Main building material: Yellow Stone
Main Construction system: Load bearing system

Comment:

This is an angular corner building which is located near the Ataturk square. Special architecture of this building cause to create unique characteristic

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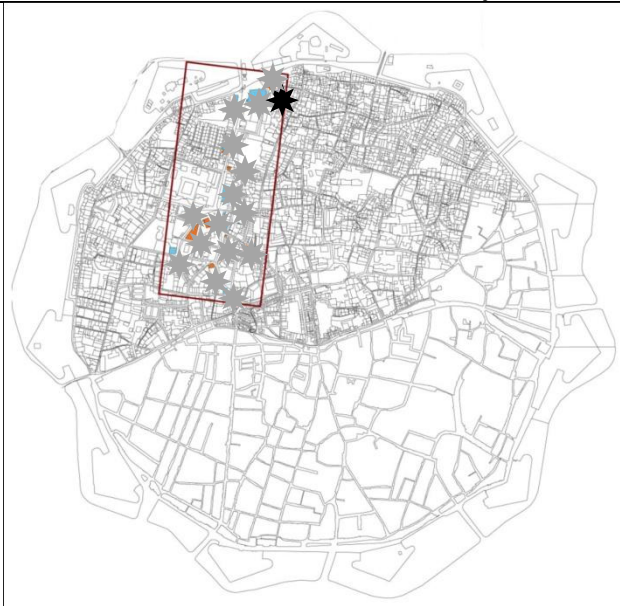


Corner Building Analysis: 8

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Location map

Scale:1/10000

Types of corner: Angular corner building
Period of construction: British Period
Function: kumu hizmet komisiyonu
Height: 2 Floors
Main building material: Yellow stone
Main Construction system: Load bearing system

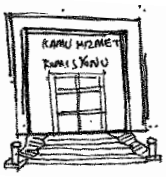
Entrance definition :

Direct access from the street

Façade characteristic :

characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

Door

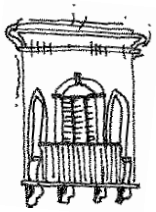


Vertical door with two leaf which made by dark brown wood is located under the balcony and it has a direct access from street.

Window

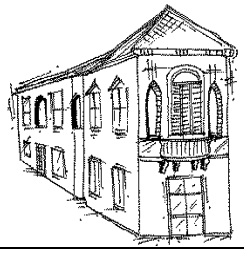
There is a Vertical window that has triangular pediment.in addition window has brown leaf.

Balcony



small Balcony at the corner, with green iron balustrade. And "s" figure under the balcony

Roof-line properties



This building has a pitch roof,

Comment:

It can be consider this as a special corner building.

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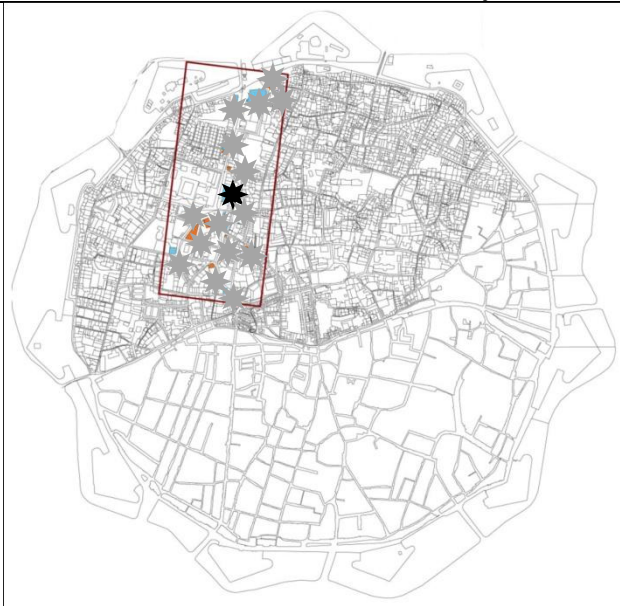
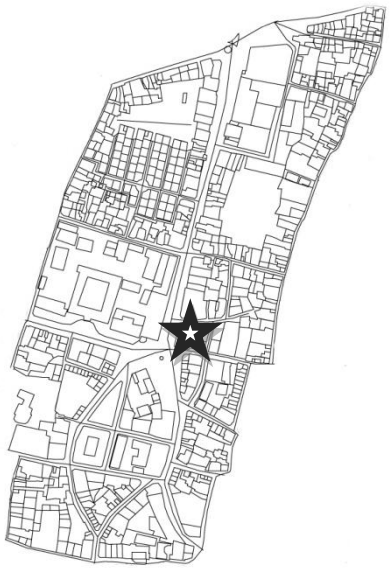
Analyzing Identity of Corner Buildings in Walled City of Nicosia



Corner Building Analysis: 9

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Location map



Scale:1/10000

Types of corner: curved corner building
Period of construction: Modern Period
Function: Zen Diamond
Height: 4 Floors
Main building material: Concrete
Main Construction system: Skeleton system

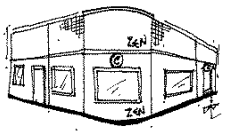
Entrance definition :

Indirect access from the alley

Façade characteristic :

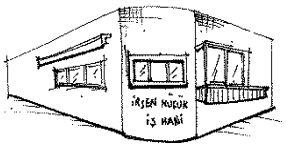
characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

Door



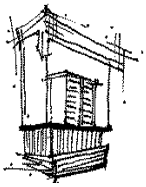
Material of door is glass with iron boarder.

Window



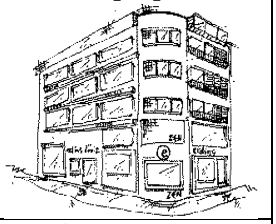
Vertical and horizontal Windows, big showcase is directly located at the corner of building.

Balcony



Small balcony with concrete balustrade that is covered by glass.

Roof-line properties



Curve roofline at the corner. In addition, sunshade is located overhead of building.

Comment:

This corner is modern; it is different with British type because of the different material and different physical characteristic.

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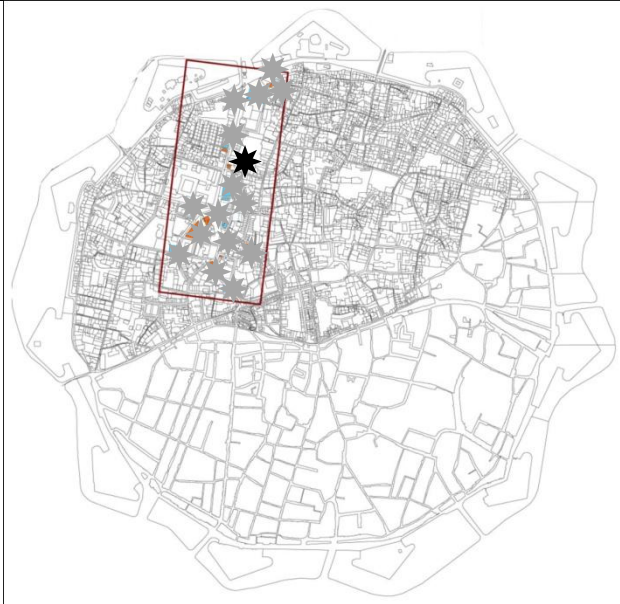
Analyzing Identity of Corner Buildings in Walled City of Nicosia

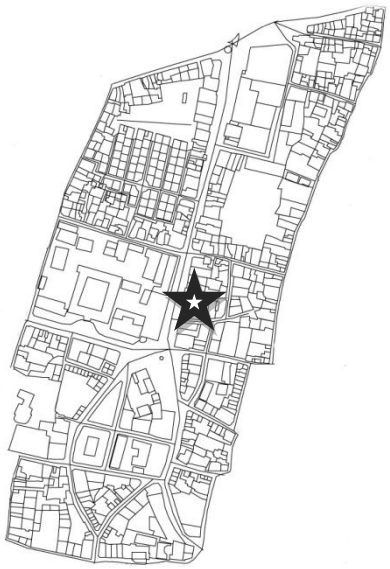


Corner Building Analysis: 10

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

TURK BANKASI
Walled City of Nicosia

Location map



Scale:1/10000

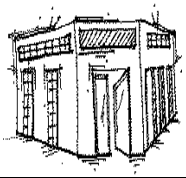
Entrance definition :

Direct access from the main street

Façade characteristic :

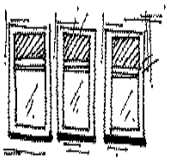
characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

Door



The door of this building is directly located at the corner. It is made by glass.

Window

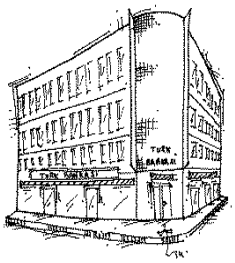


This building has a vertical windows with an iron border.

Balcony

-

Roof-line properties



Types of corner: Curve Corner Building
Period of construction: Modern Period
Function: TURK BANKASI
Height: 4 Floors
Main building material: Concrete
Main Construction system: Skeleton system

Not balcony

Flat roof

Comment:
It respected to the street corner

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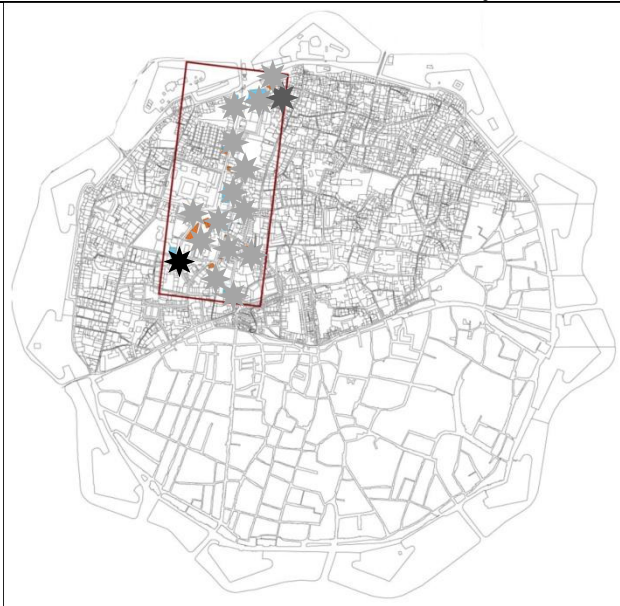
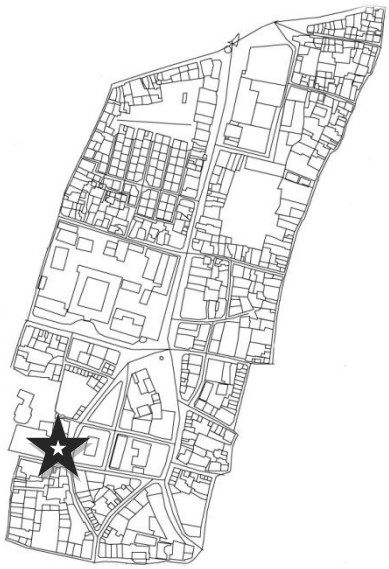
Analyzing Identity of Corner Buildings in Walled City of Nicosia



Corner Building Analysis: 11

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Location map



Scale:1/10000

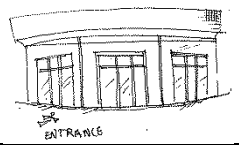
Entrance definition :

Direct access from the street

Façade characteristic :

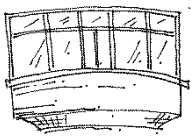
characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

Door



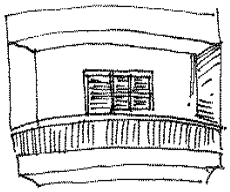
There is a glassy vertical door that is located under the balcony.

Window



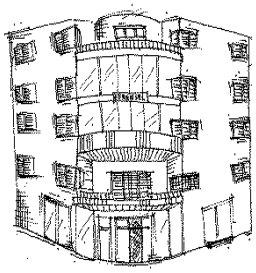
There is a horizontal window with leaf and border for second floor .

Balcony



There is a big round balcony at the second floor with balustrade that is made by iron.

Roof-line properties



Flat roof

Types of corner: Curve corner building
Period of construction: Modern Period
Function: Evrensel
Height: 5 Floors
Main building material: Concrete
Main Construction system: Skeletone system

Comment:

This building is rounded at the corner and two side of building are not round, It respect to the corner.

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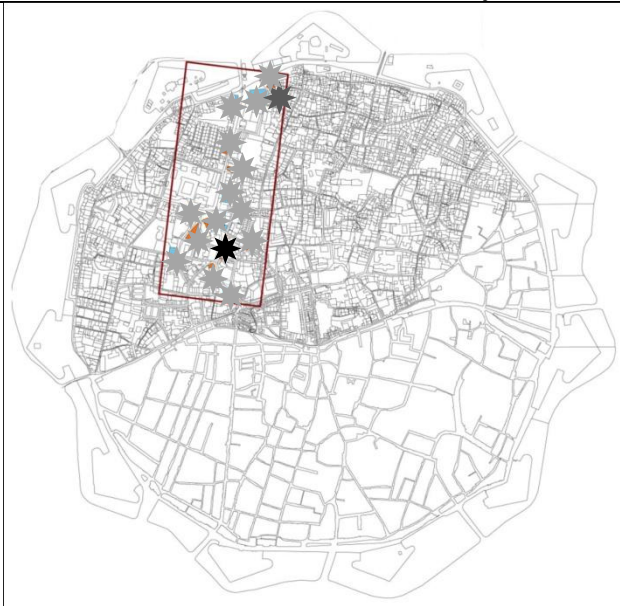
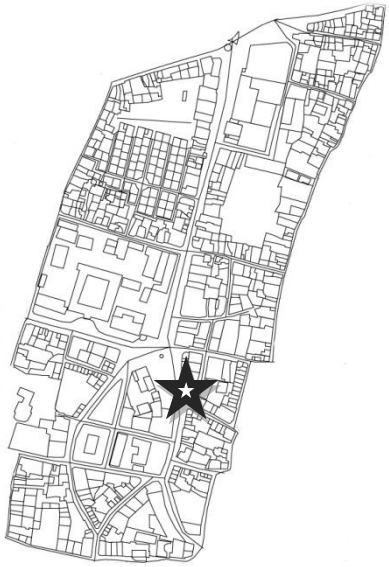


Corner Building Analysis: 12

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Location map



Scale:1/5000

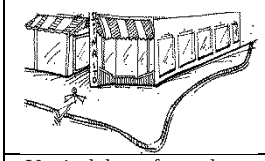
Entrance definition :

Entrance is at one side of the corner which is located at main street

Façade characteristic :

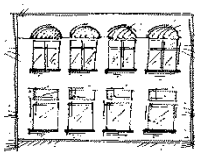
characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

Door



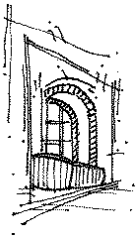
-Vertical doors from glass and it has sunshade at overhead.

Window



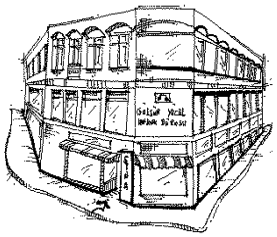
- windows border made by iron. Third floor has semi circle heading.

Balcony



-Second floor has a small linear balcony with straight balustrade which is made by iron. It's located over the entrance.

Roof-line properties



-Flat roof and curve move round.

Types of corner: Angular corner building
Period of construction: Modern Period
Function: Commercial, Hukuk Burosu on ground floor
Height: 3 Floors
Main building material: Concrete
Main Construction system: Skeleton system

Comment:
Although this one has huge differences with the last period, it can be said that it has harmony with the existing context.

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Analyzing Identity of Corner Buildings in Walled City of Nicosia

Corner Building Analysis: 13

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Location map

Scale:1/10000

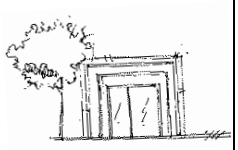
Entrance definition :

Direct access from the main street

Façade characteristic :

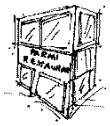
characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

Door

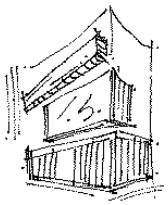


This door is made by glass.over the door has a sunscreen.Some table and chairs are located at the semi open space.

Window

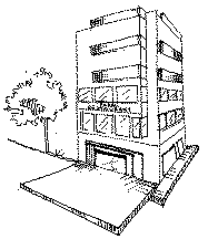


There is a simple rectangular window.



Balcony

There is a small balcony with concrete balustrade.



Roof-line properties

Flat roof.

Types of corner: Angular corner building
Period of construction: Modern Period
Function: Restaurant on ground floor
Height: 5 Floors
Main building material: Concrete
Main Construction system: Skeleton system

Comment:
It is respected to the corner in a way.

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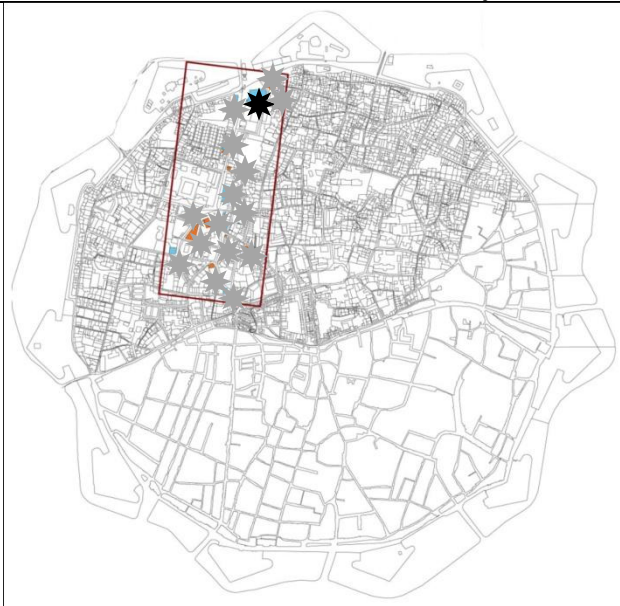
Analyzing Identity of Corner Buildings in Walled City of Nicosia



Corner Building Analysis: 14

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Location map

Scale:1/10000

Entrance definition :

Direct access from the main street

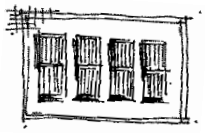
Façade characteristic :

characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

Door

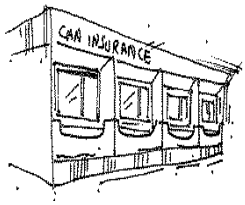
Door of this building is made by glass, there is a sunshade over the door.

Window



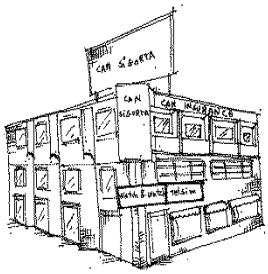
There is a Vertical window with leaf.

Balcony



There is a small balcony at the second floor with concrete balustrade.

Roof-line properties



Flat roof.

Types of corner: Angular corner building
Period of construction: Modern Period
Function: Commercial facilities on ground floor
Height: 2 Floors
Main building material: Concrete
Main Construction system: Skeleton system

Comment:
This angular corner is fitting to the context.

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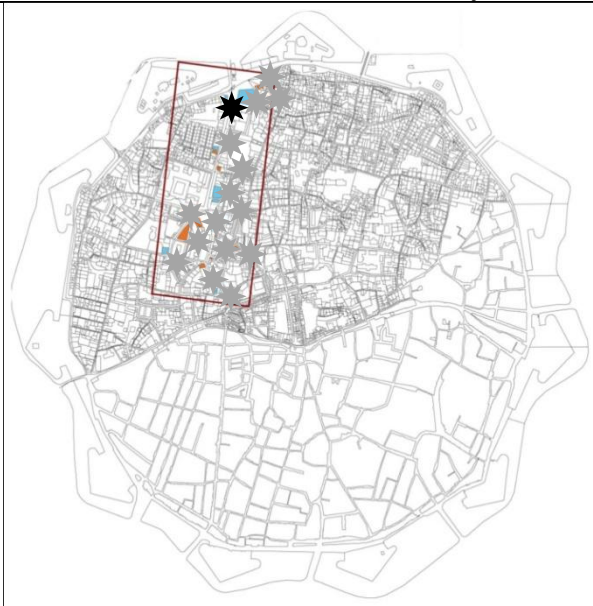
Analyzing Identity of Corner Buildings in Walled City of Nicosia



Corner Building Analysis: 15

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

Location map

Scale:1/10000

Types of corner: Angular corner building
Period of construction: Modern Period
Function: Bank
Height: 4 Floors
Main building material: Concrete
Main Construction system: Skeleton system

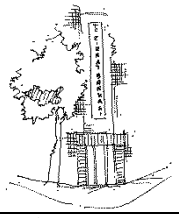
Entrance definition :

Direct access from the street

Façade characteristic :

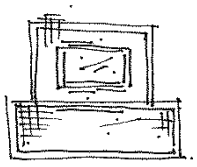
characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

Door



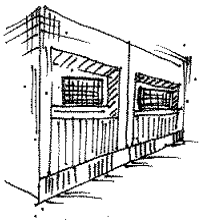
Door of this building is directly located at the corner, under the sign of Ziraat Bankasi.

Window



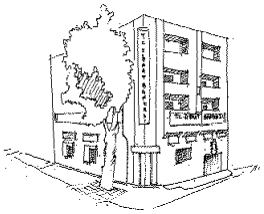
There is no window at the first floor but other floors has a horizontal window with iron border.

Balcony



There is a small horizontal balcony that has a concrete balustrade.

Roof-line properties



It has a flat roof.

Comment:

It is respected to the corner.

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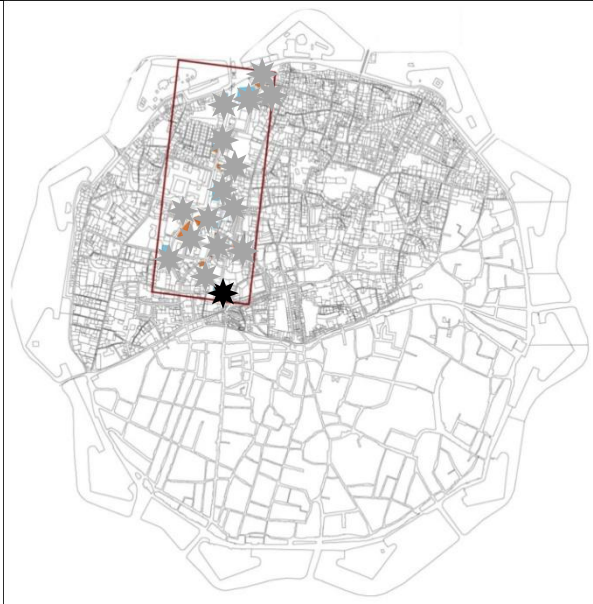
Analyzing Identity of Corner Buildings in Walled City of Nicosia



Corner Building Analysis: 16

Address: Kyrenia Avenue, Walled City Nicosia

YAKIN DOGU BANK
Walled City of Nicosia

Location map

Scale:1/10000

Types of corner: Angular corner building
Period of construction: Modern Period
Function: Bank
Height: 4 Floors
Main building material: Concrete and glass
Main Construction system: skeleton system

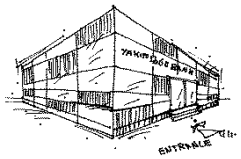
Entrance definition :

Direct access from the street

Façade characteristic :

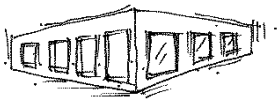
characteristic of door, window, balcony, roofline

Door



Door of this building is located at the main street. İndeed it has three stairs in pedestrian way to arrive door

Window



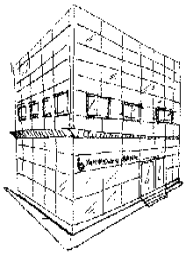
The main material of this building is glass, and just second floor has some window.

Balcony

–

This building does not have a balcony.

Roof-line properties



There is no special roofline property for this building.

Comment:

This modern building does not have any harmony with other buildings. Because of the different characteristic.