

## Tracing the cultural heritage values of a traditional Antakya house

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### Abstract

Defining the cultural heritage values of the houses in the historical urban fabric of Antakya, which has traditional houses with courtyards and culs-de-sac, is important for the conservation of the buildings. Traditional Antakya houses have reached the present day by undergoing changes in the historical process. The traces of the change are crucial important to understand and appreciate the original physical formations of the buildings. Houses have special heritage values that need to be protected. In order to determine the heritage values, it is important to determine the original features of the buildings. In this study, Gali Mansion, located in the north of Antakya's historical urban fabric, is examined. Within the scope of the study, the physical characteristic of the mansion is defined, historical and comparative analysis are presented, and cultural heritage values determined in the light of the restitution study.

## 1. Introduction

The traditional Antakya house, known as Gali Mansion, is located in the north of the historical urban fabric, on the plot lot no: 2056 in the 4<sup>th</sup> Circumscription (Figure 1). The mansion is accessible through three entrances from different culs-de-sac. The main entrance of the mansion is from the cul-de-sac located on the plot number 2068. The other two entrances are from the cul-de-sac on the plot numbers 2070 and 2071. There are other residential units located adjacent to the mansion on neighbouring plots. Except for the entrance located on the cul-de-sac on the plot 2068, the entrances of the house are hidden from sight. The study which was conducted to determine the cultural heritage values of Antakya Gali Mansion includes historical research, comparative study and restitution analyses regarding the building and its type. In this context, in the first part of this paper, the methodological framework of research is presented. In the second part the physical features of the building will be briefly mentioned. Third part concentrates on the details of the historical and comparative study. In the fourth part, restitution analyses are evaluated with respect to the traces from the building. In the last part evaluations and comments regarding the cultural heritage values of Gali Mansion are presented.

## 2. Method

For the architectural analysis phase of the building written sources, old photographs, old drawings, traces from the building, legal documents, building inscriptions and comparative studies made on the buildings from the same period in the surrounding building lots were used.

The main method followed in the formation of the architectural analysis is composed of a comparative study related the building category on the surrounding buildings from the same period specific to the functional requirements, architectural requirements and traces from the buildings as well as diachronic and historical-contextual research methods for determining periods in order to determine the construction and architectural elements of the building that have changed, partially and/or completely destroyed or added in the historical process; and to determine their reliability.

In studies for determining the periods of the building; written and cartographic documents (Cadastral plans, Land Registry records, and Building Inscriptions), old drawings and old photographs were used as the primarily reliable sources (Bakırer, 1982); while scientific publications on the region and the housing samples in the region were used to support the studies for determining the building periods.

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In this respect, all visual, oral and written materials related to the building category were obtained from libraries, virtual databases and related institutions. The data obtained are associated with the traces from the building. Particularly for the buildings in the similar

building category in the historical urban texture of Antakya, architectural elements, structural system, mass-façade properties were investigated, and 1929 French Cadastral Maps were utilized in order to understand the parcel-building relationship (Figure 1).

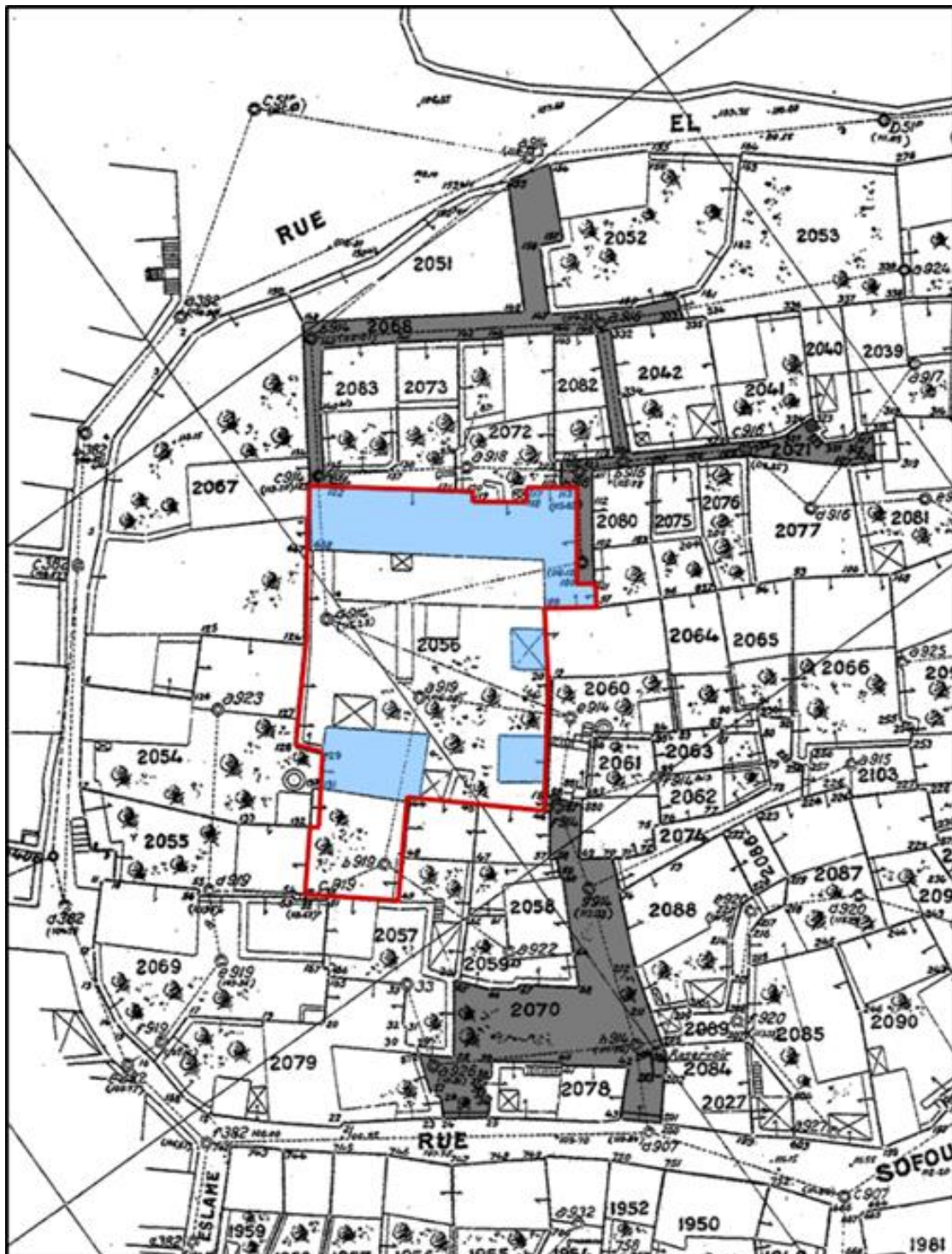


Figure 1. Building-plot relations created on the basis of the 1929 French Cadastral plan

### 3. The physical features of the building

The building complex, which sits on a roughly rectangular area, consists of a high, two-storey main building constructed by masonry ground floor and timber frame first floor and a single-storey annexes (Figure 1). The masses on the periphery of the long and short sides of the courtyard generate the “L” shaped

closed area. There are also two ruined buildings, which are composed of single space, in the courtyard. The courtyard façade of two-storey main building displays the characteristics of the traditional Antakya courtyard façade. There are cut stone, arched openings, crowns and rosettes on the courtyard façade. In the single-storey annex, there are high rectangular openings and stone-like plasters. There are periodic differences between the

two masses in terms of construction technique and architectural style.

The exterior façade features are visible on the entrance facade of Gali Mansion, which is surrounded by adjacent buildings. There is no opening on the ground floor of the entrance facade, where there is an arched door that is accessible from below the ground level due to the level difference in the site. On the upper floor, there are rectangular windows. Because of the level difference on the site, the façade of the building adjacent to the plot no: 2067 is also visible. At the upper floor level of the façade, there are two rectangular windows with timber shutters and one neo-classical style, arched window opening with timber shutter existed.

There are two building masses on the courtyard facade of the building. The main building is rectangular in shape with two floors. The outbuildings are single storey and rectangular in shape. The façade configuration of the main mass consists of three axes. There is a pointed arched *eyvan* (iwan) with a high entrance between the first two axes. On the third axis, there are two rooms that open directly to the courtyard. On the ground floor of the mass, there are arched windows and door systems and stone carved rosettes and *takas*, which are found commonly as a façade feature in traditional Antakya houses (Rifaioğlu, 2021; Demir 2016). The neo-classical façade of the corridor façade, which projected into the courtyard dominates the configuration of the upper floor façade. Cut stone was used on the ground floor façade, and metal cladding over timber framing was used on the upper floor.

The façade of the annex building differs from the traditional mass in terms of window and door openings and its construction technique. There are rectangular window and door openings on the high, single storey façade of the outbuilding. The facade of the mass is coated with stone-like plaster. Similar to in the *eyvan* of the main mass, there is an arched neo-classical style entrance door on the façade of the annex building.

The main building mass is 2.5 m higher from the entrance located on the cul-de-sac on the plot no: 2068. At the entrance, at the level -2.5 m, there is a corridor space and a cross-vaulted, stone-paved space with an upper window. There is an *eyvan* and two other spaces that can be reached from the *eyvan* at the entrance of the main mass, which is accessible from the courtyard. Cupboards, niches, shutters, timber frame ceilings, which are common in traditional Antakya houses, are also present in these spaces. The floors of the spaces are covered with cement mosaic tiles. The other two spaces that can be accessed directly from the courtyard are configured in a similar manner with the areas that can be reached from the *eyvan*.

There are service spaces, kitchen and two more spaces in the annex building. The spaces in the annex building are configured with neo-classical and modern architectural elements. The floor is covered with geometric pattern cement tiles.

On the upper level of the building, there are spaces accessed from the corridor formed by the projection from the main mass. In these places, the floor is timber flooring. There are niches in the rooms. There are

traditional decorated timber ceilings in a room on the upper floor and in the place where the stairs reach.

#### 4. Historical and comparative analysis

Information about the construction date of the building cannot be obtained from primary reliable sources. The oldest document is the cadastral plan prepared in 1929. In the cadastral plan, the building is shown in its present borders. Both the construction technique and the architectural elements of the building, as well as the facade and the mass formation suggest that the building was built in the 18th century.

The location of the building in the city confirms the proposal that the building was built in the 18th century. The building, which is located in the north of the historical urban fabric, was located at the periphery of the city in the 18th century where the agricultural lands started to appear. There are small-scale residences in the close vicinity. It is known that the building which diverges from the houses around it in terms of architectural program and status was constructed as the mansion of a wealthy family of the period which was affiliated with agricultural activity. For this reason, the mansion has features that periodically differ from the traditional houses in its close vicinity.

The spatial and formal features of the building with its close vicinity were tried to be analysed in terms of plot-building mass relationship, building mass-space relationship, spatial organization-architectural element relations.

##### 4.1. Plot-Building mass relationship

There are residences having building plot sizes ranging from 50 m<sup>2</sup> to 150 m<sup>2</sup> in the north-south and east of the Gali Mansion. With its 691 m<sup>2</sup> size, the mansion structure, located on the largest lot of the building block that it is located in, differs in scale from the surrounding residences (Figure 2).

When the building mass-courtyard relationship is examined in the plots, it is seen that for the houses in the close vicinity the main mass is usually located in the north of the building lot while the courtyard is located in the south of the building lot. In Gali Mansion, the main mass is located in the north of the plot in terms of the lot-building mass relationship.

In the analysis of the street-built environment relationship, it is seen that the main masses are located on the street axis in the building lots located in the north of the building block, and the courtyards are predominantly located on the street axis in the southern plots. Since Gali Mansion is accessible via culs-de-sac and it is surrounded by residences, the main building mass and/or courtyard do not have a direct contact with the street. Due to the fact that, the mansion is large scale building located in a physical environment that was formed before the 18th century, the plot-built environment relationship features differ from the main mass or the courtyard-street relationship of the historical urban texture of Antakya before the 18th century (Figure 3).

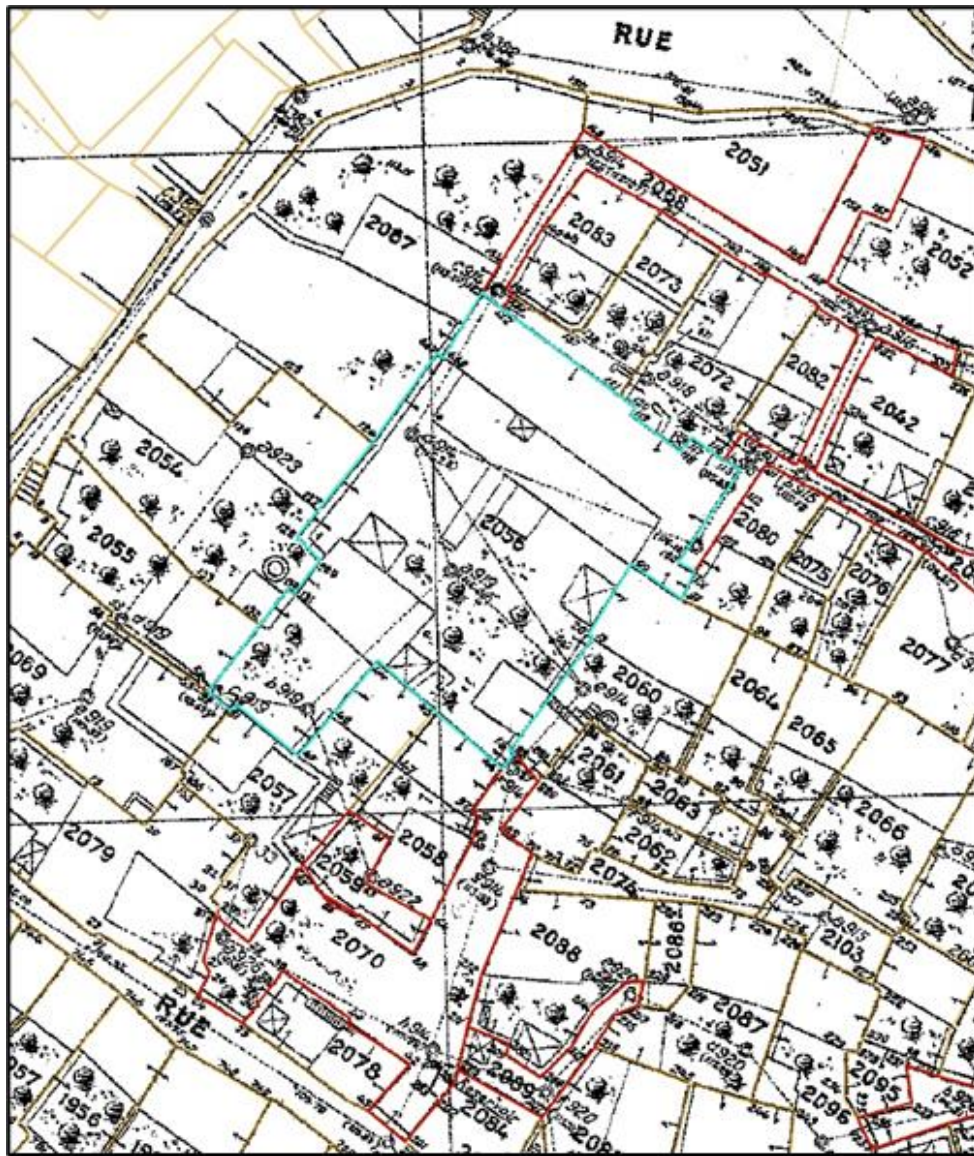


Figure 2. The plot-building mass relationship of Gali Mansion with building lot number 2056 and its near surroundings



Figure 3. The view of the near vicinity of Gali Mansion from the cul-de-sac located on the plot no: 2070. The door of Gali Mansion that opens to the cul-de-sac is located in the left corner to the left of the green painted door

#### 4.2. Building mass-space relationship

In the analysis of the building mass-space relationship of the close vicinity of Gali Mansion, the analysis of the courtyard-main mass and annex system was investigated. In the plots where the traditional houses are located in the building block, the main mass-courtyard relationship is provided directly. Access to the spaces in the main mass was provided via the courtyard. The courtyard has an active functional role in providing access to the spaces of the main mass. There are at least two spaces in the main mass of residences located in the close vicinity. Both spaces are directly accessible via courtyard. In general, an area is reserved for annex building in the courtyard. There are wells in the courtyards of some residences.

Most of the residences on the building block consist of the main mass built as a single-story stone masonry.

There are also examples of the attic of the main mass used as warehouse.

On the other hand, in Gali Mansion, the relationship between the main mass and the courtyard differs from that of the houses in the near vicinity. Two spaces in the main mass which occupy the largest area among the spaces on the ground floor level reach the courtyard via an *eyvan*. There are two directly related spaces between the courtyard and the main mass. These two spaces are the spaces with the smallest area on the ground floor. Regarding the annex building, it is directly related to the courtyard and has a more intense architectural program and spatial setup compared to other annex buildings located in the close vicinity. In terms of building scale, the annex building is equivalent to the main masses of the houses in the near surrounding (Figure 4 and Figure 5).



**Figure 4.** The main mass-courtyard relationship in the close vicinity. The high mass in the rear belongs to Gali Mansion



**Figure 5.** The courtyard-main mass-annex building relationship in the close vicinity

### 4.3. Spatial organization-architectural elements relationship

When the spatial organization and architectural element relationship of the building is examined, it is seen that features of different periods and styles are found throughout the building. In particular, the relationship between the two spaces, located in the eastern corner of the main mass, directly with the courtyard, the façade openings and architectural elements are similar to the surrounding structures. The rooms with narrow-span arches and stepped entrances called as *eşik* overlap with typical traditional Antakya houses. There are wooden cupboards and niches in the rooms. The rooms located in the continuation of the main mass are accessed through a pointed arched *eyvan* which was built in the neo-classical style. In the interior spaces which are accessible from both sides of the *eyvan*, window jambs placed later in the neo-classical style can be seen. There is no stylistic difference on the courtyard façade of the ground floor of the main mass. The traditional arched window-*taka*-door scheme was applied on the exterior façade.

On the upper floor of the building, a corridor was formed by the projection of the longer side of the main mass. The courtyard façade of the corridor has a neo-classical window arrangement. The facades of the rooms on the upper floor facing the corridor have rectangular window and door openings. The traditional architectural elements are not observed in the spaces. There is a traditional decorated timber ceiling in the place where the stairs to the upper floor reach and the place that connects to it. The rest of the upper floor has timber flooring.

The *mabeyn* which is frequently observed in the traditional houses of Antakya (Rifaioğlu, 2021) and in the near vicinity of the building, is not seen in this building. However, there are traces suggesting the existence of the *mabeyn*. There are stone engravings on some of the *takas* on the courtyard façade of the main mass.

The annex building differs from the main mass in terms of the level of the architectural program, construction technique and architectural elements. There are high rectangular windows on the courtyard façade of the annex building which is composed of high ceilings and four spaces. Similar to the main mass on the *eyvan* façade, the two spaces in the annex building are entered through a neo-classical opening. The façade of the annex building is plastered with stone-like plaster.

The main mass and annex building are located above the courtyard level. It is observed that masses located at the same level with the courtyard level are common in traditional Antakya houses and in the close vicinity of the building.

## 5. Restitution analysis

According to the data obtained during the restitution research, four periods including major interventions related to the structure were determined. Period intervals are classified by analysing the physical changes of the building regarding its construction, observing the traces and the evaluating written and visual sources.

Accordingly, the first period covers the time span between the 18th and the 19th centuries. It starts with the first construction date of the building. It was determined that the first form of the long mass located on the northwest-southeast axis, which has survived to the present day, was shaped in this period, and the three masses, which are indicated on the French Cadastral Plans of 1929 but could not reach the present day, were also included in this period. Although the first construction date of the building is not known precisely, so that the settlement in this region started around the 18th century, it is also seen in the construction system, architectural elements and the characteristics of the surrounding structures. Although the fact that the size of the building lot of the building is larger in comparison to the surrounding buildings and the four blocks in its courtyard and the entrance from three different culs-de-sac indicate that there may be a building lot merger in this parcel, sufficient traces to support this argument could not be found in the building.

It was determined that the three blocks, which it can be called annex buildings, that are smaller than the long mass located on the northwest-southeast axis during the period where the location of the buildings on the building lot are considered match with the position and form in the French Cadastral Plans, could be single-storeyed. It was also determined that a part of the long mass that has survived to the present day was single storeyed (Bora, 2008), and the remaining part had a second floor having timber flooring and accessed by the *mabeyn* (Figure 6).

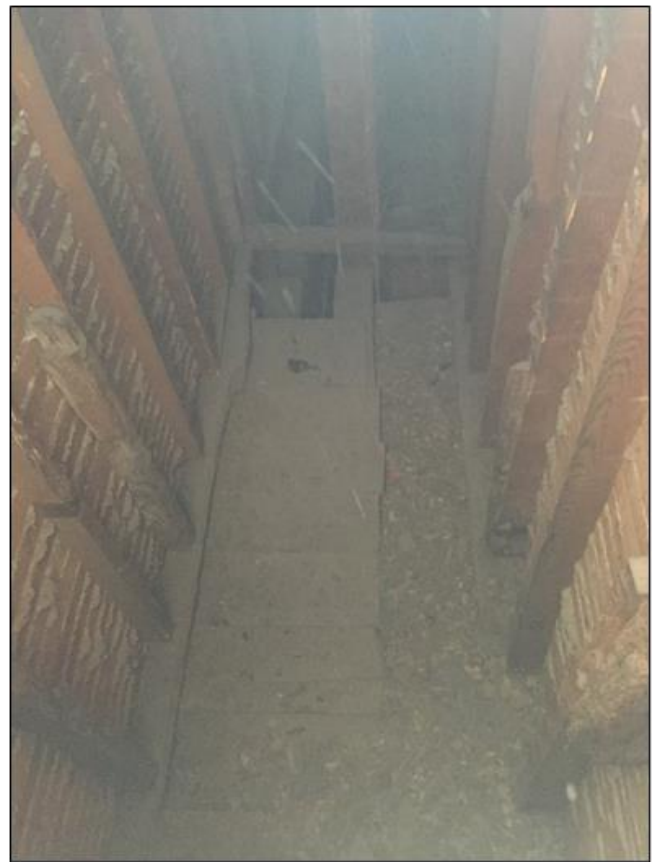


Figure 6. View from the *mabeyn* space

The next period, which can be considered as the second period, covers the time span between the 19th

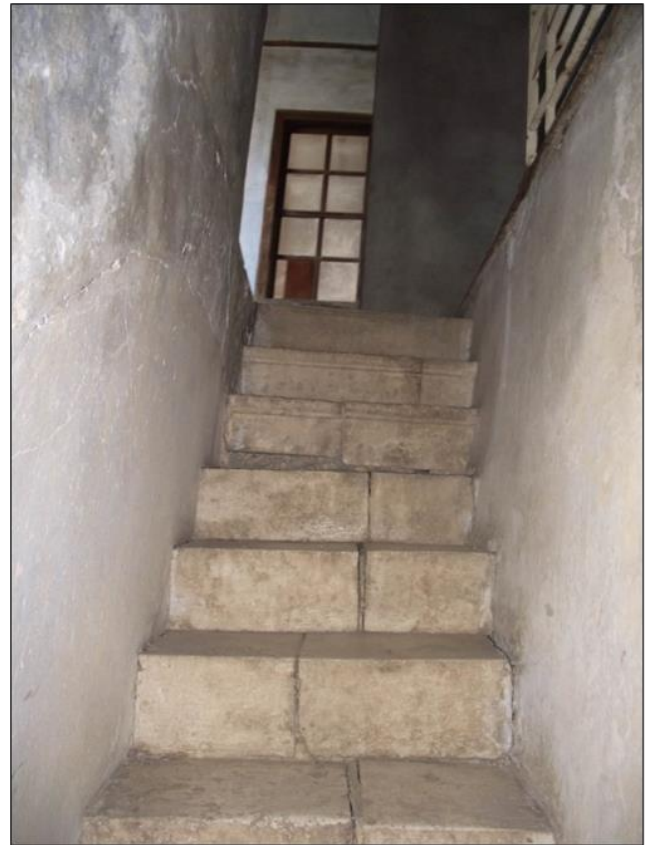
century and 1917. It begins with the changing of the function of the upper floor that is reached by the *mabeyn* in the building, which is used as a warehouse in traditional Antakya houses. Access to the upper floor was provided by the arched staircase that was integrated into the vault through which the first period entrance to the building was provided, and this place was converted to a two-room living space. The traditional decorated timber ceilings in the building were integrated into the building in this period. It was determined that the *eyvan* and the mass above it, located right next to the arched staircase because of the level differences on the ground, were added to the structure in a later period. With respect to the fact that the guillotine windows open to the *sofa* (hall) on the upper floor, lack of possibility any door opening on the floor where the stairs reach up, and the curvilinear elements on both sides of the traditional decorated timber ceiling of the *sofa* area it was determined that this space was configured as semi-open area on its facade, like an *eyvan* (Figure 7).



**Figure 7.** The curvilinear support that forms the border between the windows in the *sofa* and the decorated timber ceiling of this area and the covering under eaves that was added in the later periods

The third period covers the time span between 1917 and the second half of the 20th century, when the building went through important interventions. The inscriptions facing the courtyard facade were added to the facade during this period. Since the French Cadastral Plans of 1929 were prepared in this period, it was used as a cartographic document about the period. Three more steps were added to the arched stone staircase on the upper floor, which is located at two different levels in the building, and thus the elevation was raised. The two upper floors were connected to each other by an 80 cm projecting corridor (Figure 8). A room on a barrel vault was added right next to the arched stone staircase on the southeast side of the courtyard. An *eyvan* like use was created in the lower part of this vault.

The fourth period is the period covering the time span from the second half of the 20th century to the present day. It starts with the construction of the mass located on the northeast-southwest axis that has survived to the present day on the site of the three masses, which could have been the annex building and service spaces in the previous periods.



**Figure 8.** The 3 steps added to the arched stone staircase that provides access to the upper floor and the vault-stair level relationship

### 5.1. First period: 18th Century–19th century

The building outlay of the four blocks located on the building lot in this period was prepared as a result of the comparative study between the masses and traces that have reached to the present day and building lot-mass relationship on the French cadastral maps. In this respect, the building outlay was created by making comparative studies between the building and other buildings from the same period (Figure 9).

In this period, there are two entrances to the building lot from which access is provided through culs-de-sac. Entrance doors to the culs-de-sac on the building lots no: 2071 and 2068 opened to barrel vaults through which access to the building lot was provided. While the entrance vault reached through the cul-de-sac on the building lot no: 2068 in the building was the entrance gate through which the main entrance is also provided today, the vault opening to the cul-de-sac on the building lot no: 2071 converted to a staircase that provided access to the upper floor. These entrance vaults provided access to the courtyard with steps. The courtyard floor was located at a lower elevation compared to today (Figure 10). From this courtyard, access was provided to the five rooms in the long mass located on the northwest-southeast axis, the two masses located in the southeast of the courtyard and the mass located in the south of the courtyard, which could not have reached the present day.



**Figure 9.** Ground Floor Plan of the First Period

The first of the spaces accessed from the courtyard on the ground floor is the space reached from the vestibule with two steps on the stone courtyard floor in front of the long mass. This place provides access to three rooms. As a result of a comparative study of the traces from the building in this period and other buildings from the period it was determined that there was a room located in the area in this period, which has reached today with a windshield.

Among the three rooms on the ground floor, which can be accessed from the above-mentioned area, the timber door jambs rising up to the *taka* windows can be seen in the room located in the northern corner of the parcel. It is understood that these glamorous curvilinear jambs did not exist in the first period of the building since

they covered the opening of the *taka* windows but were added to the building in a later period with the geometric and plant motifs on the ceiling (Figure 11).

Since the decorations in the other rooms on the ground floor are the same as the decorations of the room in the northern corner of the building, it was determined that they were added to the building in later periods.

Access to the two rooms located in the eastern corner of the building is provided from the courtyard. Their doors open to a threshold bordered by cut stones. It was determined that there was once a *mabeyn* connecting the two rooms, which appear to be two separate rooms because they are reached by separate doors from the courtyard and providing access to the upper floor, on the wall that forms the border of these spaces.





**Figure 10.** The photo shows that the ground level of the First Period was lower and there was an access to the stone floor of the courtyard by steps after the cut stone finish

The *mabeyn* staircase, which provides access to the upper floor of the building, was analysed by making a comparative study on the dimensions and heights in the building lot 62 in the 4th circumscription. It is understood from the traces of joint between the wall and the timber flooring observed from the inside of the building that the *mabeyn* staircase was large enough to cover the two rooms to which it gives access on the upper floor ground. In this part of the building, while the timber flooring boundaries end at the wall line in the remaining parts, cement surfaces showing the intervention on the wall line are seen.

Of the façades that have reached to the present day, only the north-western façade of the building is unplastered, and cement-based plaster is seen throughout the remaining façades. Among the traces seen on the northwest façade, the traces of two arched openings measuring 75x225cm show that there were two openings facing the city panorama here. In the same way, we can say that the rectangular wall niches in approximate dimensions, which are the closets of the annex building today, were openings in the same manner in this period, since they are located on the transport line of the polygon points on the French cadastral sheets. On the courtyard façades of the building, we can say that the symmetrical façade, centred on the wide two centre arch-shaped entrance, on the north side of the main mass, has not been damaged except for the additions and interventions in the windows. On the east side of the building, with the introduction of the vault in the later periods, it was determined that the building had a serious

intervention in the floor height and facade formation, especially after the +1.45 m elevations, and after this intervention, inscriptions were placed on the facade in this part of the building. This part of the building, which is two-storey was shaped with reference to the neighbouring buildings on the plots no: 2054 and 2055 (Figure 12).



**Figure 11.** Timber window shutter decoration blocking the *kus takasi* windows



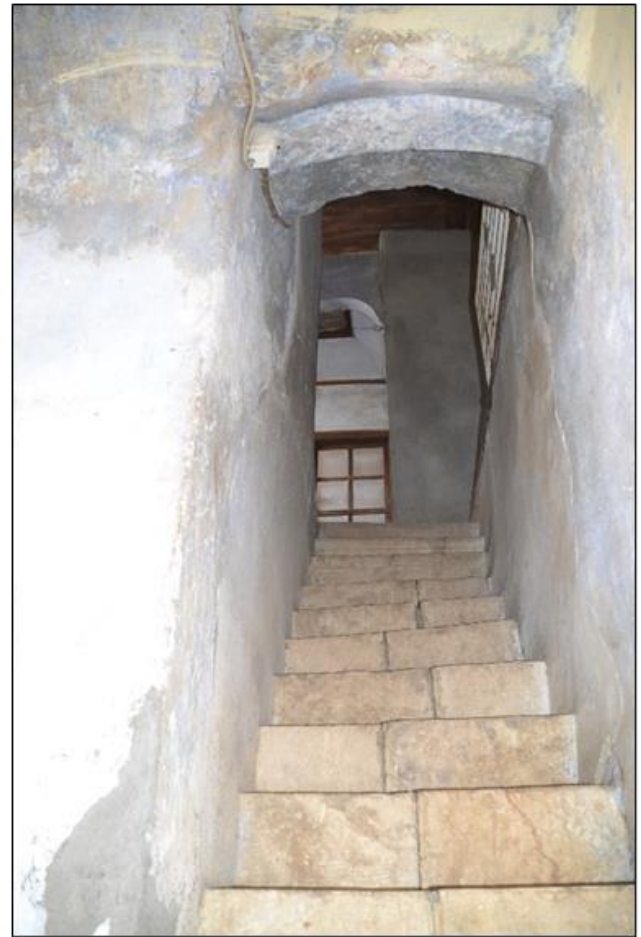
**Figure 12.** Façade configuration of the building on the plot no: 2054

## 5.2. Second period: 19th century -1917

The most serious change occurred in this period of the building is the interventions which resulted in the use of the upper floor as a living space. While no change was observed in the quarters in the northern corner of the building, the *mabeyn* staircase providing access to the upper floor in the two-storey building located in the eastern corner was removed. In the room located in the eastern corner of the building lot, timber cupboard covering the walls were added with this intervention and the space was transformed into a square like form. The upper floor, which was converted into a living space, was separated into rooms by separator walls, and the entrance has been changed by adding an arch and a masonry staircase to the entrance vault, which provides access to the cul-de-sac on the building lot no: 2071. The door in the vault providing the entrance was closed and the opening that has survived to the present day was

added under the newly added stair arch. As a result of the comparison of the traces on the façade in this section with those on the adjacent building lot no: 2060, the presence of a platform in this area was determined (Figure 13). The staircase, which started with the opening on the wall in the part that was the entrance vault of the previous period, extends to the main wall of the main mass with the missing three steps that were found to be added later (Figure 14). Here, through the opening on the façade, the space consisting of an inner balcony/eyvan is reached. The decorated traditional timber ceiling in this section is bordered by curvilinear support elements on both sides at the ceiling façade. Apart from this space, in the space divided into two rooms, the two guillotine windows of the room with a decorated traditional timber ceiling, which have survived to the present day, open to this space.

In this period, with the transformation of the upper floor, which was used as a warehouse in the previous period and was reached by the *mabeyn*, into a living space, the upper floor consisting of the three rooms in the northern corner of the building was added in order to meet this need. It was determined that this floor can be reached via a timber ladder leaning against the wall from the niche, as in the neighbouring building lot no: 2060 (Figure 15).



**Figure 14.** The opening which was opened on the entrance vault in a later period



**Figure 13.** With respect to the comparative study on the trace on the wall and the one on the adjacent building lot no: 2060, and the statement of the inhabitant in the adjacent building in the current situation, the presence of a platform can be proposed.



**Figure 15.** The ladder providing access to the upper floor in the building on the building lot no: 2060 in the 4th circumscription

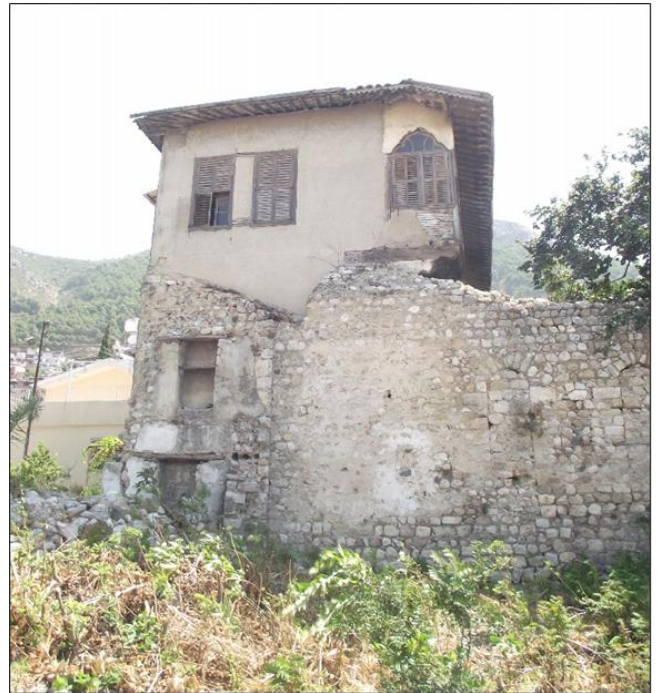
The only difference on the exterior of the building compared to the previous period is the construction of the upper floor of the part of the main mass located in the northern corner of the building lot. In this regard, it was determined that two skylights on the north-eastern façade of the building, which cannot be seen because they are plastered today, but perceivable from the interior due to the traces of filling, existed in this period with the construction of this floor. Regarding the courtyard facades of the building, on the courtyard facade of the main mass facing the northeast, as a result of the construction of the upper floor, the timber covered facade formation that continues throughout the floor was repeated on the facade in the similar size and quality with the surrounding building lots. In the eastern corner of the building, which turned into a living space, two timber covers were removed and the balcony part which was reached by the newly added staircase was created.

### 5.3. Third period: 1917–2nd half of the 20th century

In this period, which also covers the period when cement mosaic tile floors started to become widespread in Antakya (Nakip, 2012), the existing floors in the two areas located in the northern corner of the building lot on the ground floor were replaced with cement mosaic tiles. The wall of the room, which started right in front of the entrance with two central arches, was removed, and instead, a timber windshield, which is seen on the French cadastral maps and has survived to the present day, was added. With this feature, we can say that the room wall was removed after the windshield was added and the room was somewhat expanded. In this period, no changes were detected in the ground floor plan.

The upper floor spaces, which were reached in two different ways in the previous period and at different levels, were brought to the same level by adding three more steps to the arched stone staircase in this period. Thus, the entire upper floor is connected to each other by the corridor area that has survived to the present day. In addition to the previous period, a space with three guillotine windows and a decorated traditional timber ceiling which is supported by the vault that was built next to the stairs was added to the beginning of the corridor. With the addition of this mass, the space, which was a balcony in the previous period, turned into a hall connected to the corridor. Since the guillotine windows opening to this hall could not fulfil their function anymore, two windows were opened to the exterior in the room located in the eastern corner. The differences in the dimensions of these windows with cut stone jambs also show that these windows did not exist in the first period. In this case, the upper floor is divided into six rooms in total. Three of these rooms can only be reached from the corridor in front of them, and two of them from the hall in front of the stairs, while one room can be reached from both the corridor and the hall. At the end of this corridor, there is a window with two wings and wooden shutters, while the part of the corridor facing the courtyard is open. The top of the corridor, which was added to the building later, was covered in the manner of an eaves by extending the roof (Figure 16). At certain intervals, wooden posts support the eaves covering the

corridor. Between these posts, there are two centred curvilinear arches.



**Figure 16.** The corridor and the eaves added to the north-eastern façade of the building in a later period

From this period, which also covers the preparation date of the French cadastral maps, there are traces of the mass among other masses seen in the French cadastral maps in the southwest of the building lot located on the northwest-southeast axis (Figure 17). In this regard, the door and window openings facing towards the small courtyard located in the western corner of the mass constitute the façade openings of this mass. It is understood from the polygon transport lines on the French cadastral maps that there were two doors that provide the access between this courtyard and the large courtyard in the mass whose window openings face the small courtyard.



**Figure 17.** Traces confirming the existence of the door-window opening of the mass, which could not reach the present day, in the southwest of the building lot.

In this period there were serious interventions in the building such as the connection of the upper floors with a corridor and the addition of the vault forming the *eyvan*. A façade integrity was created with the floor elevation on

the southwestern façade of the building, which faces the courtyard. As a result of these interventions, inscriptions were added on the two *fanus takası* on the façade. It was revealed that there were no windows in this period in the corridor line, which is closed with arched windows today.

#### 5.4. Fourth period: Second half of the 20th century-present time

Main intervention to the building lot in this period was the positioning of a single mass on the northeast-southwest on the site of the three annex building masses that existed in the previous periods. Considering the construction technique and materials of this mass, which is reached through a corridor line covered with tiles and extending from the stone courtyard in front of the main mass, it was probably built during the Republican Era. Window dimensions of the building, window jambs, cut stone cladding up to the starting level of the window and stone imitation plaster coating in the rest are the period features seen in the mass. The corridor in front of the mass continues until the end of the building and with six steps turns towards the cul-de-sac on the building lot no: 2070 and finally reaches the door opened in this period. A plan mass was formed on both sides of the glass room that is located in the centre of the mass reached from this corridor. While the kitchen and service areas are located on the northeast side of the room, there is another room on the southwest side of the mass. In the mass, which was separated with brick masonry separator walls, the reinforced concrete slab sitting on the brick wall in the service areas of the mass, lowered the ceiling level in this section and paved the way for an attic space above it. In the rest of the mass, the walls continuing up to the roof, and the high ceilings show that there were living spaces here.

Although there is no mass change in the main mass of the building, concrete-screed flooring can be seen on the floors of the three rooms located in the east corner of the ground floor. On the upper floor, a service corridor was created by adding an exit to the east of the staircase reaching here, and the upper part of the vaulted WC area on the ground floor was started to be used. In this period, the room above the *eyvan* vault was repaired with brick walls, a single wing opening window was installed instead of the guillotine window facing southwest, and the door providing access to this room was relocated. On the upper floor of the building, the skylights opening to the northeast façade were closed and single winged windows were added.

On the exterior of the building, single-wing timber windows replaced the skylights on the northeast façade. On the southeast façade, no difference was observed except for the door that opens to the cul-de-sac on the building lot no: 2071 and the service corridor that extends into the facade as timber projection. On the courtyard facades of the building, windows were added to the upper floor corridors on the southwest courtyard facade of the main mass. The annex mass on the northeast-southwest axis, which was added in this period, is one of the façades on the courtyard façade that differs from the previous period.

## 6. Conclusion

There are small-scale traditional houses in the close vicinity of Gali Mansion, which is located in the north of the historical urban fabric of Antakya. The building differs from the neighbouring buildings in terms of scale and architectural program level. The building complex, in its main mass, has spatial features and neo-classical and modern architectural elements that are not observed in the buildings in its close vicinity.

As a result of the examinations made on the building, on the scale of the location of the building and on the similar building groups in its surroundings, it was determined that the building was built after the 18th century and has the additions belonging to the neo-classical style, which is observed in the historical urban texture, especially by the post-*Tanzimat* period, and the modern period.

The Gali mansion has an important cultural value as it is a traditional building and reflects the lifestyle and accommodation needs of the period in which it was built. It was the subject of a social life because it meets the accommodation needs of a family. It has a unique scientific and cultural value because of the fact that it has changed slightly, that its original planimetric features can be seen and its original façade formation has been preserved. Since it was built using the construction technique and materials specific to the traditional buildings in the region, it has technical values with its material usage and technical features. It has artistic value with the arrangement of its facades with a neo-classical approach. The traditional building design of the region has a local characteristic because it is one of the typical examples of material use and construction technology. With its rich architectural level and scale, it continues its existence as a valuable cultural asset that needs to be preserved in the building block it is located.

## Conflicts of interest

There is no conflict of interest between the authors.

## Statement of Research and Publication Ethics

Research and publication ethics were complied with in the study.

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