



Urban Lost Spaces: A Landscape Design Studio Experience at The Scale of a Historical Site

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Abstract

After the Industrial Revolution, the development of technology and rural-urban migration accelerated urbanization; this process led to the shaping of urban spaces based on the balance of occupancy and emptiness through planning and design. Urban spaces change over time according to the social, economic, technological, and other needs of city dwellers, and spaces that cannot adapt to this change lose their functions. These spaces, which are disconnected from the living texture of the city, lose their qualities by disrupting their communication with the city residents. Areas that do not fit the definition of space, do not contribute positively to the city and its inhabitants, and are open to redesign are considered lost spaces. In this context, Çanakkale city center is examined in terms of occupancy/vacancy and land use; the reasons why an urban space is lost are analyzed and design proposals are developed to reverse this loss. Çanakkale Old Central Hospital was chosen as a lot site due to negative impacts such as war, natural disasters, fire, disinvestment and lack of interest; its historical character, the surrounding military areas and its socio-demographic status were also influential in this choice. Landscape design projects were developed by 3rd year Landscape Architecture Department students in order to re-incorporate the area into the urban memory and urban agenda. The historic site has been handled by considering ecological, economic and social dimensions; plant species and structural materials suitable for the historical texture have been selected, different spatial arrangements have been designed and design proposals supported by sustainable design approaches have been presented. Thus, it is thought that the study plays a pioneering role in the evaluation of lost historical places in cities and supporting them with sustainable landscape design studies; from this perspective, it is thought to contribute in terms of academic and practical benefits.

Keywords: Çanakkale Old Central Hospital, Historical lost space, Historical space, Lost space, Urban design

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INTRODUCTION

Urbanization accelerated with the transition to a settled lifestyle and gained further momentum following the Industrial Revolution, driven by technological advancements and migration from rural areas to cities. Shaped by their physical and social dynamics, cities have become an integral part of daily life, expanding horizontally and vertically to accommodate human needs, thereby necessitating urban planning and design. The balance between solid and void spaces plays a critical role in maintaining urban integrity, with a harmonious relationship enhancing the success of urban life and spaces (Ünal & Topçu, 2022). However, spaces unable to adapt to changing needs lose their functionality and transform into "lost spaces" (Akaslan, 2006).

Trancik (1986) defines lost spaces as areas that fail to contribute positively to the city and its inhabitants, offering potential for redesign (Lak et al., 2019). Architects and planners argue that these spaces can be reintegrated into the city with new functions. Lost spaces, when incorporated into green infrastructure systems, can provide significant social and ecological benefits, addressing urban deficiencies in service areas (Hasan et al., 2018).

The rapid growth of modern cities has exacerbated environmental issues, including climate change, global warming, and rising energy demands. In this context, repurposing abandoned spaces presents opportunities to enhance urban belonging and ecology (Lee et al., 2015). Furthermore, historical environments carry the tangible and intangible values of past civilizations, enriching urban identity. Preserving and transferring these spaces to future generations is vital for sustaining urban identity (Tırnakçı & Aklıbaşında, 2018).

In this context, urban landscape planning and design comes to the forefront, while historical textures gain importance in terms of physical and socio-cultural relationships. Urban landscape design not only helps to shape the physical and social character of the city but also plays a critical role in the preservation and development of historical textures (Tırnakçı & Aklıbaşında, 2018). In this context, the study is shaped in line with two main objectives. The first objective is to identify the lost spaces that have emerged during the urban development process of Çanakkale, that can meet the needs of the city and its inhabitants, and that harbor important potentials for the city. Secondly, the first objective was to re-evaluate the potential of Çanakkale Old Central Hospital (ÇOCH), which stands out with its historical importance and features among the lost spaces obtained as a result of the analysis, through landscape design. ÇOCH, which is a historical lost space, was given to the 3rd year students of the Department of Landscape Architecture as a subject of study within the scope of the project course, and project design studies were carried out in accordance with the potential of the lost space within the framework of the professional discipline of landscape architecture.

AN OVERVIEW OF URBAN SPACE AND LOST SPACE CONCEPTS

Urban spaces are areas where people interact in their daily lives and contain facilities that support these interactions. These spaces, which are shaped by the experiences of individuals and the meanings they attribute to space, are designed to adapt to the lives of city dwellers. Various elements such as space, time, social relations and activities contribute to the formation of a sense of belonging for city dwellers. This feeling leads individuals to see themselves as a part of space and to feel rights and responsibilities over that space (Solak, 2017). Urban spaces that fail to create a sense of belonging and cannot be integrated into the lives of city dwellers disrupt their communication with the city and its inhabitants, lose their functionality over time and lead to the emergence of lost spaces.

Theoretical research on urban lost spaces, in other words urban voids, started in Western countries about 30 years ago. Roger Trancik addressed the issue of lost spaces in his book *"Finding Lost Space"* (Lee et al., 2015). Lost spaces are areas that carry uncertainty for the city, that are not used or utilized in accordance with their function, and that have become temporarily or permanently unusable for various reasons. The potential of these spaces varies according to their condition. When abandoned industrial areas, parking lots, unused backyards, transition areas and other areas are considered as lost spaces, their important features and potential opportunities are often overlooked (Şimşek, 2022). The concept of lost space may vary according to the perspective of the person defining it (Simon & Mseddi, 2020). Accordingly, the concept of lost space can be evaluated with definitions such as empty spaces, dead zones, ambiguous areas, areas of uncertainty and marginal areas, despised landscapes, ambiguous landscape gaps, urban interstitial spaces, redundant landscapes negative space, gray space and residual space (Huihua et al., 2024). According to Trancik (1986), lost spaces are defined as non-structural landscapes, such as those that develop at the foundations of high-rise buildings or are inaccessible to pedestrians, parking lots that are remote in design and use, abandoned beaches, railway stations, military sites and dysfunctional industrial zones. These spaces are the unintentional remnants between various types of land use. Trancik emphasizes that lost spaces do not serve a specific purpose and need redesign. He states that these areas should be redesigned, that they do not make a positive contribution to the city and that they are unwanted urban spaces.

Formation of Lost Spaces

Each city has its own dynamics of change and transformation. Spaces that fail to adapt to these dynamics emerge over time as urban lost spaces. Trancik (1986), in his book *"Finding Lost Space"*, identifies five main factors that contribute to the formation of lost spaces. These factors are increasing automobile dependency, attitudes of architects and planners towards open spaces, land use and zoning policies that

shape the city, public and private institutions' avoidance of taking responsibility for public spaces, and the abandonment of industrial, military and transportation areas in the city center. Furthermore, the classification of a space as lost can be explained by the lack of human participation and maintenance efforts in these spaces. A decline in people's interest in these places can lead to their disappearance. In short, the classification of a place as lost indicates a loss of a sense of belonging among people. As the place loses its functionality, it does not evoke any emotion in individuals (Haaster, 2015).

Problem, Potential and Solution in Lost Spaces

The New York State Department defines lost spaces as "*opportunities waiting to be realized*"; they are defined as dysfunctional, meaningless and empty spaces (De Girolamo, 2013). In short, this definition refers to the potential that resides in lost spaces and emphasizes the need for urban designers to identify this potential.

The concept of lost space can have a negative impact on individuals, often due to the various problems they contain. However, when these problems are addressed and the potential of these spaces is properly identified and utilized through effective planning and design, this negative impact can be turned into a positive one.

Lost spaces reveal various problems in the urban environment, including inactivity, neglect, pollution, insecurity and urban disconnection. When lost spaces fail to create a sense of belonging among city dwellers, they are avoided and eventually become derelict, leading to problems of vandalism and pollution. Pollution and dilapidation also contribute to problems during nighttime use and create a sense of insecurity among residents. On a larger scale, significant lost spaces impede pedestrian access, transcend the human-space scale, and lead to urban disconnection within an area due to a lack of functionality at the spatial boundaries (İnan, 2021).

Architects, landscape architects and urban planners see lost spaces as a problem that needs to be addressed in the city. They emphasize the potential to transform these spaces through design and planning into opportunities for ecological and social benefits. In identifying these potentials, attention should be paid to the social, physical and experiential characteristics of each space, and its location should also be taken into account (Şimşek, 2022). However, in contemporary cities, designer face challenges in creating holistic environments while creating collective and coherent boundaries for new development goals (Khalid et al., 2018).

Urban lost spaces or voids have long been discussed within the discipline of landscape architecture, encompassing the fields of planning and urban design. However, these lost urban spaces are often overlooked or underutilized. As the world's population continues to grow, the challenges of managing lost spaces in cities are also increasing. Lost spaces in cities need to be transformed into functional,

attractive, healthy, vibrant, and safe areas for urban residents (Hamelin, 2016). In this context, it is possible to address lost spaces through different approaches and incorporate them into the urban fabric.

Trancik refers to the concept of reuse by examining lost spaces in three stages: addressing their historical processes, analyzing their evolution within the urban fabric, and developing design strategies that require the synthesis of obtained data and the implementation of concrete steps. Additionally, Neff emphasizes the concept of temporary use in the re-functionalization of lost spaces (Simon & Mseddi, 2020).

Interventions in lost spaces can be addressed under two main categories: permanent and temporary use (Figure 1). Permanent use encompasses laws, regulations, and practices involving long-term decisions made at a larger scale (Şimşek, 2022). Temporary use, on the other hand, considers spaces from political, economic, ecological, and cultural dimensions (Simon & Mseddi, 2020; Köse & Arı, 2021) and can be examined under headings such as autonomous urbanism, small-scale interventions, tactical urbanism, DIY urbanism, and insurgent urbanism.



Figure 1. Strategies for addressing lost spaces (modified by Şimşek, 2022)

In reuse efforts, public participation is crucial for transforming lost spaces into physically existing spaces. Public involvement not only creates a positive impact on space but also enhances the quality of urban life. Therefore, designers must consider environmental factors and user expectations in redesigning lost spaces (Hasani et al., 2023). Permanent and temporary intervention efforts that reassess the social, ecological, and economic potentials of lost spaces with public participation are presented in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Examples of strategies for addressing lost spaces from around the world (Şimşek, 2022; Ünal, 2022; Wu, 2022; High Line, 2024; Uri-1-6, 2024)

In this context, landscape architects, urban planners, and local governments should approach the phenomenon of lost spaces in cities from different perspectives and consider proactive solutions (Huihua et al., 2024).

HISTORICAL SITES FROM AN URBAN PERSPECTIVE

The loss of natural and cultural heritage can be observed in many cities around the world. According to UNESCO (1972), natural disasters and human activities are threats that contribute to the loss of this heritage. Such loss significantly impacts the destruction of ethnographic, historical, and natural values, and the resulting damage is often irreversible (Pérez-Hernández et al., 2020). In this section of the study, the cultural heritage of cities has been examined. In this context, the role of cultural heritage in the city's history, its relationship with citizens, its importance in the city's identity, and its sustainable transmission to future generations have been evaluated. Furthermore, the negative impacts leading to the loss of cultural heritage have also been discussed.

Historical heritage significantly contributes to the formation, development, and promotion of urban identity. It carries traces of the city's history and traditions while providing insights into the unknown. Historic environments that bridge the past and present foster a sense of continuity and attachment to place. These areas serve as valuable resources for understanding cultural diversity, social solidarity, and the sense of place, as well as for shaping urban identity (Akkar Ercan, 2016).

Understanding the dynamic emotional bond between people and place is crucial. Historical areas, in particular, face the risk of being forgotten, neglected, or abandoned. Research on the bond between individuals and places shows that the sense of place developed by individuals acts as a motivator for the "preservation of the place." Therefore, the sense of place holds even greater significance in historic areas. People's perceptions of their surroundings, combined with their conscious or unconscious feelings, form a sense of place. This relationship enables individuals to establish a sensory connection with their environment, allowing their understanding and emotions to fully integrate with the spiritual value of the place. Additionally, the sense of place supports socio-cultural relationships, helps individuals recall past experiences and cultural concepts, and contributes to the identity of spaces (Mohammad-Moradi et al., 2020).

Urban identity, like all entities, represents a concept unique to cities, characterized by their distinct features and individuality. Urban identity manifests itself in the perception city users develop towards the city they inhabit, present at every stage of daily life. For a city, its identity can be defined by its monumental value or distinctive characteristics. In terms of historical identity, a city reveals itself as a historical phenomenon shaped over time. It serves as both the stage and an active participant in the transformations experienced by societies throughout history. Therefore, the fabric created by cultural heritage in historical

cities must be preserved and passed on to future generations (Sağlık, 2019).

In their study titled “Survey of Sustainable Regeneration of Historic and Cultural Cores of Cities”, Chahardowli et al. (2020) emphasize that historical centers have evolved over time through various layers and represent the economic, social, and cultural assets of cities. The identity and existence of these areas play a critical role in urban development. Historical centers, which embody cultural heritage, offer significant opportunities and resources for strengthening urban tourism, marketing, and economic sectors.

In this context, the loss of historical sites not only affects urban identity but also negatively impacts the economic, social, and tourism sectors. Cities distinguished by their historical values and distinct urban identities should address the loss of historical areas comprehensively. Through research and studies, lost historical sites should be re-functionalized and integrated into the city’s narrative and identity, maximizing the potential of these areas. At the same time, efforts to ensure the sustainability of cultural heritage are crucial for ensuring that this heritage is passed on to future generations.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

The study is structured around two main objectives. The first goal is to identify lost spaces that emerged during the urban development of Çanakkale, which hold significant potential for the city and can respond to the needs of urban residents. The study was conducted in the neighborhoods of Barbaros, İsmetpaşa, Namık Kemal, Fevzipaşa, Kemalpaşa, Cevatpaşa, and Esenler, located in the city center of Çanakkale (Figure 3). In exploring the study area, materials such as the 2021 zoning plan, satellite images, on-site observations, photographs, and both local and international literature sources were utilized.

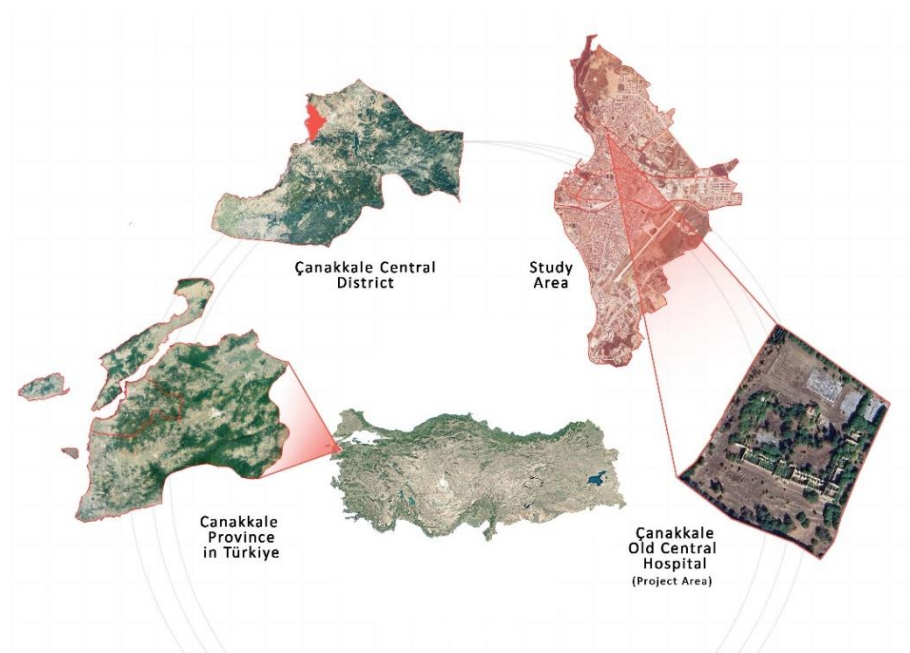


Figure 3. Location of the study area in the World (Edited by the author using Google Earth Pro, 2023)

The aim and methodology of the study are presented in Figure 4. Initially, density-void and land use analyses were conducted based on urban planning data, using criteria determined through literature reviews to identify lost spaces. The created analysis maps and current Google Earth images were used in the evaluation of the spaces. As a result of these assessments, lost spaces were identified. The identified lost spaces were classified as small and large-scale areas based on their spatial impact on the city of Çanakkale. These lost spaces were evaluated in terms of land use characteristics, the problems they cause, their presence in local newspapers, and user experiences within the city.

In this context, solutions through design were explored for three prominent lost spaces, with each area being addressed by two students, making a total of six students involved. For this study, a historical site was selected as a lost space for the project area. This decision aligns with Trancik's (1986) definition of "abandoned military sites" as lost spaces. The Çanakkale Old Central Hospital (ÇOCH), with its historical and architectural features, should be integrated into Çanakkale's cultural and tourism resources. Additionally, its location offers the potential to provide ecological, economic, and social benefits to its surroundings, making it an appropriate choice for the project area. Furthermore, selecting a historical site as the project area is expected to benefit students by enhancing their historical awareness and design approaches.

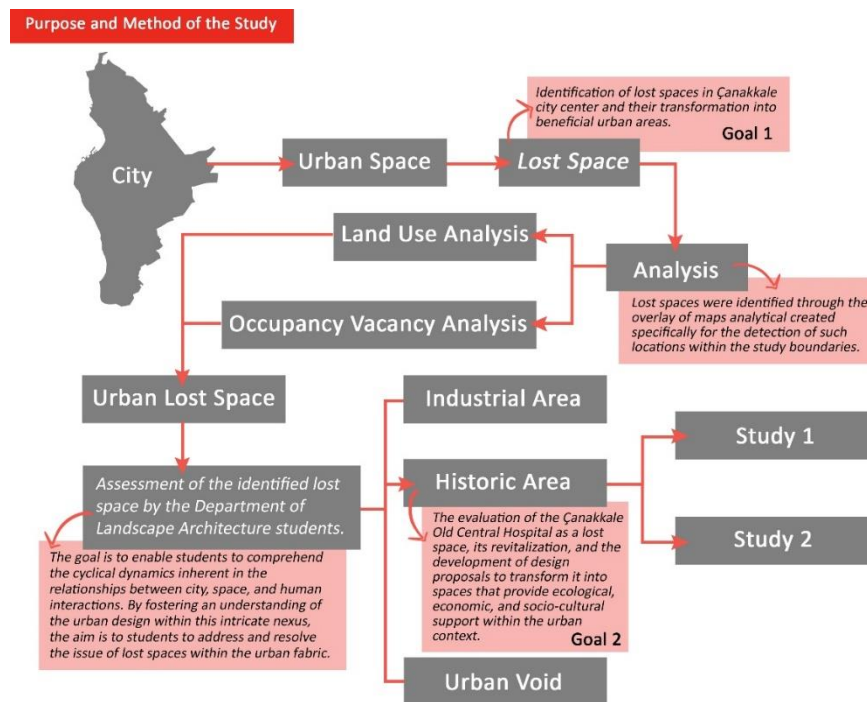


Figure 4. Purpose and method of the study

The second aim of the study is to assess lost historical sites, such as the ÇOCH, and to revitalize these areas, transforming them into significant spaces by providing ecological, economic, and socio-cultural support within the city. The focus of the study, the ÇOCH, involves landscape design project work carried out by third-year students of the

Department of Landscape Architecture. This project process aims to help students understand the city-space-human relationship and to develop their urban design understanding and awareness within this network (Figure 5).

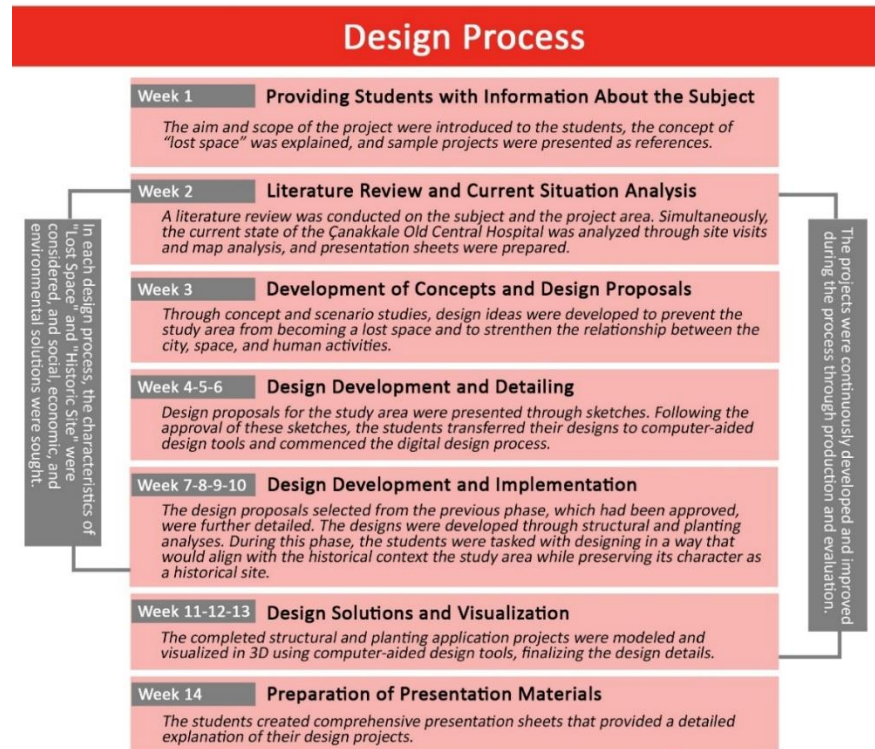


Figure 5. Design Process

THE CITY CENTER OF ÇANAKKALE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF LOST SPACES

Çanakkale holds significant economic and strategic importance for Turkey due to its location within the Bosphorus system. This characteristic has made it a historically prominent city, often mentioned and featured in epic tales. Throughout history, it has hosted numerous civilizations and boasts rich natural and cultural values. The industrial investments in the Çanakkale province, the fear of a potential earthquake in the Marmara region, the Covid-19 pandemic process, the 1915 Çanakkale Bridge, and developments in the logistics sector are all contributing to the increase in the city's population and accelerating urban development in Çanakkale.

Although the development direction of Çanakkale is generally towards the north, development in other directions is limited by a variety of factors. The Kepez neighborhood, located to the south of Çanakkale, is perceived as two intertwined cities due to its rapid development process. Factors such as the Çanakkale Airport in Barbaros neighborhood, the İzmir-Çanakkale Highway to the east, the Çanakkale Strait to the west, and the Sarıçay River passing through the city all influence the city's development direction. In this context, the urban development of Çanakkale is generally progressing towards the north and northeast. When looking at satellite images of Çanakkale taken in

different years, the changes in land colors, as shown in Figure 6, reflect the shifts in the city's development. The ongoing development in Çanakkale is leading to the expansion of the city, the emergence of new spatial usage areas, and the visibility of lost spaces.

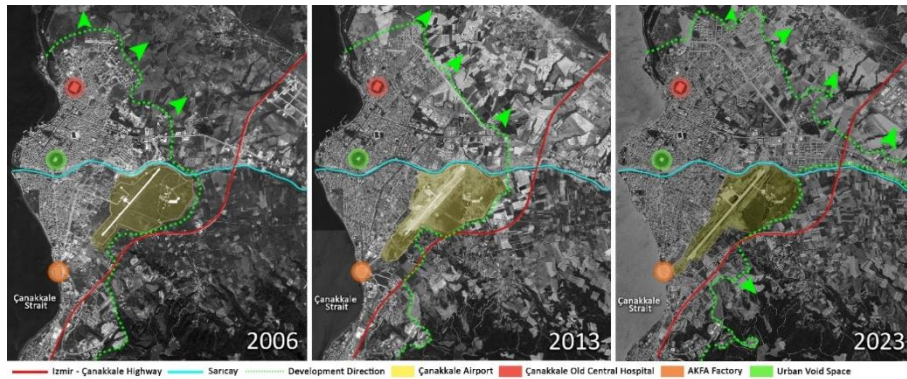


Figure 6. Satellite images regarding the development direction of Çanakkale Center (Edited by the author using Google Earth Pro, 2023)

In this section, efforts were made to identify the filled and vacant spaces emerging within the spatial development of Çanakkale and to create areas that could benefit the city by integrating lost spaces into urban life. In line with this goal, detailed analyses related to occupation, vacancies and land use in the central area of Çanakkale were conducted. The occupation/vacancy analysis for the city center of Çanakkale is presented in Figure 7.

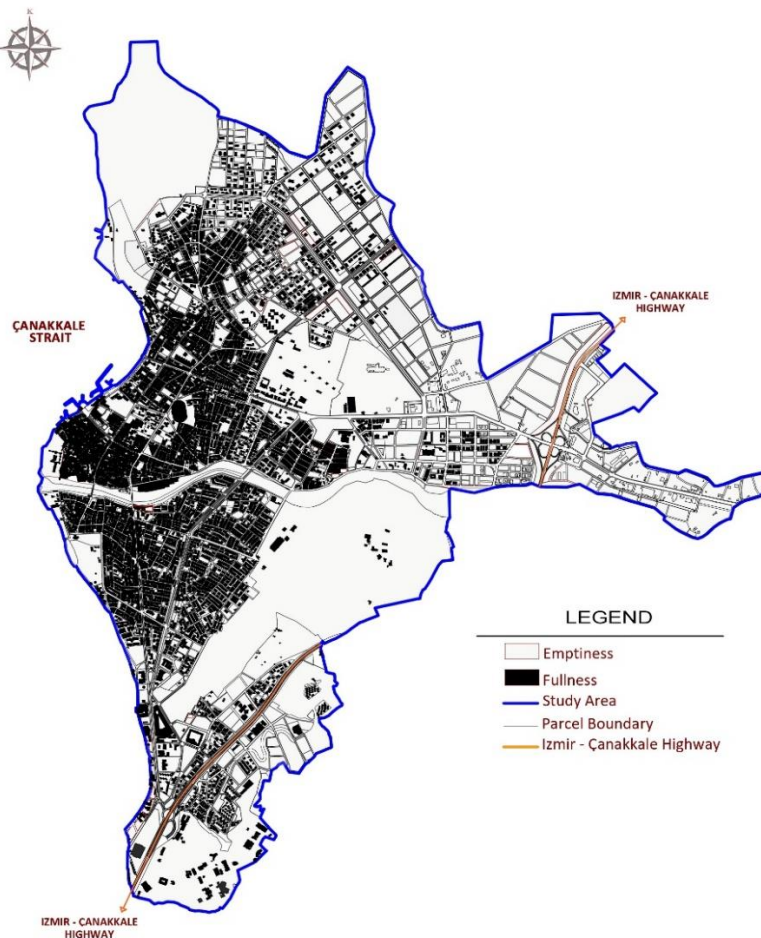


Figure 7. Çanakkale Center's Occupancy and Vacancy Analysis

The analysis data was created using satellite images dated August 7, 2023, and the Google Earth Pro application. According to the analysis results, it was observed that there is a dense building stock along the coastal areas of Çanakkale. As the city progresses in its development direction, it was found that the building stock decreases and becomes more sparse. Additionally, in the northern and northeastern regions of Çanakkale, there are mostly vacant spaces due to ongoing urban development processes.

The land use analysis was prepared using the 2021 Çanakkale Zoning Plan and satellite images from 2023 (Figure 8). In the study area, various types of lands use, such as residential, educational, military, industrial, historical, public, and green spaces, were observed. A general evaluation of land use reveals that a significant portion of the land is designated and used for residential purposes.



Figure 8. Çanakkale Land Use Analysis

In the identification of lost spaces, vacant land within residential areas was specifically evaluated to meet the growing population demand resulting from Çanakkale's urban and industrial development strategies. However, this issue has not been addressed from a planning perspective to meet the housing needs.

To identify lost spaces in Çanakkale city center, satellite images were analyzed by comparing occupation, vacancy, and land use. According to the analysis results, as shown in Figure 9, both large-scale and small-

scale areas were classified based on their potential impact on the city's economic, ecological, and social spaces.

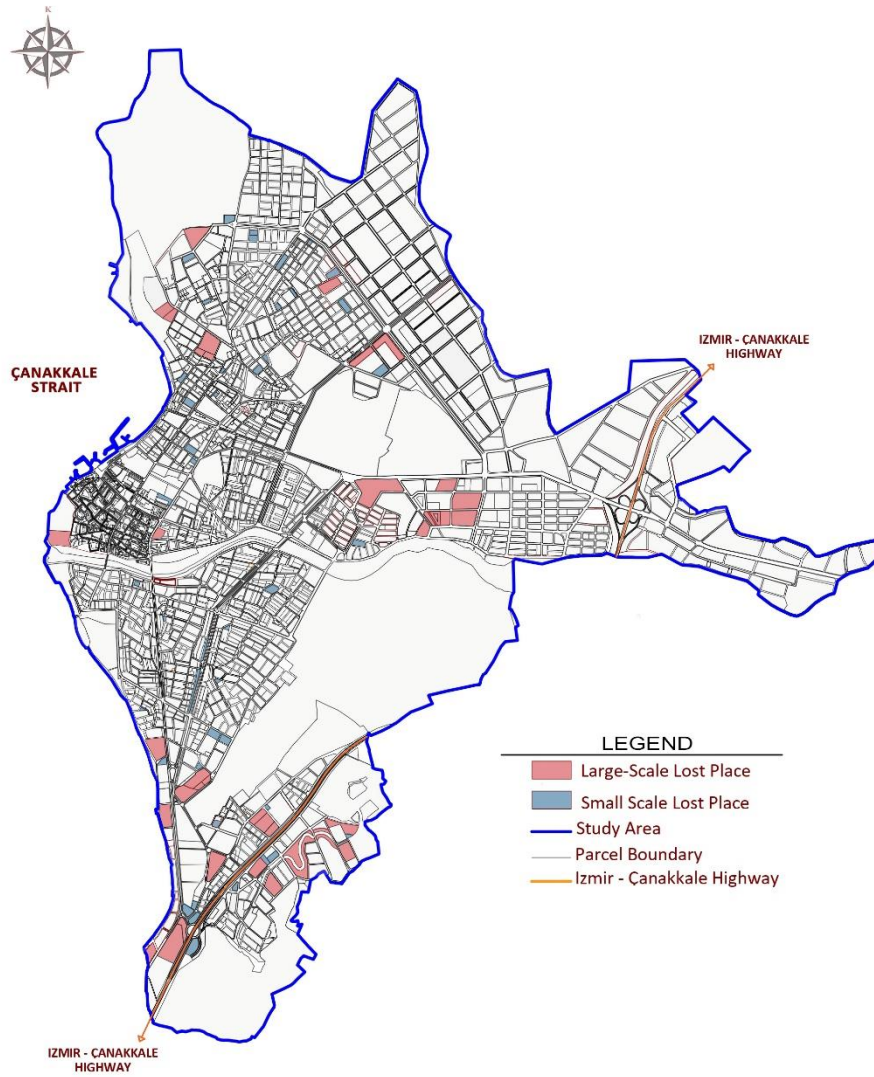


Figure 9. Detection of large and small-scale lost spaces

It was observed that large-scale lost spaces encompass a wide range, including public areas, industrial zones, commercial areas, educational facilities, factories, open green spaces, and historical sites. On the other hand, small-scale lost spaces consist of open green areas, areas planned as open green spaces but currently used as parking lots, as well as commercial and educational spaces.

As a result of examining the identified areas, three locations stand out (Figure 10). One of them is the AKFA Factory, located on Çanakkale's New Coastal Road (Figure 10a). This factory, which previously operated as a tomato canning factory, has turned into a lost space following the cessation of its commercial activities and the local political disputes surrounding it (Sakarya, 2016). The urban void is (Figure 10c) was considered as a solution to the parking shortage, a major issue in the central area of Çanakkale. However, after the transportation company's activities ceased, it became an empty and unused space within the city (Anonymous, 2021). This urban void has remained an empty area in the

city for years, but it is currently being used as a parking lot with temporary arrangements.

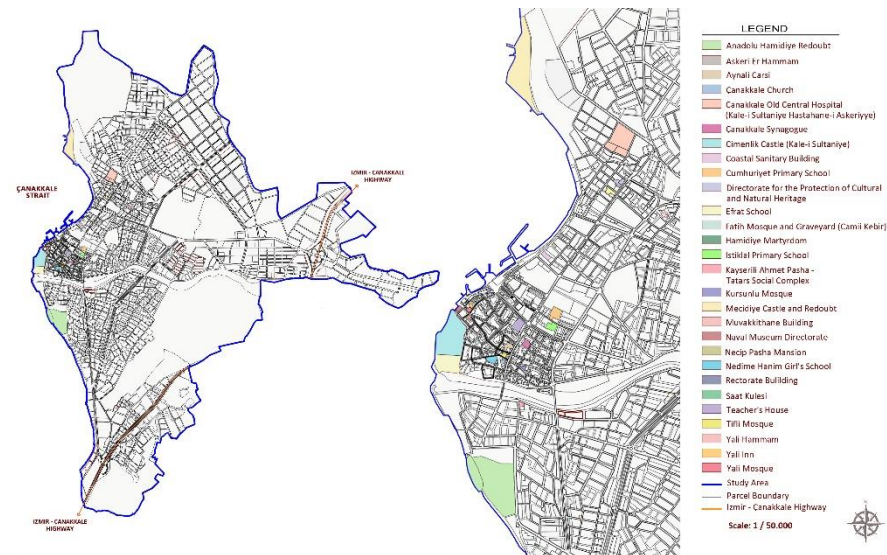
Figure 10. Examples of lost spaces in Çanakkale



Another important location is the ÇOCH in the Esenler district of Çanakkale. This historical site holds significant value both locally and nationally. However, due to its location, the hospital has been subjected to urban pressures and has been destroyed by both natural and human factors, leaving it in a state of ruin. This has led to the creation of a historical lost space (Figure 10b).

Çanakkale, today stands out as a historical city with its rich cultural and historical heritage. The historical and cultural inventory map of the city center of Çanakkale (Figure 11) has been created by considering the locations of cultural and historical sites mentioned in Tombul's (2015) study titled "Çanakkale Cultural Inventory: Archaeological Settlement Areas and Art Historical Structures."

Figure 11. Historical and cultural values of Çanakkale Center



The created map shows the presence of 24 historical and cultural structures. The identification of important cultural and historical values of Çanakkale, such as the ÇOCH and the Efrat School, which are among the lost spaces revealed through the analysis, has determined the focal points of this study.

As a result of the evaluations, the ÇOCH, one of the historical lost spaces, has been selected as the project area. The chosen project area

has been designed by third-year students of the Department of Landscape Architecture. The goal is to integrate the historical lost space into the city, creating an area that contributes to Çanakkale's daily urban life and its history.

DESIGN PROCESS IN LOST SPACE

Historical sites are valuable cultural assets for countries and cities. They are areas that require a sensitive approach within the urban ecosystem. While carrying the traces of the past and illuminating the future, they shape the identity of the city in which they are located. Historical sites, with their potential, nourish the city both economically and socially. In this context, design works should develop products that are appropriate to the characteristics of the historical site. The importance of historical sites for the city, as well as the key point to consider in conservation and design approaches, are discussed in the second part of the study.

In Yiğit's (2010) study on the survey, restitution, and restoration of the Çanakkale Old Central Hospital (ÇOCH), he proposed transforming the area into an open-air museum. Additionally, the announcement published by the Çanakkale Governorship in 2019, titled "Türkiye's First Military Health Museum in Çanakkale," presented the idea of redesigning and opening this area as a museum. However, no concrete activities have been encountered up to the date of this study. The literature review conducted in this study revealed that academic works specific to this area are limited in number. Therefore, this selection of the study develops redesign proposals aimed at preserving the historical site and preventing its loss. To redesign the lost historical space, site visits, analysis of natural and environmental features, and socio-demographic conditions have been conducted to assess the current situation and initiate the design process.

The historical site's cultural fabric has been preserved through a collection of historical data derived from literature, written, and visual sources. In this context, the Kale-i Sultaniye Military Hospital, also known as the Çanakkale Old Central Hospital (Figure 12), is located in Çanakkale's Cevatpaşa District, near the Liman Bayırı area. The hospital is situated in the northern part of Çanakkale. The building's facade was designed for military use and faces south, offering a commanding view of the strait and the harbor (Yiğit Kahraman, 2011).



Figure 12. Çanakkale Old Central Hospital (Kale-i Sultaniye Hastanesi-i Military) (Yiğit, 2010)

The historical hospital served as the central hospital during World War I and the Gallipoli Campaign. It was closed in 1918, and in 1923, it was transferred to the gendarmerie forces and reopened. The hospital suffered significant damage due to wars, fires, and other factors (Yiğit Kahraman, 2011).

The ÇOCH is located in the Esenler neighborhood, one of the developing areas of Çanakkale. The urban areas around the ÇOCH are shown in Figure 13. The surrounding area of the study site includes residential areas, accommodation facilities, sports complexes, educational institutions, religious structures, military areas, and urban green spaces. When viewed from the access point to the study site, it is situated among the main transportation axes of the city, with secondary streets providing additional support for access. This indicates that the study area is in an accessible location. However, the ÇOCH is positioned as a negative space within the pedestrian and urban circulation axis. Particularly, its distance of 12-15 minutes from the city center supports its reconsideration for redevelopment in terms of new functions.

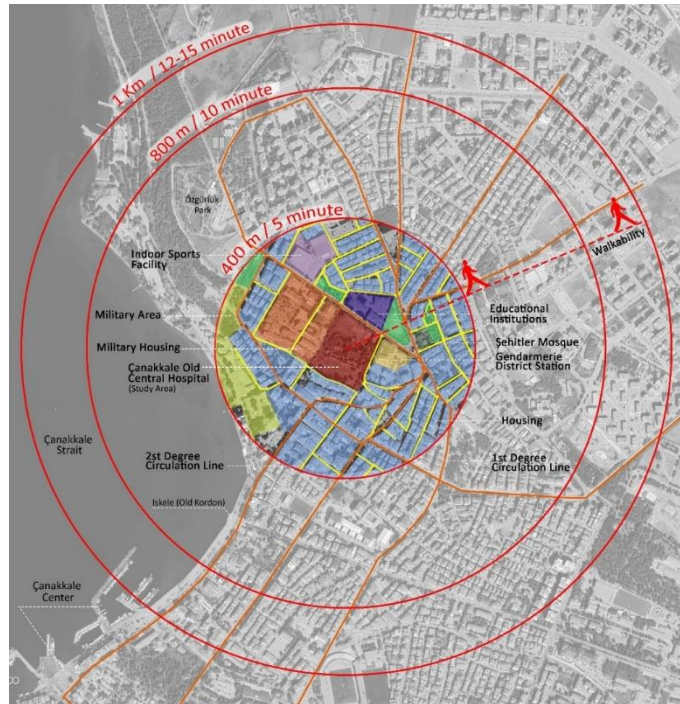


Figure 13. Çanakkale Old Central Hospital environment analysis (Edited by the author using Google Earth Pro, 2023)

The Military Hospital, an important structure in Çanakkale's historical and cultural fabric, is currently in a state of ruin due to the lack of necessary precautions (Figure 14). Surrounded by barbed wire, this structure has been isolated from the daily life of the city, squeezed between other buildings during the urban development process, and has raised security concerns. While the development area serves as a central hub for various political and economic investments, the presence of military housing, military and gendarmerie facilities near the project site could limit the activities and development of this lost space.



Figure 14. Visuals from the studying area of Çanakkale Old Central Hospital (Kale-i Sultaniye Hastahane-i Askerriye)

Within the scope of this study, two student projects were examined and are presented in Figure 15. The students emphasized the need for the preservation of the historical structure in the study area and highlighted the importance of transferring its cultural value to the future. In the project, students were asked to focus on the preservation of the structure. The requested design approach emphasizes that, as seen in ancient cities, the preservation of an architectural structure built in recent centuries should not be limited to the work done on the building itself. It should also address historical spaces through environmental arrangements. Additionally, the design approach applied to the ÇOCH, which displays a different design philosophy, can contribute to creating a symbol and point of interest for Çanakkale. In their projects, both students have completed concept and scenario studies specific to the area.

In the Study 1 project, the concept was designed as a space where people from different cultures and age groups can safely come together and engage in social interactions. In the Study 2 project, the concept focused on aligning the building's historical and touristic impact with the concept of time texture, envisioning it as a space where tourism activities could take place. In this context, both project design processes began with sketches.



Figure 15. Landscape studies of lost historical place

In “Study 1” (Figure 16), during the sketch phase, a grid system was applied with different scales and angles. This system was used to detail

the spaces according to their characteristics. It was observed that the overall area was dominated by geometric and radial, inorganic lines. The selected structural materials were suggested to be made from sustainable and durable structural elements. Additionally, the colors and textures of different materials used in spatial transitions were chosen to encourage dynamic interaction within space. Mulching was applied to provide support for plant materials. The first detail presented in Figure 16 shows a decorative fountain and walking paths with different paving materials. The second detail is related to the café area that encourages social interaction in the project, where both open and closed spaces were created to facilitate user interaction. Furthermore, the soothing effect of water was incorporated through the decorative fountain.



Figure 16. Landscape design project details for Study 1

One of the design approaches is the preservation of the historical building and cultural fabric for future generations. In this context, a space has been proposed where a miniature model of the historical building will be presented to help users perceive and understand the historical structure more clearly (Figure 17a). Additionally, the creation of stairs at different levels provides users with an observation experience (Figure 17c). Accessibility for people with disabilities, the elderly, and mothers with children has been considered, ensuring that the historical area is designed as an accessible space. Within the area, multiple seating areas, a café, and a Souvenir Market have been created where users can relax, spend time, and engage in social interactions.



Figure 17. 3D render images of landscape design for Study 1

Within the scope of the project, plant design has been created with a sustainable approach. In the plant design areas, mulching has been predominantly applied to support plant growth (Figure 15b). Additionally, this mulching application has been designed to integrate with the area in a way that does not detract from its aesthetic appeal.

In the “Study 2” project (Figure 18), the design is characterized by informal, circular, and radial lines. This design has created a space that facilitates high spatial accessibility and communication. The chosen structural materials consist of sustainable and durable elements. Furthermore, the colors and textures of the materials used in spatial transitions have been selected to encourage dynamic interaction with space. The first detail shown in Figure 18 is taken from one of the entrance areas of the project, the promotional area. The monument stones in this area aim to serve as an open-air museum, offering users the opportunity to trace the traces of the past. The narrative on the monument stones aims to create historical awareness among citizens, thereby ensuring the cultural continuity of the lost space.



Figure 18. Landscape design project Details for Study 2

The second detail is derived from the project’s square area. Considering the historical context of the space as an old military

hospital, a sculpture focused on the field of healthcare has been used (Figure 19a). The sculpture, depicting the healing aspect of the demigod Asclepius from Greek mythology, stands out as a symbol of health, representing the field of healthcare from ancient times to the present, with a snake wrapped around it (Akdoğan, 2022). Various design approaches have been applied in the area to ensure accessibility for all, with attention given to this aspect (Figure 19b).



Figure 19. 3D render images of landscape design for Study 2

In the project, an approach focused on environmental sustainability and ecology has been adopted, emphasizing the use of natural elements that consume fewer resources in plant design. In line with this approach, the selection of local plant species with low water requirements, which support sustainability and protect local biodiversity, has been prioritized. Plant arrangements have been made in the plant design to define spaces and support circulation (Figure 19c). The plants used in the design were selected based on their color, form, texture, scale, and other characteristics to create a composition.

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CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Lost spaces, which create negative impacts between cities, emerge during the two- and three - dimensional development of urban areas. Unused, undefined, and functionless spaces stand out as disconnected from urban life, not participating in daily activities, undesired, and forgotten areas. These spaces, under urban pressures, often turn into dormant areas. Such spaces pose a threat to cities. However, depending on their location and characteristics, these spaces can be transformed into beneficial areas for cities. The concept of lost spaces addresses the transformation of these spaces in the city center of Çanakkale into useful areas for the urban environment.

As a result of the analysis conducted in the city center Çanakkale, lost spaces have been identified. Upon examining the lost spaces, which are classified into large and small scales, three spaces have emerged as significant: the AKFA Factory, Çanakkale Old Central Hospital (ÇOCH), and an urban vacant area. The reasons for considering these spaces as lost have been thoroughly examined. Among these three spaces, the ÇOCH, with its historical significance, has been the focal point of the study. Çanakkale has a strong historical identity on both the global and Türkiye stages. In this context, the ÇOCH, with its significant historical background and heritage, has the potential to be a part of the city's

identity. Considering these characteristics, the hospital should be regarded as one of the important historical sites.

Redesign in the Context of Space

In cities with rich historical heritage, the presence of historical and cultural assets is widespread. Due to their structural characteristics, historical sites in cities may struggle to adapt to modern urban development. While trying to integrate into the city's development, they may risk losing their historical fabric. Over time, neglect, damage, disuse, and the creation of unsafe environments can lead to these sites being considered as lost historical spaces. These areas, which once played a significant role nationally and internationally and hold cultural, historical, and architectural value at both local and national levels, may have been disconnected from the city-space-human relationship, overlooked, or forgotten. This necessitates maintenance and the adoption of necessary protective measures. Lost historical spaces can be re-evaluated with the necessary conservation measures to contribute to carrying cultural heritage into the future, and can serve as important areas supporting ecological, economic, and socio-cultural aspects within the city.

The city of Çanakkale has hosted many civilizations throughout history, witnessed significant wars, and been a place where the fate of a nation was altered. In this context, the research conducted within the study area has revealed that the ÇOCH, which has been subjected to urban development pressures, remains a dilapidated historical space due to natural and human influences from the past to the present. Today, this site, in its ruinous state, is enclosed by barbed wire, causing security concerns, disconnected from urban life, lacking a sense of belonging, and disrupting the continuity of the city due to its size. With these negative effects, the historical area has been classified as a lost space. Despite being located in a high and active socio-demographic living area; several factors contribute to the classification of the historical spaces as a lost space. These factors include the damage caused to the structure due to negative effects such as war, natural factors, and fire, leading to the loss of its functionality; the location of the site within a development area, which results in political and economic investments being directed elsewhere; the lack of attention from relevant institutions and organizations; its status as a special area with historical significance; the presence of military, gendarmerie, and military housing areas in the surrounding area, which restricts the possibility of proposed interventions and regeneration.

The second objective of this study, which focuses on the ÇOCH, was assessed by Landscape Architecture undergraduate students within the scope of Project III – Landscape Design Studio course. The processes that led the historical space to become a lost space were evaluated throughout the 14 – week design period. In this context, two design projects aimed at reducing negative impacts and developing proposals

to use the area's natural and cultural potential for the benefit of the city. The proposed designs deviated from traditional urban design approaches, presenting user-focused, accessible, and secure thematic areas with a modern and aesthetic character. The redesigned space was organized to be easily accessible for individuals with different user profiles. Various spatial arrangements were adopted to create social spaces where different user profiles could interact together. In the design, aesthetic and visual quality was sought by selecting the most appropriate structural and plant materials in terms of color, texture, and form, along with artworks that complement the historical fabric. The historical texture was preserved, and supporting elements were carefully integrated into the design. When evaluating the accessibility within the area, uninterrupted access was provided to all users. The use of the space was considered both during the day and night, and lighting studies extended the users' time spent in the area. At the same time, a sustainable and ecological approach was designed with minimal resource consumption and renewable principles. An ecological approach was supported through appropriate plant species selection while maintaining a balance between green space and hard surfaces. The projects provided both active and passive recreational activities for urban residents with large green areas, offering users opportunities to interact with cultural and natural values.

Redesign in the Urban Context

In both project studies, the landscape design has redefined the spatial identity of the ÇOCH, a lost historical space, and presented design proposals to integrate it into urban use. Accessibility to the project area (pedestrian, vehicle, public transport, etc.) is supported by the surrounding urban system. The ÇOCH, which had drifted away from the urban context, now provides a transition between urban spaces through its redesign, while offering a new social space. Additionally, the green areas addressed in the designs not only support the city's green fabric but also create a new habitat. In this context, designs have been developed within the area to create a sense of belonging for the city's residents through the presence of the historical fabric, the benefits it provides to the city, and the services it offers to the citizens. The redesigned environment of the historical building has been linked to the city in ecological, economic, and socio-cultural terms, preventing it from becoming a lost space.

Since lost spaces are a broad topic, there are no definitive principles for design projects in these areas. However, each space should be evaluated individually within its own context. Factors such as user profile, urban system, and land use can be cited as examples of influences. When examining the proposed design suggestions and concrete interventions in lost areas (Figure 2), the absence of public participation reveals an aspect that could be developed in the projects.

Conclusion and Recommendations on Lost Spaces and Historical Spaces

In this study, the concept of lost spaces has been addressed through landscape design using a historically significant example. However, the evaluation of lost spaces is not limited to landscape design alone; it can also be explored through the contributions of all disciplines within urban design. Lost spaces need to be assessed in two stages within the context of city and space. In the context of the city, lost spaces should be designed as areas that respond to the needs of cities and urban dwellers, providing social, economic, and ecological benefits. When evaluated in the context of space, the specific characteristics of the area should be taken into consideration, and the expectations of the city's residents from this space should be questioned and assessed. In this direction, concrete steps must be taken by determining the functions that will help integrate the lost space into the city's daily life. Design approaches supporting decisions at a larger scale must be developed, factors leading to the lost status should be identified, and solutions to address these issues should be proposed. In this context, it is crucial to create a multidisciplinary working environment for discovering and re-integrating lost spaces into urban life.

Lost historical spaces should be preserved and reassessed to be passed on to future generations. Planning and design work should be carried out according to the characteristics of historical spaces. Cultural heritage should be addressed not only structurally but also in connection with their surroundings. Landscape design efforts should support the reuse of lost historical spaces. Through planning and design works, lost historical spaces should be transformed from a threatening situation for the city and its history into valuable spaces. Quality and aesthetic spaces should be created that support the city's social life and meet its needs. Social focal points and communication areas should be created within the city, ensuring they are always accessible. This way, the reuse of lost historical spaces is encouraged, and the recurrence of lost space situations is prevented. Lost historical spaces should be valuable places that contain natural values, support sustainability, preserve ecological balance, ensure cultural continuity, and undergo maintenance and restoration efforts. In addition, it is of great importance to gather the views of the local community and adopt participatory design processes. Although these aspects were not addressed in the scope of this project, it is recommended that public participation be considered in future work carried out in the project area. It is anticipated that this study will play a pioneering role in the evaluation of historical spaces in cities and their support through sustainable landscape design practices, providing both academic and practical benefits from this perspective.

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