

MESUT DİNLER

researcher in heritage studies, urban
and architectural history, digital
humanities

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

PhD (2018) in Beni Architettonici e del Paesaggistici (Architectural and Landscape Heritage), Politecnico di Torino, Turin, Italy

Title of the thesis: *Building the Heritage: Politics and Historic Preservation in Turkey from the Nineteenth Century to the 1980s.*

Visiting researcher (2016-2017) History Department, Bosphorus University, İstanbul, Turkey

MSc (2013) in Graduate Program in Conservation of Cultural Heritage, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey

Title of the thesis: *Impact Assessment of Major Urban Interventions on the Cultural Heritage of Fener and Balat Districts*

B.Arch. (2009-2005) Department of Architecture, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey.

-, (2004 – 2005; *dropped for Architecture*), Electric and Electronic Engineering (full scholarship), Başkent University, Ankara, Turkey

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor (with time contract) (RTD-A: ICAR18/Storia dell'architettura), The Interuniversity Department of Regional and Urban Studies and Planning, Politecnico di Torino, Turin, Present-January, 2020.

- Research for and management of two EU-funded Horizon2020 Projects: Ruritage (Politecnico participates as the Work Package leader) and Shelter (Politecnico participates as the Task leader).
- Teaching the Digital Urban History e Storia dell'Architettura (2 CFU/6CFU – in Italian) and Digital History Course (4 CFU/8 CFU – in English).
- Grant writing for new projects (Marie Curie, Innovative Training Network (for PhD training program on digital cultural heritage), 2019. And Horizon2020 Application for the call 'Collaborative approaches to cultural heritage for social cohesion', 2019.
- Managing several tasks in the departmental excellence project *MNEMONIC: The Digital Atlas of the Memory of the Present*.

Research Fellow, The Interuniversity Department of Regional and Urban Studies and Planning, Politecnico di Torino, Turin, January, 2020 - January, 2019.

- Research fellow for the project: *the Digital Arts and Humanities for Cultural Heritage (DAHMUSE)*

Research / Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Architecture / Department of Restoration in the Faculty of Architecture, Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, İstanbul, August 2013 – February, 2011.

- Assisting the courses Architectural Survey/Documentation, Theory of Conservation, Architectural Project and organizing and assisting the field studies of master program's students.
- Organizing the exhibitions for selected works of master program (Havran/Balıkesir Traditional Houses Exhibition, Şile Traditional Houses Exhibition).
- Documentation projects (measured drawings for a windmill in Heybeliada, a house in Büyükkada (Prince Islands), and the Mimar Sinan University Architecture Faculty building)

FORMATION

Project Manager, Association for the Protection of Cultural Heritage (KMKD), İstanbul, January 2019 – June 2017.

- Project Manager of the 'Heritage Skills Build Peace and Capacity' supported by the British Council's Cultural Protection Fund and jointly managed by the Edinburgh World Heritage and KMKD to build capacity in preservation in south-east Turkey
- Exhibition team member, *70TK: From Tatavla to Kurtuluş, Metamorphosis of a Neighborhood*, 22 Sep-1 Oct 2017, İstanbul, Turkey. Reopened: 14-22 July 2018, Athens, Greece.
- The Assessment Project for the Conservation of Architectural Heritage Built in Anatolia, project designed and executed by the Association for the Protection of Cultural Heritage (KMKD), Feb 2017 – June 2015.
- Grant Applications (two successful grants received with applications written by myself: US Ambassadors Cultural Protection Fund for documentation of tangible and intangible Syriac Heritage in Turabdin Region. Prince Claus Foundation's Emergency Fund for the protection of Syriac Manuscripts in the Mardin Syriac Catholic Church).

Graduate Intern, Getty Conservation Institute, Los Angeles, Sept. 2014 – Sept. 2013.

- Assisting the - 'Conserving Modern Architecture Initiative (CMAI)' project to develop a conservation strategy for the teak fenestrations of the Salk Institute for Biological Research designed by Louis Kahn in La Jolla, San Diego.
- Contributing the 'Contemporary Architecture in the Historic Environments (CAHE)' project to compile a bibliography on the topic.

On-site Conservator, Sagalassos Archaeological Project in Burdur, directed by The Katholieke Universiteit Leuven/Belgium, Summer, 2013.

- In-situ documentation of collapses of architectural fragments, documentation of the re-located layers.
- Conservation of immovable findings.

US/ICOMOS intern, Historic Charleston Foundation, Charleston, Aug. – May, 2012.

- Measured drawings for Medway Plantation (a joint project of Historic Charleston Foundation and joint Preservation Program of Clemson University and College of Charleston).

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Architect, Fon Architecture, Ankara, Feb. 2011 – Oct, 2010.

- Measured drawings of Palace of Justice in Gaziantep, eastern Turkey.

Architect, NOVUS Architecture, Ankara, Oct, 2010 – June, 2010.

- Measure drawings of a house in Tarsus, Adana, Southern Turkey

Architect, Sagalassos Archaeological Project in Burdur, directed by The Katholieke Universiteit Leuven/Belgium, Summer, 2010.

- Documentation of immovable findings

PUBLICATIONS

Book (Monograph):

Dinler, M. (2019). *Modernization through Past: Cultural Heritage during the late-Ottoman and the early-Republican period in Turkey*, Pisa: Edizioni ETS.

Articles in Peer Reviewed Journals:

Dinler, M. (2021). "Counter-Mapping through Digital Tools for Investigating the Spatial Condition of Activism in Historic Settings", *Sustainability*, 13 (16): 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13168904> (open access)

Dinler, M. (2021), "Troubled Urban Heritage in Istanbul: Simkeşhane as a case study", *ArchHistor*. VIII (15): 134-179. <http://pkp.unirc.it/ojs/index.php/archistor/article/view/631/692> (open access)

Dinler, M. (2021). "A Political Framework for Understanding Heritage Dynamics in Turkey (1950-1980)", *Urban History*. First View , pp. 1 – 19, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S096392682100016X>

Dinler, M. (2020). "Formulation of Historic Residential Architecture as a Background to Urban Conservation", *Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development*, 11(1): 1-17. <https://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/JCHMSD-09-2019-0113/full/html> (open access)

Dinler, M. (2018). "The Knife's Edge of Present: Archaeology in Turkey from the 19th century to the 1940s", *International Journal of Historical Archaeology*, 22 (4): 728-745.

Dinler, M. (2017). "Construction, Remaking and Remembering: Historic Preservation in the Early Decades of the Turkish Republic", *Studi e Ricerche di Storia dell'Architettura. Rivista dell'Associazione Italiana Storici dell'Architettura*, 1 (2): 80-101. <http://www.edizionicaracol.it/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Studi-e-Ricerche-n.-2-Dinler.pdf> (open access)

Dinler, M. & Şahin Güçhan, N (2016). "Fener ve Balat'ın dönüşümü üzerine: üç vizyon / üç dönem / üç ayrı "koruma" anlayışı [On Fener and Balat districts' transformation: three visions / three periods / three diverse "conservation" perspectives]", *TUBA-KED (Turkish Academy of Science – Journal of Cultural Inventory)*, 14, 225-247 (in Turkish).

Chapter in a Book:

Dinler, M. (2021). "Boiling Frog: Establishing Authority over Historic Towns under Emergency", In Cayli, E., Ercan, S., Aykac, P. (Eds.), *Architectures of Emergency in Turkey: Heritage, Displacement and Catastrophe*, London; IB.Tauris

Dinler, M. (2021 – forthcoming). "Digital Humanities for Recording and Representing the Multicultural Urban History of Balat, Istanbul (1894-1950)", in Amiryanyan, T., Qalantaryan, S., et al. (eds.), *Balat: Living Together*.

Dinler M. (2021), "Miras İnşasında Uzmanların Rolü [Role of Experts in the Making of Cultural Heritage]", in B. Aykan (ed.), *Dünden Bugüne Bugünden Düne: Türkiye'de Kültürel Miras, Kimlik ve Bellek İnşası*

[From Yesterday to Today From Today to Yesterday: Construction of Cultural Heritage, Identity and Memory in Turkey], İstanbul: Nobel Akademik Yayıncılık, pp. 99-133. (in Turkish). ISBN: 978-625-439-283-2.

Dinler, M. (2021). "Scale Matters: Emergence of Urban Conservation", In Ess, J., Froschauer, E. M., Rochter, E., Schulte C. J. (eds.), *WerteWandel. Prozesse, Strategien und Konflikte in der gebauten Umwelt*, Basel/Berlin: Birkhäuser, pp.133-144.

Yabaci, A. E., Dinler, M. (2020). "Modern Mirasin Korunmasi: Dessau'daki Bauhaus Binasinin Korunmasi Üzerinden Bir Tartisma [Conservation of Modern Heritage: A discussion on the Conservation of Bauhaus Building in Dessau]", in Turkish, In Cengizkan, A., Inan, D, (Eds.), *Bauhaus_100+TR*, Ankara: TED University, pp.180-207.

Conference Proceedings

Yabacı, A. E. & Dinler, M. (2017). "Egli's Mülkiye: Ankara's Modern Heritage and Its Transformation", *ICONARCH III: International Congress of Architecture Memory of Place in Architecture and Planning Proceedings*, 422-433.

Dinler, M. (2017), "The Role of European Professors in Historic Preservation in Turkey: The Case of Paolo Verzone", *Preserving Transcultural Heritage: Your Way or My Way?*, 943-951.

Other

Dinler M. (2018) *Building the Heritage: Politics and Historic Preservation in Turkey from the Nineteenth Century to the 1980s*. unpublished PhD thesis, Turin, Politecnico di Torino.

Dinler, M. (2018) *Tamirevi. Conservation Statement* (Conservation Statement for the Architectural Conservation Project of the KORU Project which is funded by British Council Cultural Protection Fund). Available at: <http://koruprojesi.org/?p=tamirevi&id=9&title=koruma-raporu>

Dinler, M. (2013) *Impact Assessment of Major Urban Interventions on the Cultural Heritage of Fener and Balat Districts*. unpublished masters thesis, Ankara, Middle East Technical University.

Reviewer for scientific journals: Turkish Academy of Sciences Journal of Cultural Inventory - 2020, METU Journal of Faculty of Architecture - 2020.

Scientific Board of the Turkish Network of Urban Morphology, 3rd Seminar on Urban Morphology, April 2021

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Dinler, M. (2022) "Politics of metadata and narrative for industrial heritage", *75th Annual International Conference of the Society of Architectural Historians*, April 27–May 1 2022, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA.

Dinler, M. (2021) "Utilizing GIS for a Critical Heritage Mapping of Urban Activism in İstanbul in the 1960s", *The International Conference 'Grand Projects - Urban Legacies of the late 20th Century*, online, February 17-19, 2021.

Dinler, M. (2021) "Everyone Has a Past: Selective Interventions on Multilayered Historic Sites", *CIRICE (Centro Interdipartimentale di Ricerca sull'Iconografia della Città Europea)*, IX Convegno internazionale: *La Città Palimpsesto*. Napoli, October, 22-24.

Dinler, M. (2020), *Hagia Sophia: Perspectives from Cultural Heritage*, online panel organized by Institute of European Studies at Cornell University, September 19, 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79DACHU4X78&t=1s>

Dinler, M. (2020), "Digital Humanities as An Agent of Activist Urban Conservation", The 18th European Virtual Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative workshop on *Datafication and cultural heritage – provocations, threats, and design opportunities*. Online, June 14, 2020.

Dinler, M. (2020-cancelled), "Activist Heritage Tools: Digital Humanities to Understand Alternative Heritage Regimes in Urban Historic Settings", Critical Digital Heritage Conference organized by The Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU), Oslo, Norway, May, 27.28.

Dinler, M. (2019). "Scale Matters: Emergence of Urban Conservation", *Shifting Values – Processes, Strategies and Conflicts in the Built Environment*, Cottbus, Germany.

Dinler, M. (2019). "Social movements as agents of alternative preservation practices: Turkey in the 1950s". *The global city: The urban condition as a pervasive phenomenon conference* organized by Associazione Italiana di Storia Urbana (AISU), September 11-14, Bologna, Italy

Dinler, M. (2017). "The Role of European Professors in Historic Preservation in Turkey", *International Congress - Preserving Transcultural Heritage: Your Way or My Way?*, Lisbon, Portugal.

Dinler, M. (2017). "De-Centralization of the Power: Historic Preservation in Turkey (1951-1983)", 70th Annual International Conference of the Society of Architectural Historians, Glasgow, Scotland, June 7-11. (with the Scott Opler Graduate Student Annual Conference Fellowship).

Dinler, M. (2016). "Discovery and Use of 'Patrimony' in the XIX Century Ottoman World", *Picturing the Nation. Imagining National Identities in 19th century Art and Architecture*, Giessen, Germany, 29 June 2016.

Dinler, M. (2016). "Imported Definitions For The Heritage: Development Of The Western Idea Of Heritage In Turkey", Association of Critical Heritage's third Biennial Conference, Montreal, Canada, June 3-8, 2016 (with the grant awarded by ICOMOS).

Dinler, M., Şahin Güçhan N. (2014). "A Site That Has Been Rearranged and Then Rehabilitated and Then Renewed: Major Urban Interventions on Fener and Balat Districts", 21st International Seminar on Urban Form - ISUF 2014, Porto, Portugal in July 3-6. (with the grant awarded by Turkish Cultural Foundation).

GRANTS and AWARDS

Individual Grants:

- Visiting Fellowship, ICCROM International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property), Rome, February to April 2022.
- The Scott Opler Fellowship awarded by the Society of Architectural Historians, June 2017.
- ICOMOS Reymond Lemaire Fund, 2015.
- The Hrant Dink Foundation / Turkey Armenia Travel Grant, 2014.
- The Getty Foundation / Graduate Internship, 2013-4.
- The Getty Foundation/ Research Visit to Brazil, 2014.
- Turkish Cultural Foundation (TCF) Fellow, 2013.
- US/ICOMOS International Exchange Program, 2012.
- 14th Archiprix Turkey 2009, The Best Graduation Projects, Incentive Prize, 2009.
- The 1927 Association of Architects, Article Competition: 'Critical Readings in Architecture', 2008.

MEMBERSHIPS

Registered architect at the Turkish Chamber of Architects (TMMOB), Association of Critical Heritage Studies, Society of Architectural Historians, Association for the Protection of Cultural Heritage (TR), Karakutu (TR), AISU- Associazione Italiana di Storia Urbana (IT), AISTARCH - Associazione degli Storici di Architettura (IT)

SKILLS

Language: Turkish (mother tongue), English (Advanced), Italian (Intermediate).

Computer: AutoCad (Very good), Adobe Photoshop (Very good), Adobe Illustrator (Very good), SketchUp (Very good), 3DsMax (Good), Maya (Good), QGIS (Good), Adobe Premier (Good).