

ISTANBUL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY ★ GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

**MAINTAINING DESIGN EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR DYNAMIC
URBAN SQUARES: THE CASE STUDY OF EMINÖNÜ SQUARE**

M.Sc. THESIS

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Institute of Science and Technology

Urban Design Program

JANUARY 2015

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Thesis Advisor: Doç. Dr. A. Senem DEVIREN

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İSTANBUL TEKNİK ÜNİVERSİTESİ ★ FEN BİLİMLERİ ENSTİTÜSÜ

**DİNAMİK KENT MEYDANLARI İÇİN TASARIM DEĞERLENDİRME
KRİTERLERİNİN SAĞLANMASI: EMİNÖNÜ MEYDANI İNCELEMESİ**

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To my family,

FOREWORD

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MAINTAINING DESIGN EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR DYNAMIC URBAN SQUARES: THE CASE STUDY OF EMINÖNÜ SQUARE

SUMMARY

Squares have very important role in people's lives. Urban squares keep public communications and participation alive and provide the terrain for social interaction. In addition, they have a significant function on city's transaction base. Urban squares not only fulfill people's political and cultural needs, but they also satisfy their physical and mental requirements.

The development of science and technology, urbanization movement, industrialization of cities, and social and economic problems are salient factors threatening the urban squares. Due to the decrease in the number of places designed for people, the urban squares are of greater importance, nowadays. In the case of the designing or renewing the urban squares, attention should be paid to determine specific factors in the context of quality of the urban squares.

The objective of the present study is to discover suitable designing evaluation criteria for dynamic urban squares to engage public attention and activate them for more uses. For this purpose, it is so important to explore the influence and characteristics of the urban squares and review the history of the urban squares in the world, both in the cities of the Eastern and Western countries. Protecting and producing sense of place, diversity and multi-functionality are the essential features in the urban squares design which should be taken into consideration in urban squares.

In this study, Eminönü square is evaluated by site observation according to the classified design evaluation criteria including: Linkage & Form Sociability & Activities, Image & comfort and Management. In the study, strong and weak points of the Eminönü square are discussed and necessary suggestions are proposed. Results obtained through studies and the case study can pave the way for having a better and logical design of the future and contemporary urban square, a space where people will be willing to resort and have their social and daily activities.

DİNAMİK KENT MEYDANLARI İÇİN TASARIM DEĞERLENDİRME KRİTERLERİNİN SAĞLANMASI: EMİNÖNÜ MEYDANI İNCELEMESİ

ÖZET

Kent meydanları toplumsal yaşamda çok önemli bir role sahiptir ve her zaman kentlerin fiziksel, ekonomik, sosyal, politik ve kültürel dönüşümlerine konu olmaktadır. Meydanlar, kentte kamu iletişimi ve katılımını canlı tutar, sosyal etkileşim için gereken ortamı sağlamaktadır. Buna ek olarak, meydanlar Kentin işleyiş mekanizmasında önemli bir yer tutmaktadırlar. Kent meydanları, sadece insanların siyasi ve kültürel ihtiyaçlarını karşılamaz, aynı zamanda fiziksel ve zihinsel ihtiyaçları da karşılamaktadır.

Kent meydanlarının bireylerin günlük yaşamları üzerinde çok sayıda etkileri vardır. Meydanlar bireylerin sosyalleşmesine, farklı duyguları hissetmelerine neden olmakla birlikte, farklı kültürel geçmişlere sahip bireylerin biraraya geldiği buluşma ve toplanma mekanları olarak da hizmet vermektedir. Bütün bunlar doğrudan bireylerin algısına hitap etmektedir ve onların psikolojik olarak iyi hissetmesini sağlamaktadır.

Gündelik hayatta yoğun stres ve trafik karmaşası ile dolu olan modern şehirlerde, bireylerin talepleri doğrultusunda tasarlanan mekanların bulunması vatandaşlık hakkıdır. Tüm bu argümanlar, kent meydanlarının bireylerin yaşamındaki önemini yansıtmaktadır ve tasarımcılar için kent meydanlar sözkonusu olduğunda bu unsurlar birincil önem kazanmalıdır..

Bilim ve teknolojinin gelişimi, yanlış kentsel dönüşüm hareketleri, kent merkezlerindeki sanayileşme, sosyal ve ekonomiye dayalı sorunlar, kent meydanlarını tehdit eden belirgin faktörlerdir. Bilim ve teknolojinin gelişmesi ile, birçok kent meydanı rollerini ve fonksiyonlarını kaybetmiştir. Sanayileşme hareketleri ile birlikte kentsel yapıda, meydanların sayısında azalmalar görülmeye başlanmış ve bu sorun günümüzde de devam etmektedir. Bu durdurulmazsa, her türlü insan etkileşimi ve kent meydanlarda rekreasyonel aktiviteler yapmak için bir sosyal arena bulunamayacaktır.

Dünyadaki kent meydanlarından bazı örnekler incelendiğinde mekanların ıssız olduğu ve bireylerin çok da tercih etmediği görülmektedir. Ve çoğu kamusal toplanma mekanlarının işlevsel açıdan başarısız oldukları gözlemlenmiştir. Başarısız örneklerle dikkatli tespit yapıldığında, bu meydanların bireylerin ihtiyaçlarını karşılamadığını ortaya koymaktadır.

Bireyler için tasarlanmış yerlerin sayısındaki azalması, bugünlerde kent meydanlarının önem ve değerini iyiden iyiye artırmaktadır. Bu nedenle, günümüzde kent meydanlarının tasarımı artık daha önemli ve daha fazla dikkat gerektirmektedir. Kent meydanların tasarımı veya yenilenmesi söz konusu olduğunda, bu konudaki kriterler belirlenirken, kent meydanlarının nitelikleri bağlamında değerlendirmeye alınmalıdır.

Tüm yukarıda belirtilen hususlar göz önünde tutulursa, kent meydanlarının tasarımının ne derece önemli olduğu vurgulanabilir. Bu çalışmada özellikle kentsel tasarımcı bakışı ile kent meydanlarının önemi vurgulanmaya çalışılmıştır. Amaç dinamik kent meydanlarına toplumun geniş kesimlerinin dikkatini çekerek daha fazla aktif ve kullanımı etkinleştirmek için, uygun tasarım değerlendirme kriterleri keşfetmektir.

Bu amaçla, kent meydanlarının etkilerini ve özelliklerini keşfetmek ve dünyada kent meydanlarının, hem doğu ve batı ülkelerinin kentleri kapsamında tarihini gözden geçirmek çok önemlidir. Mekan duygusunu korumak ve üretmek, çeşitlilik ve çoklu işlevsellik kentsel meydanların tasarımında temel özelliklerdir ki kent meydanlarında da dikkate alınmalıdır. Gelecek kent meydanlarına dair arzu edilen ve tatmin edici bir tasarım sunmak için, bu çalışma, tasarımı derinden etkileyen temel özellikler ve değerlendirme kriterlerine hitap etmektedir. Bu nedenle, bu kriterler tezin sonraki bölümlerde incelenmiştir.

Metodoloji ve uygulanan prosedürler literatür kapsamlı inceleme ile başlamıştır. Çalışmanın temel araştırma sorusu “Bireylerin ilgisini meydanları daha aktif kullanmak ve vakit geçirmeye yöneltmek için meydanların tasarımında hangi kriterler dikkate alınmalıdır? Cevabı bulabilmek için ilk olarak, farklı kaynaklardan tasarım değerlendirme kriterleri incelenmiştir.

Ardından, tasarım değerlendirme kriterleri, kentsel tasarım açısından kent meydanlarının farklı yönleri olarak altı ana başlık olarak kategorize edilmiştir: Coğrafi, fiziksel, psikolojik, kullanım ve faaliyetler, anlam ve yönetim. Alan çalışmasında, konum, bölgenin genel bilgiler ve tarih ele alınmıştır. Ayrıca, tasarım değerlendirme kriterlerine göre alan çalışması gözlem ve görsel kayıtlar ile desteklendirilmiştir.

Bu çalışma sonuçtan girişe doğru, giriş bölümü de dahil olmak üzere dört ana bölüm içerir. İlk bölüm giriştir. birinci bölümün ikinci kısmında, ilgili ve geçmiş literatürlerden kapsamlı bir inceleme sunulmaktadır, ilk olarak, kentsel mekan ve kamusal alana atıfta bir mekansal bağlamda meydanın bir tanımını yapılmıştır. Bu bağlamda, kentsel mekan ve kamusal alan kavramları tartışılmıştır. Bu tanımlardan sonra, kent meydanının önemini ve kent meydanlarının işlevleri ve faaliyetlerinin nasıl değiştiğini ve tarih boyunca meydanların nasıl şekillendiğini daha iyi anlamak için kent meydanlarının tarihsel süreci anlatılmıştır.

İkinci bölümün ilk kısmında, Jacobs, Canter, Punter, Montgomery, PPS projeleri, Shaftoe, Carmona, ve Kevin Lynch gibi tasarımcıların kentsel mekan ve kent meydanlarındaki farklı tasarım değerlendirme kriterleri tartışılmıştır. Ayrıca, tüm kaynaklar analiz edilerek ve incelenerek dinamik kent meydanları için altı ana tasarım değerlendirme kriteri belirlenmiştir. İkinci bölümün ikinci kısmında, kriterler ve bileşenleri tek tek tartışılmıştır. Bu bölümün üçüncü kısmında, dünyada dinamik kent meydanların belirgin örnekleri verilerek değerlendirilmiştir.

Eminönü bölgesi tarihten beri İstanbul'un en önemli lokasyonlarından biridir. Eminönü Meydanı İstanbul demiryolu nakliyatı, kentsel yollar ve deniz nakliyatı dahil olmak üzere kentsel ulaşım ağının ana düğümüdür. Ayrıca, İstanbul'un kent için önemli bir kamusal alanıdır. Bu çalışmada, İstanbul'un tarihi yarımada olarak bilinen kısmında yer alan Eminönü kent meydanı sınıflandırılmış tasarım değerlendirme kriterlerine göre: Form ve Bağlantı, Sosyallik ve Faaliyetler, Anlam ve konfor, ve Yönetim yönleriyle dahil olmak üzere, alan gözlem ile değerlendirilmektedir.

Eminönü meydanının güçlü ve zayıf noktaları irdelenmiş ve gerekli öneriler önerilmiştir. Çalışmalar ve örnek çalışma sonucunda elde edilen sonuçlar, gelecek ve çağdaş kent meydanlarında daha iyi ve anlamlı tasarımlar gerçekleşmesi açısından, bireylerin dinlenme yeri ve onların sosyal ve günlük aktiviteleri gerçekleştirebileceklerine olanak tanıyacak mekanlar için yön verici olabilir.

1. INTRODUCTION

Urban squares are one of the principal components of urban places in the city structure. They reflect the city's identity and the community's cultural background. They also have a significant role in the image and prestige of the city. Furthermore, urban squares provide a forum for social, economic, cultural accumulation and community expression. Urban squares are the location for people to gather in and have a chance to socialize and interact with each other. They are places in which people can relax, escape the frantic rhythm of workdays, and find pleasant activities to do or see. A better and more satisfactory design of urban squares can fascinate people to spend and enjoy their time in these pleasant places.

The increase of mobility and the number of the people, the development of the technology, disordered and intensive urbanization movement, the change of economic and social conditions are the factors causing alterations in the urban structure and consequently the change of urban squares and their applications. By the development of the science and technology, several urban squares have lost their roles, and functions. Industrialization of cities leads to the reduction in the numbers of the squares in urban structure and as a result, people of all kinds will not find a social arena to have their interactions and do different activities in urban squares. It is obviously seen that some examples of the urban squares around the world are desolate and devoid of people, and many fail to function as a public gathering place. Careful detection of the failed examples reveals that these squares do not satisfy people's intended needs. Therefore, designing the urban squares is of more importance and requires more attention now.

Urban squares have numerous effects on people's daily lives. They result in people's socialization, sometimes they cause different emotions in people, and can serve as a place to meet different people with different cultural backgrounds. All these have a direct relationship with people's mentality and make them feel relaxed. In modern cities, which are full of stress and traffic, having places designed in accordance with people's demands is the right of all the citizens. All these arguments reflect the

significance of the urban square in human life and a designer should notice these elements for designing the urban squares.

Considering all the above-mentioned issues, the importance of the urban square design is depicted. Urban designers have attempted to assert and portray the significance of urban squares, whose perspectives and viewpoints have been mentioned in this thesis. Then, in order to become familiar with the significance of the urban squares during the history, the process of use and the activities occurring in the urban squares, and the roles or the functions of the urban squares in the cities are studied. Moreover, how urban squares have been shaped both in Eastern and Western cities in different eras is investigated.

In order to present a desirable and satisfactory design for the future of urban squares, this study addresses the principal characteristics and evaluation criteria that affect the design deeply. Therefore, these criteria have been investigated in the following sections of this thesis. Subsequently, Eminönü in Istanbul, Turkey, as a case study has been evaluated according to those findings and criteria. Results obtained through studies and the case study can pave the way for having a better and logical design of the future and contemporary urban square, a space where people will be willing to resort and have their social and daily activities.

The methodology and procedures applied in this study start with the comprehensive review of relevant literature. The main research question of this study is “Which criteria should be considered in the evaluation of squares to revive the interest of people to use and spend time in urban squares?” In order to find out the answer first, the design evaluation criteria in different sources are discussed. Then, design evaluation criteria have been categorized into four main heading: Linkage & Form, Sociability & Activities, Image & comfort and Management, which are different aspects of the urban squares from the urban design perspective. In the case study, location, the general information and history of the area are discussed. Furthermore, evaluation of the case study based on the design evaluation criteria is carried out by site observation and visual recording.

This study contains four main chapters, including the introduction through conclusion. The first chapter is the introduction. The second section of the first chapter is presenting a comprehensive review of the relevant and past literatures, first makes a definition of the square with a spatial context in reference to the urban space and public

space. In this regard, the concepts of the urban space and public space are discussed. After these definitions, the historical background of the urban squares is introduced to give a better understanding of the importance of an urban square and how the urban squares have been shaped and formed during the history as well as recognizing how the functions of the squares and activities occurring there have been changed.

In the first section of the second chapter, the different urban designers' design evaluation criteria in the urban place and urban square such as Jacobs, Canter, Punter, Montgomery, PPS projects, Shaftoe, Carmona, and Kevin Lynch are discussed. Furthermore, four main design evaluation criteria for dynamic Urban Square were determined by analyzing and reviewing all the sources. In the second section of the second chapter, the criteria and their components discussed one by one. In the third section of this chapter, prominent examples of dynamic squares in the world are introduced and evaluated.

The third chapter includes the case study which will be evaluated according to the criteria. First, general information, location, and history of Eminönü square are discussed. Next, On the basis of the classified design evaluation criteria Eminönü square is assessed through site visits and observation. The fifth chapter is the conclusion part.

1.2 Definition and History of Urban Squares

1.2.1 Urban space

Urban space is part of the city structure with different forms and characters which usually has an enclosed physical aspect. Urban spaces are multi-purpose places, and the more they meet these diverse purposes, the more successful they tend to be (Madanipour, 2006, p.174). Urban space is the main tool integrating a city. Urban spaces are shared by the city-dwellers and various users, and serve as the environment in which they convey and relearn cultural accumulation (Inceoğlu, 2009). Urban space is geometrically bounded by a variety of elevations. It is only the clear legibility of its geometrical characteristics and aesthetic qualities which allows us consciously to perceive external space as urban space (Rob Krier, 1979, p.15).

Urban spaces reflect specific social and cultural features and they have been organized for different urban activities. Urban spaces do not need buildings, but surrounding

surfaces, nodes for sitting and standing. In fact, urban space is usually defined by its surrounding surfaces, building facades, the pavement, and local nodes such as trees and street furniture. Moreover, the fine structure of boundaries is another important point in characteristic of the urban spaces.

Successful urban spaces establish a good contact with pedestrians. If people cannot interact with surrounding surfaces, they will find themselves in an unfamiliar environment and will leave the place. Therefore, an urban space should be responsive to human feelings and sensibilities (Salingaros, 1999, p.30).

Carmona et al. argue that “outdoor space can be considered in terms of ‘positive’ and ‘negative’ spaces: Positive, relatively enclosed, outdoor space has a definite and distinctive shape. It is conceivable, can be measured, and has definite boundaries. Negative space is shapeless, the amorphous residue left over around buildings which are generally viewed as positive. It is "inconceivable – continuous and lacking in perceivable edges or form" (2003, p.138).

According to Rob Krier, urban spaces are classified into two categories: internal and external. Both of these categories obey similar laws in terms of form and function. Internal space is shielded from weather and the external environment, and it represents an effective symbol of privacy. External space is seen as open, unobstructed space for movement in the open air with public, semi public and private zones (1979, p.16).

The two basic elements of external space are Streets and Squares. The Square was the first way man discovered of using urban space and it is produced by the grouping of houses around an open space (Figure 2.1). The street is a product of the spread of a settlement once houses have been built on all available space around its central square. It provides a framework for the distribution of land and gives access to individual plots (Figure 2.2). Urban spaces (Figure 2.3) included paths and nodes, paths to pass away and nodes for sitting and standing (Krier, 1979, p.17).



Figure 1.1 : Urban Square (Rob Krier, 1979)



Figure 1.2 : Street (Rob Krier, 1979)

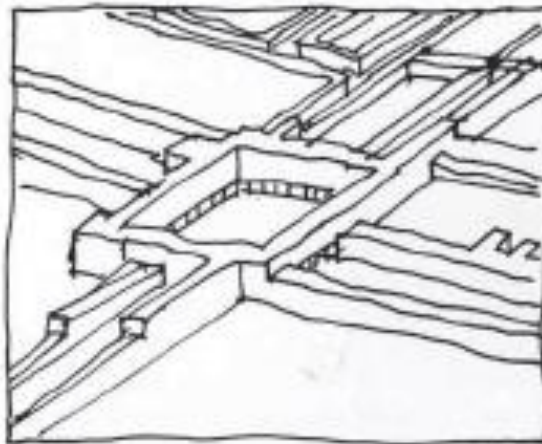


Figure 1.3 : Paths and Nodes (Rob Krier, 1979)

1.2.2 Public space

A major characteristic of the social and political organization is the distinction between the public and private spheres of life. One of the main ways of organizing space is through defining some places as private and others as public. Some places are protected and set apart from the rest by a complex system of signification: by spatial means such as signs, boundaries, fences, walls, and gates; or by temporal means such as predetermined working hours (Madanipour, 1999, p.880). From Agora of the polis, and open market places of medieval cities to today's shopping malls, corporate plazas, atria and festival places, public spaces have been one of the crucial components of cities for centuries (Akkar, 2007).

Public places play a vital role in the people's everyday life as they bring people together and improve the quality of their lives. Public spaces have both social and political aspects and they can show the power of the state. Sometimes public places reduce the daily stress that people undergo and provide them with a space to relaxation, social interaction, and entertainment. One of the significant features of public spaces is that they should be accessible to everybody. Moreover, the control of the public space is crucial to balance the society.

According to Madanipour (2003), "public spaces can be described as places outside the boundaries of individual or small group control, mediating between private spaces and used for a variety of often overlapping functional and symbolic purpose. Descriptively, therefore, public spaces have been multi-purpose, accessible spaces, distinguishable from, and mediating between, demarcated exclusive territories of household and individuals" (p. 232).

Shaftoe (2008) believes "convivial public spaces are more than just arenas in which people can have a jolly good time; they are at the heart of democratic living and are one of the few remaining loci where we can encounter difference and learn to understand and tolerate other people" (p.5).

Streets, parks, plazas, squares, and waterfronts are the main types of the public open spaces (Francis, 1987, p.78). This study focuses on urban squares as public open spaces.



Figure 1.4 : old town square, Prague (www.pps.org/great_public_spaces)



Figure 1.5 : Waterfront, Sweden (www.pps.org/great_public_spaces)



Figure 1.6 : Vondelpark, Amsterdam (www.pps.org/great_public_spaces)



Figure 1.7 : Bolsover Street, Poland (w1wtrees.wordpress.comUrban Square)

1.2.3 Urban square

Urban Square is one of the principal components of urban places in the city structure. It can add identity to the city and define its cultural background. Urban squares also have a remarkable impact in embellishing the image of the city and constructing its prestige. Furthermore, urban squares can provide a forum for social, economic, and cultural accumulation, and community expression.

Urban squares tend to be spaces with distinct boundaries, they may be a square defined on each side by buildings, a terrace with one open edge overlooking the city, open space or the ocean or any other configuration of space that can be perceived by its intended users as a distinct space that is safe, accessible and welcoming (Madanipour, 1999, p.881).

Urban squares are the place for people to gather in and have a chance to socialize and interact with each other. They are places where people can relax, escape the frantic rhythm of workdays, and find pleasurable activities to do or see.

Paul Zucker (1959) maintains, “The unique relationship between the open area of the square, the surrounding buildings, and the sky above creates a genuine emotional experience” (p.1). Form, function, and height of the Surrounding buildings affect the shape and functions of the squares. Zucker defines “Space” anew in relation to city planning. For Zucker, space means a structural organization as a frame for human activities and it is based on very definite factors: on the relation between the forms of the surrounding buildings; on their uniformity or their variety; on their absolute dimensions and their relative proportions in comparison with width and length of the

open area; on the angle of the entering streets; and, finally, on the location of monuments, fountains, or other three-dimensional accents (Zucker, 1959, p.2).

Clare et al. (1998) noted, “A plaza is defined as a mostly hard surfaced, outdoor public space from which cars are excluded. Its main function is as a place for strolling, sitting, eating, and watching the world go by. Unlike a sidewalk, it is a place in its own right rather than a space to pass through” (p.14). Square is produced by the grouping of houses around an open space. This arrangement affords a high degree of control of the inner space, as well as facilitating a ready defence against external aggression by minimizing the external surface area liable to attract (Krier, 1979, p.17).

1.3 Historical Background of Urban Squares

1.3.1 History of the civilization and urban squares in western world

In this section, the birth of cities in western world and the changing process of the settlements and communities in the villages and cities will be summarized. Moreover, the study will investigate the collaborative activities occurred in the public spaces of the settlements in Ancient Western World, Neolithic Period, and Bronze Age Period. Finally, the study will present the history of the urban squares within different periods starting from the earliest urban squares in the Classical Period, during the Middle Ages, and Neo-Classical Period, and ending up with the concepts of urban squares in 19th Century and Modern Period.

In Western civilization, the Ancient era included two main periods namely the Neolithic and the Bronze Age periods. The first settlements of the Western world, evolutionary process in the shape of the settlements as well as the types of activities occurred in the gathering spaces are important issues of these periods. Moreover, The First and main town square of the Western world was shaped in this period. Indeed, the earliest cities were laid out in Western Asia during the Neolithic Period, which will be discussed in the next section entitled as “History of urban squares in Eastern cities”.

In Europe, one of the unique and the first prehistoric village of the third millennium B.C, with multiple housing is Skara Brae (Scotland). Ten small stone houses which are linked to each other with stone alleys and each house has its own single room with rounded corners (Kostof, 1995, p.30).

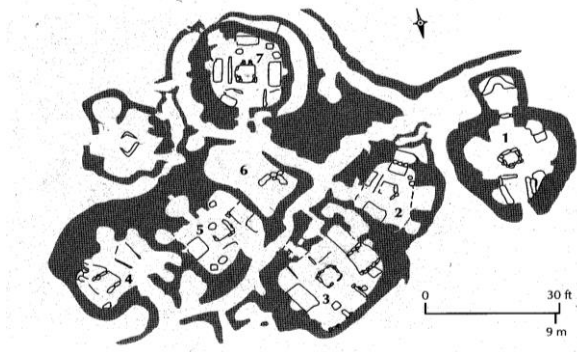


Figure 1.8 : Plan of Skara Brae Settlement, 3000 B.C (<http://teachers.sduhsd.k12.ca.us/ltrupe/.html>)

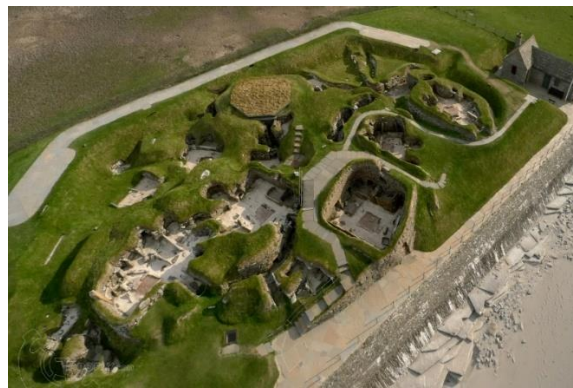


Figure 1.9 : Bird eye view of Skara Brae (<http://topofly.blogspot.com.tr/2012/07/skara-brae-masive-to-macro.html>)

Skara Brae's plan reveals that there has been no common place for gathering of people to do any activities, so it can be inferred people could see each other in the rooms or in the paths between the rooms. When we look at other examples of settlements in the history of Europe during Neolithic period, it can be observed common spaces for various activities such as religious expression, astronomical phenomena etc., were located some distance away, outside of the settlements.

Sanctuaries of Ggantija near Malta and Stonehenge in southern England are two examples which typify the complementary impulses of Neolithic communities: reverence for the cave and its ancestral memories on one hand and the new found order of the sky on the other. Both of these them illustrate the range of religious expression in Europe by the late 3rd millennium B.C. (Kostof, 1995, p.32).

It can be observed that in the Neolithic period, activities which assembled people, were mostly religious ceremonies for burial of ancestors, and the propitiation of their spirits in monuments.

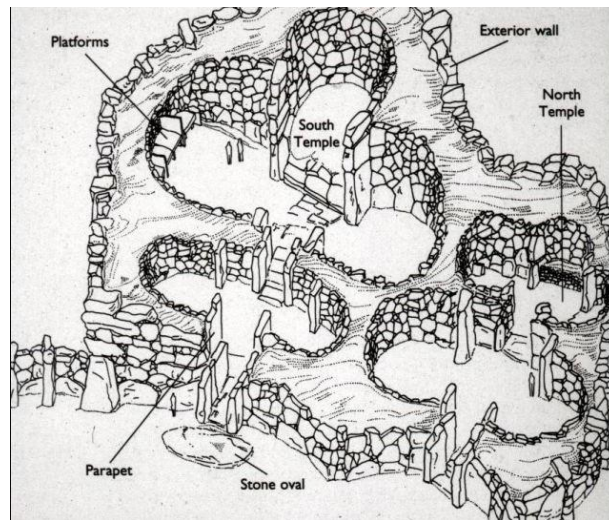


Figure 1.10 : The plan of Ggantija, Temple Complex 3000 B.C
 (www.arthistory.upenn.edu/.html)



Figure 1.11 : Ggantija (<http://www.holidayvillasmalta.com/en/about/malta>)



Figure 1.12 : Stonehenge, 2750-1500 B.C (www.holidayvillasmalta.com/en/about/malta)

The rise of cities in western world continued during Bronze Age. Excellent examples of Bronze Age sites are Mycenaean settlement in Greece dating around 1700 B.C and site of Knossos in Greek island of Crete, which dates around 1600 B.C. It can be said that the first town square was shaped in this settlement.

Mycenae town included citadel, tombs, grave circles, and palace. There are many tombs. The best known beehive tomb is named as Treasury of Atreus with the circular structures in the Grave Circle which were built entirely above the ground. The bodies of the king and his wife were buried in these tombs (Kostof, 1995, p.105). Historical background of Mycenaean city, show that gathering activities in Bronze Age all had religious aspects and they were for burial of dead bodies in different tombs.

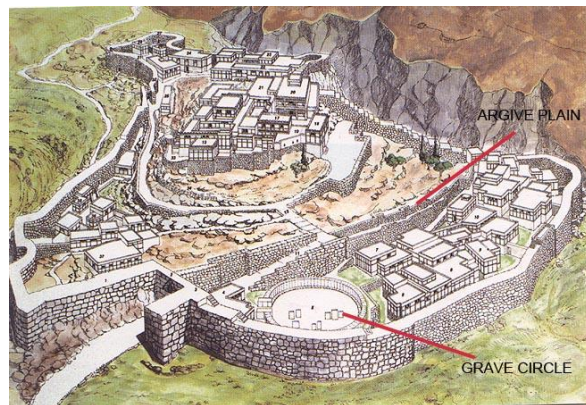


Figure 1.13 : Mycenae (Greece), 1600-1300 B.C (www.employees.oneonta.edu/farberas/arth/ARTH209/minoan_mycenaean.html)

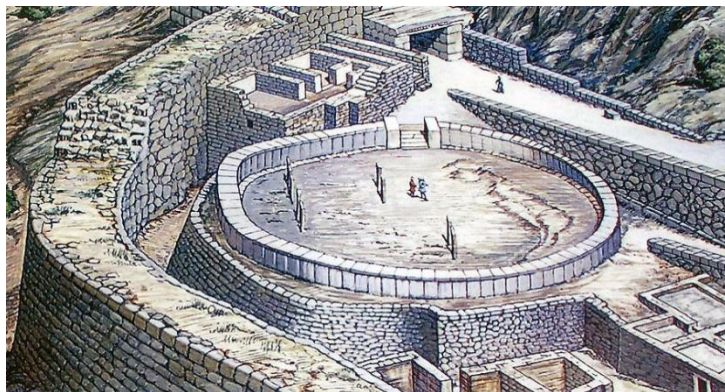


Figure 1.14 : Treasury of Atreus Tomb (<http://proteus.brown.edu/greekpast/4904>)

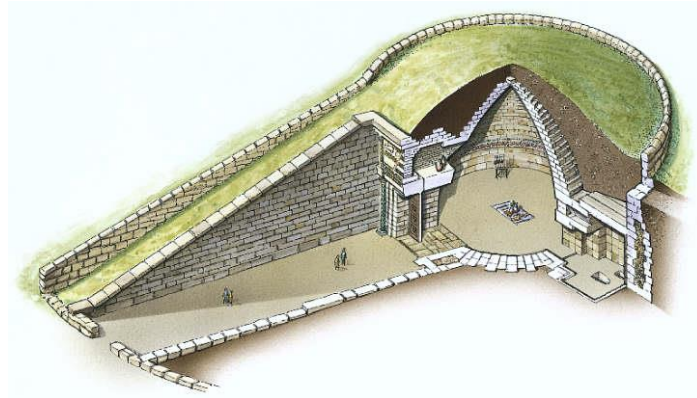


Figure 1.15 : Grave Circle, 1600 B.C (<http://users.stlcc.edu/mfuller/mycenae.html>)

Crete is the largest of the Greece's islands; the most important city in this island during the history was Knossos. In the towns of the island the palaces were designed around a rectangular court; the court elevation reflected the character of the rooms which were grouped according to their functions, it could be ceremonial, administrative, religious or domestic (Kostof, 1995, p.108). Crete's town made provision for an open place of assembly. A network of streets, topographically and functionally determined and retaining the dwelling patterns of the Bronze Age villages on the same site, converged on this town square and the palace (Kostof, 1995, p.109). According to the historical studies and findings above, the first and main town square in western cities during Bronze Age was shaped in Knossos in which various ceremonial, administrative, religious or domestic activities brought people together as a community.

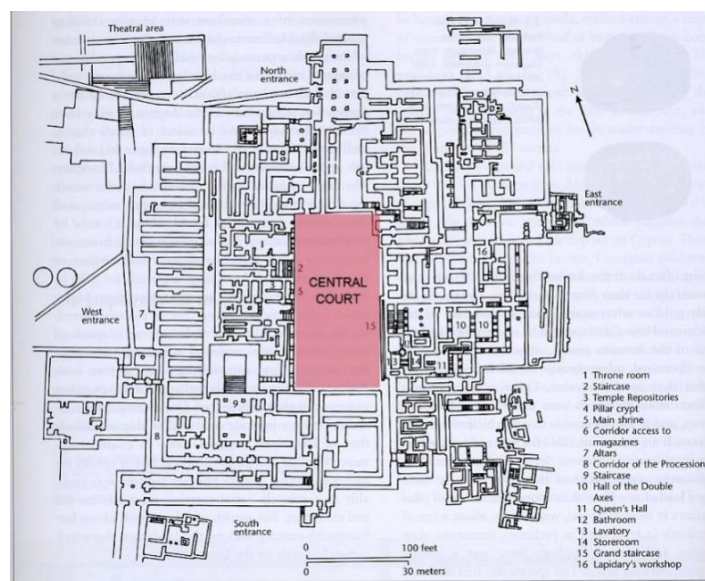


Figure 1.16 : The map of Knossos, Royal Palace, 1600 B.C (http://atheism.about.com/library/FAQs/religion/blgrk_crete07.htm)



Figure 1.17 : Knossos, Royal Palace, 1600 B.C (www.dilos.com/location/13370)

Athens and Rome are two effective cities, which have significant role in the history of the urban squares in Western world during classic period.

City of Athens could show the chronicle history of the Western world in the Classical period. Athens like other Mycenaean cities includes Citadel, Acropolis, and Agora. After shift of Athens to full system of democracy, the agora shifted to a flat open space (Kostof, 1995, p.146). In fact, Greek's "Agora" is known as the earliest evolved shape of today's public squares. Agora was an open space in the city center where political, social, and economic activities took place.

Greek agoras were public places for all kinds of gatherings; such as political meetings, athletic, and musical games, theatre performances and commercial activities (Memluk, 2013, p. 514). Agora was mainly a platform for political gatherings but gradually its role changed into a center for marketing (Başak, 2011). Zucker (1959) noted, "Agora would develop from the need for political and commercial center for all inhabitants together" (p.27). It was first and foremost a marketplace. The agora was more than a market place; it was also designed to serve as a place of assembly for the town's people and a setting in which ceremonies and spectacles were performed. The agora, therefore, was a place in which economies, political, and cultural activities were performed. (Madanipour, 1999, p.883).

Usually the agora, as the focal point of the town, was located in the center if topographical conditions allowed it (Zucker, 1959, p.31). The geometrical form of the agora was usually square or rectangle. From the eighth century down to the beginning

since it included more activities (such as shrines, temples, the hall of justice and council houses) with more formal order (Memluk, 2013, p. 514). The forum Romanum is as little typical for the majority of Roman fora as is the agora of Athens for the Greek agora. The forum served both public and commercial purposes, and the sacred temples were surrounded by taverns and simple market stands (Zucker, 1959, p.49). The ground plan of a forum was in principle rectangular, but was occasionally adapted to local conditions, dependent in each instance on the importance of already existing buildings (Zucker, 1959, p.60). During the republican period, the forum was the heart of the city. In the last years of the Roman Empire the Roman forum lost its importance and was used less by the public (Memluk, 2013, p. 515).

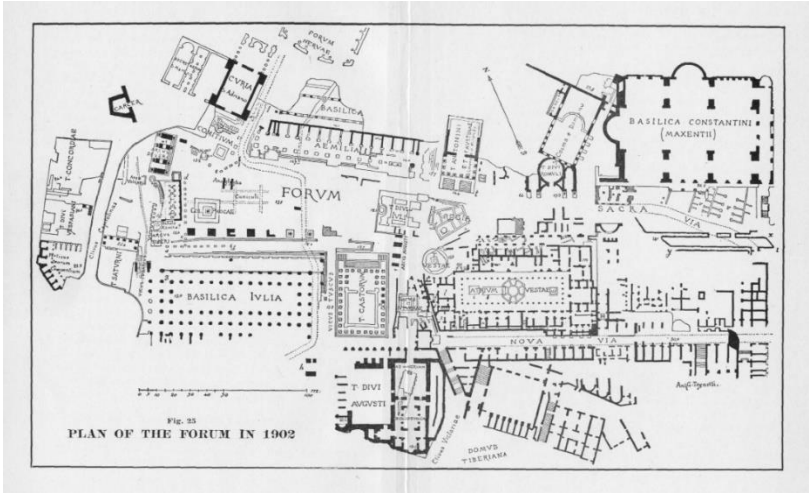


Figure 1.20 : Forum Romanum, Rome (www.catholicresources.org/ancientrome/planter)



Figure 1.21 : Forum Romanum (Zucker, 1959)

Based on the evaluation of Roman and Greek cities as well as the history of formation of Roman forums and Agoras, it can be concluded that urban squares became one of the main components of European urban structure within which various activities took place depending on different civilizations and communities during the Middle Ages.

In the squares of Middle Ages, the striking feature that is evident is the lack of coordination among the buildings. The square as a market place during Middle Ages is held together by the larger scale of the public buildings. The walls of the square are not continuous or uniform and they consist of separate architectural bodies. Yet, the whole is homogeneous, and in its irregularity, harmonious (Gutkind, 1964, p.179).

In Middle Ages, urban squares spaces were shaped around religious buildings and used for commercial activities, religious ceremonies and as marketplaces (Memluk 2013, p.515). Maria Theresien strasse in Innsbruck, is a typical example of Middle Ages squares.

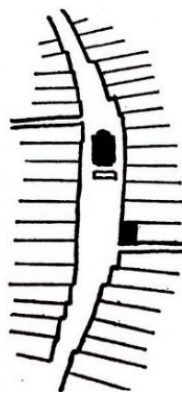


Figure 1.22 : A typical medieval square (Zucker, 1959)



Figure 1.23 : MariaTheresienstrasee, Innsbruck (<http://www.vintag.es/2013/03/oldPhotos-of-life-in-austria-in-1920s.htm>)

In Neo-classical era which including two periods of Renaissance and Baroque, there were some apparent changes in city morphology. With the changing economical, political, and philosophical perspectives, approaches to planning and design of the town shifted with the influence of rationalization (Memluk, 2013, 515).

Symmetry and harmony were the principal tents of Renaissance aesthetics, and this application could be felt in plans of towns of this period, in the street system, in the shape of the squares and houses (Gutkind, 1964, p.187).

The common stylist trends of Italian Renaissance squares can be defined only in very broad terms: The desire for spatial unity, to which all other architectural tendencies are subordinated. The frequent employment of arcades as connecting architectural elements in order to increase the unity of the facades surrounding the square. The use of monuments, fountains, flagpoles, for organizing the space of the square, whether it be closed, dominated, or nuclear (Zucker, 1959, p.110).

Piazza di SS.annunziata and Piazza Ducale are the salient examples of Renaissance squares.



Figure 1.24 : Piazza di ss.annunziata, Florence (Zucker, 1959)



Figure 1.25 : Piazza Ducale, the first completed Renaissance Square (Zucker, 1959)

Formal design and plans were very common in Renaissance period. Symmetry and order were the essential principles in design of the squares. Italian piazzas are the very well-known example of the Renaissance public squares. Monuments and fountains were added to the design to create aesthetically pleasant environments (Memluk, 2013, p.515).

During the Baroque period, the development of city planning in Italy was as clearly centered in Rome as what that of contemporary architecture (Zucker, 1959, p.145).

Axial order, balance, and hierarchy became main design principles during the Baroque period. In this period, open spaces were designed to create visual and ceremonial effects (Memluk.2013, p. 515).

Piazza Del Campidoglio is one of the early baroque examples that best represents the plaza concept of this period. This square is topographically isolated however it has no religious elements (Zucker, 1959, p.145).

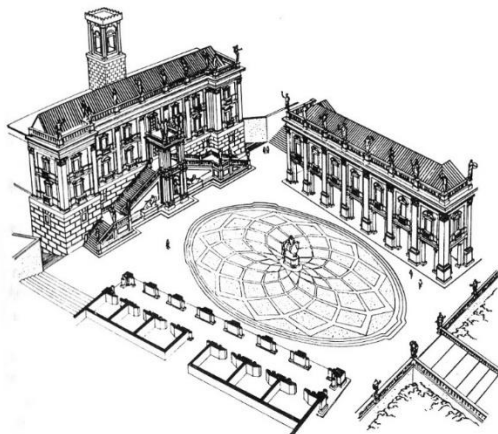


Figure 1.26 : Piazza Delcampidoglio (www.it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piazza_del_Campidoglio)

Another important example of Baroque period squares, which exists in its original form, is Piazza Del Popolo in Rome. This, the first comprehensive baroque town planning project, was not confined to a single square but comprised a whole section of the eternal city. The square functioned as a place of gathering and dispersal. The stream of incoming travelers entered the square and radiated from it (Zucker, 1959, p.149).



Figure 1.27 : Piazza Del Popolo (<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki>)

According to the historical studies above, it can be said that during Neo-Classical period, (the Renaissance and Baroque Period), the aesthetic aspect of the Urban Squares was enhanced and economic activities as a new feature were added to the functions of the Town Squares.

In the opening decades of the nineteenth century, European architecture learned to live with diversity and thrive on it (Kostof, 1995, p.571). In the Napoleonic projects in the earliest years of the 19th century, prodigious spaces, the wide straight avenues and cavernous squares, would have destroyed once and for all the subtle spatial play between small buildings and large, between the monumental nodes and the unremarkable standard tissue that gives them their status (Kostof, 1995, p.575). For example, many residential blocks were demolished around the Pantheon, Trevi fountain, and Colosseum. The famous landmarks would be isolated and set within monumental perspectives (Kostof, 1995, p.575).

Comparison of the urban squares in 19th century with Neo-classical and past Periods demonstrates fundamental changes in identity of the squares by making change in the uses of the buildings around the squares and converting them into residential buildings. These changes made the urban square foundation or its monument independent, and created an open space motivating people to spend more time in the urban square.



Figure 1.28 : Piazza DelaRotonda, the Piazza in front of Rome Pantheon
(www.tripadvisor.co.uk/LocationPhoto.html)



Figure 1.29 : Piazza trevi, the Piazza in front of the Trevi Fountain in Rome
(www.topromantours.com/rome_tours.htm)

Industry was concentrated in the cities during nineteenth century, where a large reservoir of manpower was available, and this was the major factor of urban growth in this period (Gutkind, 1964, p.227).

Industrial revolution, growth of the cities and need for houses, and increase of the traffic during 19th period caused to develop schemes in middle years of the 19th century for the cities, which could be categorized in two layout, the Radial and Concentric system. The radial system was applied for Paris and the concentric system was applied for Vienna (Gutkind, 1964, p.227). According to Gutkind, both of these projects were failures. Gutkind believed the Haussmann's plan for Paris was an empty demonstration and profoundly antisocial (Gutkind, 1964, p.227).



Figure 1.30 : Haussmann's project for Paris(www.arthistoryarchive.com/arthistory.html)

It is the Industrial Revolution that has labeled 19th period. It brought a brand-new perspective in the field of urban planning which completely differs from the previous approaches. For instance, new agglomerations are formed and at the same time the "Old World" had revolutionary changes in both spatial and mental order (Choay, 1969, p.8).

In conclusion, in 19th century, industrial revolution, population increase, immigration to cities and enhancement in the urbanization, mobility, and transportation system increased urban density, limited the space in the cities, changed the uses of the squares, turned the squares for the transportation and traffic use (Madanipour, 2003, p.210). This process continued in the Modern period.

Modernists put less emphasis on the historical public spaces, ignored the connections with the past, and only looked towards the future (Madanipour, 2003, p.142).

All the change started in the modern era, when the public squares of both in Western and Eastern modern cities started to be used as parking lots, the relationship between them and the public buildings around them almost completely disappeared. The functional integration of the ancient city has almost completely disappeared (Madanipour, 1999. p.884). Public spaces of the city have become residual spaces, used for parking cars, or at best associated with particular, limited functions, such as tourism or retail. Many public or semipublic places, from the ancient church to the public libraries and museums of the modern period, have come under pressure from these changes (Madanipour, 1999. p.884). As the result of the increase of population

and private automobile ownership, pedestrian movement and freedom were limited, and many urban squares turned into crossroads especially in developing modern century (Memluk, 2013. p.517).

To summarize, in modern era, emphasis is on the cars, high-rise buildings, order and geometry; urban functions are separated and the historical background and social context are neglected, therefore the meaning of streets and squares are lost (Krier, 1979, p.83).

1.3.2 History of the civilization and urban squares in eastern world

This section presents historical evaluation of the first urban civilization and early cities during ancient period. Moreover, the history of collaborative activities occurred in public space in earliest Eastern cities, including the cities of Iran, Turkey, and China as well as Middle Eastern cities, will be studied. Then, the history of Urban Squares in Eastern cities within Classical period, Middle Ages, Neo-Classical Period, 19th Century and Modern Period, will be reviewed.

Ancient era consists of two periods, Neolithic and Bronze Age, during which the earliest urban civilization occurred in Eastern part of the world. Jericho and Çatalhöyük represent the two most powerful challenges to the accepted belief that urban civilization first emerged in Mesopotamia (Morris, 1994, p.19).

Jericho is one of the earliest settlements dating back 9000 years. It was a well-organized community. The sizable population, defensive walls, and interweaving of public buildings (cisterns, shrines) and houses are features that point Jericho toward urbanism (Kostof, 1995, p.48).

Çatalhöyük, with shrines and quarters for specialized crafts, and a clever residential layout is the largest and most complex Neolithic settlement of the 7000 B.C to be excavated (Kostof, 1995, p.50). In Çatalhöyük, there would also be a public market in the midst of the urban fabric, where the town's people would go to look for stone and shell beads (Kostof, 1995, p.50).

According to both main examples of the earliest cities in Neolithic period, it can be concluded that in the earliest Eastern cities, there were public spaces where people gathered for religious and marketing activities.



Figure 1.31 : View of residential area of Çatalhöyük, 7000 B.C
 (www.studyblue.com/notes/notedeck/3422677)

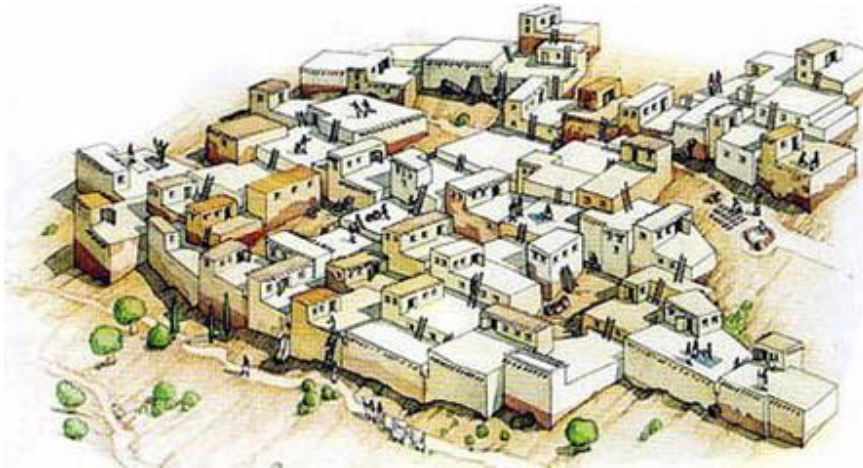


Figure 1.32 : Çatalhöyük, 7000 B.C (www.museumofthecity.org/the-rise-of-cities)

In Bronze Age, two main examples of the earliest settlements of the Mesopotamian cities are Babylon and Ur which were enclosed by a wall, and surrounded by suburban villages and hamlets (Kostof, 1995, p.51).

Ur was typical of the Sumerian state capitals. The city had three basic parts: the old walled city; the Temenos or religious precinct; and the outer town (Morris, 1994, p.7). The Temenos occupied most of the north-western quarter of the city. It contained the only significant open spaces in the city, even though their use was essentially reserved for the priests and members of the royal household (Morris, 1994, p.8). In the residential area, the spaces which can be named as public spaces in Ur, as it is seen in the map, were Bazaar, chapel, and bakers Square (Kostof, 1995, p.54).

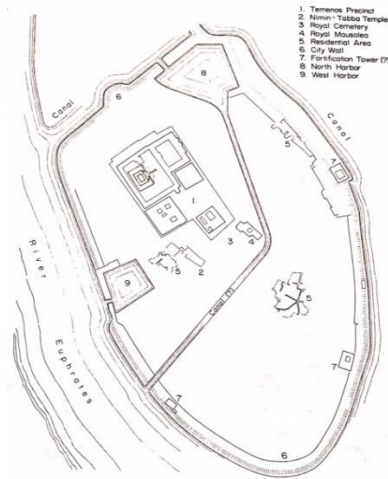


Figure 1.33 : Ur, schematic plan of the city, 2000 B.C (Kostof, 1995)

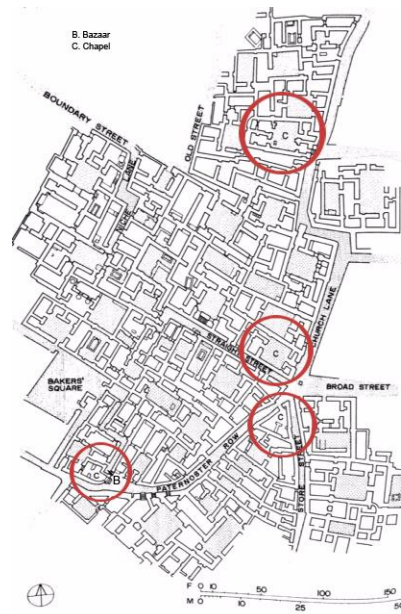


Figure 1.34 : Ur, plan of Residential area, 2000 B.C (Kostof, 1995)

Babylon had supplanted Sumerian culture of city-states. For Babylonia was no longer merely one city-state among others, but rather an empire in which one city, imposing itself as the capital, held sway over the life of the region at large (Bairoch, 1988, p. 27). At the center of the city, there were religious temples and Ziggurats with elaborate festivals and many different types of priests. (Kostof, 1995, p.50).

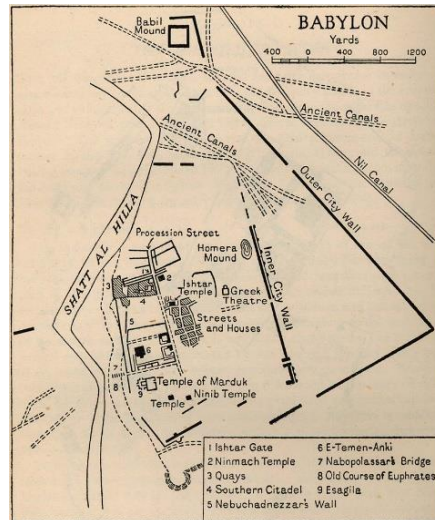


Figure 1.35 : Map of Babylon city (www.lib.utexas.edu/history_middle_east.html)

Based on the historical background of the Sumerian cities, during Bronze Age, the main gathering activities in Mesopotamia had religious aspects. Chapels are an evidence indicating this fact. In addition, according to some examples, in residential area, market places such as courtyards and bazaars also assembled people in one place.

Nearer to the west, Ancient Iranian cities also had axial and geometrical patterns. The walled towns in eastern Iran started to develop from middle of the first millennium BC and they had square plan and internal axial layout. The ancient cities of Merv and Herat, two ancient Iranian cities, were square shaped and had two main axes. This pattern continued in Parthian and Sassanian cities until Muslim conquest. The axially of urban form, however, did not rule out some form of public squares. (Madanipour, 2003, p.207)



Figure 1.36 : Map of ancient city of Herat (www.iranicaonline.org/articles/herat-iv)

The use of axial planning, geometrical order, and political significance of the center shaped the cities of the ancient times, where public space of commerce and religion, of society, display, and exchange formed the heart of cities. (Madanipour, 2003, p.210)

In fact, Classical era in Eastern world includes two periods during which morphology of the cities changed. The first period was between ancient period and advent of the Islam in 700 A.D, which was influenced by Western world especially by the Greek concept, and the second part was the period after the advent of Islam.

In fact, Hellenistic era and Classical period of the Western cities brought the concept of city as polis and influenced on history of city life and Eastern cities. The idea of the city as a union of families constituting a single all-embracing, self-governing community was a Greek concept. Sassanian and Roman empires eliminated classical civic, social institutions, and the Polis. (Lapidus, 1969, p.22). Persepolis in Iran and Miletus in Turkey which was influenced by the Greek concept were main examples of the Eastern world cities in Classical period before Islam.

The city of Persepolis consisted of two main sectors, the citadel, and the city. The city with its palatial buildings was the location for the celebration of Iranian New Years, Nowruz. The Persepolis site has been a place that was founded and kept for historical and sentimental reasons in the homeland of the dynasty but used only for special ceremonial occasion. All these ceremonies and festivals held in the palaces or in the open spaces in front of them depended on the population (Mousavi, 2012, p.52).

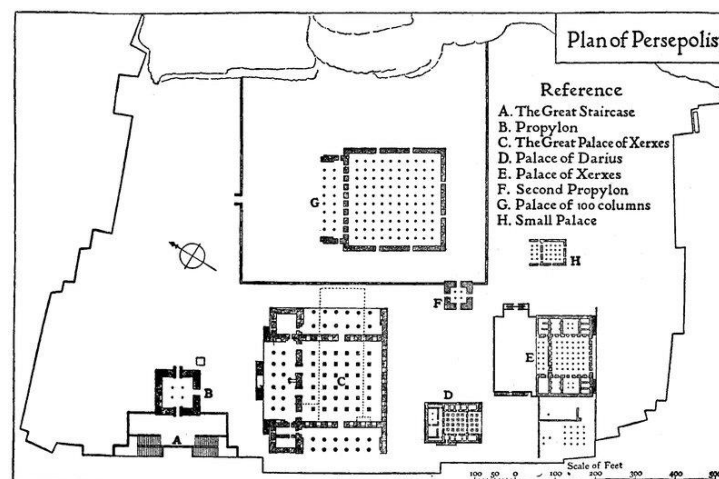


Figure 1.37 : Map of Persepolis (www.ancientwisdom.co.uk/iranpersepolis.htm)

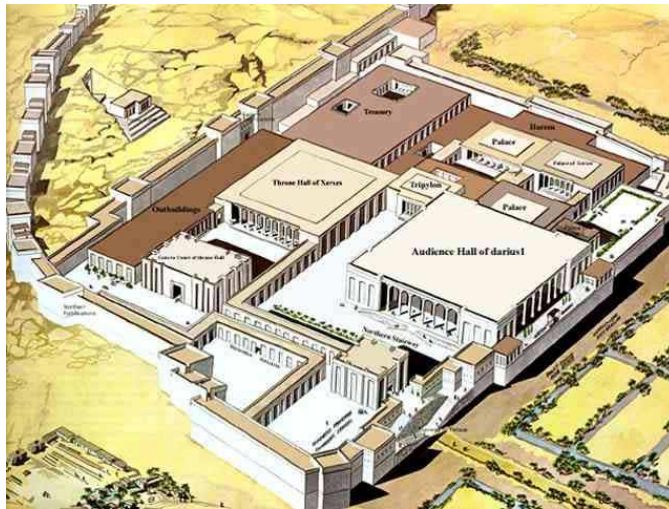


Figure 1.38 : Persepolis, 500 B.C (<http://cdn.preterhuman.net/>)

In Iranian cities until the Muslim conquest in the seventh century, the squares were the places of festivals as well as open market places for trade. The squares could also be used as a meeting point between the governor and the towns' people, located between the citadel and the city (Madanipour, 2003, p.207).

Miletus in Turkey, with the Agora and the Theater, was the main example of the Eastern cities influenced by Greek concept. Miletus was of the theater type introduced at Athens in the late fifth century B.C. In the middle of the court there was a low and lavishly decorated tomb-shrine. The gate, the forecourt, and the attention paid to the design of the exterior surfaces of the council chamber are all Hellenistic gestures toward the decorous and monumental treatment of public spaces and the buildings chosen to grace them (Kostof, 1995, p.176).

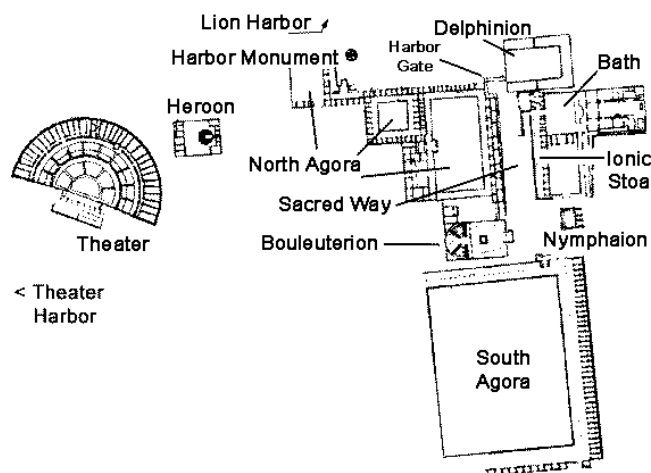


Figure 1.39 : The plan of the Miletus (Turkey), 170 B.C (www.ntimages.net/Miletus.htm)

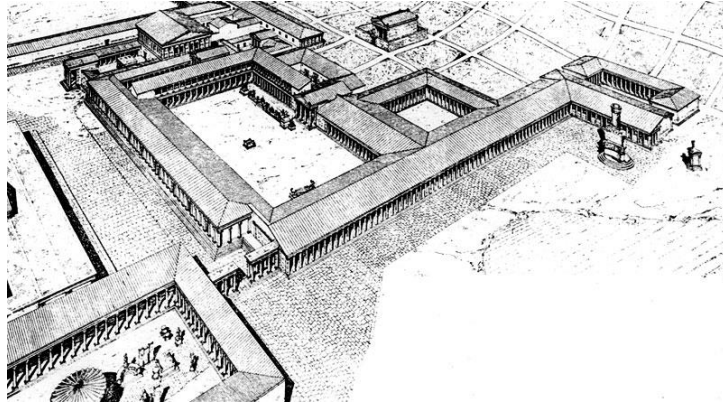


Figure 1.40 : The view of the Great Agora in Miletus, 500 B.C(www.fhw.gr/choros/miletus/en/boria_agora.php?mp=map6a)

Breakup of the empire, and conversion of Middle Eastern people to Islam, created a new era of city experience in the 1100 and 1200 A.D. For example, Mosque was one characteristically Muslim institution. Muslim cities enjoyed an organized social life at the level of family and local quarters and in larger religious groups. Religious communities were a basic form of Muslim social organization (Lapidus, 1969, p.24).

One of the most important examples of the cities during Islamic period was Fustat, or old Cairo. In the Islamic cities, there was a sort of forum, open from all sides and directions somewhere in the center of the city. This forum was usually called a *masjid*. It served all the functions which reflected the community, from prayer to military recruitment to collection of taxes (Lapidus, 1969, p.34).

Advent of Islam brought evident changes and new religious structures were developed. In the history of the Islamic cities, it is observed the common places for gathering people were all around the Mosque or local quarters where religious activities were carried out.

One aspect of the Eastern city that has been criticized during Middle Ages is the lack of public urban squares. The equivalent of this major urban square in Islamic Eastern cities should be considered to be the courtyard of the cathedral mosque, a large open space surrounded by arcades, albeit giving the public space a specific religious rather than secular character. As an example, the courtyard of Blue Mosque in Istanbul was used as a religious square (Madanipour, 2003, p.210).



Figure 1.41 : The courtyard of the Blue Mosque in Istanbul, Turkey
(www.arabiantalesandotheramazingadventures.blogspot.com.tr)

The organization of space and the shape of the Middle Eastern cities have been traditionally regarded as the most distinctive feature of the Islamic lands from Central Asia to the Middle East and North Africa. After four centuries of transition and evaluation, the cities found their general physical characteristics in the eleventh century (Madanipour, 2003, p.210).

In Public realm, shaped in the town center, all the common activities like trade and commerce, religion, education, and administration took place. The main public activities of the town were located along its main axes. The citadel, the Friday mosque, and the bazaar, as the centers of political, spiritual and symbolic, and economic power, constituted the focal points of the city. The main streets and bazaar functioned also as a communication channel. Moreover, this space was the meeting place of the town's people with each other (Madanipour, 2003, p.212).

The most sophisticated form of central urban square in Iran was the Meydan-e Naqsh-e Jahan in Isfahan. "Naghsh-e Jahan" square has been used as an open space in Isfahan. It was surrounded by great buildings such as Royal Palace, the central mosque, Government building, Music Pavilion and covered bazaar (Madanipour, 2003, p.207).



Figure 1.42 : Meydan-e Naqsh-e Jahan Square in Isfahan (www.historicaliran.blogspot.com.tr/2009/11/naghshe-jahan-square.html)

It is the most important square of the Isfahan because of its location and function .from point of location it is an example of an urban square. It means that it is not only located in the city but also the urban activities have been done in and around it. In addition, it is located near the main road of the city which is stretched to the one of the gates of the city. The government building, bazaar, and mosques are usually around the urban square. From point of function, it is a social-governance square and one of the important touristic points in Iran now (Sultanzadeh, 1994, p.210).

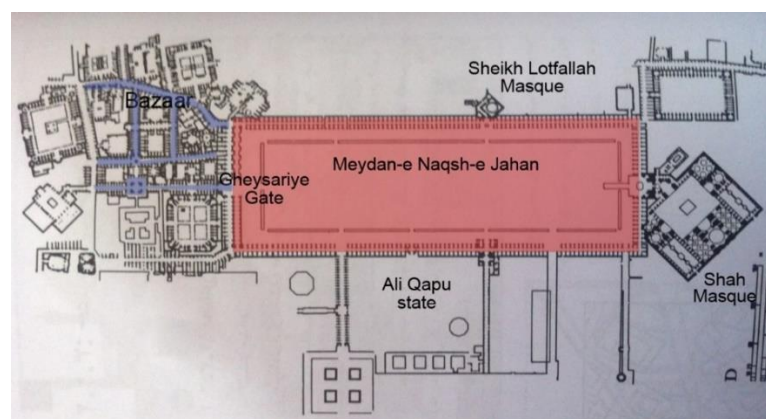


Figure 1.43 : The map of Meydan-e Naqsh-e Jahan Square in Isfahan (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Naqsh-e_Jahan_Square)

In the Middle Ages, the interplay between the public and private spaces was evident in the cities of Western Asia and North Africa. The public realm found a strong religious and social purpose, with the intention of bringing people together. The squares were formed around the mosque. Moreover, marketing and commercial regions were also located near the mosques.

Long after Muslim conquest in Middle Ages, the cities of the Middle East found their physical characteristics in eleventh century, to remain largely unchanged until the Nineteenth and Twentieth centuries. The public realm, often in the town center, contained all the common activities of the town, such as trade and commerce, religion, education, administration and other public facilities (Madanipour, 2003, p.210).

In Islamic society, the old centralized imperiums were undermined by local powers. By the 19th century, important changes were also taking place in religious and communal Muslim life. The whole fabric of Muslim life was being called into question by nationalist conceptions of community, by new reformist values, by the decline of religious, and generally by pervasive cultural and economic influences emanating from Europe (Lapidus, 1969, p.99).

As the first impact of European commerce, in the course of the 19th Century, the various parts of the Middle East were drawn, to a greater or lesser extent, into the international network of trade and finance. This entailed the immigration of European businessmen and technicians, and the shift from a subsistence to a cash crop agriculture. All of these changes had marked effects on the location, size, and structure of Middle Eastern towns (Lapidus, 1969, p.108).

In the Eastern cities (such as Tehran and Baghdad) during 19th century, the imposition of new roads and networks of transportation on the old fabric of the city increased the number of cars and vehicles, while leaving the public squares and plazas less integrated within the network of the city. A network of new streets was laid out to cut across many urban areas around the country in order to break down the existing social structure, a communal heterogeneity housed in a quarter system (Madanipour, 2003, p.211).

The modern Eastern city, like its Western counterpart, public place is dominated by cars and increased complexity of socio-spatial patterns. In both Eastern and Western cities, throughout their histories, public spaces have remained contested places, through wars, revolutions, and upheavals, as their control meant the control of the common symbols of power, the control of the city and of society (Madanipour, 2003, p.237). In the Middle Eastern cities, the new public spaces that emerge were similar to the modern spaces of their western counterparts: dominated by the cars rather than pedestrians, losing much of their meaning and role in social life (Madanipour, 2003, p.213).

In Iran, two revaluations have shaped Iran's modern history and affected its urban squares. While the kings used urban squares as displays of their power, revolutionary masses used them as their meeting points and places of challenging authority (Madanipour, 2003, p.209). Indeed, these types of new activities in urban squares have played profound role in political destination of Iran. One of the main examples of Tehran's squares is Baharestan which has an important position in public activities during Iran's history.



Figure 1.44 : Baharestan Square, Tehran (www.jahed137.blogfa.com/post-544.a)

2. DESIGN EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR URBAN SQUARES

2.1 Design Evaluation Criteria for Urban Squares in Different Sources

This chapter will introduce viewpoints about the urban squares and urban places, and the factors that increase the magnetism of places for people.

There are architects and urban designers who focus on physical aspect of the space like Cullen (1961). he emphasize on design style, ornamentation and featuring, the way buildings open out into spaces, gateways, vistas, and landmarks. Montgomery (1998) believes this is a rational and classical view of urban design. On the other hand, some architects stress psychological aspect of urban spaces which is a romantic view of urban design. Montgomery (1998) notes that urban quality must be considered in much wider terms than physical attributes, and the notion of urban quality is clearly bound up with social, psychological and cultural dimensions of a place (p. 96).

Jacobs (1961), Gehl (1989) and Cook (1980) believe street life, the activities that occur in places, buildings and spaces have very significant role in the success of urban places. Moreover, urban theorist Jane Jacobs believes the activity both produces and mirrors quality in the built environment. According to Jacobs there are four essential determinants which govern or set the conditions for the activity (1961): A mixture of primary use, intensity, permeability of the urban form and mixture of building types, ages, size and conditions.

Canter (1977), argues that successful urban places must combine quality in three essential elements: physical space, the sensory experience and activity. He combines the outlooks of urban design approaches which emphasize imageability and mental maps and the physical attributes of place and activity.

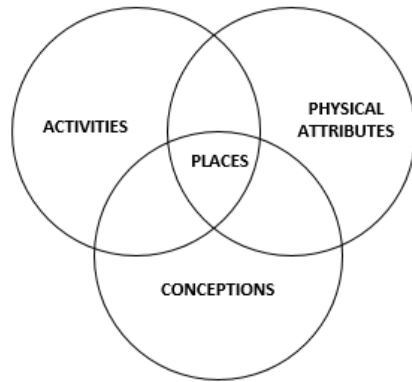


Figure 2.1 : A visual metaphor for the nature of places according to canter, 1977

Another urban designer, john punter (1991) presents a more helpful work containing more details. He describes the components of the built form (townscape, landscape, structure, permeability) and provides more detail for the component of meaning or imgeability (legibility, cultural associations, perceived functions and qualitative assessments).

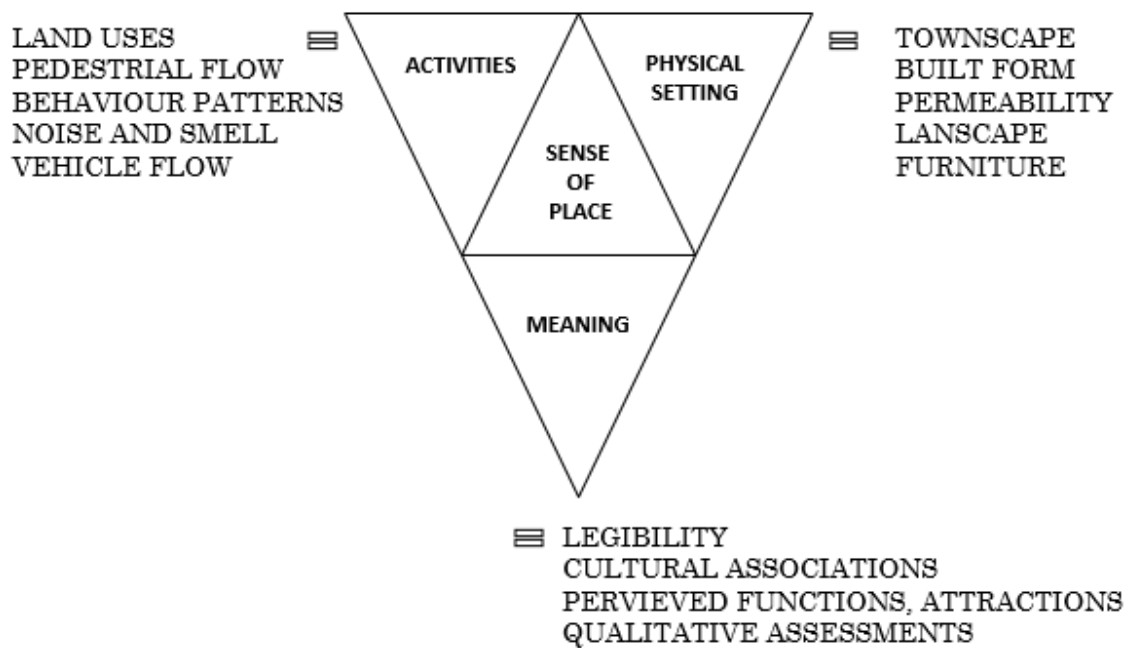


Figure 2.2 : Components of a sense of place according to Punter, 1991

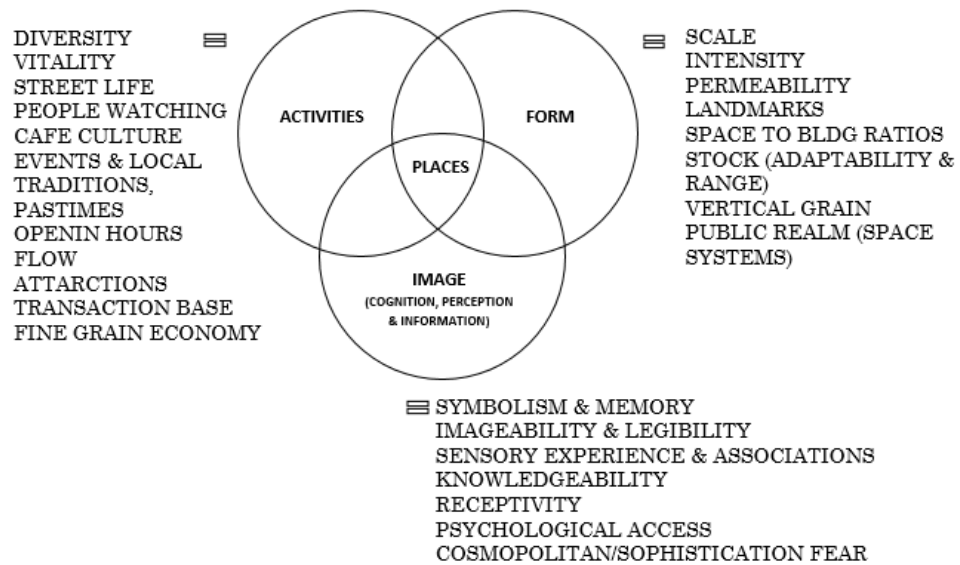


Figure 2.3 : Policy directions to foster an urban sense of place or place making according to Montgomery

The figure above is the composited model of Montgomery (1998) in which he combines all the elements of a good place. Montgomery believes activity is the product of two separate but related concepts: vitality and diversity. He furthermore, argues the key to successful urban places lies in combinations of mixture of activities, not separate uses and this mixture requires a wide diversity of various elements. Large population and its demands play the key role in maintaining diversity and sustaining wide range of economic activity.

In addition to high population intensity, small-scale business activity, which transacts business with other trades, also keeps local economy alive. Therefore, it can be interpreted transaction base is the key element of good urban places. Urban areas must open up possibilities for not only money transaction also social and cultural transactions to take place across day and night. Providing space for transactions in large part supports the notion of vitality. Regarding identity and Image, Montgomery claims that identity is an objective but image is a combination of identity and the way a place is perceived. Lynch, believes that imageability is influenced by a city's legibility, which is defined as the degree to which different elements of the city (paths, edges, districts, nodes and landmarks) are organized into a recognizable pattern.

Moreover, Montgomery notes that public space, in addition to its contribution to a city's transaction base and its legibility, can also take a symbolic meaning. When people are asked to draw a mental map of the city, many start with public square or

gardens. This fact reveals civic space is considered as an essential element in a city’s identity (Montgomery, 1998).

There are three other concepts mentioned by Montgomery: psychological access, receptivity and knowledgeability. Regarding the elements of form, Lynch (1984) offers five basic dimensions of city performance: vitality, sense, fit, access and control. The question is how form can generate activity, a positive image and therefore strong sense of place. Lynch fifth principle “fit” can reveal how sense of place is stimulated. In fact, an urban place with good fit provides buildings, spaces and networks required for its residents to pursue their project successfully.

Project for public spaces (PPS) is an American planning, design and education organization founded in 1975 to help create and sustain public space that build strong communities. This organization has since completed projects in over 3000 communities in 43 countries. In evaluating thousands of public spaces around the world, PPS has recognized that every successful public space contains four similar qualities: Accessibility, Activities, Comfort and sociability (www.pps.org/reference).

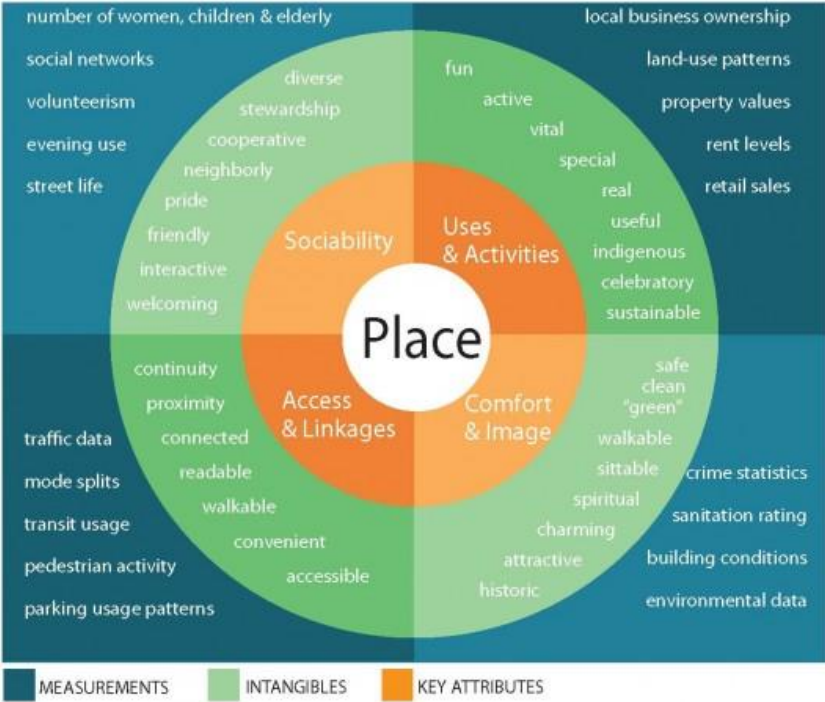


Figure 2.4 : Component of successful urban places (www.pps.org/reference/grplacefeat/)

PPS found that successful public spaces are accessible, people are engaged in activities occurring there, the space is comfortable and has a good image, and finally, it is a

sociable place: one where people meet each other and take other people when they come to visit (<http://www.pps.org/reference/squaresprinciples/>).

PPS by analyzing and observing hundreds of squares identified ten principles. According to PPS, what stands out most is that design is only a small fraction of what goes into making a great square. For real success, a square must take into account a host of factors that extend beyond its physical dimensions. The principles discovered by PPS are as follows: image and identity, attractions and destinations, amenities, flexible design, seasonal strategy, access, the inner square and the outer square, reaching out like an octopus, the central role of management, and diverse funding sources.

Another source reviewed in this study is Henry Shaftoe's book *Convivial Urban Spaces* (2008). According to Shaftoe there is no single blueprint for a convivial space, but successful spaces do seem to share some common elements. Shaftoe categorized the factors under the headings of Physical, Geographical, Managerial and Psychological and Sensual.

On the other hand, Carmona et al. in the book *Public Places Urban Spaces* (2003) point to urban space design as a multi-dimensional concept and introduce following dimensions: morphological, perceptual, social, visual, functional, and temporal. Carmona et al. believe these factors are important for the creation of successful public spaces including urban squares as well.

Based on the analysis and review of all sources, and considering all aspects of today's human needs, design evaluation criteria for dynamic urban squares have been categorized into four main headings in this study. The criteria of this study and their components are listed below and they will be discussed separately in the next section.

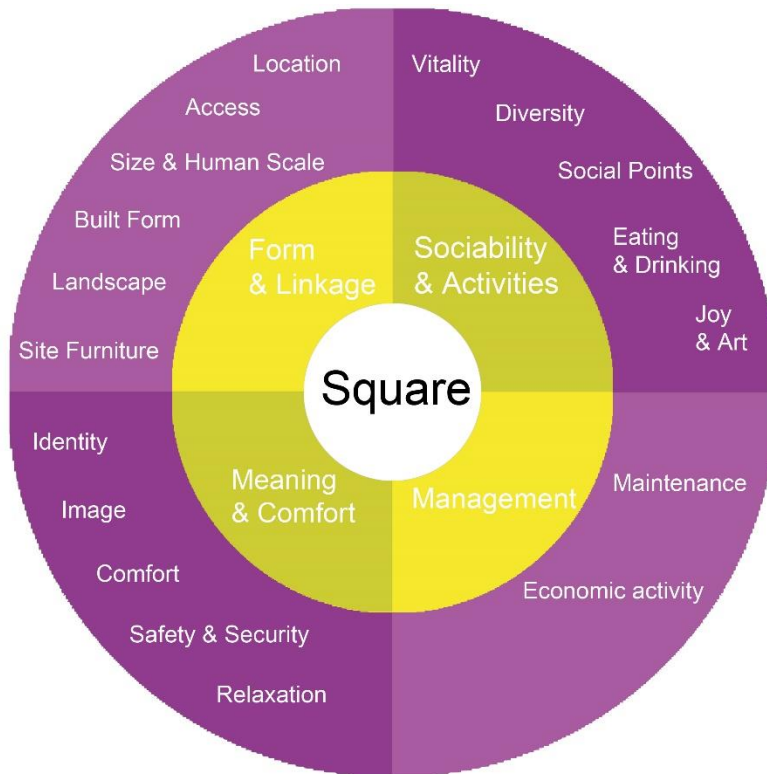


Figure 2.5 : Design Evaluation Criteria for Dynamic Urban Squares

2.2 Design Evaluation Criteria for Urban Squares

2.2.1 Linkage & Form

Location, access, size & human scale, built form, landscape, and site furniture are the components which will be introduced in this section as the subsets of Linkage & Form of urban squares.

2.2.1.1 Location

Shaftoe (2008, p. 71) states, “If a public space is an isolated, underpopulated or difficult-to-access location, however well designed and managed it may be, it will not thrive”. The urban square should be in the heart of the city and can attract various users. Generally, public spaces work best when they are reasonably central, either in a town or in a neighborhood, and are at the convergence of routes that people use for other purposes (Shaftoe, 2008, p. 139).

On the other hand, decentralization is one of the problems faced in contemporary cities, which makes it difficult to select central locations, since there are too many. Therefore, it should also be noted that links and connections between different squares within the city should be established in order to sustain continuity of urban form

(Memluk, 2013, p. 524). Memluk (2013) explains, “There are many examples of public squares which are located around shopping malls or commercial centers/buildings in contemporary cities. Hence, designers and planners should consider the ways of bringing public squares to people when selecting the locations.” (p. 254).

All these points of views show that, selecting the location of square is one of the critical issues that designers should pay enough attention in public square design since this factor has a direct relation with the use of the place by people and it is a major key for the success of urban squares.

2.2.1.2 Access

Access is another principal subset of geographical aspect in urban squares. Lynch (1984) states, “Access is the ability to reach other persons, activities, resources, services, information, or places including the quantity and diversity of elements that can be reached” (p. 118).

The best squares are always easily accessible by foot, surrounding streets are narrow, crosswalks are well marked, lights are timed for pedestrian, not vehicle, traffic moves slowly, and transit stops are located nearby (PPS). You can judge the accessibility of a place by its connections to its surroundings, both visual and physical. A successful public space is easy to get to and get through; it is visible both from a distance and up close. The edge of a space is important as well. Accessible spaces have a high parking turnover and, ideally, are convenient to public transit (PPS).

In conclusion, squares need to be easy to get. In this case, the location is also important. The best condition for urban squares is to be accessible by the use of public transportation and by foot. In addition there should be enough parking spaces for whoever uses own vehicle to reach the square.

2.2.1.3 Size & Human Scale

Size is one of the factors of form aspect in urban square design. If the space is very large, the place may inspire awe, but it will not feel cosy. On the other hand, if a place is too small, it can feel claustrophobic and not have enough surface area to allow for convivial activities and encounters (Shaftoe, 2008. P. 73).

Urban squares should be designed according to the number of the inhabitants so that it will seem neither small nor big. It is often thought that public squares must be large in size. However, the size should be determined according to the location, surrounding uses, and activities nearby. The most and conventional way of determining size of a square is to calculate the number of possible users (Memluk, 2013, p. 524).

Lynch (1971) suggests between 12 and 24m along each side as the ideal size for a small square, going up to about 100m for large squares. Jan Gehl (2011) suggests a similar maximum and points out that the maximum distance for being able to distinguish facial expressions is about 25m. Christopher Alexander (1977) suggests that a small public square should never be more than 22m across.

Table 2.1 : Dimensions for small and large squares

Size of the Square	Dimension	References
Small Squares	12-24 m Maximum 22m	Lynch Alexander
Large Squares	100m 70-100m	Lynch Gehl

Carmona et al. point out, “scale is different from size: size represents the literal dimensions of an object; scale is the perception of that object relative to the other objects around it, and our perception of those object” (2003, p. 156). Lynch (1971) recommended the ratio of 1:2 for the relationship between building heights and width of the square.

Scale is a combination of the ratio of building height to street width, relative distance, permeability, and the sense of grandeur or intimacy of space. As such, it is closely related to intensity, for more intense places have higher buildings (Montgomery, 1998, p. 106). Moreover, Montgomery believes, “a related point is that most successful urban places operate at several scales, but importantly are more rather than less intricate, are capable of being walked in under 10 minutes, and have a large number of intersections” (1998, p. 107). Shaftoe states, “People seem to enjoy a sense of enclosure without feeling claustrophobic. Huge structure (whether they be walls or building) and vast open spaces may be awe-inspiring, but they are unlikely to facilitate a feeling of conviviality” (2008, p. 141). The urban squares become more comfortable and

pleasing, while people enjoy their time in the urban squares of suitable human scales (Xu, 2009).

In brief, for determining appropriate size of urban squares, the potential of the place, function of the neighborhood, location, and the activities that will occur in urban squares should be taken into consideration in design of the squares. Furthermore, estimating the number of the people who will use the place is crucial for determining the size of a square. If size of the square is bigger than the ratio of the users, it will be empty and if it is smaller than the ratio, it will be too crowded. As a result, people will not choose the place to spend time. In fact, scale differs from size. Scale is ratio between the height of the building and the width of the space. In designing urban squares, design scale should be suitable for human being. It means the height of the surrounding buildings and the size of the square should be proportional to the scale of human being.

2.2.1.4 Built form

Another issue on the form aspect of urban square is shape and form of squares. Krier (1979) categorized plan shape of urban squares into three types: rectangular, square, and triangular. They can be regular or irregular.

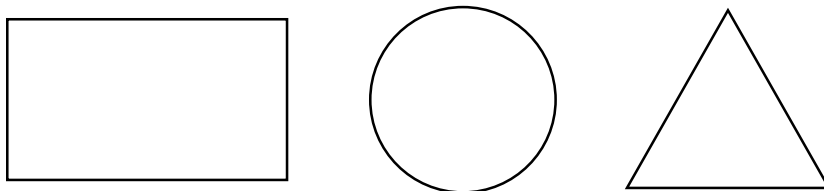


Figure 2.6 : The possible shapes of urban square according to Krier

According to Memluk (2013) “public square's form is influenced by surrounding environment, even though the word “square” points out a form itself, a public square can be in any form such as rectangle, square, circle, triangle or amorphous” (p. 525). Shaftoe (2008) states, “Most successful public spaces are not completely rectilinear, often because they have grown and evolved in response to the topography and dynamics of the surrounding area” (p. 139).

For Sitte (1986, cited in Madanipour, 1999, p. 882) the main requirement for a public space, as for a room was, its enclosed character which offered close vistas from any point within it. The center of this space was to be kept free and there was a need for a strong relationship between public space and the buildings around it. Sitte also

suggested, “buildings should be joined to one another rather than being freestanding to create a better sense of enclosure.” For Childs (2004, p.22), “squares are designed commons that are outdoor places enclosed by the fabric of a town”.

The key to enclosure in the square is the treatment of its corners. Generally the more open the corners of the square the less the sense of enclosure, the more built up they are, the greater the feeling of being enclosed (Moughtin, 2003, p. 99). In evaluation of urban squares’ built form, Figure-ground maps are the best method to show the form and sense of the enclosure of the squares (Yorulmaz, 2013).

Consequently, built form discusses the shape, form and enclosure characteristics of the urban squares. Positions of the surrounding buildings play a significant role in formation of urban squares. Moreover, sense of enclosure is important attribute in the form of urban squares.

2.2.1.5 Landscape

Landscape as one of the attributes of the form aspect will be discussed in this section. Landscapes are of two types, hard landscape such as paving and soft landscape including natural elements such as plants, trees, grass and water.

Mamluk (2013) argued, “Hard surface dominates the landscape of an urban square. Therefore selection of pavement material is great of importance in the design phase in terms of both visual appearance and functionality”. Mamluk also suggested, “Pavement material must be durable and aesthetically appealing. Durability degree of the materials can decrease or increase the maintenance costs” (p. 525). The selection of the right kind of surfacing and cladding materials can have a substantial effect on the success of public spaces. Materials need to look good, yet be durable, as a successful public space will get a lot of usage. High quality materials such as marble and granite, although expensive, may prove to be economical in the long term, as they are more resistant to wear and weathering (shaftoe, 2008, p. 111).

To conclude, stability is an important factor to be taken into account in selection of the paving material. Moreover, the color and texture of the paving should be in harmony with the space to enhance aesthetic atmosphere of the urban squares.



Figure 2.7 : TrgBanaJelacica Square, Zagreb (www.pps.org/great_public_spaces)



Figure 2.8 : example of the different material of pavement (tenta.com/index.php/design-works/item/)

Plants as a soft landscaping can enliven a public space. The variety and quality of textural, color, massing, aural, and olfactory effects created by a careful planting plan can add immeasurably to a plaza's use (Francis et al, 1987 p. 45).

In the design of urban squares, different kinds of plants (trees, shrubs, flowers, grass etc.) can be used in the design of urban squares for different purposes such as aesthetics, shading, or visual screening. Plants also help to soften the strong and sometimes disturbing effects of hard surfaces or sharp lines. Green is known for its calming and relaxing effect; hence, plants might be used in order to create places for relaxation and resting. However, designer should avoid using too many plants to preserve the square's main character (Memluk, 2013, p. 525). Shaftoe mentioned, "In

the summer trees offer shade from bright sunlight and in the winter they shed their leaves to maximize the availability of nature light” (2008, p. 112).

Thus, trees, flowers, lawns etc. have considerable effects on psychological and mental health of the people and tempt people to use the place. Therefore, designers should try to incorporate soft landscaping more in urban squares.



Figure 2.9 : Plaza de Amas, Peru (<http://happyinquito.wordpress.com>)



Figure 2.10 : Plaza de Entrevero, Uruguay (www.skyscrapercity.com/showthreadz)

Water is another subset of the landscaping which is usually used as a fountain in the urban squares. Water surface is a landscape element commonly used in public squares to create a focal point or aesthetically pleasing views. Water can be used in different types; as still water, running water, fountains or combination of these. Still water surfaces create a more relaxing and tranquil environment while fountains, cascades and other running water surfaces add movement, vibrancy and dynamism to the space (Memluk, 2013, p. 526). Water can offer a huge soundscape, from drips to babbling

brooks to the roar of full-scale waterfalls. Furthermore, water-making contact with the skin is one of the most fundamental sensory pleasures, which presumably explains the perennial popularity of splashing and peddling (Shaftoe, 2008, p. 62).

In fact, presence of water elements not only brings beauty, glitter, and movement to the urban squares but also filters annoying noises and makes people relax. It can also stand as an amazing landmark in urban squares.



Figure 2.11 : Duluth town green, Duluth (www.pps.org/great_public_spaces/on)



Figure 2.12 : Jardin des Tuileries, Paris (www.pps.org/great_public_spaces)

2.2.1.6 Site furniture

Carmona et al noted, “in addition to contributing to identity and character, the quality and organization of street furniture are prime indicators of the quality of an urban space” (2003, p. 161). Used materials must be durable to outdoor and changing climate conditions. Designer should avoid selecting too many different materials for different items. All site furniture should be harmonious with each other in order to provide

integrity in design (Memluk, 2013, p. 527-8). Site furniture should be designed according to users' needs and the activities that will occur in urban squares. Seats/benches, outdoors luminaries, trash bins, direction signs are types of site furniture mostly used in urban squares (Carmona, 2003).

All these points of views show that, site furniture adds to the ambiance of the urban squares. Materials of the site furniture should be in harmony to create a pleasing visual appearance. The location and arrangement of site furniture also have a major role in enhancing the attractiveness of the urban squares.

The factors which will be studied in this part are seating, shelter and protection, and lighting. In fact, these factors along with form aspect contribute to the comfort and safety of the users.

Shaftoe believed, “probably the single most important provision to ensure a successful public space is a sufficient range of opportunities for sitting” (2008, p. 92). William Whyte concluded, “No matter how many other variable we checked, one basic point kept coming through. We at last recognized that it was the major one: people tend to sit most where there are places to sit” (1988, p. 110). Seating is one of the key elements in a public square. Seating makes it possible for users to view, observe, and enjoy the environment. It also increases the users’ time spent within the space (Memluk, 2013, p. 527).

Generally people sitting down like to observe rather than be observed (particularly from behind), so seats without a wall or other barriers behind them are likely to be underused. In many cases, the best seating does not actually consist of custom-designed benches or chairs, rather horizontal surface that serves multiple functions. Broad steps are a classic example of this (Shaftoe, 2008, p. 94).

Thus, People prefer to sit, rest, and observe other people. Ample seating is the most essential element in site furniture that permits people to take a break, interact, and watch the environment. If there is not enough number of seats for people, they will not be willing to linger and spent time in urban squares.



Figure 2.13 : Rockefeller, New York (www.pps.org/reference/uscanadasquares)



Figure 2.14 : Pioneer courthouse Square, Portland (www.pps.org/reference/uscanadasquares)

Movable chairs give people opportunities to sit wherever they want and enjoy more. Whyte (1988) stated, “One of the most exciting possibilities with seating is to provide chairs that users can move about and group as the wish” (Shaftoe, 2008, p. 102). At a stroke, this overcomes the difficulty that urban designers have of locating seating appropriately. Different people want to sit in different ways according to who they are with and the weather conditions (Shaftoe, 2008, p. 102). Seats can be placed either at regular intervals or as groups in different parts of the urban square. Movable chairs or seats may make it more fun and enjoyable. They can also allow use of space for different activities at different times. Benches or seats are not necessary for providing users with a place to sit on. Walls or steps can also be used as seating places (Memluk, 2013, p. 527).



Figure 2.15 : Place de Greve, Paris (www.pps.org/great_public_spaces/)



Figure 2.16 : Jardin du Luxemburg, Paris (www.soundlandscapes.wordpress.com)

Shaftoe argued that “The vagaries of the climate mean that in many areas seating will need to be at least partially protected from chilly winds or bright sunshine” (2008, p. 99). Shelter and Protection is in another essential element in site furniture. Just as important as the use of appropriate seating elements is the way of protecting them from sun, shade, rain, snow and wind (depends on climate of the city). Making people feel comfortable in urban squares is of great importance and affects on the use of square.

Sunlight penetration into urban squares and into buildings helps to make them more pleasant places. The value of sunlight penetration varies over the seasons and, while places in the sun are desirable at some times of year, at other times shade is preferred. Two major issues are of concern: orientation and overshadowing (Carmona et al, 2003, p. 185). Carmona et al (2003, p. 186) also argued that for designing a better place the following need to be taken into account:

- “The sun’s position relative to public spaces and to the principal facades of buildings
- Site orientation and slope
- Existing obstructions on the site
- The potential for overshadowing from obstructions beyond the site boundary
- The potential to overshadow nearby buildings and spaces”

Wind can turn into a disturbing element and make the urban squares less suitable for outdoor activities. Exposure to wind may make users feel uncomfortable and have unpleasant experience. Many high-rise buildings reflect wind and cause interference in sitting or walking in urban squares (Marcus, 1998, p.33).

Carmona et al (2003) noted that “Wind flow has a substantial effect on the comfort of pedestrians, the environmental conditions within public spaces and around building entrances and the activities that might occur there” (p. 186).

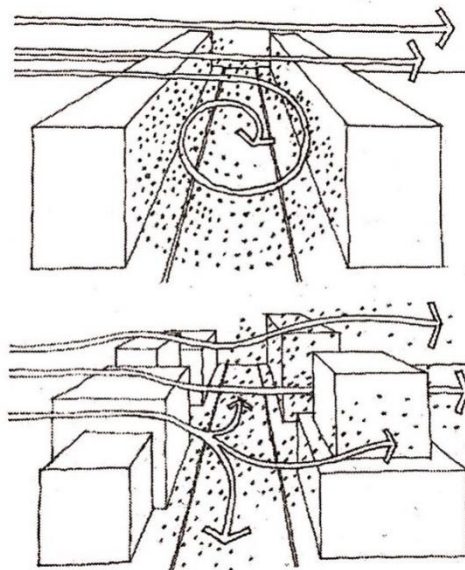


Figure 2.17 : Good air circulation (Carmona et al., 2003)

Carmona et al (2003, p. 186) also suggested if the wind effect is to be minimized, the following factors should be considered:

- “Building dimensions should be kept to a minimum to reduce wind pressure.
- The larger building dimension should not face into the predominating wind.
- Building layout should avoid creating tunnel effects.

- The façade of all tall buildings should be staggered and stepped back with increasing height away from the prevailing wind.
- Protection of pedestrians by the use of canopies and podiums, which reduce down draught at ground level.
- Buildings should be grouped in irregular arrays, but within each group, the heights should be similar and spacing between them should be kept to a minimum.
- Shelter belts (trees, hedges, walls, fence, etc.) can provide a degree of protection of buildings and pedestrians.”

Therefore, urban squares should be located where they will receive maximum sunlight during summer and winter. Surrounding environment and buildings must permit urban squares to receive sunlight. However, in countries where the weather is too hot and sunlight is disturbing, surrounding buildings and planting are effective alternatives to create shade and shelter against the sun.

Lighting is another essential element in site furniture. PPS argued, “Lighting can strengthen a square’s identity while highlighting specific activities, entrances, or pathways”. Moreover, creative use of lighting can add to aesthetic quality of urban square and transform the place into a remarkable one. Direction signs should be legible and clear. Too many direction signs may cause confusion and create a chaotic environment (Memluk, 2013, p. 527). Carmona et al state, “Natural lighting makes an important contribution to the character and utility of public space, and the play of light in urban spaces also has aesthetic dimensions” (2003, p. 187).

To sum up, both natural and artificial lightings emphasize identity, and character of the urban square. Nighttime lighting creates feeling of safety and security in users. Good quality lighting is necessary for users’ safety and comfort at night. Lighting can also be combined with other design elements to create attractive and visually appealing environment.

2.2.2 Sociability & Activities

An urban square successfully works by providing opportunities for various activities and ensuring the participation of all kinds of people. In fact, urban squares have very huge potential to hold up diverse meetings, concerts and festivals all of which appeal to different social groups. Furthermore, suitable background for doing different activities such as eating, watching, meeting, and playing should be provided in urban

squares. Activities are the basic building blocks of an urban square. Having something to do gives people a reason to come to a place –and return. When there is nothing to do, a space will be empty and it generally means that something is wrong (PPS). Designer in design of urban square should consider characteristics of possible users of urban squares and their requirements to create a place of gathering and activities.

Vitality, diversity, sociability, eating and drinking, joy and public art are detailed under the aspect of uses and activities.

2.2.2.1 Vitality

Vitality is what distinguishes successful urban squares from the others. Montgomery (1998) explains, “uptake of facilities, the number of cultural events and celebrations over the year, programming events and activities, the presence of active street life, diversity in activities and mixed use and complex diversity are the factors that vitality in the urban squares can be achieved (p. 97, 98).

In brief, in the urban square, diversity of activities, number of cultural events, celebrations, mixed uses, and addressing different groups of people can help to create a vital place.

2.2.2.2 Diversity

An essential feature of urban squares is diversity. Montgomery states, “The key to sustaining diversity lies in there being, within easy travelling distance, relatively large numbers of people with different tastes and proclivities. In other words, a relatively high population density” (1998, p. 98). In brief, the blend of people, mix of uses and mixture of the activities lead to diversity. Wide range of activities creates an engaging urban square where various people of different age groups, cultures, and socio-economic backgrounds are fascinated to come, congregate, and spend more time.

2.2.2.3 Social points

The main purpose of gathering of people in urban squares is socializing. Urban squares have potential to serve as a venue for people to socialize and enjoy the company of others. PPS argued, “Sociability is a difficult quality for a place to achieve, but once attained it becomes an unmistakable feature.” When people see friends, meet and greet their neighbors, and feel comfortable interacting with strangers, they tend to feel a

stronger sense of places or attachment to their community – and to the place that fosters there types of social activities (PPS).

Consequently, urban squares should provide an opportunity for people to gather for social activities and have face-to-face interaction. Many factors are involved in making urban squares sociable. Urban squares not only should offer amenities and comfort (bench or seat), and provide meeting places and talking points, but also should increase high level of different activities, and a delight-giving environment have to be created.

2.2.2.4 Eating and Drinking

Eating and drinking outdoors is one of the activities that people may want to do in urban squares. Shaftoe (2008) believes, “One of the non-visual aesthetic pleasures that can be enjoyed outdoors is taste. This should be encouraged in public spaces both providing for picnicking and liquid refreshment and through the provision of food stalls and cafes” (p. 61). In fact, providing good places to eat and drink as well as offering outdoor tables and seats will increase presence of people in urban squares. Moreover, Cafés and restaurants with outdoor seats provide possibility for users to eat, drink, watch the outside view, and communicate with friends.



Figure 2.18 : Dam Square, Amesterdam (www.dutchamsterdam.nl)



Figure 2.19 : Virreina Square, Barcelona ([www. blog.lifestylebarcelona.com/lively-gracia/](http://www.blog.lifestylebarcelona.com/lively-gracia/))

2.2.2.5 Joy and Art

Another factor to be considered in the context of the urban squares is transferring the sense of joy and delight to the users. Outstanding urban squares evoke the sense of delight in users. One of the characteristics that differentiates successful from avoided urban square is the range of opportunities they provide for the experience of joy or delight, some of this pleasure is achieved by watching or interacting with other people, but this can be enhanced by providing focal points to draw people in and encourage them to linger (Shaftoe, 2008, p. 111). In addition, Shaftoe (2008) suggests that sense of joy can be achieved in three ways: provision of good hard and soft landscaping, public art and entertainment (p. 111).

Public art involves sculptures, fountains, statues, and graffiti. Public art is a well-established presence in urban squares. Historically, this has been of the monumental kind, usually to commemorate some great events or famous person. This triumphalist approach has, in the last few decades, been increasingly replaced by a more populist and often witty type of art. Usually this will consist of a sturdy sculpture or mural (Shaftoe, 2008, p. 118). PPS argued, “Public art can be a great magnet for children of all ages to come together.

In brief, feeling of joy and delight in urban square can be experienced through organizing different activities and providing suitable situations for watching or communicating. Moreover, hard and soft landscape, entertainment, and public art have great role in the users' enjoyment of the atmosphere. Public art is an essential major

source of social interaction, which adds a memorable dimension to the city's public history. However, it has been changed as a populist type of art between young people nowadays.



Figure 2.20 : Millennium Square, Bristol (<http://www.flickr.com/photos>)



Figure 2.21 : Rue du midi, Brussels (Shaftoe, 2008)

2.2.3 Image & Comfort

This part will introduce attributes of image, identity, comfort, safety & security and relaxation which shape the image & comfort of the urban squares.

2.2.3.1 Identity

Shaftoe (2008) believes, “places with distinctive character and identity become positively memorable and may attract repeat visits. People will have the sense that they are in a unique place. This will result in a space that is complex but coherent (p. 141).

Therefore, if urban squares have their own distinct identities, they will charm and invite people to come and linger. Sometimes one historic building or a unique landmark in the site can make a strong statement of the urban square's identity.

2.2.3.2 Image

Image is what individuals perceive from one place. For Kevin Lynch (1960, p. 6) environmental images resulted from a two-way process in which the environment suggested distinctions and relations, from which observers selected, organized, and endowed with meaning what they saw. The images of a place are created from amalgamations of cognition (comprehension or understanding) (Montgomery, 1998, p. 100). Montgomery explains, “an image is how it is perceived, which depends on the filtering of information received through the sense. It can be considered that the activities which occur in urban squares and the built form of the square have effects on the image of the squares (Montgomery, 1998, p. 105). Thus, Image of the square is a combination of the identity with users' perception of it.

2.2.3.3 Comfort

Considering the comfort of users is one of the essential attributes in designing urban squares. Shaftoe (2008) states, “feeling of comfort and reassurance in a place are so fundamental to its use that they must be considered as a core principle of good urban design” (p. 60). According to (PPS) whether a space is comfortable and presents itself well is key to its success. Comfort includes perceptions about safety, cleanliness, and the availability of places to sit. Comfort is a prerequisite of successful public spaces. The length of time people stay in a public space is a function and an indicator of its comfort. (Carmona et al, 2003, p. 166).

People always prefer those urban squares where they can feel comfortable and relieve their minds from everyday worries. Feeling of comfort and convenience will make them enjoy spending more time in an urban square and continue their outdoor activities. Comfort contains many other factors within itself. Actually, all the effort should be centered on offering ultimate experience of comfort to users in urban squares, whether physical comfort (seating, shelter and protection against wind and sun), or psychological comfort (identity, safety, access).

2.2.3.4 Safety and Security

Feeling safe in urban squares is one of the psychological factors that contributes to active use of them. Physical factors have a relative impact on generating and maintaining the safety and security of urban squares. One of the things that people are adept at 'reading' is the degree to which an unfamiliar place appears to be safe or unsafe. This is a crucial factor that will significantly determine whether or not they choose to linger in that space. They will gauge how safe a place appears to be by studying the people occupying that place, but also by looking at physical attributes (Shaftoe, 2008, p. 54). Security, in an urban design context, is mostly about ensuring that the layout of a space minimizes opportunities for crime and antisocial behavior and maximizes the chances that help will be forthcoming from others in the case of victimization or an accident (Shaftoe, 2008, p. 60). Lack of security, perceptions of danger, and fear of victimization, threaten both the use of public realm and the creation of successful urban environment. A sense of security and safety is, therefore, an essential prerequisite of successful urban design (Carmona et al, 2003, p. 119).

Security elements such as a security cameras, security guard, and police, as well as arranging the locations of the seats in urban squares, and use of artificial lighting during the night are all physical attributes which generate safety in framework of the design method.

2.2.3.5 Relaxation

Relaxation is another subset of the psychological aspect regarding the use of urban squares that comes along with physical issues. In urban setting, natural elements – trees, greenery, water features – and separation from vehicular traffic help accentuate the contrast with the immediate surroundings and make it easier to be relaxed (Carr et al, 1992, p.). "While a sense of psychological comfort may be a prerequisite of relaxation, relaxation is a more developed state with body and mind at ease" (Shaftoe, 2008, p. 65).

2.2.4 Management aspect

Management is one of the primary contributors that maintains use of urban squares and affects on the people's perceptions. The best urban squares are ones that people want to return time and time again. The only way to achieve this is through a management plan that understands and promotes ways of keeping the square safe and

lively (PPS). Good managers create a feeling of comfort and safety in a square, fixing and maintaining it so that people feel assured that someone is in charge (PPS). Enlightened strategic management of town centers and public spaces can make them more attractive, livable, and vital, at the same time reducing the density of crime and antisocial behavior (Shaftoe, 2008, p. 24).

Maintenance, cleanliness, and economic activities can be mentioned as the main components of managerial aspect which ensure the success of an urban square in this study. Persistent attention to the maintenance and cleanliness of a square makes it appealing and keeps people engaged to use urban square again and again. The latter issue, economic activity, is for the purpose of renewing and enhancing the urban squares' features.

2.2.4.1 Maintenance

One of the crucial points to be considered is that every user wants to feel the urban square is regularly being cared, maintenance facilities are supplied, and it is tried to keep the square clean and alive. A place that has obviously been cared will be much more popular than one that looks neglected. Lack of adequate maintenance also leads to 'tipping': an escalation of damage and deterioration (Shaftoe, 2008, p. 140). Carmona et al (2003) noted, "Effective maintenance of the public realm requires the creation and preservation of a clean, healthy, and safe environment" (p. 261).

Consequently, Maintenance of the square can be mainly performed by planting flowers, removing faded flowers, maintaining lawn, installing adequate litter bins and empty garbage bins in suitable time before leaving a negative image in users' minds. Observing these points will keep the place alive and people will be motivated to visit the square for several times.

2.2.4.2 Economic activity

Large representation of small-scale business activity which trades not only with 'consumers' but with other businesses makes urban places alive. Successful local economies are characterized by increasing volumes of trade, constant innovation and the building up of new products and services, networks of suppliers and purchasers (Montgomery, 1998, p. 99). Montgomery (1998) also argues, "Without a transaction base of economic activity at many different levels and layers, it will not be possible to create a good urban place" (p. 99). One of the chances for economic activity in urban

squares is partnership. Partnerships seek to supplement what the city can provide with funding from diverse sources, including rent from cafes, markets or other small commercial uses on the site; taxes on adjacent properties; film shoots; and benefit fundraisers (PPS).

Rent of cafés and restaurants in the site, small commercial shops, taxes gained from different activities, celebration programs or benefit fundraisers are some perfect ways to produce income for squares. By obtaining these incomes, managers not only can increase new services and enhance the quality of the site furniture and landscape elements but they become able to strengthen the maintenance and security of the square.

2.3 Prominent Examples of Dynamic Urban Squares in the World Based on the Criteria

In this section, examples of the prominent contemporary squares around the world, will be introduced and investigated. The investigated examples have been selected from different parts of the world such as Italy, Czech Republic, Mexico, and USA. All of these examples have historical backgrounds. From the past until today, they are still active and dynamic and continue to be used by people in the best way. Moreover, characteristic features of these urban squares in different parts of the world reflect the parameters which were classified and discussed in the study.

Piazza Nanova, Rome, Italy

Piazza Nanova is one the most admired and enjoyable urban squares not only in Rome but also in the entire world. The shape of the Piazza has been derived from its original purpose, a stadium for athletic competitions. Moreover, Piazza in the Middle Ages it served as a marketplace (Gatje, 2010, p. 18).



Figure 2.22 Piazza Navona, Rome, Italy (www.studyblue.com)

While Piazza Navona is honored for many features, its principal attraction is Bernini's three fountains, particularly the central Fountain of the Four Rivers (Gatje, 2010, p. 18).



Figure 2.23 : Fountain of the Four Rivers Piazza Navona, Rome, Italy (www.rentapartmentinitaly.com/navonaen.asp)

The great arms of Piazza embrace you from left and right and guide you onto a vast stage (Gatje, 2010, p. 17). Because of its excellent programming the square is one of the world's best Christmas markets, the edges are used lively, its design is flexible and it is filled with people even at night and in dead of winter (PPS).

According to analysis above, it can be declared the factors making Piazza Navona as a prominent contemporary square in the world are its shape, accessibility, presence of extraordinary landmarks, creative use of water and fountains in the square, and high level of various activities such as watching, resting, chatting and joy. Furthermore, one of the salient contributors which has transformed this square into an inspiring and

dynamic environment during the course of the year is appropriate management of programs. It can be concluded that this square can satisfy all categories of people with their different contemporary needs.

Piazza Del Campo, Sienna, Italy

Extraordinary scallop-shell-shaped Piazza Del campo with its hard lines stands in the space. It has a great size and unique form (Gatje, 2010, p. 51). It is an urban space where it is still possible to sense the spirit that animated and inflamed the souls of Siena's citizens (Fereboli, 2007, p. 16).



Figure 2.24 : Piazza Del Campo, Sienna, Italy (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piazza_del_Campo)

Piazza Del Campo defines the city and it is originally served as a market place (Gatje, 2010, p. 51). It is in harmony with its surrounding buildings and the most prominent building facing into Campo is Siena's city hall. Mangia tower is the only dramatic vertical interruption. Fonte Gaia a rectangular Fountain in the central part of the square is little more than a flat patch of water. Campo's floor, paved in red brick in a herringbone pattern, channels rainwater toward a central drain that helps to prevent flooding in a practical manner (Gatje, 2010, p. 52).



Figure 2.25 : Mangia tower, Piazza Del Campo, Sienna, Italy
(www.paradoxplace.com/Canterbury.htm)

Location of the Piazza is at the junction of several roads and accessible from eight different streets that cut through the curved section of the constructions (Feraboli, 2007, p. 18). The Piazza's influence has extended through the surrounding streets just like the tentacles of an octopus. Its layout, in which one can see everything in the square from any corner, makes it fantastic place to watch people (PPS).

As it is seen in the studies above, the geographical aspects including location and accessibility of the square are effective in attracting more to visit the place. In addition, distinctive shape, brilliant form, and size of squares are other factors which make the square unique around the world. Moreover, the square is the image of the city. Different landmarks and fountain are magnificent features of Piazza Del Campo turning the square into a memorable icon.

Old Town Square, Prague, Czech Republic

Now seven hundred years old, Prague's Old Town Square is unique in that it still stands at the heart of what has become an important modern (Gatje, 2010, p. 107).



Figure 2.26 : Old Town Square, Prague, Czech Republic (<http://toptravellists.net>)

In Old Town Square, people could easily spend their time watching locals and tourists. There are different activities for young people and tourists as well. While numerous young people sit on the edges of a striking art nouveau fountain, tourists head for a small souvenir market, and distinct groups take a seat at the outdoor restaurants in front of the historic Catholic Church (PPS).

The location of the square is also appropriate. It is crossroads of the city and pedestrian can reach to the square very easily. Moreover, the historic and noble buildings such as Charles University, Church, City Hall, and Mansions, surround the square. Gatje (2010) states, “The square has passed are brilliantly represented by a host of beautiful buildings” (p. 107). One of the main landmarks of the square is main block dominated by a tall tower which has been decorated by an old astronomical clock.



Figure 2.27 : Astronomical Clock, Old Town Square, Prague, Czech Republic
(www.pragueguided.com/component/joomgallery.html)

The features which cause Old Town Square to be one of the best squares in the world are the central location and square’s accessibilities, different activities offered to local people and tourists, and the harmony of the surrounding buildings, which are the important landmarks of the square.

Plaza De La Constitucion, Mexico City, Mexico

Plaza De la Constitucion is one of the biggest plazas in the world, in terms of size. The vast Plaza is where the first Mexican constitution was proclaimed. Today it is still used for official ceremonies, entertainment events, and national celebrations (Feraboli, 2007, p. 100). Plaza dominated by the sculptural silhouette of the Metropolitan

Cathedral, Church, and the core of one of the most populous dioceses in the world (Feraboli, 2007, p. 101).



Figure 2.28 : Plaza De La Constitucion, Mexico City, Mexico
(<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki>)

The plaza in the city remains a beloved place and the center of civic life in Mexico City. Several activities occur in the Plaza. Sitting on the benches parents enjoy the soothing sounds from the fountains as they watch their children play. Vendors circumbulate sell corn and fruit. Every night, musicians serenade customers eating at the cafes (PPS).

It can be concluded from the studies above that the historical background, prominent surrounding buildings, offering the sense of comfort, diversity, and vitality, make the place livable and increase the usage of urban squares. All these investigations provide evidence that Plaza De La Constitucion satisfy people's needs today in the best way.

Times Square, New York, USA

Times Square has been called the heart of New York, America's town square, and the crossroads of the world. At no other place will one see a greater cross-section of human beings than right here along Broadway (PPS). Times Square is New York's theater and entertainment district. The enormous neon billboards cover many of the buildings around the square which turn it into one of the city's most recognized icons and squeezed on all sides by the high-rise blocks around it (Feraboli, 2007, p. 154).



Figure 2.29 : Times Square, New York, USA (<http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/>)

Yet the single greatest attraction is Times Square itself. Most people come to Square to watch the hyper-designed oversized billboards and countless shining lights. The dozens of Broadway shows, hotels, abundant restaurants, and shopping opportunities make the square a constant hub of activity (PPS).

Walkability of Times Square as well as the presence of different subway lines and numerous city buses which intersect in this area, makes Times Square the easiest place in New York City to get to. Times Square has been exposed to many changes in recent years. At the turn of the 21st century, it is substantially cleaner and safer than it has been in decades. It is not a place to relax, though. It is a place of extreme excitement, designed to overwhelm the senses. Times Square has the most diversity than any other places around the world, and annually, huge number of tourists and locals as well visit the square so it is never vacant (PPS).



Figure 2.30 : Times Square, New York, USA (www.soundbitesgrill.com/attachmen)

Times Square is one of the exotic squares in the world with novel hallmarks which make the square one of the most visited and tourist attractions which show different factors also could attract people. Sometimes people could prefer excitement instead of relaxing. It is a place of colors, fun, and excitement. Moreover, high-rise buildings with different facilities as the landmarks of the square allure people.

According to analysis of the glorious examples of squares around the world, it can be generally concluded, the most efficient criteria which are involved in livability, dynamism and attraction of those squares, are actually parallel to classified criteria of this study mentioned in the past section. Therefore, they can be applied as the prime criteria in evaluating urban squares.

The location and accessibility are vital factors in all squares and as it can be seen in the samples above, most of the prominent squares are located in the center and heart of the cities. Moreover, the accessibility of the squares is easy. Investigations and usage of these squares reveal that people prefer a place where all the paths lead them there and they can reach easily by public transportation, by foot, or by their own cars.

Regarding the form of the square, most of the well-known squares have different shapes and unique forms according to their positions, and series of distinct surrounded buildings which make them conspicuous places in the world. Being surrounded by noticeable buildings, including eminent landmarks, and having harmony with them, are the common features of the prominent squares. Sometimes, contemporary human being's needs may become basic, and little things may satisfy and attract them to use urban squares. For example, sound of water from fountains or sitting on the edges of the fountains can be tiny enjoyments which motivate people to use urban squares. Comfort and Security are also two values which today's people desire and need in urban squares to spend more time there. Commonly, another quality people demand in urban squares is relaxation; however, observing some spectacular and dynamic squares such as Times Square reveals that people's need to excitement and fun cannot be denied.

Another important feature that most of the prominent squares include is offering different activities to their users such as watching, resting, chatting, shopping facilities, and eating and drinking opportunities. In fact, today's people are looking for places which can entertain them with different activities. According to analyses above, it can be argued that all of the squares have glorious historical backgrounds which express

their identities. Moreover, squares are images of the cities and landmarks as well as important surrounded buildings enhance the identity of the squares and affect how they are perceived which fascinates people to use these urban squares more. Another common feature of the best squares around the world is appropriate management of different programs. By holding different events, the vitality and livability of the squares have been enhanced.

3. CASE STUDY: EMINÖNÜ SQUARE

This part will introduce the case study area, the location and description of Eminönü square; historical background of Eminönü square including Byzantine period, Ottoman period, 19th to 21st century, and a review to learn the general structure of the site and urban fabric in Eminönü. Moreover, in the final section, Eminönü square as the case study of this research will be evaluated according to the research finding.

3.1 Location and Description of Eminönü Square

Eminönü district is on the historical Peninsula inside the ancient byzantine walls. The square is located on the intersection point of Galata Bridge, one of the Istanbul's most iconic landmarks, and Ragip Gümüşpasa Street which can be regarded as one of the Istanbul's main roads. In the north of Eminönü district, there is Haliç and in the south part Sea of Marmara and Hanlar area are located. From east, it is covered by Istanbul Bosphorus and Sirkeci district and from the western side it is a neighborhood within Fatih district and Küçük Pazar. Eminönü district, which is one of the central and alive nodes of Istanbul, is located in the major historical region of Istanbul.

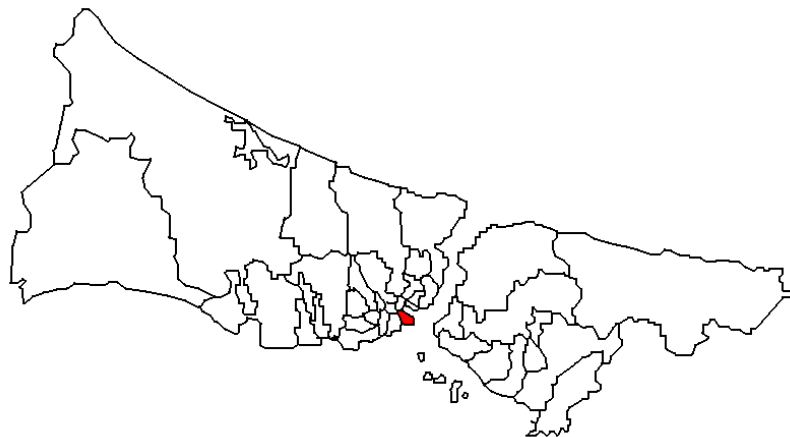


Figure 3.1 : Location of Eminönü Square in Istanbul

The name of Eminönü originates from the presence of sea customs and the Customs Office in that neighborhood in Ottoman period (deniz gümrüğü ve gümrük emninliginin). Eminönü Square has always been the primary node of urban transportation where the railway transportation, maritime transportation and, urban roads intersect. It has been the entrance to the central business district of Istanbul, which is an essential trade hub through the history.

3.2 Historical Background of Eminönü Square

Historical review of Eminönü Squares is essential to understand the general structure of the area and urban fabric in Eminönü Square. The historical background of this study starts with an overview of byzantine era to 17th century and construction of new mosque (Yeni Cami). Then, the old city walls and gates will be studied. Furthermore, the research aims to explore the changes occurred during 19th and 20th centuries until present time in Eminönü square.

Byzantine Period: in byzantine period, administrative center, served as a center for entertainment, and commerce, focused around the hippodrome, which is the center of Sultan Ahmet and Carsikapi. The golden horn and harbor square located at Eminönü, in particular were the centers organized according to different facilities. During this period, Eminönü was a crucial trade hub, and the center of transportation and storage, as well as administrative and military center (Kuban, 1966b, p.11)

from byzantine period until the construction of Yeni Cami, Jewish community inhabited in Eminönü and for this reason it is named as “oraia Pile” (Yahudi Kapısı, Çıfıt Kapısı). The gates and jetties located in Eminönü district in byzantine period are important urban elements, which determine the relation between the commercial activities, the urban fabric and city frontier. Today’s Eminönü constitutes the shore and the harbor district between “neorion” gate (Bahçekapı) and “porta drungari” gate (Odunkapısı) (Kuban, 1993, p.158), (Figure 4.2).

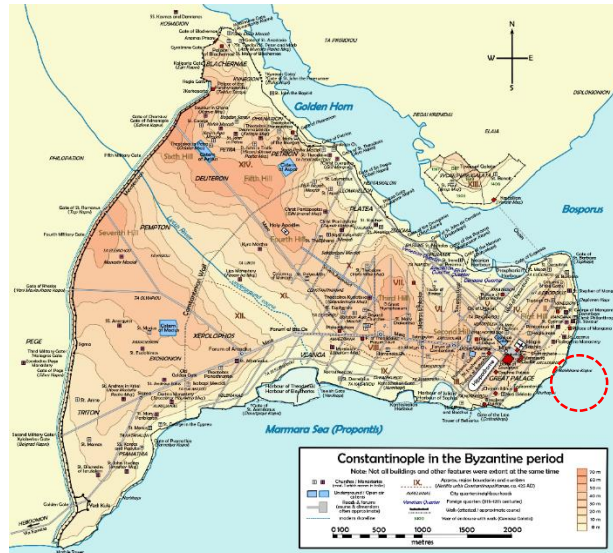


Figure 3.2 : The gates and jetties in Eminönü district in Byzantine period (<http://ekici37.blogspot.com.tr>)

Ottoman Period: In ottoman period, the ottomans brought a new structure to the city. The religious complexes “Külliye” such as Fatih Külliyesi and its mosque, which occupy a very special place being one of the astounding pieces of Ottoman architecture, began to determine the structure of the city (Figure 3.3). New Cami is another remarkable example of those complexes.

In this period, new districts started to develop and commercial areas expanded. Grand Bazaar, New Khans and Bedestans were built and Eminönü district became the business center of the city (Figure 3.4). The commercial area stretched down to the shores of Golden Horn, where the great wharves and warehouses were located, and trade was carried by sea (Kuban, 1996b, p.19).

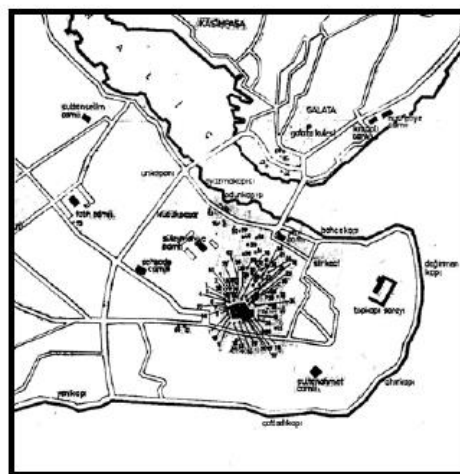


Figure 3.3 : The religious complexes in Istanbul (Kuban, 1996a)

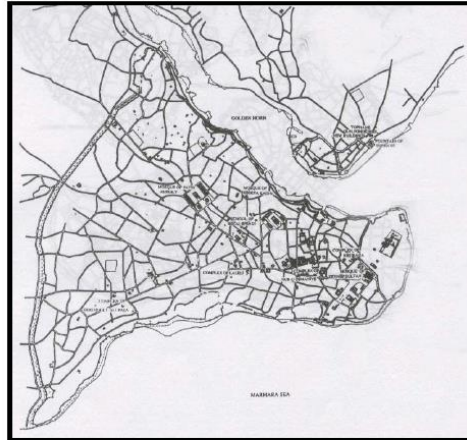


Figure 3.4 : The development of Kapalı Çarşı. Khans and Bedestens (Kuban, 1996b)

Yeni Cami: Yeni Valide Cami, known as the Yeni Cami, is located next to the harbor on the southern side of Golden Horn. At first, the mosque named as ‘Adliye’, ‘Zuilmiye’, and ‘Valide’ mosque. The construction of the mosque began in 1579 with commission of the Safiye Sultan, mother of Mehmet III. In this period, Jewish communities were living along the shores of Golden Horn and with the construction of Yeni Cami they were displaced from their quarter (Kuban, 1996b, p.26). Moreover, some structures in the construction area were destroyed to clear the site of Yeni Cami. Among these buildings, there were also a church and a synagogue demolished for the construction of the mosque (Figure 3.5).



Figure 3.5 : The remains of Synagogue (Kuban, 1993)

Yeni Cami is located parallel to the shoreline, on the northwest-southeast axis. The L-shaped market, adjacent with a cemetery and a tomb to the east, defines a large courtyard on the west. Harim of the Mosque was entered from five gates and gave

access to all the subsidiary structures with the exception of the market, which was primarily entered from the street. On the old city walls that defined the perimeter of the outer courtyard of the mosque (Harim), there were three gates which existed before the construction of the mosque (Figure 3.6). The gates were Bahçekapı (Porto Neorion) on the east side of the mosque, Çıfıtkaşısı (Porta Ebraika) on the north side of the mosque, Balıkpazarı (Porta Peramatis) near the gate of Mısır Çarşısı (Kuban, 1993, p.162).

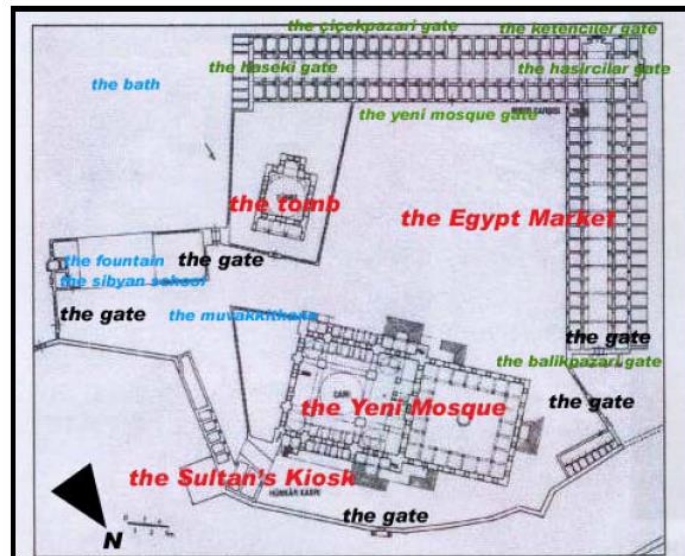


Figure 3.6 : The plan of Yeni Cami, Misir market and Harim (ülgen, 1974, Cited in Çin)



Figure 3.7 : Yeni Cami 1895 (<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Flickr>)

19th century : The 19th century is mainly recognized as a period of modernization of Istanbul in the urban history writing. 19th century was the era when a series of urban

reforms were put into implementation in Ottoman Empire. Economic and administrative reforms were realized by the beginning of 1820s. Ottoman State tried to put various social and institutional reforms inspired from the west (Çelik, 1998, cited in Çin, 2006, p.55).

The first urban regularization projects were realized in the time of Selim III. The second development movements were seen in the time of Mahmut II. He invited Von Moltke from Germany. Later, Moltke prepared the map and the plan of Istanbul. The plan was not realized. Ottoman administrative reforms started with the abolition of Janissary Corps in 1826. By the Tanzimat Edict, the structure of Ottoman state was started to modernize. Planning and administrative reforms re-shaped the structure of Istanbul (Çin, 2006, p. 55).

The Tanzimat Edict brought along the necessity of new urban institutions. The administrative system was revised depending on the model of European institutions. The municipal services had been left to religious and ethnic guilds before reformations. There was a hierarchic administrative system which was controlled by Grand Vizier. At that time, the city was divided districts with the various nizamnames in 1868, 1877 and 1878. Besides the municipal laws, property relations and laws were also changed in 1858 with Maruzat-ı Ebussud (Land Law). In 1858, the private property started to change the physical structure of the city (Çelik, 1998, cited in Çin, 2006, p. 55), (Figure 3.8).



Figure 3.8 : The regularized urban fabric, 19th century (Kuban, 1996a)

In order to regularize the traditional street fabric and to create the principles about urban design of Istanbul, many laws were enacted in the 19th century. Several foreign

engineers and architects were commissioned to reorganize the street network and make the map of Istanbul. Although, these projects were not executed, they formed the basis of new legislation (Çelik, 1998, Cited in Çin, 2006, p. 58). The aim of the legislation, ordered in the 19th century, was to create a city with orthogonal streets and masonry buildings (Çelik, 1998, Cited in Çin, 2006, p. 59). In Eminönü Square and surroundings, the outcomes of the legislation were seen as a change in the construction and style of buildings. Especially the buildings on the northern side of Yeni Cami reflected the new style of building construction (Çin, 2006, p. 59).

The construction of Haliç Bridges in the 19th century brought new relations and patterns to the city. The urban fabric, where the bridges landed, was differentiated from the other part of Haliç shore. (Çelik, 1998, Cited Çin, 2006, p. 61).

Galata Bridges were built in the late Ottoman period. The impact of the construction of the bridge had been considerable on Eminönü Square in the 19th century. The bridge had provided access between the two important commercial districts of Istanbul, Karaköy and Eminönü. Moreover, the bridge added new congestion to the Square especially in the vehicular traffic. These flows did not immediately change the plan of Eminönü Square through the 19th and the early decades of 20th century. (Çin, 2006, p. 64).



Figure 3.9 : Galata Bridge in 1915 (Evren, 1994, Cited in, Çin, 2006)

The harbor development projects and the construction of modern docks in Istanbul had an impact on the section between Eminönü and Sirkeci. The relations with the sea have always played important roles in Istanbul. The planners of the 19th century of Istanbul

had aimed to clean the shores. In the historical peninsula of Istanbul, reorganization of the quays from Sirkeci to Eminönü was first seen in 1848 at Eminönü Quay, and the second operation was between Yalıköşkü and Eminönü in 1858(Çin, 2006, p. 67). In the middle of the 19th century, the maritime traffic was increased. The foundation of new ferry terminals and the steamers' traffic started to change the physical structure of Eminönü (Çin, 2006, p. 71).

The 19th century modernization reforms, especially the construction style of buildings, bridges, the new steamer and ferry stations, Eminönü wharf and its annex buildings, as well as introducing the tramway, started to change the morphology and activity pattern of Eminönü Square. The square started to turn into a hub of urban transportation in the 19th century with various transportation systems (Çin, 2006, p. 75).

20th to the 21st century: During 20th century, the radical changes in Eminönü started with Henri Prost's plan. The innovative governor –Mayor Lütfi Kırdar, could execute the implementation of Prost's project in Eminönü.

The railway and maritime transportation, the commercial center, small-scale industry and its developments, general developments of industry and commercial, modern buildings and their orders, historical and archaeological surveys constituted the major subjects of inquiry in Prost's plan. He designed a new public square in Eminönü by the demolition of buildings on the northern side of Yeni Cami. Creating vistas and perspectives was among the main design principles of Prost's plan. (Çin, 2006, p. 82).

Prost states about the projects of Eminönü Square in his report, 'İstanbul'un Nazım Planını İzah Eden Rapor', as follows (1997 in İstanbul Araştırmaları Dergisi, Cited in Çin, 2006, p. 84):

- a) The demolition of the 'parasite' buildings for bringing out the mosque
- b) Catch Süleymaniye view towards the university and Beyazıt by the road. (Road number 4)
- c) The road, going up towards the museums, square, Ayasofya, and Archeological region, should have a view towards the garden of Sarayburnu. (Road number 1)
- d) Opening of a new road towards Grand Bazaar (Road number 5)
- e) Opening of a new road towards Hal, and Fish market.

These changes aimed to rearrange Eminönü Square as the gate par excellence the historical city of Istanbul.

According to Prost, the buildings around Yeni Cami, the sultan kiosk and Mısır Çarşısı where 'parasite' buildings. (Çin, 2006, p. 85). In the Figure 3.10, the removed buildings are displayed. Prost believed by demolition of some parasite buildings around the Cami and Bazaar, the beauty of the mosque and significant buildings around it would be enhanced (Figure 3.11, 3.12, 3.13)



Figure 3.10 : Removed building according to Prost's Project of Eminönü (Güzelleşen, 1943, Cited in Çin, 2006)



Figure 3.11 : The demolition of a building around Mısır Çarşısı (<http://kiricioglu.blogspot.com.tr>)



Figure 3.12 : Eminönü square arises (<http://kiricioglu.blogspot.com.tr>)



Figure 3.13 : Two pictures comparing the foreground of Eminönü Square (Güzelleşen, 1943, Cited in Çin, 2006)

By the demolition of the former fortification building, Harim of the mosque was turned into a public space. In addition, beside the physical conversions, the social relations and activity customs started to change (Çin, 2006, p. 114).

With the direct involvement of the Prime Minister, Adnan Menderes, new boulevards were opened in the fabric of Historical Peninsula. Fish Market (Balıkpazarı) disappeared by the opening of the road of Eminönü-Unkapanı in 1955-1956 (Figure 3.14). Various large commercial buildings around the two side of the new road were decided to be constructed (Figure 3.15).The well-defined boundaries of Eminönü Square started to lose its characteristics. The demolitions caused vast vacant space on the western side of Galata Bridge. The dense-built fabric of the square was replaced by the voids. The foreground of the square started to change on the western side (Çin, 2006, p.96).



Figure 3.14 : The opening of Eminönü-Unkapanı Road in the time of Menderes (Şehsuvaroğlu, 1999, Cited in Çin, 2006)

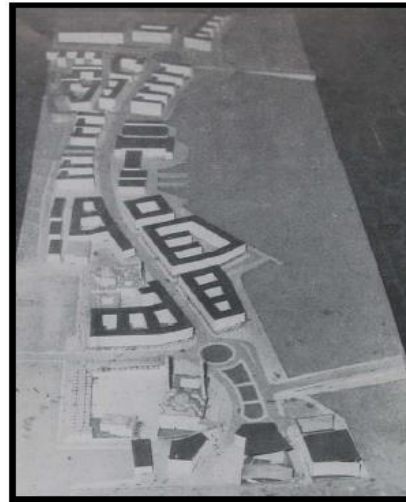


Figure 3.15 : The model of Eminönü Square and Eminönü-Unkapanı Road (İstanbul'un Kitabı, 1957, Cited in Çin, 2006)

The urban operations in 1980s marked another period of transformation for Istanbul, including Haliç. Under the leadership of Mayor Bedrettin Dalan, major projects were undertaken. One of the most radical projects of this period was to clear the banks of Haliç from the industrial uses. The building stock that formed the industrial heritage was all torn down and the whole shoreline was turned into a green area. Golden Horn Culture Valley Project, prepared by Metropolitan Municipality of Istanbul, includes museums, art and exhibition facilities. The area of Fruit Market buildings was turned into an open green area. The traditional fabric of the shores of Haliç was totally disappeared. The only positive effect of the project is that it cleared Haliç from further pollution. Eminönü Square started to turn into a traffic square. It lost its characteristics by the construction of new Galata Bridge and Unkapanı road. It also lost its conjunction between the central business district and the sea (Kuban, 1993, p. 163).

After all, with the shift of the central business axis of Istanbul towards places like Sirkeci, Karaköy, Beyoğlu, Şişli and Levent, Historical Peninsula lost its central features to some extent. However, it remained to be a business district with its commercial, industrial, and storage activities and started to be transformed into a cultural-commercial-truism center (Çin, 2006, p. 106).

The map of 1996 shows recent state of Eminönü Square. The bus stops occupying the square can be observed. They were concentrated on the western side of Galata Bridge and at the opposite side across the road. The roads, the bus stops, the metro stops, the steamer jetties, Galata Bridge and the pedestrian under passages create transportation nodes in Eminönü Square (Çin, 2006, p. 110).

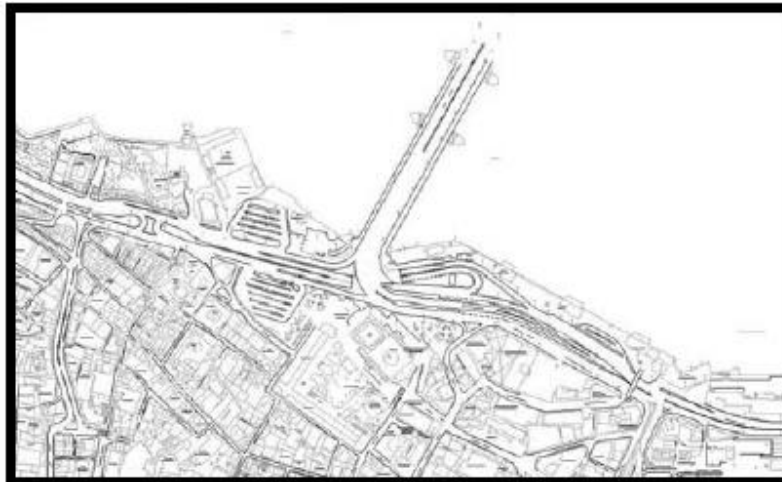


Figure 3.16 : The map of 1996 Eminönü Square
(Istanbul Greater Municipality, 2004)

In 2001, Istanbul's municipality put the project of Eminönü Square out to tender. The project finds the traffic problem as the most important point. It aims to make the square a pedestrian square. Vehicle traffic, the stops and the tramways are taken underground. Haliç shore is designed as the cultural, recreational and tourism district. Besides, the Galata Bridge is thought to be the pedestrian connection, recreation and tourism area between the Square of Eminönü and Karaköy. The project contains similarities with Prost's plan as it clears the buildings between Yeni Cami and Mısır Çarşısı and aims to capture different perspectives (Sağdıç, 2002, Cited in Çin, 2006, p. 111). The urban design project is not completely realized. Only the bus stop area, on the west of Mısır Çarşısı, is removed and it is rearranged as the hard ground area of the square.

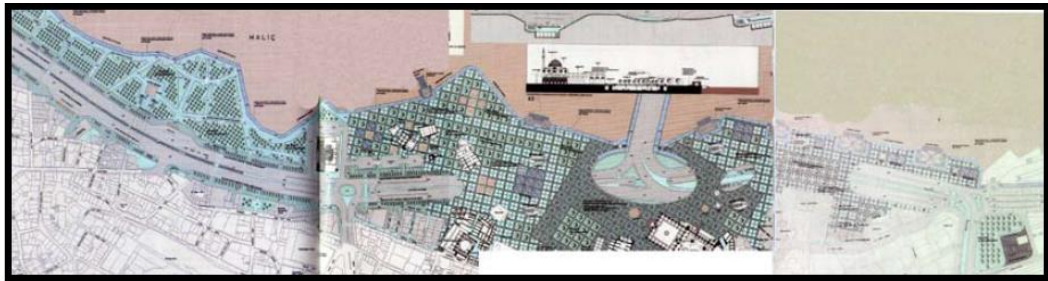


Figure 3.17 : The project of Eminönü Square (Sağdıç, 2002, Cited in Çin, 2006)

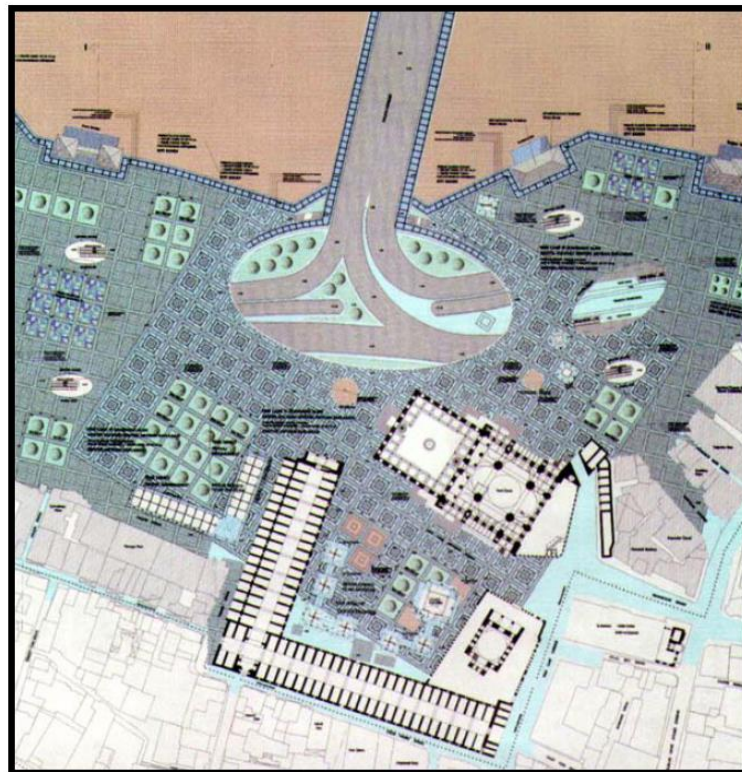


Figure 3.18 : The project of Eminönü Square (Sağdıç, 2002, Cited in Çin, 2006)

The last Conservation Plan of Historical Peninsula was approved at the beginning of 2005. Eminönü district, which was a commercial hub throughout the history, was planned as the secondary commercial center. The whole shore was planned as open areas for public use. While the eastern side of Bridge consists of open areas connected to jetties, the western side of the bridge generally consists of green areas. However, the project is not completely realized yet (The report of the Conservation Plan of Historical Peninsula, 2005, Cited in Çin, 2006, p. 112).

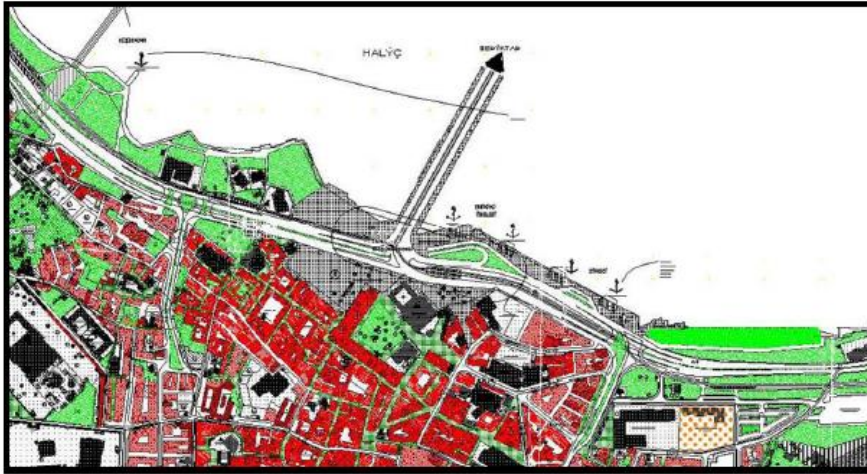


Figure 3.19 : The conservation Plan of Peninsula (2005)
(Istanbul Greater Municipality)

Eminönü Square at Byzantine time served as the center of trade, transportation and storage, along with an administrative and military center. It can be observed in Figure 3.20 in the year of 1815. In Ottoman period, The Square obtained a new structure and building the religious complexes as well as the development of commercial area brought changes into the region. One of the important points in the history of Eminönü Square is the construction of Yeni Cami parallel to shoreline, which led to the destruction of a church in that area and compelling Jewish residents to migrate. L-shaped market, courtyard, and Harim are the buildings which were erected and appeared by the construction of Yeni Cami. It can be seen in Figure 3.20 in the year of 1882. 19th century is the period during which Istanbul was modernized and important movements occurred. The city was divided into many districts and the construction of the bridge added new congestion to the Square especially in the vehicular traffic. Moreover, the exchange of commercial activities was directed towards the points of the bridge. Another important event related to Eminönü Square was Prost plan for Istanbul and Eminönü Square. Demolition of the buildings around Yeni Cami to bring

forth the beauty of the mosque, as well as turning Harim into a public space, were some of the major elements of this project. It is illustrated in Figure 3.20 in the year of 1940. Opening a boulevard and new roads by the order of Menders caused fish market to disappear, and as a result, the square lost its boundaries and characteristics. It is shown in Figure 3.20 in the year of 1960. In 1980s, by the operation of Dalan, the square and especially Haliç shore were modified once more and they turned into green area. The only positive point of this project was clearing the square from pollution, and it turned the square into traffic square. It can be seen in Figure 3.20 in the year of 1996. Later, the square became one of the transportation nodes of Istanbul and the aim of the 2000s project was turning the square to a pedestrian square.

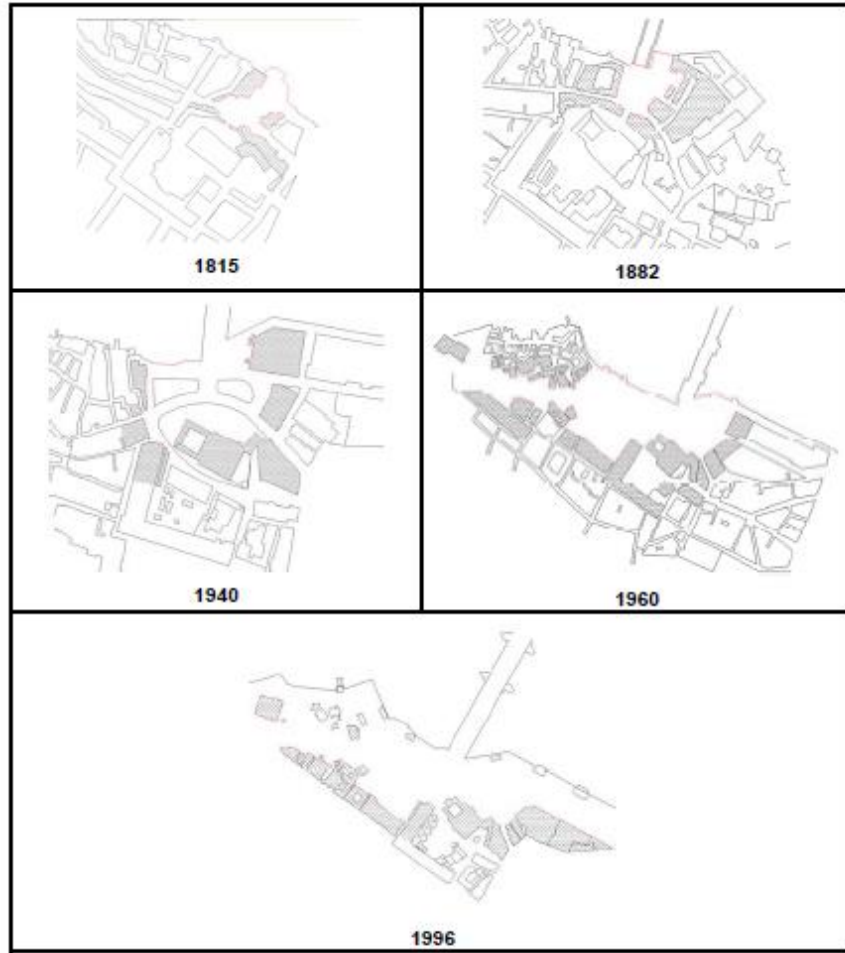


Figure 3.20 : The changing process of Eminönü Square in the history (Çin, 2006)

3.3 Evaluation of Eminönü Square according to classified criteria

In this section, Eminönü Square will be evaluated according to the classified design evaluation criteria of this study. In the last section, it was pointed that the design evaluation criteria for urban squares were categorized under four main headings: Linkage & Form, Sociability & Activities, Image & comfort and Management.

The reasons behind selecting Eminönü Square as the research area are, Eminönü Square has been the primary node of urban transportation network including railway transportations, urban roads, and maritime transportations in Istanbul, Second, Eminönü Square has been a node of different activities. In addition, it has been an important public space for the city of Istanbul. The target area for the evaluation is Eminönü Square in Yeni Cami district. It should be mentioned there are three parts in Yeni Cami district all of which will be evaluated. As seen in Figure 4.20. The first part is Eminönü Square, which is an urban empty space, the second part is a courtyard next to Yeni Cami mosque, which is named “Harim” in history, and the third part as an open space, is the extension of Eminönü Square which links the courtyard to the square.

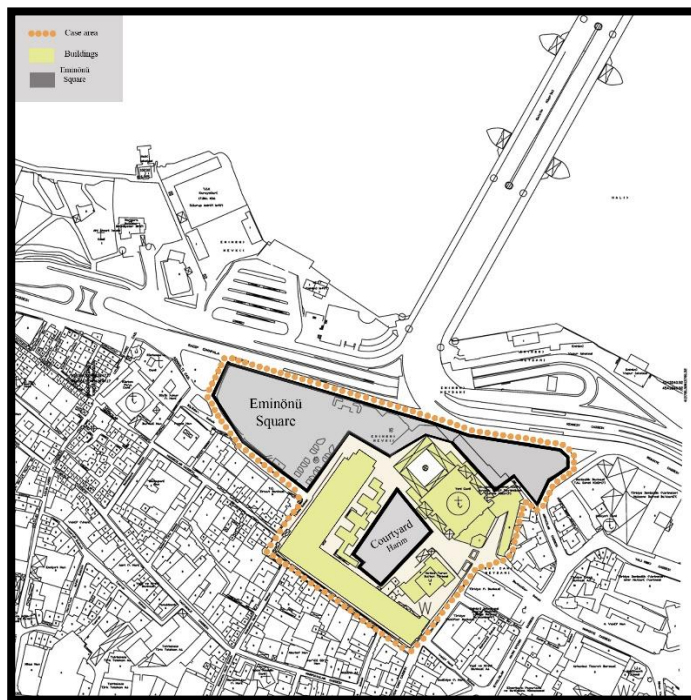


Figure 3.21 : The boundary of the case study

The applied method for the evaluation of Eminönü Square was site observation and visual recording. Moreover, related maps, picture and the data, picture and maps, obtained from historical background also facilitate the analysis and evaluation of Eminönü Square. The observations of Eminönü Square were conducted for four month in November, December, January, and February during sunny, cold and rainy weather. The length of each observation was 15 minutes and the observation times were scheduled to be during the day and night. The criterion for scheduling the observation times was the peak time in the square. The peak time in Eminönü Square is in starting and finishing times of work and prayer time. Moreover, the observations continued at night to evaluate safety, security, lighting, and usage of the square.

Table 3.1 : Observation schedule of Eminönü Square

Date	Time			
	Morning	Noon	Evening	Night
2 November 2013 (sun)	8.30-8.45	12-12.15	5-5.15	7-7.15
4 January 2014 (Fri)	8.30-8.45	12-12.15	5-5.15	7-7.15
24 February 2014 (Sat)	8.30-8.45	12-12.15	5-5.15	7-7.15
17 December 2014 (Wed)	8.30-8.45	12-12.15	5-5.15	7-7.15

3.3.1 Linkage & Form

This part will evaluate Eminönü Square according to the Linkage & Form such as location of Eminönü Square in Istanbul and its accessibility and size & human scale, built form, landscape, and site furniture.

3.3.1.1 Location

Location is one of the important subsets of geographical aspect affecting the use of the urban squares. A square with an outstanding design and satisfactory management will not be a thriving place if its location is improper and difficult to access. Eminönü Square is on the historical Peninsula. The square is located on Ragıp Gümüşpasa Street which can be regarded as one of the Istanbul's main roads. In the north of Eminönü

district, there is Haliç and in the south, the square opens into the Sea of Marmara and Hanlar area is situated. From east, it is covered by Istanbul Bosphorus and Sirkeci district, and from the western side it is a neighborhood within Fatih district and Küçük Pazar.



Figure 3.22 : The location of Eminönü Square in Istanbul

Eminönü Square is located in the center and heart of Istanbul. In today's Istanbul there are many central nodes, however; Eminönü Square is one of the most important central nodes in the historical part of Istanbul. It can be declared that Eminönü Square has been the most essential node throughout the history and now.

3.3.1.2 Access

Accessibility is another major subset of geographical aspect. The best condition for an urban square is to be accessible by foot and vehicles. In Eminönü Square, tramways, bus stops, and steamship jetties are different types of public transportation by which users can reach to square.

Eminönü Square has always been the primary node of urban transportation in Istanbul through its history. Figure 3.23 shows the transportation systems and nodes in Eminönü Square. In fact, tramways enhance the accessibility of Eminönü Square and create a new transportation node. Bus stops and steamship jetties also make it easy for users to come to Eminönü Square. As it was mentioned previously, it is also important an urban square to be accessible by foot. Galata Bridge is of great importance for pedestrian and makes Eminönü Square accessible both by vehicle and by foot. In addition, there are underpasses for pedestrians by the use of which people can easily access to Eminönü Square, Yeni Cami, and Courtyard. However, there is not adequate parking area, and parking lots are not very near to Eminönü Square. According to the observation, the distance between the parking lot and the square was 10 minutes by walk.

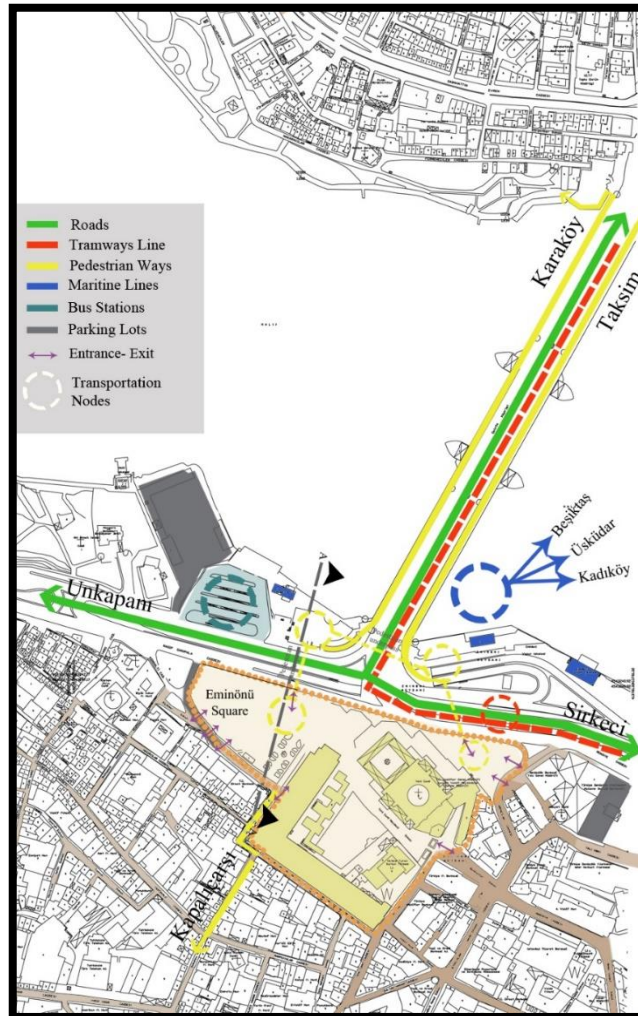


Figure 3.23 : Transportation systems and the nodes in Eminönü Square

Buses and Galata Bridge connect Eminönü district to other parts of the city including Taksim and Karaköy, and tramway links Eminönü to Peninsula, west Marmara and Kabataş. Moreover, steamships provide access to European and Asian sides of Istanbul and enable users to reach Eminönü Square easily.



Figure 3.24 : Tramway station in Eminönü Square (Personal archive)



Figure 3.25 : Pedestrian underpass in Eminönü Square (Personal archive)



Figure 3.26 : Bus Stations in Eminönü Square (Personal archive)



Figure 3.27 : Steamship piers in Eminönü Square (Personal archive)

The point which should be mentioned on accessibility of Eminönü Square is that psychological access to Eminönü Square is weak for the pedestrian. Ragıp Gümüşpasa Street makes it hard for the pedestrian to have straight access to Eminönü Square. Although there is an underpass for the pedestrian, it is difficult to cross the street and access the square directly (Figure 4.28).

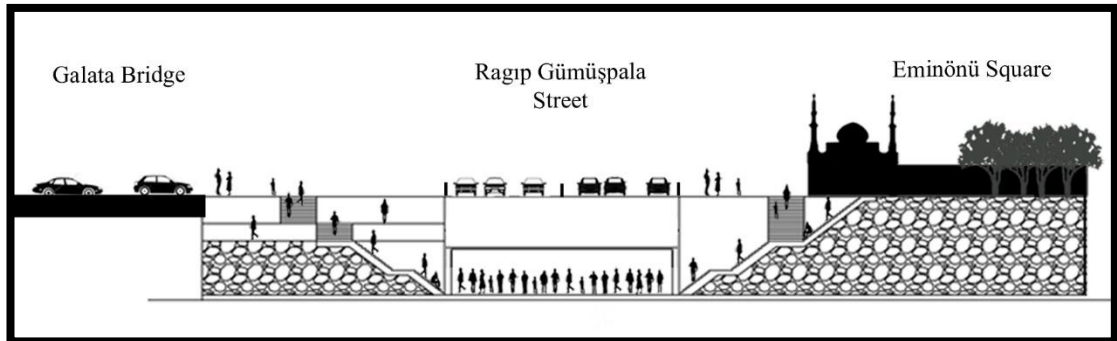


Figure 3.28 : A-A Section of Eminönü Square

Through site analyses, it was realized that there is no difficulty in accessing Eminönü Square by public transportation, and reaching Eminönü Square on foot is possible. However, high traffic density of Ragıp Gümüşpasa Street, surrounding area of Eminönü Square and parking lots produce problems to access the square by private car. Heavy congestions in the street and noise make it difficult to cross the Ragıp Gümüşpasa street and access the square directly. These two factors transfers negative perceptions to the users and lead to an unpleasant experience. Although there is an underpass for pedestrian, it does not satisfy people's needs and people prefer to access the urban square directly.

3.3.1.3 Size & Human Scale

Size of the urban square is one of the subsets of physical aspect in design of the urban square. As it was discussed in the past section, the size of the square should be appropriate for the number of the people who use the square, for the location and activities as well as surrounding neighborhood.

In this study, two and three-dimensional analyses were used to analyze the size and shape of Eminönü square. As it is depicted in the map of Eminönü Square, the shape of the square is not regular, and the area of the square is not certain. The dimension of Eminönü Square was measured between 180 x 90 m. The shape of the courtyard is partly regular and it can be said it is rectangular. The dimension of the courtyard is 68 x 63 m. (Figure 3.29).

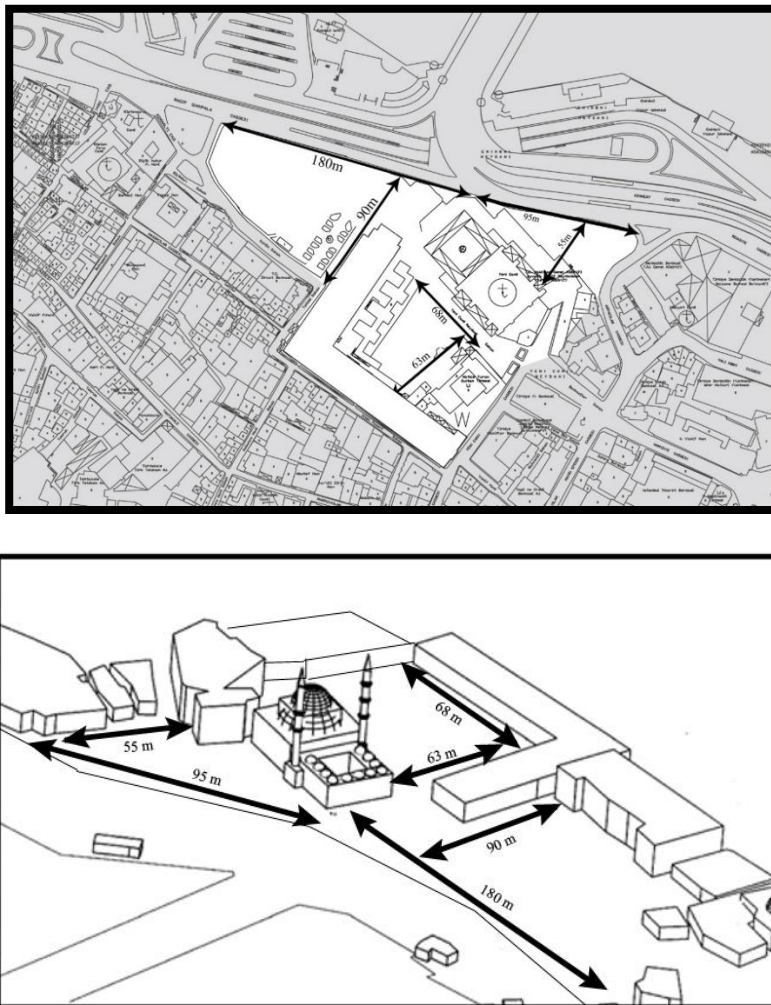


Figure 3.29 : Size of Eminönü Square

According to literature research, the maximum dimension of each side of the large squares should be 100m. However, as it has been demonstrated in the map, the dimension of Eminönü Square is 180m, which is very long and causes Eminönü Square, especially the western part of the square, to be perceived as an empty place. The dimensions of the courtyard correspond to the values mentioned in the past sections of the study.

Scale is the ratio between the height of the building and the width of the space. It is recommended that the best ratio between surrounding buildings and the width of the square to be 1:2.

In Eminönü Square, the tallest building is Yeni Cami Mosque with the 36m high. Eminönü Square is enclosed from two sides, Southern and Eastern sides. The southern side contains four floor buildings, which their heights are 12m maximum, and the eastern side, is adjacent with one of the edges of Mısır Çarşısı and Yeni Cami Mosque.

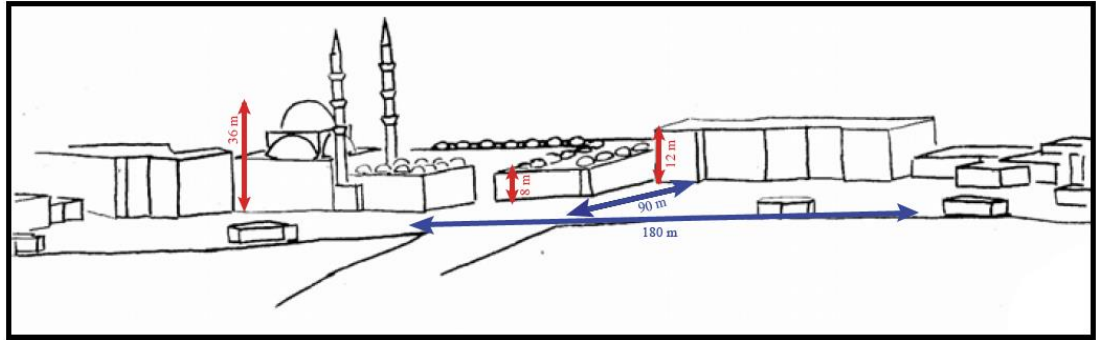


Figure 3.30 : ratio between the height of the surrounding buildings of Eminönü Square and the width of Eminönü Square



Figure 3.31 : Southern view of Eminönü Square, which is covered by buildings (Personal archive)

In the view from Eminönü Square, the ratio of the mosque's height and the width of Eminönü Square are suitable, and the scale is convenient for human being. However,

the lack of a definite boundary on the western and northern edges of Eminönü Square, and the large size of Eminönü Square cause to lose the human scale (Figure 35).



Figure 3.32 : Yeni Cami Mosque, Eastern view of Eminönü quare (Personal archive)

The buildings covering the courtyard are Yeni Cami Mosque and another edge of Mısır Çarşısı (Figure 34). Considering the height of Mısır Çarşısı and width of the courtyard, the ratio of dimension is in agreement with the mentioned relationship between the height and width, and it is suitable for the human scale. However, according to analyses, the height of Yeni Cami Mosque from the courtyard view is high, so the ratio of the width of the courtyard and the height of the mosque exceed 1:2.



Figure 3.33 : The view of Yeni Cami from Courtyard (Personal archive)



Figure 3.34 : The view of Yeni Cami from the open urban space next to the mosque (Personal archive)

In brief, vast size of Eminönü Square and lack of a definite boundary on the western and northern edges of Eminönü Square are the factors which cause the square to be perceived as an empty place and lose its human scale.

3.3.1.4 Built form

Built form is another factor of physical aspect, which discusses the shape, form and enclosure characteristics of the urban squares. Size of the square and the scale are determinants of enclosure. In this study, figure-ground map, three dimensional drawing, and photograph were used to analyze the shape, form and enclosure characteristics of Eminönü Square. Following figure-ground map shows the shape and the elements which enclose Eminönü Square. The shape of Eminönü Square is not regular and it is just enclosed from, southern and eastern sides. Three dimensional drawing in figure 3.35, shows the elements which enclose Eminönü Square. The southern side of Eminönü Square contains four floor buildings, and the eastern side, is adjacent with one of the edges of Mısır Çarşısı and Yeni Cami Mosque. Northern edge of Eminönü Square is completely open to the Ragıp Gümüşpasa street and the sea.



Figure 3.35 : Figure-ground map of Eminönü Square and courtyard

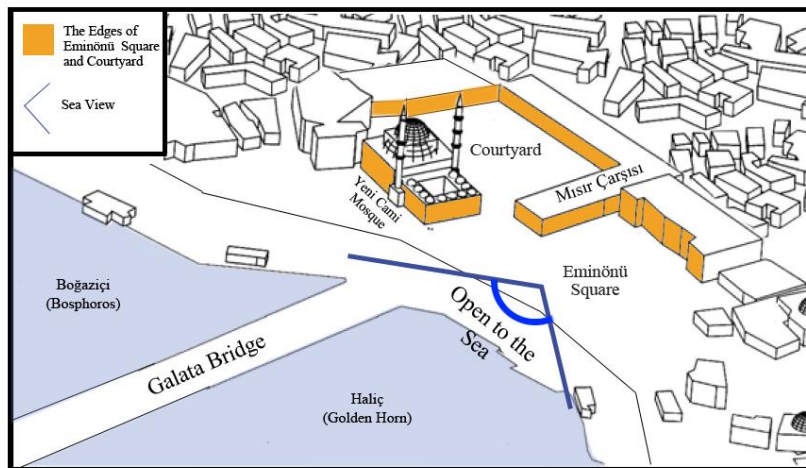


Figure 3.36 : Surrounding buildings and edges of Eminönü Square and courtyard



Figure 3.37 : The top view of Eminönü Square (www.panoramio.com/photo)

As it can be seen in following figures, Eminönü Square cannot give the sense of enclosure to the users. The sense of enclosure is one of the characteristic features of

the urban squares, and Eminönü Square does not observe this feature. On the contrary, shape of the courtyard is rectangular. The edges of L shaped structure of Mısır Çarşısı and Yeni Cami Mosque determine the edges of the courtyard and provide the sense of enclosure in the courtyard.

Historical background and historical maps of Eminönü Square reveal the boundaries of Eminönü Square started to disappear by the beginning of 1960s due to the operations of Menderes and operation of Dalan in 1980s. The maps of 1960, and 1996 show that surrounding buildings were incapable of defining the boundaries of Eminönü Square. In brief, from 1960s, Eminönü Square has lost its boundaries and the square does not give the sense of enclosure to the users.

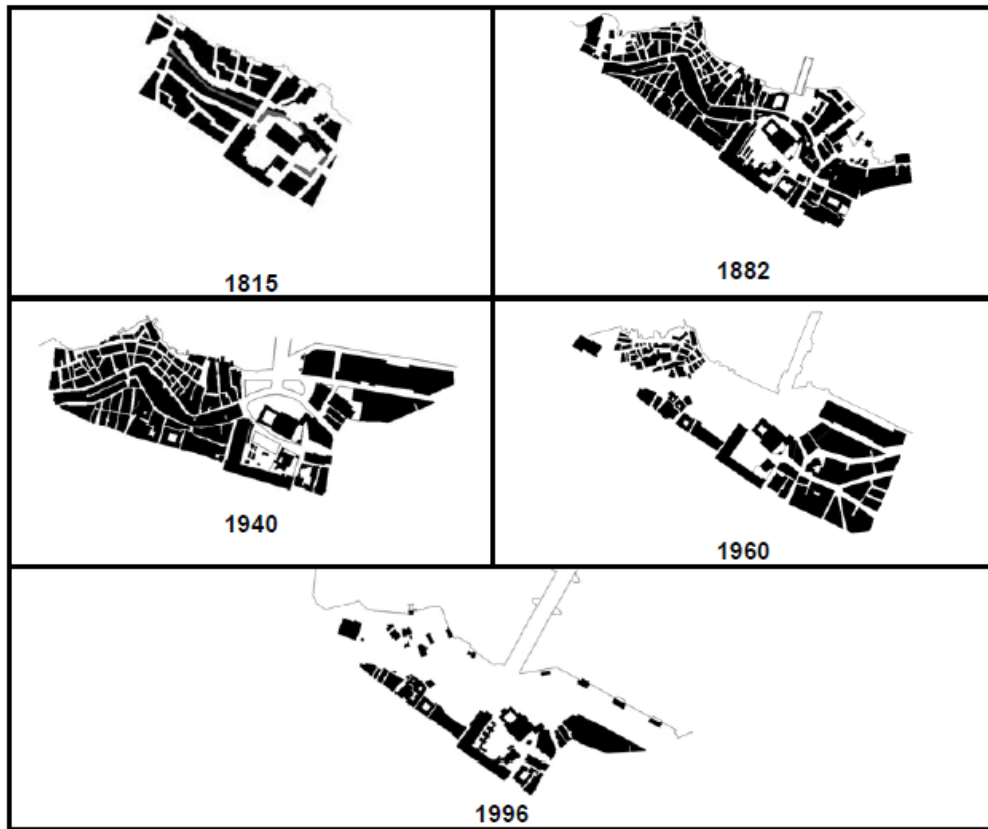


Figure 3.38 : The form of Eminönü Square during history (Çin, 2006)

3.3.1.5 Landscape

Landscape is another factor in subset of physical aspect. In this part, hard and soft landscapes of Eminönü Square will be evaluated.

According to the observations, concrete blocks and mosaics are used for the pavement of Eminönü Square, which are durable and aesthetically appealing. It was noticed the

pavement design in Eminönü Square and the courtyard differed. Furthermore, creative use of diverse textures, colors (mostly gray), and materials in the courtyard and in Eminönü Square brings an array of different feelings for the users while they move from one point of Eminönü Square to another side of it, and heightens the attractiveness of Eminönü Square (Figure 3.44).

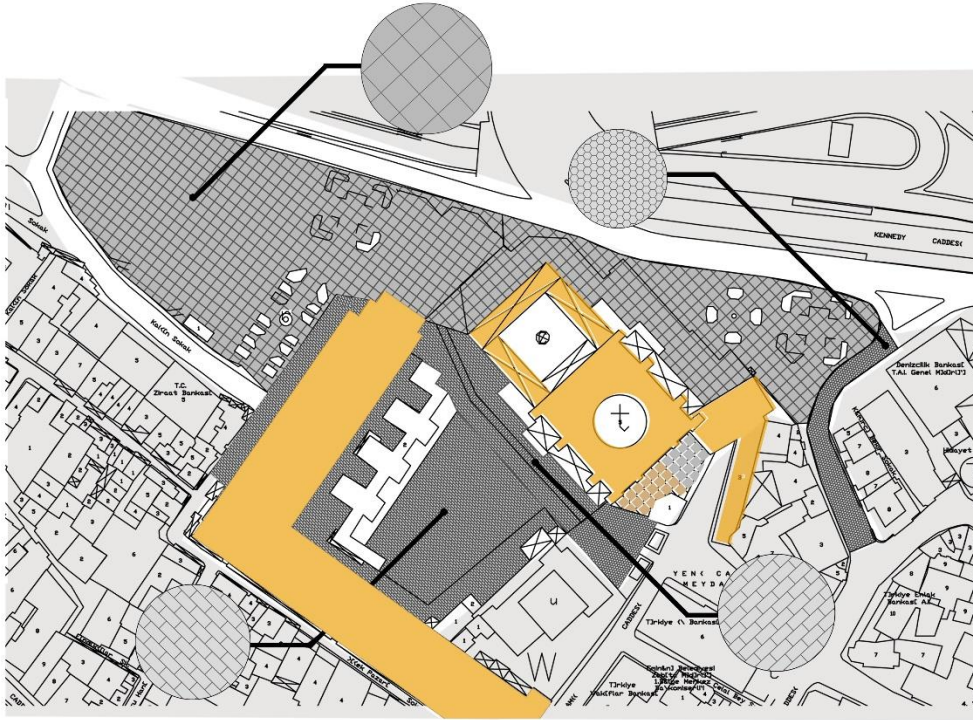


Figure 3.39 : Details of pavement of Eminönü Square and Courtyard

Moreover, in the pavement of the courtyard the pedestrian way has been considered. All the materials and shapes of the pavement are very close to the character of the square, and new pavement is in harmony with the old one.



Figure 3.40 : The pavement of Courtyard (Personal archive)



Figure 3.41 : Difference in the colors and materials of the pavement which gives a sense of transition (Personal archive)



Figure 3.42 : The pavement of Eminönü Square (Personal archive)

Plants such as tree, flower, shrub, and lawn as a soft landscape in urban squares encourage people to use the place. Based on the observations, according to the size and scale of Eminönü Square, the numbers of trees are not adequate. Especially, there are not any soft landscape elements in the central part of the square. In addition, as it is shown in the picture, there are not any flowers, shrubs, or lawns in the area of Eminönü Square. The lack of plants not only makes Eminönü Square seem vacant but also declines the aesthetic quality of the atmosphere.



Figure 3.43 : Landscape elements and Site furniture of Eminönü Square



Figure 3.44 : Soft landscape in Eminönü Square (Personal archive)



Figure 3.45 : The lack of flowers and lawn in Eminönü Square (Personal archive)

In the courtyard next to Yeni Cami Mosque, as it was observed, the use of soft landscape element is relatively successful. The amount of the trees, flowers, and lawn is not favorable, and with respect to the size of the place, this number can be increased. However, the design, arrangement, and maintenance of this area, in contrast to Eminönü Square, are recognizable.



Figure 3.46 : Soft landscape in Courtyard (Personal archive)

In the urban squares, water is usually used by applying a fountain. In Eminönü Square, it is significant to point out that there is the view of sea; however, the Ragıp Gümüşpasa street and cars are the barriers which block the sight and prevent people from enjoying the view of the sea. In the middle of Courtyard, there is a fountain and the soothing sound of the running water is truly pleasant. In brief, landscape elements of Eminönü Square are weak and qualities of these elements should be improved.



Figure 3.47 : The fountain of Courtyard (Personal archive)



Figure 3.48 : The view of the sea from Eminönü Square

3.3.1.6 Site furniture

Organization and quality of street furniture have a major effect on the enhancement of identity and character of an urban square. Seats, benches, lighting and shelters, and protection objects are examples of site furniture, which provide comfort, and safety of the users. In this part, Eminönü Square will be evaluated according to these attributes.

Seating is one of the most essential elements of the site furniture. According to the observations in Eminönü Square, the numbers of the seats and benches in this site are below the average with respect to the size of the site. Moreover, the number of sitting elements in Eminönü Square is not adequate for the people commuting in Eminönü Square although there is potential and enough space in Eminönü Square to increase the number of the sitting elements (Figure 3.46).



Figure 3.49 : Existing benches in Eminönü Square (Personal archive)

In addition to the seats and benches, the steps and level differentiations in front of Yeni Cami are other seating elements which provide seating opportunities and they can be used in the sunny weather (Figure 3.53). On the western side of the square, as it has been observed, there are not any seating elements (Figure 3.54).



Figure 3.50 : Using level differentiations as seating elements in Eminönü Square



Figure 3.51 : Central part of the Eminönü square without any seating elements
(Personal archive)

Another point to discuss is the location of the benches in Eminönü Square. The location is not suitable for the usage of people and does not satisfy their needs. There is not any organization for the location of the benches and the benches are just located in the lateral sides. All of these shortcomings convert Eminönü Square into a passing area (Figure 3.55).

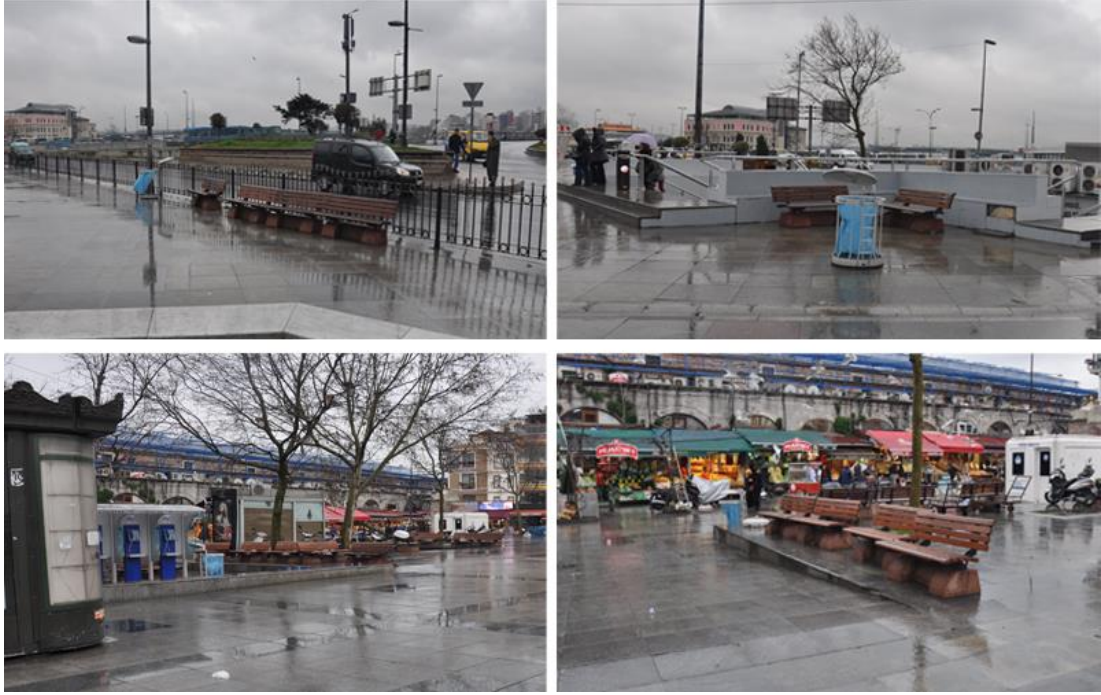


Figure 3.52 : Unsuitable location of the benches in Eminönü Square

In the courtyard, organization of site furniture can be seen somewhat. Although, there are sitting elements used as benches, the number of the sitting elements, with respect to the size of the place, is low. However, presence of some design formations in the Courtyard gives convenience to the users (Figure 4.56).



Figure 3.53 : Sitting elements in Courtyard (Personal archive)

Movable chairs give the users a chance to sit wherever they prefer. By an efficient organization and design attitude, the number of the movable seats and suitable benches can be increased, and the quality of site furniture of Eminönü Square and Courtyard can be improved. In fact, the increase of seating elements can enhance socialization and interaction in the square.

In addition to seating element, protecting the users from cold and sunshine is of importance in urban squares. In Eminönü Square, since one edge of the square is

completely open to the sea and there are not any tall buildings on this edge, the square receives the maximum sunlight. Nevertheless, as it was observed, the center of Eminönü Square receives sunlight directly and in the summer's peak temperature there is low number of trees to be used as a shelter and protect the users from the direct sunlight.

Wind sometimes can make users feel uncomfortable in an urban square. In Eminönü Square and in the courtyard, since the heights of the buildings are not very tall, natural ventilation occurs. However, as it was observed, in Eminönü Square, especially in the central part of the square, and in the courtyard there are not any protection elements against the cold and rainy weather and it is hard to use, walk, or sit in the square in the cold seasons. In this regard, Eminönü Square needs shelter and protection facilities to protect the users from bothering sunlight, wind and rain to increase comfort and vitality of the square (Figure 3.57).



Figure 3.54 : Central part of Eminönü Square without any shelter and protection elements (Personal archive)

In Eminönü Square, as it was observed at night, the artificial lighting of Yeni Cami Mosque makes the mosque more fascinating and reflects its brilliant identity. Nevertheless, the artificial lighting in the square is too weak and users feel insecure during the night. It can be declared that the middle of the square is entirely dark at night and without the presence of Yeni Cami Mosque, people will not be able to recognize their location. On the contrary, artificial lighting is arranged in the courtyard, which enhances the identity of Yeni Cami Mosque and the courtyard, and users feel safe in this site.



Figure 3.55 : The night view of Yeni Cami Mosque (Personal archive)

















Figure 3.56 : The lack of the artificial lighting in the middle of Eminönü Square (Personal archive)



Figure 3.57 : The view of Courtyard at night (Personal archive)

In conclusion, the density of the site furniture and landscape elements on the northern side of Yeni Cami and the western side of Mısır Çarşısı affect the use of the Eminönü Square. The middle of the Square is used as a passageway due to the lack of site furniture, landscape elements, and inadequate green areas.

Table 3.2 : Evaluation Linkage & Form of Eminönü Square

Linkage & Form	Weak	Strong	Keywords	
Location			central node	 Very
Access			Public transportation, Vehicle, Foot	 Middle  Little
Size & Scale			Dimension, Ratio	
Built Form			Shape, Form, Enclosure	
Landscape			Paving, Trees, Water	
Site Furniture			Seating, Protection Elements, Artificial, Lighting	

3.3.2 Sociability & Activities

Uses and activities are other essential factors which should be considered in the design of urban squares. Vitality of Eminönü Square, diversity of the users and mix of uses, various activities occurring in the square, the social potential of Eminönü Square, opportunities for drinking and eating in the square, and stimulating the sense of joy in the square are the issues which will be evaluated in this part.

3.3.2.1 Vitality

Vitality refers to the number of the people in urban squares in the different times of the day and night. Eminönü Square is one of the transportation nodes in Istanbul and its commercial and religious aspects as well as its landmarks and touristic aspect attracts many people. Yeni Cami Mosque and Mısır Çarşısı, as the landmarks of the square, along with the shops and street sellers in the square, stimulate the vitality in front of the mosque and bazaar, and encourage people from different groups like

tourists, shoppers, local residents, and transit users to use the square. Eminönü Square was visited in different times of the week and weekend (according to the schedule) to detect the vitality of the square. According to the observations, the square is more vital at midday and during the workdays. Especially, Eminönü Square is alive on the northern side of the Yeni cami masque and Mısır Çarşısı due to the commercial, religious, and touristic activities in the area (Figure 3.64).

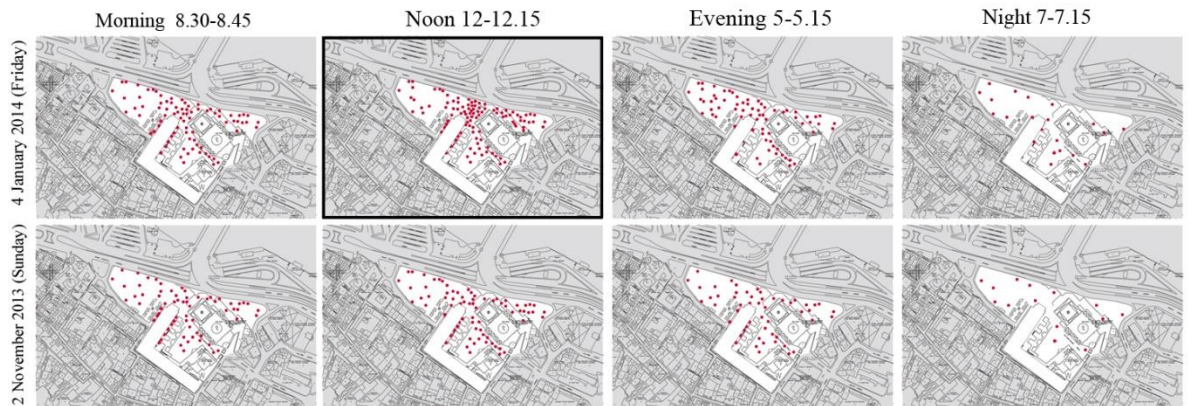


Figure 3.58 : The vitality of Eminönü Square at midday during workdays by the observation



Figure 3.59 : High vitality in front of the mosque and bazaar (Personal archive)

In contrast to the northern side of Yeni cami masque and Mısır Çarşısı, lack of activities as well as lack of site furniture and landscape elements decrease the vitality in western side of the Eminönü Square, and this side of the square is only used for transit movement during the day (Figure 3.66).

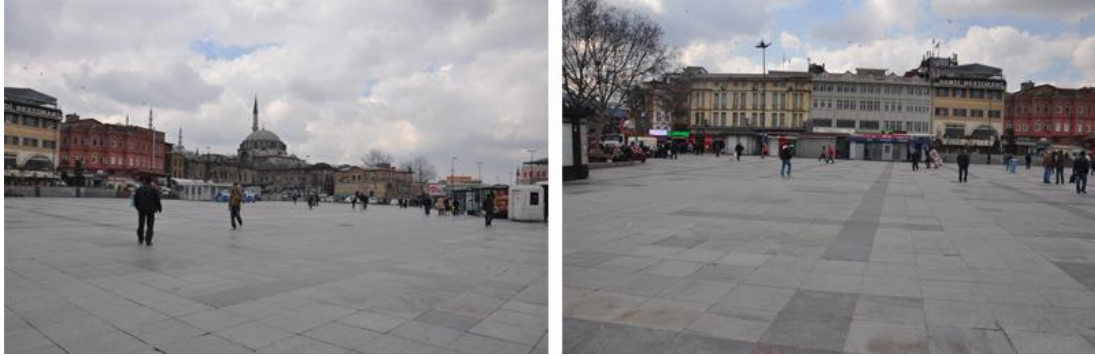


Figure 3.60 : The lack of users in western side of Eminönü Square
(Personal archive)

Another point to mention is that the vitality in Eminönü Square is reduced at nighttime. Closing time of the shops, limitation in the service time of public transportation, and lack of suitable activities in the evening decrease the vitality in public life of the square at nights.

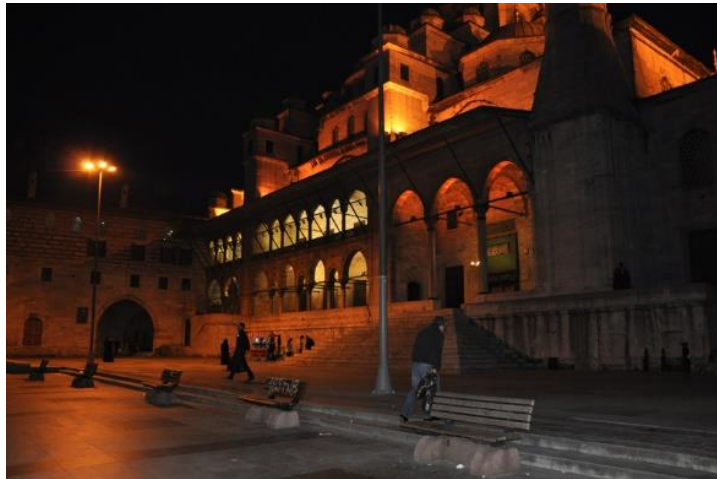


Figure 3.61 : The view of Eminönü Square at night (Personal archive)



Figure 3.62 : The lack of vitality in Eminönü Square during night (Personal archive)

In conclusion, Eminönü Square is generally more vital on the northern side of Yeni Cami and Mısır Çarşısı. Moreover, touristic, religious, transportation, and commercial activities of Eminönü Square support daily activities. Western side of Eminönü square is only used for passing of people due to the lack of activities, necessary site furniture and landscape elements of the place. Moreover, lack of suitable activities at night hours decreases the vitality of Eminönü Square at night. In brief, Eminönü Square has very high daytime population and low nighttime population.

3.3.2.2 Diversity

Diversity in urban squares is very important and generates vitality. Based on the observations and historical background of Eminönü Square, diverse groups of people such as tourists, local residents, shoppers, transit users, shop owners, and peddlers use Eminönü Square with relation to the commercial, transportation, religious, and touristic aspects of Eminönü Square. Figure 3.69 shows the land use map of Eminönü area.



Figure 3.63 : Land use of Eminönü area (<http://cloudyxiao.blogspot.com.tr/>)

Eminönü Square is primarily used for commercial and transportation purposes. During the history, Eminönü Square was a commercial center of the city. From Ottoman period, Eminönü became the business center of the city. The commercial area stretched down to the shores of Golden Horn, where the great warehouses were located, and trade was carried by sea. Mısır Çarşısı is part of the complex of Yeni Cami and it was completed in 1663. Its ‘L’ shape is typical of the arasta type of bazaar consisting of rows of shops for trade. Commercial activities inside of Mısır Çarşısı and surrounding area of it as well as in the courtyard attract local residents and tourists to shop and visit Eminönü Square (Figure 3.70). In the courtyard, there are small shops like flower shops, pet shops and cafes which contribute to the commercial aspect of Eminönü Square.

From Byzantine period, Eminönü square was an essential trade hub, and the center of transportation. Construction of the Galata Bridge in the 19th century added congestion to Eminönü Square, especially in the vehicular traffic. By implementing harbor development projects, the construction of modern docks, and the foundation of new ferry terminals in the middle of the 19th century, the maritime traffic was increased. Eminönü square started to turn into a center of urban transportation in the 19th century with various transportation systems. The square has been a node of transportation throughout the history up to today. Transportation activities in Eminönü Square, both vehicular and pedestrian, address the people of different cultural backgrounds and give

the chance to enhance the Eminönü Square's vitality. Moreover, diversity in activities, events, and celebrations develops Eminönü Square's vitality.

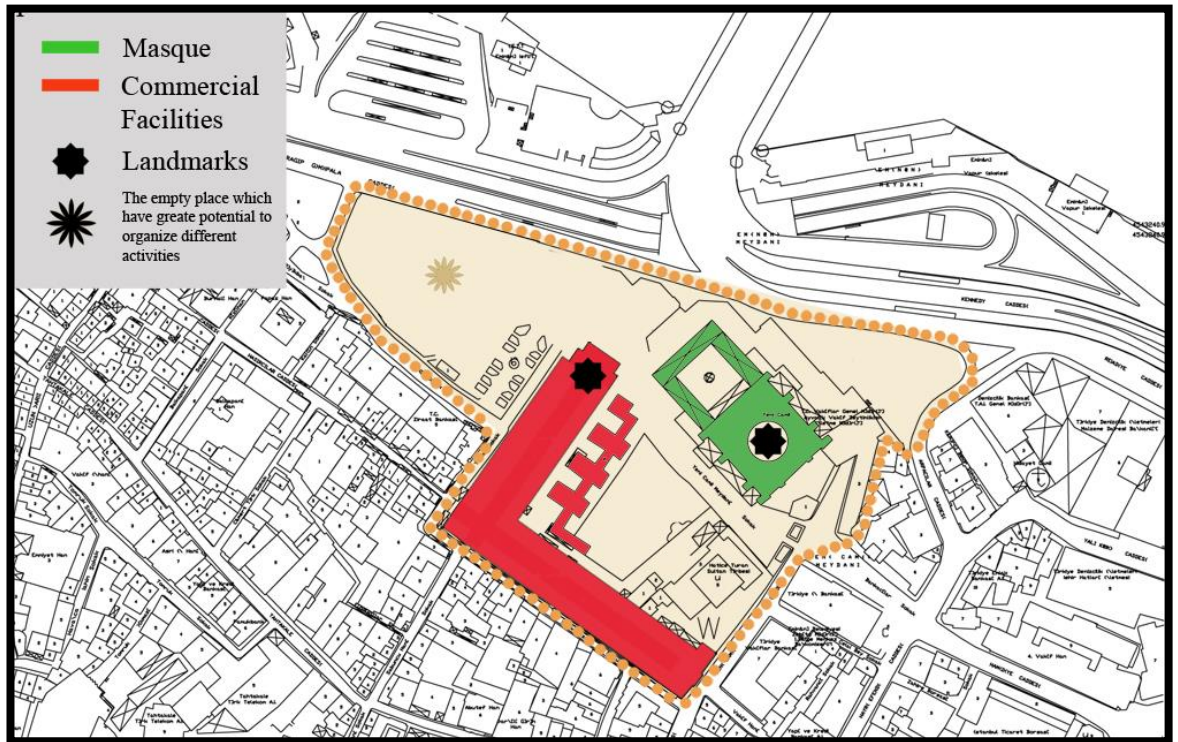


Figure 3.64 : Land use in Eminönü Square



Figure 3.65 : Commercial activities in Eminönü Square (Personal archive)

The secondary use of Eminönü Square, is for religious activities. In the history, Yeni Cami as the religious complex, has brought religious activity to Eminönü Square. It

was noticed in the prayer time, many people get prepared for praying (Figure 3.72). The third use of Eminönü Square relates to touristic activities. Because of magnificent historical background and landmark features of Eminönü Square including Yeni Cami and Mısır Çarşısı, tourists from various countries visit the place (Figure 3.73).



Figure 3.66 : People getting prepared for praying in Yeni Cami (Personal archive)

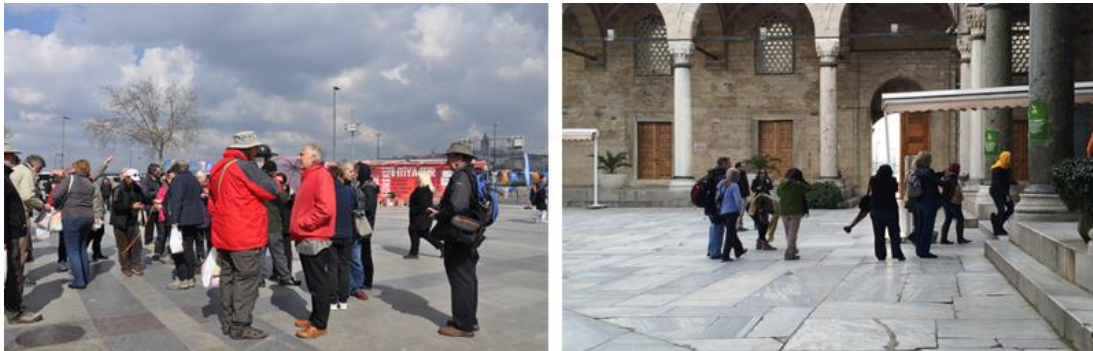


Figure 3.67 : The group of tourists visiting Yeni Cami Mosque and bazaar (Personal archive)

In general, Eminönü Square involves mix of activities, land use diversity, and diversity of users. Eminönü Square has always been a node of commercial, transportation, and religious activities in Istanbul during its history. According to the site observations, transportation (transit users), commercial (shoppers, street sellers), religious, and touristic (tourists) activities, as well as watching, sitting, standing, chatting, eating and drinking occur in Eminönü Square. These activities had been measured during the scheduled times of observation, and the results can be seen in figure 3.74 which compares the ratio of the activities. In conclusion, it should be pointed out that Eminönü Square has more potential and enough space for different organizations, various activities, exhibitions, and cultural events to addresses more users and tourists.

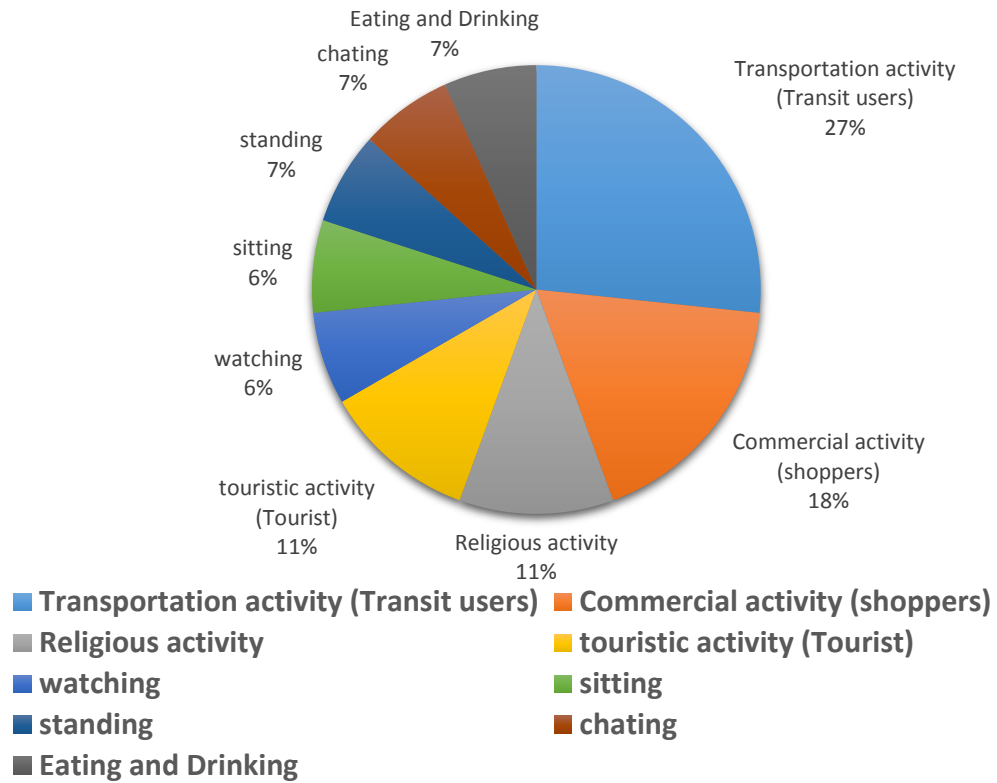


Figure 3.68 : Activities in Eminönü Square

3.3.2.3 Social points

Sociability can be counted as one of the most essential features of the urban squares. In the city, an urban square is one of the best places for people to gather and socialize. Although Eminönü Square is attractive for people of different social groups such as foreign tourists, local people visiting the Yeni Cami mosque and Mısır Çarşısı, and transit users who pass by, physical factors of Eminönü Square, such as seating elements and landscape elements are not appropriate to support social activities in the Square. In Eminönü Square, as it was observed, in the points with appropriate amenities such as seats, benches, and trees, social and optional activities occur and people interact with each other. Due to the lack of the suitable site furniture and landscape elements, the western side of Eminönü Square has become a passageway instead of being a meeting point for people.



Figure 3.69 : The people who chat with each other in Eminönü Square (Personal archive)



Figure 3.70 : Sociability in Courtyard (Personal archive)

As it was observed, in the courtyard, in the area around the mosque and in the bazaar, people mostly use these areas, and do different activities like sitting, watching, standing, and chatting, which increase the vitality of the square.

In fact, enhancing the quality of the site furniture and landscape elements of the square will lead to the attraction of more people and enable the socialization. The sociability map of Eminönü Square shows the analysis of social activities.



Figure 3.71 : Sociability map of Eminönü square

3.3.2.4 Eating and Drinking

Eating and drinking are the activities, which should exist in an urban square. It was observed that the area around Eminönü Square is full of different restaurants, cafes and buffets. The number of existing restaurants in Eminönü Square is satisfactory. However, in some cases, the patios and outdoors of the restaurants cannot be regarded as convenient places. Since the main function of Eminönü Square is transportation function and the main activity occurring in the square is the commute of people, the restaurants and cafés in this square are considered as the local ones on the way of the passengers. Moreover, because of the urban scale of the square and lack of site furniture, few eating and drinking activities occur in the square.



Figure 3.72 : Different restaurants and cafés in Eminönü Square (Personal archive)



Figure 3.73 : Outdoors of the restaurants and cafés in Eminönü Square (Personal archive)



Figure 3.74 : The cafés existing in the courtyard (Personal archive)

In the courtyard, there are two convenient cafés for users with seats outside. One of the cafes belongs to Fatih municipality. According to the size and potential of the square, it is necessary to increase the number of the cafes with suitable outdoor seating elements in the middle of Eminönü Square. In addition, the restaurants and cafés should not be just located around the site.

3.3.2.5 Joy and Art

Joy as one of the subsets of the activities should be considered in programming different activities in urban squares. As it was discussed in the past section, commercial facilities, transportation nodes, religious use, and touristic aspect of Eminönü Squares are salient features. Nonetheless, the attempt for providing activities and possibilities to experience the joy in Eminönü Square is inadequate. It is crucial to improve this aspect of Eminönü Square and upgrade the quality of public art in Eminönü Square and in the courtyard.

Adding some artistic sculptures according to the identity of the Eminönü square or creating opportunities for music bands and dancers to show their arts to the people in square are some of the alternatives to enhance the public art in Eminönü Square. Moreover, because of the international aspect of Eminönü Square and its international users, international open museums of modern art can be managed to invite international artists to participate too.



Figure 3.75 : Modern street art in Eminönü square
(www.fethiyetimes.com/just-visting/)



Figure 3.76 : Public art, which depicts a traditional Simit seller (Personal archive)

Table 3.3 : Evaluation of Social & Activities of Eminönü Square

Sociability & Activities	Weak	Strong	Keywords	
Vitality		●	Activities, Number of the people	● Very
Diversity		●	mix of activities, land use diversity, and diversity of users	● Middle
Social Points	●	●	appropriate amenities	● Little
Eating & Drinking	●	●	restaurants and cafés	
Joy & art	●	●	programming different activities, public art	

3.3.3 Image & Comfort

This section will discuss the image of Eminönü Square and the values shaping the identity of Eminönü Square and also Eminönü Square will be evaluated according to the Comfort, Security and Safety, and Relaxation aspects which support the physical attributes.

3.3.3.1 Identity

Urban square identity is an important factor to heighten the local distinctiveness, create a memorable icon for the urban square and attract more to visit and stay in the place. Social, cultural, and historical values shape the urban square's identity and character. As it was discussed in historical background, from byzantine period Eminönü Square was the center of trade, and commercial activities. Moreover, by structuring the bridges, ferry stations, tramway, and subway in 19th Eminönü Square became a hub of transportation. In fact, Galata Bridge characterizes transportation identity of Eminönü Square, and the construction of this bridge in 1845 had very important effect on transportation identity of Eminönü Square. Galata Bridge provides access between karaköy and Eminönü district and adds congestion in the vehicular traffic system of the square. Even today, Eminönü Square is one of the most important transportation nodes in Istanbul, and its transportation system is a significant attribute featuring the identity of Eminönü Square.



Figure 3.77 : The Galata Brige in 1915, (<http://www.armchairgeneral.com>)

Another important value, which epitomizes the religious identity of Eminönü Square, is Yeni Cami Mosque. Yeni Cami is one of the most prestigious monumental structures in the square giving an identity to the square. Yeni Cami was built in 1597.

Construction of Yeni Cami created a new urban structure in Eminönü both physically and socio-economically. The mosque, visited by foreign and domestic tourists, has religious values and holds religious programs. Yeni Cami Mosque is an outstanding landmark, which highlights the religious and touristic aspects of the square and promotes the international identity of Eminönü Square.

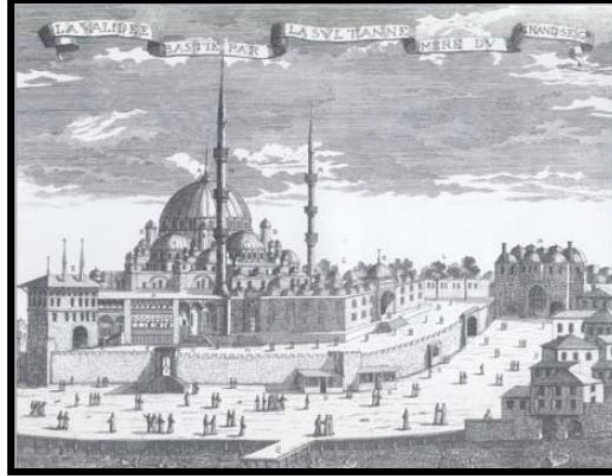


Figure 3.78 : Yeni Cami and its courtyard in 17th century (Gravürlerle Türkiye, İstanbul 2002, Cited in Çin, 2006)

In addition, Mısır Çarşısı characterizes commercial identity of Eminönü Square. Small local shops and street sellers also portray this feature of the square. From byzantine period and during ottoman period, Eminönü Square was a commercial and industrial center. In the Byzantine period, Mısır Çarşısı was the area where the ships coming from Egypt unloaded their goods (Çin, 2006). Mısır Çarşısı is a part of Yeni Cami complex and it was completed in 1663. Today, it defines commercial activities of the square and Istanbul. Moreover, people from all over the world travel to see the historical structure of Mısır Çarşısı and do the shopping.

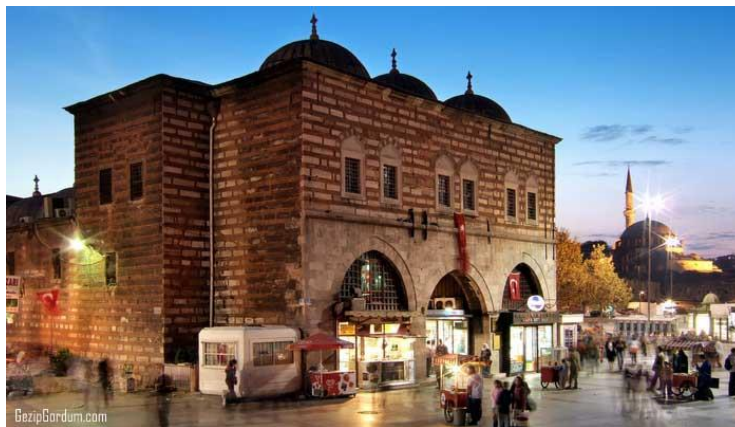


Figure 3.79 : Mısır Çarşısı (<http://gezipgordum.com/misir-carsisi>)

In this regard, it can be stated Eminönü Square has multiple identities. The most significant identity of the square which comes from past is its transitional identity. Moreover, historical structure of Yeni Cami Mosque and Mısır Çarşısı constitute not only the historical identity of the square, but also commercial and religious identity of Eminönü Square.

3.3.3.2 Image

The factors having influence on images of an urban square are the activities occurring in that place and built form of the urban square. In this section, the image of Eminönü Square will be analyzed with reference to Kevin Lynch. Eminönü Square and its surroundings will be figured out according to Lynch's five elements: districts, edges, paths, nodes, landmarks.

District: Districts which can be named in this area are: Tahtakale district, Sirkeci district, Yeni Cami district and Eminönü pier district. These districts have been changed during the history by various projects and events. Yeni Cami district is the only district which has retained its identity until today.

Edge: In this study, edges defining the area of the square are the seaside and the square boundaries. As it was discussed in Built form (see 3.3.2.2) and human scale (see 3.3.2.1) sections, unfortunately, Eminönü Square from one side does not have boundaries and it is open to the sea. The demolition of the buildings by Menders and Dalan projects caused the square to lose its boundaries as well as its sense of enclosure and human scale.

Paths: in this area, Ragip Gümüşpasa Avenue and Galata Bridge are the main paths. The movement of pedestrians in Galata Bridge and under passages is the second-degree path in Eminönü Square.

Nodes: Eminönü Square is a very essential transportation node in Eminönü district and in the city. There are many transportation nodes such as bus stations, tramway, quays as maritime stations, and pedestrian nodes. Courtyard is the secondary node with the commercial and religious activities.

Landmarks: Yeni Cami Mosque is the primary landmark of Eminönü Square. The second spectacular landmark in this area is Mısır Çarşısı. In addition, Galata Bridge, can be counted as another landmark of the area.

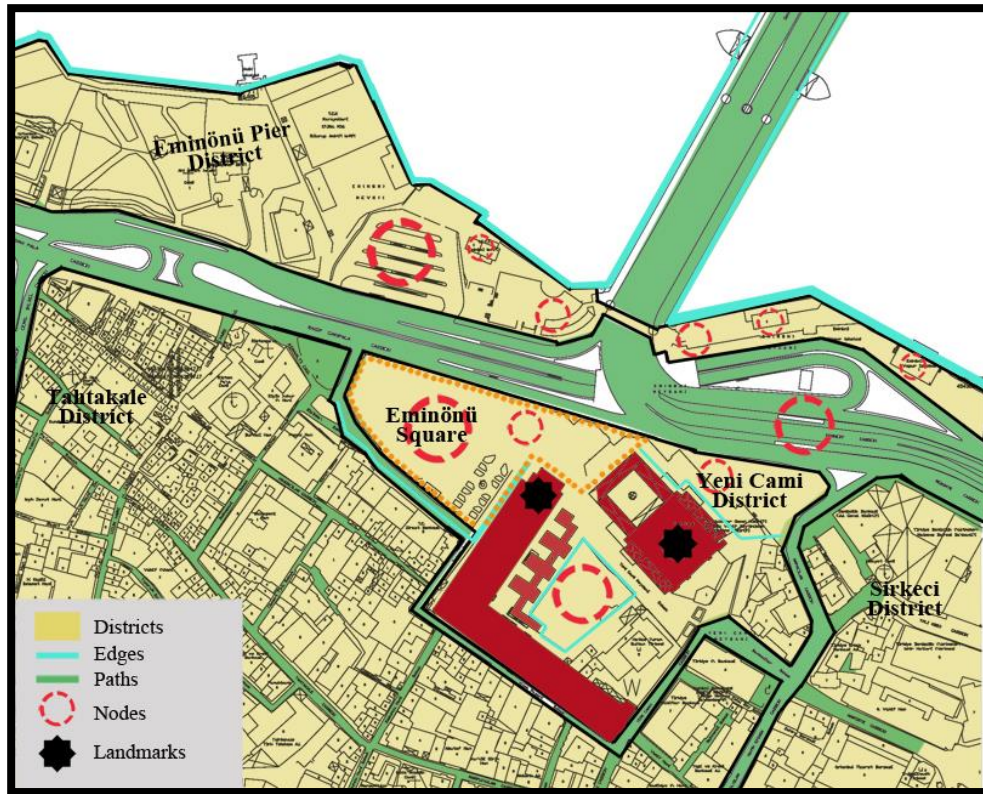


Figure 3.80 : Image analysis of Eminönü Square and its surrounding

In conclusion, drawing a good urban image is mostly associated with historical background, identity of the place, and how a place is perceived from the users' points of views. Because of the diversity in nodes, activities and mix of uses, Eminönü Square has diverse images and it is not possible to draw a single appropriate image. In the main image, Eminönü Square is perceived as a passageway because of the transitional identity and lack of boundaries. The second image is commercial and historical image attributed to the presence of Mısır Çarşısı and Yeni Cami Mosque as remarkable landmarks.

3.3.3.3 Comfort

Comfort is one of the essential attributes in the urban squares. The length of time that people spend in the square depends on this criteria.

Site furniture (seating, protection elements) and landscape as the components of physical comfort, and identity, safety and access as the attributes of the psychological comfort can be all gathered under the context of comfort.

In general, it can be said that physical comfort of Eminönü Square is poor and insufficient. The lack of the suitable seating elements, low numbers of the seats,

unsuitable location of the benches for the users and absence of shelters and protection elements against rain, wind, and sun are the barriers which turn Eminönü Square into an inconvenient place, and impede the comfort of users (see part 4.3.2.5). However, Eminönü Square consists of very strong and multiple identities. Moreover, security elements of Eminönü Square make it a safe place. Both of these factors increase psychological comfort of Eminönü Square. Although from the psychological aspect the comfort of Eminönü Square is generally acceptable, from the aspect of psychological access there are some problems in Eminönü Square. For instance, Eminönü Square is generally a transportation node and users can easily reach the square by public transportations; nevertheless, pedestrians cannot access to the square directly (see part 4.3.1.2).

3.3.3.4 Safety and Security

Safety is one of the essential features of the psychological aspect in urban squares. Physical elements also have an important role in developing the sense of safety and security.

In Eminönü Square, according to the observation, many security elements make people and tourists feel safe in the square and courtyard. The police as the “Security guard” can be seen everywhere in Eminönü Square and they patrol the mosque and Eminönü Square to maintain the security of the area. Moreover, there are police stations, which are not in direct view of the users and subtly control the users. In addition, many security cameras are installed in the site and show all sides of Eminönü Square.



Figure 3.81 : The cameras existing in Eminönü Square (Personal archive)



Figure 3.82 : The police station and security guards in Eminönü Square
(Personal archive)

Artificial lighting is another element to improve the sense of safety during the night. According to the observation and evaluation of Eminönü Square, artificial lighting of Eminönü Square is weak and should be improved to provide the sense of safety at the night. The artificial lighting of Yeni Cami Mosque and the courtyard is satisfactory (See section 4.3.2.5). Generally, the safety and security level of the square is satisfying, and it enhances the comfort of the square.

3.3.3.5 Relaxation

Relaxation is another subset of the psychological aspect which is complemented by the physical qualities. One of the natural relaxation elements in Eminönü Square is the presence of the birds in the square and around Yeni Cami Mosque. However, in Eminönü Square, as it was observed, not only is the number of natural elements such as trees, and greenery low but also the noise of Ragıp Gümüşpasa Avenue behind the square is disturbing and frustrates the people. On the other hand, the courtyard is a place for relaxing because it is almost located far away from Ragıp Gümüşpasa Avenue and it is enclosed.

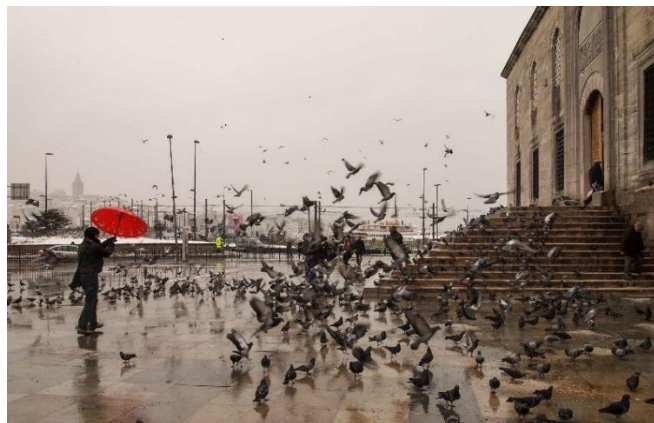












Figure 3.83 : Presence of the Pigeon in the Eminönü Square
(<https://curiouscatontherun.wordpress.com/>)

Table 3.4 : Evaluation Image & Comfort of Eminönü Square

Psychosocial Aspect	Weak	Strong	Keywords	
Identity			historical, transitional identity	 Very
Image			passageway, commercial and historical image	 Middle
Comfort			Site Furniture, Psychological aspect	 Little
Safety & Security			Security guard, police stations, security cameras, Artificial lighting	
Relaxation			Landscape elements, Noise	

3.3.4. Management aspect

Managerial factors have major effect on uses of the urban squares. In this part, cleanliness and maintenance, and economic activity of Eminönü Square will be evaluated.

3.3.4.1 Maintenance

Continuity in the use of the urban squares is very important. As it was stated, one of the important issues is maintenance and cleanliness of the squares. According to the observation, Eminönü Square is generally clean and the numbers of the trash bins are adequate and acceptable. In the courtyard, planted flowers and lawn suit the seasons and they are fresh. All these indicate that there are management plans for maintenance and cleanliness of Eminönü Square.



Figure 3.84 : Cleanliness in Eminönü Square and Courtyard (Personal archive)

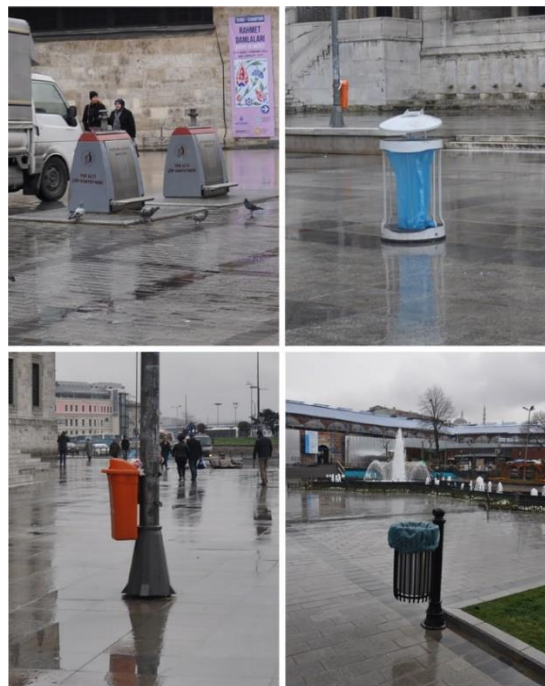


Figure 3.85 : Trash bins in Eminönü Square and Courtyard (Personal archive)



Figure 3.86 : Maintenance of soft landscape in Courtyard (Personal archive)

3.3.4.2 Economic activity

In fact, funding sources keep urban squares alive and help to enhance the operation of the square. In Eminönü Square, there are not any organizations to manage ceremonies, exhibitions, or festivals to gain the budget from public or private sectors and spend or invest money for this area. One of the potential aspects of Eminönü Square is having an appropriate large open space for performances, but except governmental and political advertisements, there are not any other economic activities. One of the economic activities to gain budget is holding temporary exhibitions and inviting foreign and national population to this area to show the cultural and historical aspects of Turkey and Istanbul.

In brief, Eminönü Square has a great potential for partnership investment. In fact, Eminönü Square needs budget made from partnership to heighten the quality of site furniture and landscape elements, and hold different events and celebrations.



Figure 3.87 : Çanakkale museum in Eminönü Square (<http://haber.marmara.edu.tr>)

Table 3.5 : Evaluation of Management aspect of Eminönü Square

Management Aspect	Weak	Strong	Keywords	
Maintenance		●	trash bins, planted flowers and lawn	Very ●
Economic activity	●	●	partnership, holding different events and celebrations	Middle ● Little

4. CONCLUSION

Urban Square is one of the essential components of urban places in urban structures. Urban squares in cities play various roles in different aspects. Sometimes urban squares meet people's socialization requirements. Sometimes economic, cultural accumulation and community expression aspects of the urban squares are highlighted. Moreover, the sense of relaxation, entertainment, shopping, cultural activities and aesthetic features of the urban squares are visible. Therefore, urban squares have very essential effects in the people's lives. By technological and scientific development, the numbers of the urban squares designed appropriately for the people's needs are decreased. Thus, the importance of the urban squares is enhanced. In this regard, the aim of this study is to explore the design evaluation attributes for urban squares, in terms of inviting and encourage people to spend more time in urban squares.

The criteria are acquired from the review of the previously defined literature which is relevant to urban squares. By classifying the criteria, certain sets of parameters have been created. Design evaluation criteria have been categorized into four main headings: Linkage & Form, Sociability & Activities, Image & comfort and Management, which are different aspects of the urban squares from the urban design perspective.

In addition, Eminönü Square has been examined on the basis of these criteria. In the case study the historical background of Eminönü Square, the development and the changes of Eminönü Square, and its effects on the city are studied by the use of maps and photographs. Then, Eminönü Square is evaluated according to the certain criteria.

Urban squares not only should be located centrally but they should be easily accessible by the use of various vehicles such as cars, buses, foot, bicycles, and other types of public transportation. Transportation system analysis is carried out to show the linkage of the square. Eminönü Square has always been the primary node of urban transportation where the railway transportation, maritime transportation and, urban roads intersect. Moreover, it has been the entrance to the central business district of

Istanbul, which is an essential trade hub through the history. According to the analyses and observations, there was no difficulty about the accessibility of Eminönü Square. It is possible to reach Eminönü Square by public transportation, on foot and private vehicles. The only point which should be mentioned on the geographical aspect of Eminönü Square is the weak psychological access to the square for the pedestrian. Also, Ragıp Gümüşpasa Street makes it hard for pedestrian to have straight access to Eminönü Square. Although there is an underpass for the pedestrian to access to the square, better solutions such as conversion of Eminönü Square to a pedestrian square can be suggested. In this case, Eminönü Square is evaluated by observation and analysis method (pictures and map analysis). The leading feature of Eminönü Square, which was evident in the observation, is that Eminönü Square does not have the sense of enclosure and the northern edge of the square is off to the sea and has a very particular view. The size of the square causes Eminönü Square to be perceived as an empty place. There are many landmarks such as Galata Kulesi, Yeni Cami Mosque, Galata Köprüsü and Mısır Çarşısı which enhance the legibility of Eminönü Square. Other important issues which should be mentioned under this subject, are the poor site furniture and landscape elements of Eminönü Square. Pavement as a hard landscape in Eminönü Square is satisfactory. The pavement of Eminönü Square is durable and aesthetically appealing and diverse. The numbers of the trees, flowers, and shrubs as soft landscape are not adequate with respect to the size and scale of Eminönü Square. Seating, as one of the elements of the site furniture in Eminönü Square, is weak, and the numbers of the benches and seats are not adequate. Shelter and protection, and artificial lighting as the elements of site furniture are weak in Eminönü Square. In fact, a significant investment should be assigned for Eminönü Square to enhance the quality of its elements and attract the public to come and use Eminönü Square more.

Diversity, Vitality, Sociability, Eating & Drinking, Art and Joy are the components of the sociability and activities aspect of the urban square. The aims of these parameters are to attract the public and provide the users with reasons to resort, utilize the urban square, and find some activities to do. This aspect of Eminönü Square has also been analyzed by the site observation according to the schedule time table, land use map, vitality map, and photos. In general, Eminönü Square has a great potential with various users of different ages and different cultural backgrounds. Eminönü Square is one of the transportation nodes, and the commercial, religious, and touristic aspects of the

square as well as its landmarks attract diverse groups of people such as tourists, local residents, shoppers, transit users, shop owners, and peddlers. However, the middle part of Eminönü Square is almost used as a pathway. As it was mentioned in the past section, Eminönü Square has a great potential for more investment.

It should also be noticed that the physical elements support the comfort of the squares. In this study, the components of the comfort aspect of the squares are Comfort, Security and Safety, and Relaxation. Eminönü Square does not offer comfort because of the poor site furniture. By enhancing the quality of the site furniture, Eminönü Square could be turned into a comfortable place for users. Security elements, police stations, security guards, and security cameras make users feel safe in Eminönü Square and in the courtyard. Due to the low number of the trees and loud noise of Ragıp Gümüşpasa Street, Eminönü Square cannot be considered as a place to relax. However, courtyard because of its location, enclosed feature, existing trees, and fountain is a place for relaxation.

In this study, identity and Image, two important factors in urban squares, are the subset of image aspect of the urban square. Fortunately, because of the strong historical background of Eminönü Square and being one of the transportation nodes in Istanbul, the square has multiple identities; transitional identity and historical identity. This square has diverse images and it is not possible to draw a single, appropriate image. Because of the transitional identity and the presence of Mısır Çarşısı and Yeni Cami Mosque, Eminönü Square has pathway, commercial and historical images.

Table 0.1 : SWOT analysis of Eminönü Square

	STRENGTH	WEAKNESS	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Linkage & Form	Location	Psychological access	Central location	Traffic of private cars
	Transportation facilities	Few numbers of parking lots	Public transportation facilities	
	Seashore	Lack of seating elements	Size of the square	Buildings with bad quality
	Diversity of pavements	Lack of trees	Sea view	Increasing obstacles in front of the sea view
		Lack of protection elements against rain and sun		Attractive structure and location for big urban projects
Sociability & Activities	Variety of commercial units	low rate of sociability in accordance with the numbers of people	Mix of activities	
	Touristic facilities	Few artistic performances	Tourism potential	
		Lack of appropriate restaurants	Diversity of users	
Image & Comfort	Important religious structures			
	Historical background			
	Safety & security	Noise pollution		
	Presence of the pigeon		Land use diversity	
Management	Cleanliness	Low partnership management		

To conclude, it is essential to consider certain parameters and observe all aspects and roles of the urban square in order to design suitable urban squares for the usage of people. According to the results of the research and observations, an elegant intervention in Eminönü Square will not only enhance the quality and quantity arrangements of the square but it will also increase the attraction and usage of Eminönü Square and make it qualified in other aspects.

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