

Modern Architectural Heritage in Rural Areas: Bozdoğan



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ABSTRACT

The heritage of modern architecture consists of buildings, building complexes, and settlements constructed from the early 20th century onward that incorporate innovative techniques and technologies. The heritage value and preservation status of such items have been a subject of debate from the past to the present. Elements of modern architectural heritage commonly found in urban areas can also be found in rural areas. In Bozdoğan, heritage sites built using both traditional construction techniques and modern construction systems are a common sight.

The Aegean region is a part of Anatolia that has been home to many civilizations and has preserved traces of them to this day. The district of Bozdoğan, located in this region, is a settlement under the jurisdiction of Aydın. It is believed that Bozdoğan was founded in the 13th century. Many different civilizations had already flourished in the region prior to this date. Artifacts and architectural elements from the Roman, Byzantine, Seljuk, and Ottoman periods can be seen in the district. Traces of various ancient cities have been uncovered during archaeological excavations.

The Akçay River, located in the district, is one of the region's major water sources. The Akçay River has influenced both agricultural activities and the location of settlements. It also played a key role in the formation of the Arapapıştı Canyon, one of the region's major tourist attractions. Bozdoğan is a town that stands out for the ancient settlements surrounding it, the traditionally constructed buildings in the town center, and its modern architectural heritage. Many heritage sites located in the district center are still in use today. It is common to find public buildings and residential structures that represent modern architectural heritage being used for their authentic purposes.

The aim of this study is to identify cultural heritage sites containing modern architectural heritage located in the Bozdoğan district center, specifically those situated along the main axes of the settlement, within the context of the concept of modern architectural heritage. Based on research conducted in the district, the study aims to examine the functions, current usage, and state of preservation of the identified structures and to propose conservation recommendations at the site level.

KEY WORDS: Modern architectural heritage, 20th-century architecture, Bozdoğan architectural heritage