

## AN ESSAY IN ADAPTIVE REUSE: THE CASE OF BERGAMA KÜPLÜ HAMMAM

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### ABSTRACT

Bergama is an important settlement center which have different civilizations. Today, it comes forward with especially the cultural heritage of Antiquity but there is an important heritage which has Ottoman period's impress too. The works which reflect to aqua culture effectuate a part of that heritage. Especially Turkish bath buildings have an important place to remind and sustain that culture.

The aim of this study is making an essay in adaptive reuse via Küplü Hammam which is an important representative of Ottoman aqua culture in the urban memory. In this sense, Küplü Hammam will be examined in the context of its characteristic properties and it will be evaluated as spatial and volumetric flow to provide its characteristic properties' sustainability. In this context, it is intended to develop some acceptable strategies for the building's adaptive reuse. Thus, this study will contribute for the characteristic properties of the building to keeping alive them with protection and sustain their place in urban memory.

**Keywords:** Küplü Hammam, conceptual essay, adaptive reuse, urban memory

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Aqua culture is an important part of urban memory. In this sense, Bergama, which is a district of İzmir, is an important settlement having a cultural heritage that reflects the urban memory with its deep aqua culture. Bergama, which houses many different civilizations, contains aqua culture heritages that reach daily from these civilizations. A significant part of this heritage is also the hammam buildings.

Antiquity and the Ottoman period was an important process in terms of the development and spread of hammam buildings. For this reason, many important hammam structures were built during Antiquity and during the Ottoman period. In this context, hammams in Bergama, which especially arrived from the Ottoman era on a daily basis, have great prospects in terms of reflecting the aqua culture and the memory of the city at that time. One of these buildings, Küplü Hammam, which reached the site from the Ottoman period in the settlement and reusing to host a different function; at the same time an important example emerges that reflects the

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aqua culture and urban memory of the time. But this reusing hammam was not able to continue functioning after a while and was not used.

This study examines the characteristics of the Küplü Hammam and aims to develop conceptual reading trials and suggestions for maintaining the sustainability of the new function and the permanence of the cultural memory. It is considered that the proposals will contribute to the sustainability of the new function by evaluating the spatial, volumetric and massive character of the hammam and contributing to the preservation of the place in the urban memory.

## 2. KÜPLÜ HAMMAM (THE HAMMAM WITH AN URN)

Küplü Hammam is located in Osman Bayatlı Street, beside İncirli Masjid and Taş Inn, Bergama, İzmir (Figure 1 - 2). In this location, Küplü Hammam is close to the city center of Bergama.



Figure 1. The location of Küplü Hammam (Google Earth, 2017)

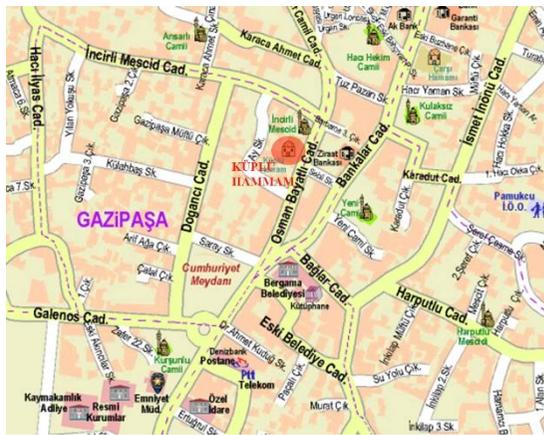


Figure 2. Küplü Hammam's location on the map (Bergama Municipality archive, 2016)

The inscription of Küplü Hammam couldn't be found. It was mentioned by Bayatlı that the hammam was built together with İncirli Masjid and Taş Inn. It was stated in a foundation registration which is belong to 1427 that the hammam was built and dedicated by Hibetullah who is the son of Hatib Mahmut Pasha (Bayatlı, 1956).

Küplü Hammam has this name because of the urn that was in the building (Figure 3). It is known that this urn is belong to Antiquity (Bayatlı, 1995). This suggests that the Ottomans used the urn in the bath as practicing adaptive reuse of the material culture of Antiquity. The urn has remained in the bath for about 400 years and was later given to the French by Sultan II. Mahmud. It is now exhibited in the Louvre Museum (Özdemir, 2009).



**Figure 3.** The urn of Küplü Hammam (Bergama Municipality archive, 2016)

The building material of Küplü Hammam is rubble stone and lime mortar (Bayatlı, 1956). The main entrance of the hammam is provided from the door on Osman Bayatlı Street (Figure 4). In addition, there was another entrance of hammam for women. Looking at the layout of the plan, it can be seen that the hammam consists of cold space, lukewarm space, warm space, three special washing cells, an eyvan, a toilet, furnice space and water tanks (Figure 5 - 6).



**Figure 4.** The entrance facade of Küplü Hammam



warm space have marble as the floor material. They have marble tubs for accumulating water and use it during washing with copper bowls.

The heating system of the bath was formed by heat channels called hell roads passing under the floor as it is in many other Ottoman hammam buildings. The heat formed in the furnace space warms the hammam by spreading the hot spring through these channels. A chimney system has also been created for the release of air and the exchange of air in the space.

For the Ottoman hammams, the largest space as volume and mass is the cold space. After that the warm space follows the cold space as volume and mass. The lukewarm space is the smallest space of an Ottoman hammam. But in detail, special washing cells, eyvans and toilets can be smaller than the lukewarm space. In Küplü Hammam, this hierarchy is like many other Ottoman baths.

One of the most important hammam building of the period, Küplü Hammam was used for a long time after various repairs and was abandoned after a while. There is not much to do from the well-worked marble elements that was in the hammam in the past inside. In addition, the interior of the hammam is completely plastered with concrete and covered with ceramic in some places (Özdemir, 2009).

The Küplü Hammam was registered with the decision of the Supreme Council for the Protection of Cultural and Natural Assets on 26.10.1984 and 466 numbered. The restoration project was prepared for the hammam which has not seen any intervention from the year of use shutdown until 2001 and the application was made in 2008 and the reuse was opened with the function of cafe.

The restoration project of Küplü Hammam had been foreseen to continue to be used with its original function. But the building was located in a central location in Bergama, it was decided to reuse it as a cafe because it did not demand the hammam function.

As Küplü Hammam Cafe, the hammam building which has been reused as a cafe and opened to use, has been used for a while with this function. During the time that the hammam was used with the cafe function, only the cold space was arranged for this function; other spaces are out of use. However, later this function could not continue and the building use was closed. Today it is open for special exhibitions at certain periods of the year.

Given the inappropriate function of the building, the maintenance of this function has caused especially economic problems in the building. In addition, the fact that the structure can not be evaluated together with its surroundings and is not arranged to be compatible with the characteristics of the structure of the given new function has been an important factor in its inability to continue its use. Because of these reasons, the building that closed is unprotected under natural conditions because it is not maintained even if it is used for a short period during certain periods of the year. Depending on this, some deterioration in the structure, which is based on natural causes, also started to occur.

### **3. AN ESSAY IN ADAPTIVE REUSE FOR KÜPLÜ HAMMAM**

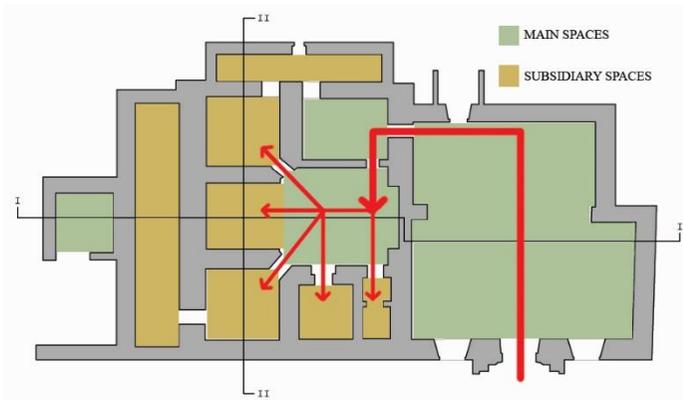
The reasons for adaptive reuse of monument structures can be summarized as the loss of their original function or as functionally obsolete (Altınoluk, 1998). The restructured constructions continue to reflect the symbolic and original places in the memory as well as transfer them to future generations by preserving their aesthetic, social, artistic and spiritual characteristics (Throsby, 2006; Madran, Özgönül, 2005; Aydin, 2010). From this point of view, the original function is functions such as education, health, industry or other public use that it has a positive effect in terms of loading new functions to them for maintaining the structures, transferring them to future generations and preserving their place in the urban memory (Ahunbay, 2013).

In this context, the adaptive reusing of the Küplü Hammam can be regarded as a positive approach in terms of protection. However, in order for the new function given to the structure to be sustainable and to be able to maintain its place in the urban memory with both its original and new function, some characteristic features must be taken into account. These characteristics are especially spatial, volumetric and massive in nature of the structure. In this sense, for the new function to be given Küplü Hammam;

- Spatial
  - Spatial fluidity and hierarchy
- Volumetric
  - Volumetric fluidity and hierarchy
- Massive
  - Massive hierarchy

factors should be investigated and a new function should be developed to protect the character of the structure.

Küplü Hammam has own special characteristic spatial layout. For this reason, the spaces of the new function that will be given to the hammam should be observed and organized considering the original spatial characteristic of the structure. In this context, reading Küplü Hammam's spatial fluidity and hierarchy graphics will be effective. If the spatial fluidity to be created by the new function to be given is compatible with the original spatial fluidity graph of the building, this function will be stronger both in the sense of sustainability and in the spatial memory (Figure 7-8-9-10).



**Figure 7.** Spatial fluidity plan graphic of Küplü Hammam

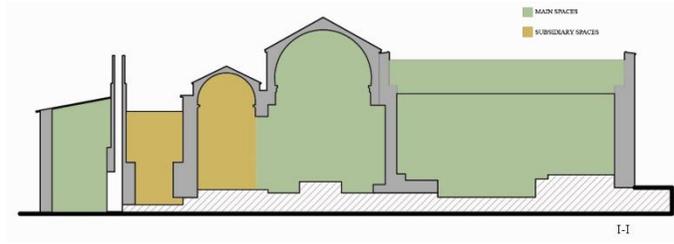


Figure 8. Spatial fluidity section graphics of Küplü Hammam

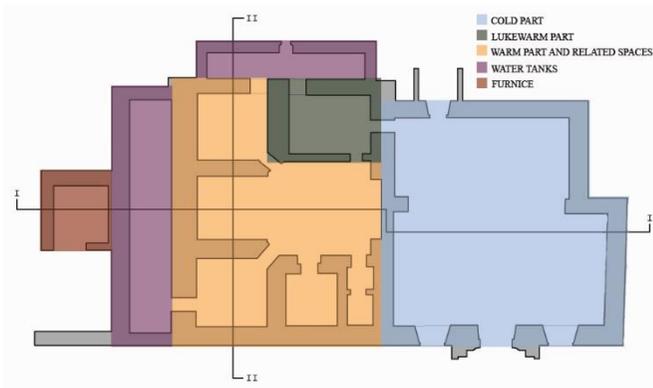


Figure 9. Spatial hierarchy plan graphic of Küplü Hammam

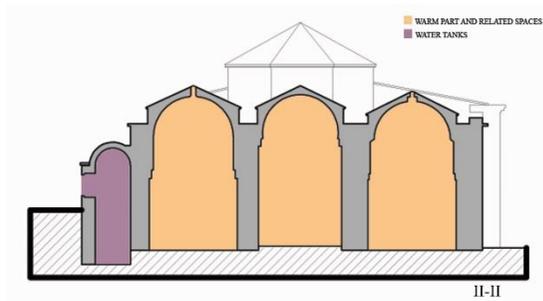
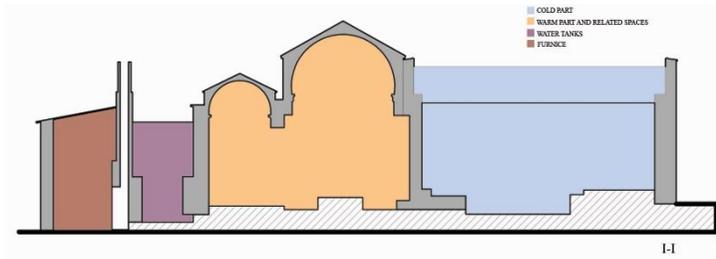


Figure 10. Spatial hierarchy section graphics of Küplü Hammam

Küplü Hammam has an original qualification as volumetric. There are main volumes and a passing volume to provide the transition between the two main volumes. All these volumes are supported with related volumes and all together, they form a total volume. So when the structure will be reused, this volumetric characteristic should be used in accordance with its original state. The adaptation of the new function to the volumetric partition and hierarchy of the structure will also support the place in memory of the structure by preventing the volumes contained therein from being left idle or having more volume than can have a volume (Figure 11-12-13-14).

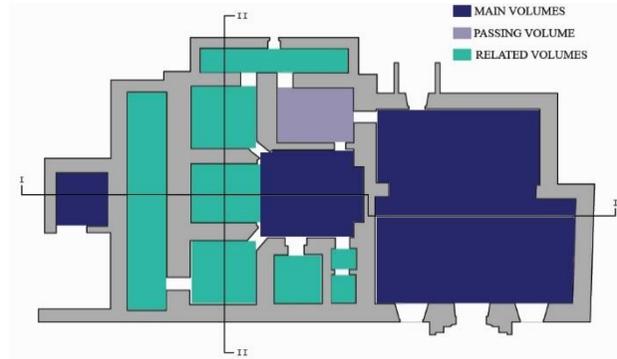


Figure 11. Volumetric fluidity plan graphic of Küplü Hammam

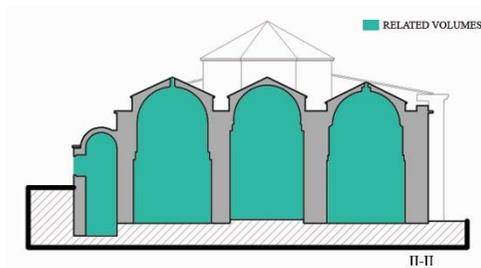
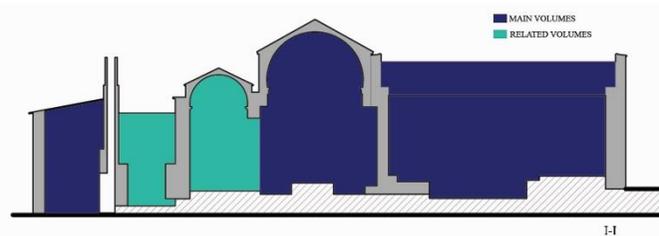
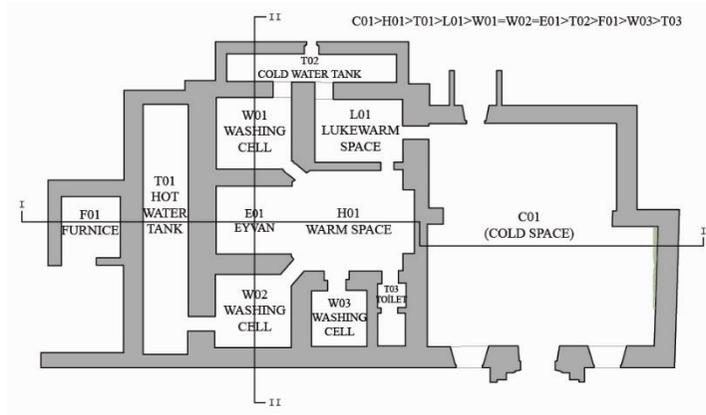
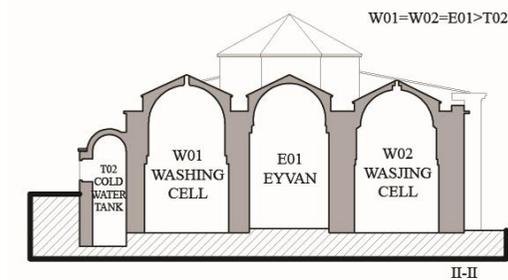
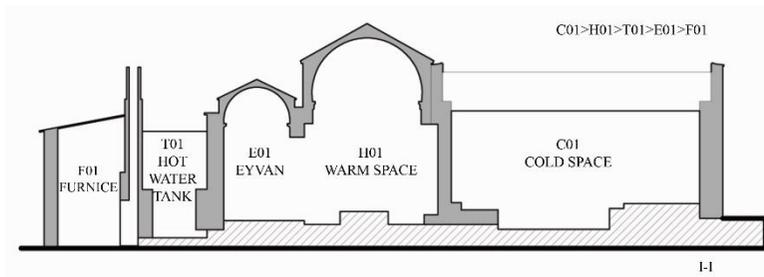


Figure 12. Volumetric hierarchy section graphics of Küplü Hammam



**Figure 13.** Volumetric hierarchy plan graphic of Küplü Hammam



**Figure 14.** Volumetric hierarchy section graphics of Küplü Hammam

The mass is an important parameter in the functional formation of the structure. May be the case that the mass, including spaces and volumes, is lost in its characteristic if it is not judged by correct functioning. In this sense, especially the massive hierarchy as vertical and horizontal is very important to decide for a new function as sustainable on the Küplü Hammam structure. The division of massive parts of the structure and the total effort to use the divided masses

must first be considered by considering how the memory of the place as a bath will be affected and a suitable function must be provided (Figure 15-16).

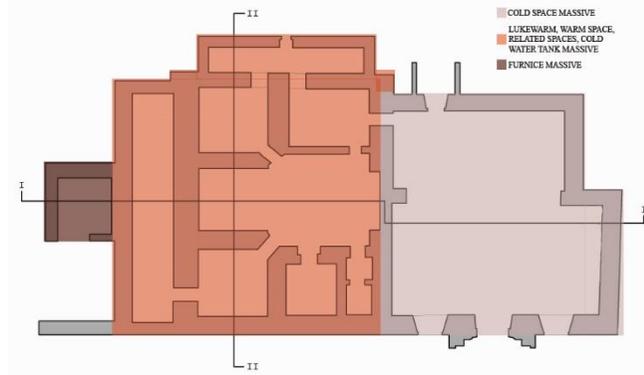


Figure 15. Massive hierarchy plan graphic of Küplü Hammam

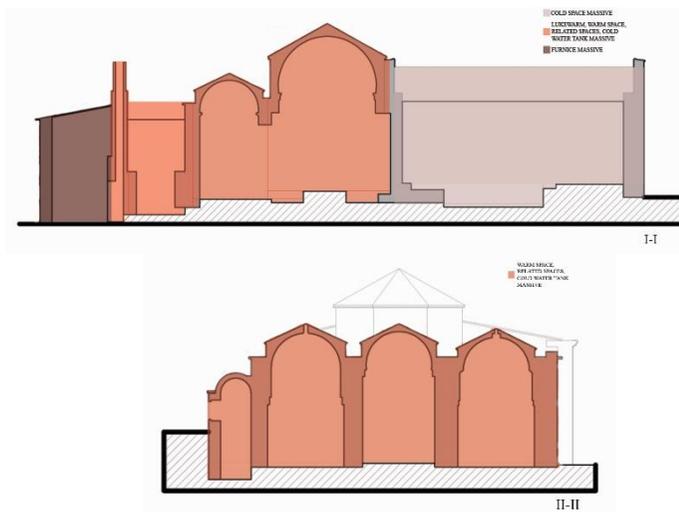


Figure 16. Massive hierarchy section graphics of Küplü Hammam

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The memory of place is a complex concept that contains many tangible and intangible data. One of these statements as tangible and intangible in the same time is historical buildings in the city. Bergama, which has a wide memory in this context, has many important historical buildings. The hammams, which are the important historical buildings that Bergama has in the forefront of aqua culture, are important in terms of reflecting the city's memory. Küplü Hammam is one of the important structures reflecting the memory of the city over the aqua culture in Bergama. Küplü Hammam, which has an important place in the urban memory

both structurally and in terms of usage, also has a special characteristic as an Ottoman period hammam structure. For this reason, it is important to assess the structure in both an environmental sense and to read its own characteristic, in order to protect its place in memory. In this study, evaluating of the characteristic features of the Küplü Hammam as concept was done. This essay contains the massive, volumetric and spatial features that make up the basic character of the structure. The essays were reconciled with the reuse of the Küplü Hammam and the maintenance of this function; thus trying to clarify the features that it has in the sense of place memory. In this context, it is considered that the new function which will be given to the structure by examining the characteristic features of the structure will contribute to transfer the memory of the place to future generations by protecting this characteristic.

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