

REVEALING THE EXTERIOR TRANSFORMATION OF GJIROKASTRA
DWELLING UNDER ITALIAN INFLUENCE .

A THESIS SUBMITTED TO
THE FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING
OF
EPOKA UNIVERSITY

BY
MIRSADA AHMATI

IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN
ARCHITECTURE

JULY 2021

Approval sheet of the Thesis

This is to clarify that we have read and understood the thesis entitled “ **Revealing the Exterior Transformation of Gjirokastra dwelling under Italian Influence**” , and for our opinions it is fully adequate , as it meets the criteria of quality for the degree of Master of Science .

Assoc.Prof. Dr.Edmond Manahasa
Head of Department
Date : July ,09,2021

Examining Committee Members :

M.Sc Kreshnik Merxhani (Architecture) _____

Dr. Fabio Naselli (Architecture) _____

Dr. Odeta Manahasa (Architecture) _____

I hereby declare that all information in this document has been obtained and presented in accordance with academic rules and ethical conduct. I also declare that, as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced all material and results that are not original to this work.

Name Surname : Mirsada Ahmati

Signature : _____

ABSTRACT

REVEALING THE EXTERIOR TRANSFORMATION OF GJIROKASTRA DWELLING UNDER ITALIAN INFLUENCE .

Ahmati, Mirsada

M.Sc , Department of Architecture

Supervisor : M.Sc :Kreshnik Merxhani

Gjirokastra has been considered as one of the most important historic cities in Albania, and its historical character has been appreciated over years. It has been declared as a Museum city in 1961 , and was included in the World Heritage List (UNESCO) , in 2005. The city of stone was dated in 1336 as part of Byzantine Empire.

This study aims to analyze the identity of the city, the traditional dwellings in Gjirokaster, building techniques and material used in historic monuments. It analyses both the tangible component of the heritage, concerning the evolution of the building types, the traditional techniques, and materials that have been used through years. The Gjirokastra dwellings, especially those with developed elements, constitute a type with clearly distinguishable features in the typology of Albanian dwellings. The research tries to express the identity of the city, the historical background of Gjirokastra, its character, the unique architecture that has been developed during Italian period . It will be described the research approach, which is focused on the architecture of the world heritage sites of Historic Centres of Gjirokastra in Albania, presenting the need to preserve and protect this unique city. The purpose is to focus once again on the Italian-Albanian relationship and to highlight the influences of Italian art in this city . Furthermore, this paper will deal with a description and analysis of the main materials, structures used, based on analyses of case studies in some of the most important houses during 1900-1945 year period, when the city was occupied by Italians and consequently had major impacts

on architecture. Furthermore nowadays where these magnificent dwellings from an architectural point of view are being demolished, disappearing the traces of Italian architecture in Albania and consequently losing its historical identity for which it is valued.

Due to uncontrolled constructions, various government policies or even natural factors , and people's lack of awareness for their maintenance , are some of the factors that we are facing with the destruction of the architectural elements, the cultural values of this place. For these reasons there is an immediate need to undertake restoration and maintenance measures.

Keywords : *Building techniques, Cultural heritage, Architecture, Restoration, Building Materials , Traditions.*

ABSTRAKT

ZBULIMI I TRANFORIMEVE TE JASHTME TE NDERTESSES GJIROKASTRITE NEN NDIKIMIN ITALIAN .

Ahmati, Mirsada

Master Shkencor , Departamenti i Arkitektures

Udheheqes : M.Sc. Kreshnik Merxhani

Gjirokastra është konsideruar si një nga qytetet më të rëndësishme historike në Shqipëri, dhe karakteri i saj historik është vlerësuar ndër vite. Ajo është shpallur si qytet muze në vitin 1961, dhe u përfshi në Listën e Trashëgimisë Botërore (UNESCO), në 2005. Qyteti prej guri datoi në 1336 si pjesë e Perandorisë Bizantine.

Ky studim synon të analizojë identitetin e qytetit, banesat tradicionale në Gjirokastrë, teknikat e ndërtimit dhe materialin e përdorur në monumentet historike . Ai analizon përbërësin e prekshëm të trashëgimisë, në lidhje me evolucionin e llojeve të ndërtesave, teknikat tradicionale dhe materialet që janë përdorur ndër vite. Banesat gjirokastrite, veçanërisht ato me elementë të zhvilluar, përbëjnë një tip me tipare të dallueshme qartë në tipologjinë e banesave shqiptare. Hulumtimi përpiqet të shprehë identitetin e qytetit, prejardhjen historike të Gjirokastrës, karakterin e tij, arkitekturën unike që është zhvilluar gjatë periudhës italiane. Do të përshkruhet qasja kërkimore, e cila fokusohet në arkitekturën e vendeve të trashëgimisë botërore të Qendrave Historike të Gjirokastrës në Shqipëri, duke paraqitur nevojën për të ruajtur dhe mbrojtur këtë qytet unik. Qëllimi është të përqendrohemi edhe një herë në marrëdhëniet italo-shqiptare dhe të nxjerrim në pah ndikimet e artit italian në këtë qytet. Për më tepër, ky punim do të trajtojë një përshkrim dhe analizë të materialeve kryesore, strukturave të përdorura, bazuar në analizat e studimeve të rasteve në disa nga shtëpitë më të rëndësishme gjatë periudhës 1900-1945, kur qyteti ishte i pushtuar nga italianët dhe rrjedhimisht kishte pasur ndikime të medha në arkitekturë. Për më

tepër në ditët e sotme ku këto banesa madhështore nga pikëpamja arkitektonike po shemben, duke zhdukur gjurmët e arkitekturës italiane në Shqipëri dhe rrjedhimisht duke humbur identitetin e saj historik për të cilin vlerësohet.

Per shkak te ndërtimeve të pakontrolluara, politikave të ndryshme qeveritare apo edhe faktorëve natyrorë, dhe mungesës së vetëdijes së njerëzve për mirëmbajtjen e tyre, janë disa nga faktorët me të cilët po përballemi me shkatërrimin e elementeve arkitekturorë, vlerat kulturore të këtij vendi. Për këto arsye, ekziston një nevojë e menjëhershme për të ndërmarrë masa restaurimi dhe mirëmbajtjeje.

Fjale kyce : *Restaurim ,Teknika Ndertimi , Trashegimi Kulturore , Arkitekture
Restoration, Materiale Ndeertimi , Tradita.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It is a great pleasure to express my deep gratitude and thanks to my supervisor M.Sc : Kreshnik Merxhani for his overwhelming attitude to help his students , and been motivating and courageous for completing my thesis . I sincerely appreciate the time and effort he has spent to improve my work during all stages .

I can barely express my gratefulness to my thesis progress committee members , Dr.Edmond Manahasa , and Dr. Fabio Naselli for their helpful comments and suggestions through my thesis.

My sincere acknowledgements go to Mr Teodor Bilushi , Honorary Consul of Italian Consulate in Gjirokaster for sharing valuable information and knowledge that helped me to advance with my research .

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT -----	iv
ABSTRAKT-----	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS -----	viii
LIST OF TABLES -----	xii
LIST OF FIGURES -----	xiii
CHAPTER 1 -----	1
INTRODUCTION -----	1
1.1 Overview to the topic -----	1
1.2 Problem Statement -----	2
1.3 Objective of the study -----	2
1.4 Research questions -----	3
1.5 Methodology -----	4
1.5.1 Qualitative /Quantitative research -----	4
1.5.2 Data processing/Analyzes -----	4
1.5.3 Evaluation -----	8
CHAPTER 2-----	9
LITERATURE REVIEW-----	9
2.1 Museum-city of Gjirokaster -----	11
2.2.1 Development of Gjirokastra house -----	13

2.2	Traces of Italian Architecture in Albania 1925-1943 -----	14
2.2.2	The main urban and architectural intervention in Albania----	14
2.4	Case study of Italian period on other Albanian citites-----	17
CHAPTER 3 -----		19
THEORITICAL BACKGROUND-----		19
3.1	Overview of Italian period in Albania -----	19
3.2	Italian architecture of '900 in the construction of historical centre of Gjirokaster-----	22
3.3	Design studio and construction company "Poselli"-----	23
3.4	Importance of landscape on architecture of Gjirokastra-	26
3.5	Historical monuments of Gjirokastra ,building typologies evolution during Italian period.-----	28
3.5.1	Different materials and techniques in traditional dwellings	28
3.5.2	Evolution of balconies parapet, and other elements in houses.-	29
3.6	Problems and criteria for housing restoration.(Revista Monumentet)-----	30
3.6.1	Abandonment and Illegal Constructions-----	31
CHAPTER 4 -----		35
STUDY AREAS -----		35
4.1	Analyzes on most important buildings in Gjirokastra, during this period, in Varosh.-----	35

4.2 Creation of technical files for some of buildings of Italian period	39
4.3 Maps and Graphics	52
CHAPTER 5	61
5.1 Discussion	69
5.2 Proposal on restoration of Zigai	70
CHAPTER 6	71
6.1 Conclusion and contributions	71
REFERENCES	77

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 . The table of phases on which the study will be analysed. -----	4
Table 2. Selection of informants based on their profession . -----	8
Table 3. The development of Gjirokastra city through years . -----	10
Table 4. Technical files of Banesa Qurku -----	37
Table 6 Technical file of Gjirokastra monuments-----	42
Table 7. Technical file -----	47
Table 8. Building condition -----	52
Table 9. Building Usage -----	53
Table 10. Historical content of buildings. -----	54
Table 11 Risk Categorisation -----	55
Table 12 Building condition Varosh -----	58
Table 13 Building Usage Varosh -----	57
Table 14 Historical content of buildings Varosh-----	58
Table 15: Doors and balcony types -----	63
Table 16. Questionarie -----	75
Table 17 : Results of questionarie -----	77

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure nr 1. Development of Gjirokastra house , Emin Riza.-----	12
Figure nr 2. Masterplan of Tirana in 1923. -----	19
Figure nr 3. Proposal of boulevard in 1925, Armando Brasini. -----	20
Figure nr 4. Vitaliano Poselli -----	23
Figure nr 5. Poselli's studio -----	24
Figure nr 6. Map of section -----	26
Figure nr 7. Section A -----	27
Figure nr 8. Section B -----	27
Figure nr 9. Cici dwelling before/after -----	32
Figure nr 10. Hotel Argjiro , Zigai. -----	33
Figure nr 11. Hotel Savoia -----	34
Figure nr 12 . Villa Kokalari -----	34
Figure nr 13. Villa Papavangjeli -----	35
Figure nr 14. Komplex of Zigai -----	36
Figure nr 15. Kallajxhi Dwelling -----	36

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview to the topic

Albanian and Italian architects brought in attention the entire architectural and urban documentation of the objects built in Gjirokaster from 1925 to 1943. In Gjirokastra of the '20s and '30s, a real construction revolution took place that has left important traces until today. Relations between Italy and Albania have been present mostly during these centuries. From this point of view the occupation of Gjirokastra by Italy had great impacts in various fields of city's life . Economic relations , the flourishing of trade brings during the years '20 -'40 constructions with a new style in Gjirokastra. The development of the port of Saranda was something very important for the economic life of the city, giving the opportunity to establish trade relations with Italy and Greece. As a result of these developments, came the construction of the airport, dwellings built by the merchants that flourished in that period, hotels, the first banking buildings, school and administrative buildings, water supply and power plant. The Italian architects carried out the regulatory plans for different cities of Albania - in the fields of regional architecture and urban planning - the psychology of the Albanians free of property is respected.

This study aims to develop the argument on the evolution of modern architecture in Gjirokaster city, where there were a number of Italian constructions during the years 20-40. Those improvements had influenced people not only on architectural aspects but in their lives , culture , giving a new spirit of emancipation and thought

1.2 Problem Statement

One of the most important problems we face today in this city has to be with the degradation of those architectural treasures , the destruction of the architectural elements of that period, caused by a series of natural and human factors. The continuing degradation of monuments by the abandonment of owners, who can not take care of them. In 2005, when Gjirokastra was included in the protection of UNESCO, there were 559 monuments of the second category, while in 2017 the list remained 323 monuments of this category. A part from fire , earthquakes , floods ,the main cause of this phenomenon remains to be illegal constructions for profit purposes of citizens. According to the data on the infringements of the law on Protection of the Cultural Inheritance, there are 245 violations in Gjirokastra. These include new buildings and amendments to existing buildings. One of the most criteria is the disappearance of old architectural elements ,like stone walls and ceilings, and their replacement with new elements, like the usage of metal structures in windows, doors instead of wooden elements, or replacement of the stone slabs in the roofs with dark tiles.

Also today's restoration and networking policies of Gjirokastra have been left over , not having sufficient interest in the maintenance and restoration methods of buildings. Life development policies in the Historic Center of Gjirokastra need today, more than ever, the studies of architects and other renowned specialists ,restorer to work on these buildings as well as to keep alive the identity and values of this city.

1.3 Objectives of the research :

One of the most important, and high-level objectives are related to two support groups. First, those relating to the preservation of the historic town and, second, those relating to the impact of the Italian occupation on the creation of Gjirokastër city and its architectural features and material used ,concerning on how the traditional Gjirokastra's dwelling has been changed in time, to reach the building type we see nowadays. The study is aimed to analyze the local buildings through the

use of the of survey , questionaries with collaboration of residents ,local representatives of cultural heritage of Gjirokaster and digital instruments .

1.4 Research Questions :

-How did landscape shaped Gjirokastra dwellings.

-Which is the best way to preserve the Gjirokastras heritage in order to integrate those

buildings with the built environment?

-Which were the main architectural elements that had a great impact by Italian architecture in Gjirokastra?

-Which were the positive and negative impacts that Italian architecture brought after an intensive period that ottomans had on the city.

-What role does it have the climate , landscape and natural resources on architectural developments of Gjirokastra?

-If conservation may cause loss of authenticity of the oldest dwellings in Gjirokaster ,how can it be managed ?

-How has been adopted the building techniques of the traditional building with the new ones , in order to have a relationship between them?

Hypothesis nr 1 : The basic hypothesis is that Italian conquest has had a great role on the reshape of building in Gjirokaster , after the ottoman impacts ,because of economical , trade relations that developed the city in may aspect , especially in architecture, when we see not only improvements of the residential building , but also the built of first financial administrative objects.

Hypothesis nr 2 : The space of the urban and rural territory arranged by Italians in Albania undertook momentous transformations, and cultural monuments nowadays have been ruined rather than preserved.

1.5 Methodology :

1.5.1 Qualitative /Quantitative research

In order to achieve the wanted results , in this research I will go through different methods from different sources to collect information and data. The Research will start through Quantitative method , in which is supposed to study theoretical information done by different authors of articles , books ,and to be continued with Qualitative method which mean to analyze the result that came from site surveys and exploration of the area.

1.5.2 Data processing /analyzes on which this study will go through two phases :

Table 1 : Phases on which the study will be analysed.

PHASE 1	PHASE 2
- Literature,Studies(Books, Magazines,Newspapers)	- Confrontation of the material with reality in the terrain.
- Collection of data, materials ,from different sources .	- Interviews Representatives of traditional houses in Gjirokastra during this period .
- Gathering documents , plans , facades for buildings , from Gjirokastra representatives.	- Selection and presentation of informants.
	- Graphical analyses from data collected.

PHASE 1

-Literature studies , collection of data , materials , documents.

In order to achieve a comprehensive research it is necessary to study and analyze different concepts given by restorers , architects , people who deal with city heritage . It is an exploratory adventure about building architectural features , material used, factors that directly or indirectly influenced their architectural conditions , preservation and conservation methods used and restoration works done by architects.

Analyzing generally , architectural elements in Albanian buildings in the “ Historia e Arkitekture Shqiptare” , by Aleksander Meksi,taking references also by different authors that have made studies or Gjirokastra’s architecture such as : Apollon Bace , Emin Riza , Teodor Bilushi , Raimond Kola, Anna Bruna Menghini .

Continuing analyzes with historical aspects that led to the construction of building with Italian architectural elements , using the book “Architettura italiana in Albania” by Maria Adriana Giusti an Italian author that speaks about Italian architecture in Albania .

It was also necessary to study the analyzes given by architects discussing the “ conflict” that has to do with restoration of historical building in confrontation with new ones , in such a way to preserve historical values and elements , but at same time to be contemporary with surrounded buildings. The inclusion of the studies is an approach of this study to have more accurate ideas and methods of restoration.

The literature has been partly theoretical about heritage and partly descriptive about the history of the buildings in that period . Gathering of information at Central Archive of Tirana about the architectural features , materials used in traditional buildings during the period I am taking in my study. Also trying to find plans , sections , facades for some of the buildings that can be considered with more importance according to architectural features .

PHASE 2

-Confrontation of the material with reality in the terrain .

After several trips around the city, done, in order to have a confrontation of the gathered you may find the questionnaires that I did so that it would be easier for me to arrange the answers and to have a more completed task. Generally the questions were about buildings character , building dates , techniques and material used , if interior /exterior elements had been preserved since Italian period or replaced , owner investment in maintenance of the house , restoration history through years ,risk categorization, actual and previous function , category which it belongs , and if the building needs restoration or it is in a good condition.

People were very helpful in this aspect and the questions were often answered during the conversation without me being forced to ask them. The fact that I asked them to feel free to tell about every history of their houses during their stay or what they might have heard , gave the informant space to answer, reflect and argue.

Materials found by researches , with the existing one , there were many differences , missing information that I should update on my research . Showing the existing situation of the buildings and past condition of objects that were not shown in the bibliographic information. For example I have found information for 50 building is different publications but in reality there are more. So , the intention is to have a review for most of them .

-Interviews with Inhabitants of traditional houses in Gjirokastra and local authorities.

The interviews with people had two purposes. The main purpose was to explore who works with Gjirokastra heritage in order to provide information for the development of the building over years , restoration and conservation methods. The interviews were organized as conversations with representative of the house holders , but not only . In the Appendix Chapter it will be provided the questionnaire addressed to people.

All conversations were recorded and transcribed, and I also made notes during and after the interviews. The interviews took between 45-90 minutes depending on the historical background of each building. Most of the interviews were carried out in the

people's house and other interviews took place in cafés. One of the most things that I really appreciated for them was that they were very willing to help me on everything , also by offering to see and investigate their house also from inside. This helped me so much on identification of interior elements , if they were preserved transformed , or totally disappeared. Some of the people knew so much for my topic , they were well prepared to gave me answers as there as there ,such studies, had been done by various persons . Apart from giving information that I asked for , they felt free to give me ideas on restoration of the buildings , how it could be better for them .

-Selection and presentation of informants.

In the end of the interviews , I have selected the information and to put in my presentation the answers of some of them . I have categorized the people that I have taken for interview in two main categories , according to their profession and the relation with the city. Also questions addressed to them are divided into categories.

Table 2 : Selection of informants based on their profession.

<p>Informant 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gjirokastra's inhabitants • House owners 	<p>- This is the category of most of the informants that were taken in question. The first informant was the owner of one of the most important building in the city of Gjirokastra.</p>
<p>Informant 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architects • Archaeologist • Restorer 	<p>- In this category were architects, archeologist that had educational background about my research , they had worked Institute of Monuments of Culture (IMK) at the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, Youth and Sports. The informant has education from Albania and was specialized in heritage management.</p>

1.5.3 Evaluation

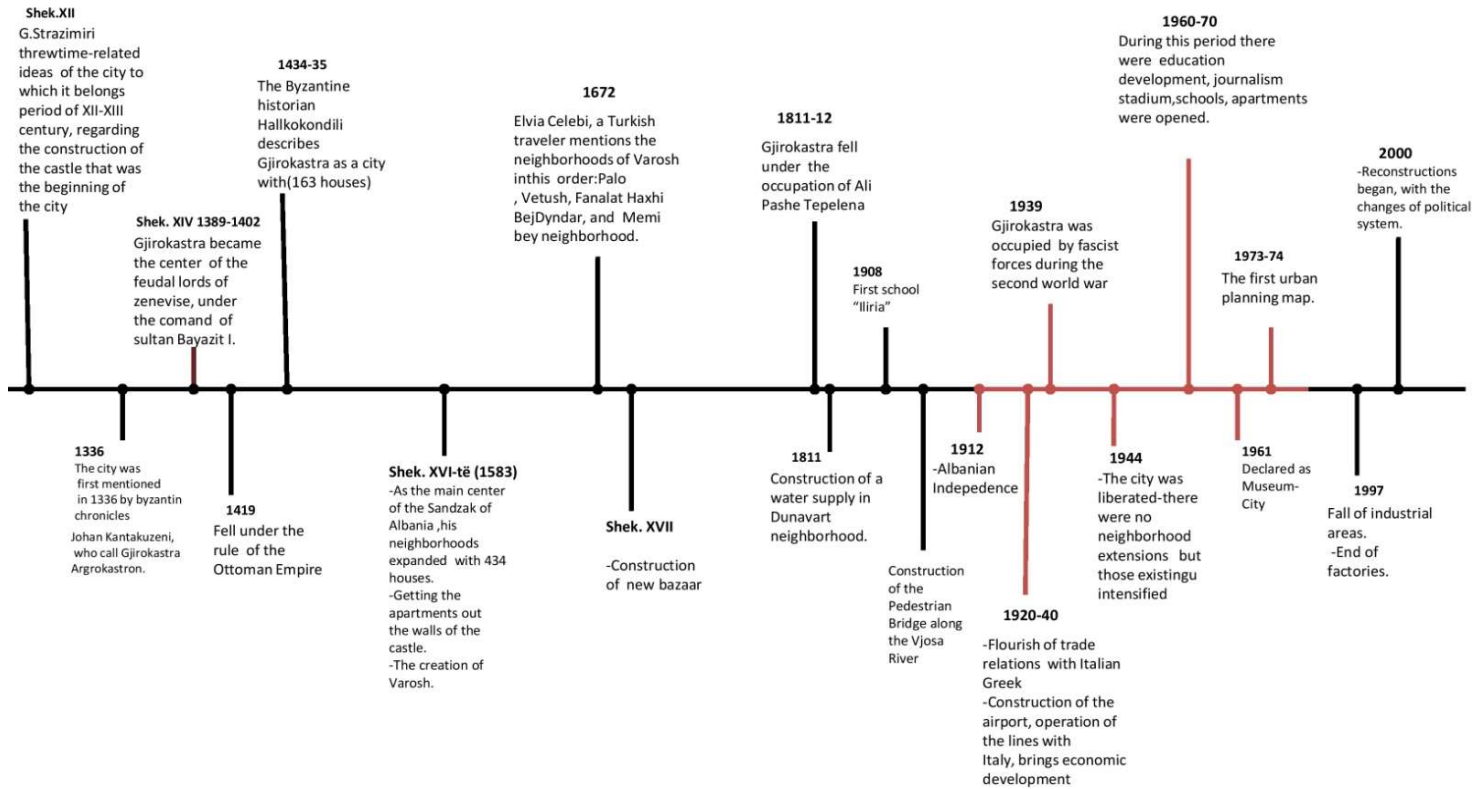
After a detailed examination of gathered materials , the use of different methods like surveys , experiments , we came in this stage to sum up the whole study. The common goal of this stage is to extract the information from sources , organizations , people, administrators , in order to provide valuable and accurate insights for the selected topic. Comparative studies are done between 35 villas to understand and classify specific details of villa's facades, and exterior elements.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

The literature review is chosen in order to provide the answer for the questions of this study . Also to have a clearer understanding of the problems statement in this article , and to give a good solutions in the end. Before continuing with the readings , here is a timeline that express the stages where the development of the city of Gjirokastra has passed. The specified red lines , are set to show the period in which my study will be stopped and more focused.

Development of Gjirokastra city .



— Represents developments before /during/after Ottoman period.

— Represents Italian period on which my study is focused.

2.1 Museum city of Gjirokaster

According to well known , Albanian restorer and researcher of historical monuments Dr.Emin .Riza on his book *Museum-city of Gjirokaster* , the city appears to be dated in 1936 mentioned by byzantine chronicles Johan Kantakuzeni recording it as Argyrókastron . G.Strazimiri threw the idea related to the time when Gjirokastra as created . According to him , the city belongs the period of XII-XIII regarding to the construction of Gjirokastra castle which seems to be the beginning of the city. During 1434 the Byzantine historian mention Gjirokastra as a city with 163 houses. During this time , the city was led by feudal of Zenebishi family , but later on , in 1419 it fell under the rule of Ottomans .The historian of Skenderbe writings , Marlin Barleti says : "At the time of the siege of Berat by Skanderbeg, Girocastrum is in the hands of the Ottomans."

The citadel is the the starting point of the city life .City was created inside citadel walls , and later it was expanded outside the walls . During Ottomans period there was a development of the city , when its neighborhoods expanded to 434 houses in 1583 . During November 1670, the Turkish traveler, Evlia Çelebi ,began his third and journey into Albanian territory , describing it that way :

"... The open city is situated on 8 hills and valleys on all sides of the castle, with multi-storey houses, with stone roofs and surrounded by gardens and vines. Each of these well-built houses has a tower. The surrounding walls of the courtyards are built of a kind of white granite, worked by stonemasons, as if they were Ankara bricks of clay. Both the rich and the poor have such walls. Square-cut stones are found only in the cities of Tire and Manisa in Anatolia yra The way of building the outer walls of houses has no companion in the world. They are all 20 inches high, made of blocks of red sandstone, simply placed stone upon stone, with no mud, lime or mortar to bind them. The walls and houses are hundreds of years old, from the time of the infidels. The city has a very good climate and for this reason, the inhabitants have a healthy physique... Gjirokastra people mourn for their dead relatives for 40-50 or even 80 years... for this reason I called Gjirokastra "the city of mourning".

From his description it can be created the first ideas of city's architectural elements ,housing characteristics , social life , culture , climate and other aspects that have had impacts on the city .

While the city fell under the leadership of Ali Pashe Tepelena in the city underwent great developments not only economic and social aspects but also architectural ones. Construction of the bazaar , water supply , schools , bridges were some of developments during this period. The most significant work on the dwelling typology of Gjirokastra's buildings was conducted in the 1980s. It is well analyzed on this monograph of *Riza.E(1981) Museum-City of Gjirokastra*, when he describes the element of traditional houses , materials and construction techniques. In Gjirokastër you immediately notice the frequent use of stone , that why it is called city of stone . Dwelling had character of “kulla” , fortified –tower houses. Main material used were limestone for foundation ,walls timber floor and roofs , clay mortar. Famous for its stone roofs , Gjirokastra is certainly a treasure in Albanian architecture .In this book Riza mention and analyses the development of Gjirokastra houses plan as below : (Figure.1)

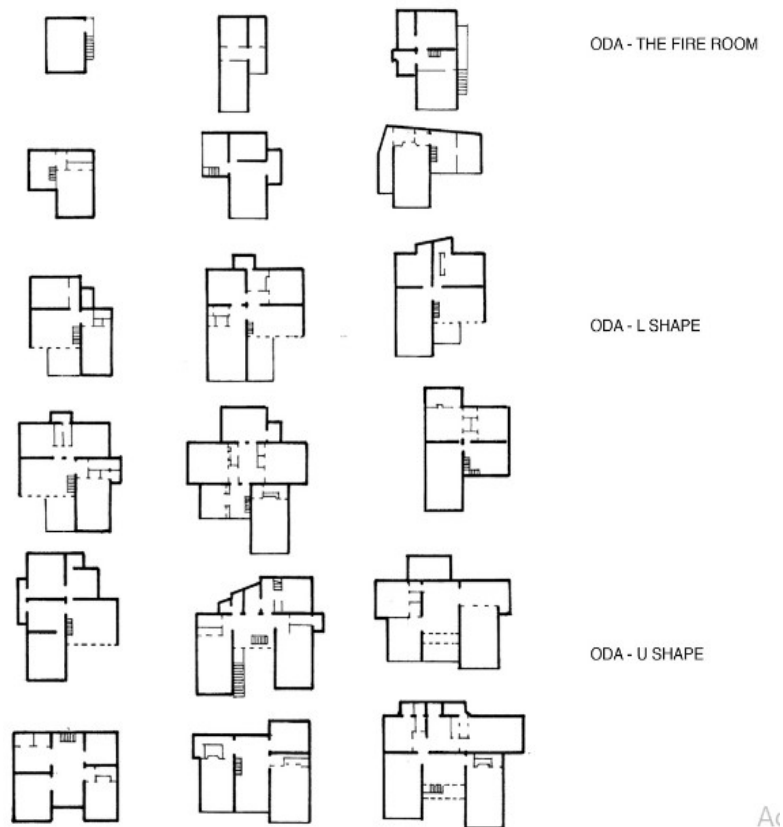


Figure 1: Development of Gjirokastra house , Emin Riza.

As mentioned before the origin of the city, is the citadel, that was an important element on urban development of the city. In the urban development of the city has played a special role the diverse terrain of the city, making a not at all uniform relocation of dwellings. This has also influenced the neighborhoods to have their own distinctive characteristics from each other. During XVII century, the construction of bazaar, that became as the city centre, there was a significant increase of the city. The road network was also conditioned by quite steep terrain. Streets are paved with black cobblestones, as a distinctive element of this city. Due to the slope, we have the use of the toothed technique, ie the interruption of the road with small steps. The use of the stone has not helped only for the sloppy terrain, but it gave the city a characteristic view for which this city is known as city of stone.

2.1.1 Development of Gjirokastras house

Gjirokastra's dwelling is a type with distinctive characteristics regarding the Albanian civic dwellings. This has to do with socio-economical developments of this city, in comparison with other cities, as it was an administrative and exchange center. In this city we have to do with an evolutionary dwelling from architectonic point of view. Gjirokastra dwelling was constructed by traders, and it served to one family.

The dwelling are generally three-storey, with a compact and quite rugged layout. The partial terrain enables the increase of the surface on each floor by creating a connection with the terrain. Decorative works, doors, windows and furniture are an important feature of the house, which are related in a very organic way to the construction. Traditional "Oda" is the basic compositional element of the dwelling which is different from its layout, function and design. From construction overview, the dwelling is known for its simple schemes. Important element is the use of arches and vaults, roof construction and the fortified characteristic that it has. It is seen on its material used, such as stone, with strong walls and minimalist passage and lighting spaces. In the figure 2, we can see the development of houses planimetry, that has been more simple at the beginning, and then the layout have been more irregular and compact.

2.2 Traces of Italian Architecture in Albania 1925-1943

"A country is not blank sheet on which you can write everything you want, nor is it just an economic organism, governed only by economic laws, but an extremely complicated and sensitive body that has become what it is, through a centuries-old process, so that it cannot be changed from top to bottom with a stroke of a magic wand "Giovanni Lorenzoni.

This book about Italian architecture in Albania in the first half of the twentieth century tries to shed light on a topic of great interest, still not fully explored in Italian architecture abroad. Fascist architecture had a great role on the development of socio-economical , architectural of Albanian cities after 1900 , when Albania was occupied by Italians . This period is marked by a rich production of projects that had a different approach in Albania from other European nations.

2.2.1 The main urban and architectural interventions in Albania

The main urban and architectural interventions in Albania, 1925 - '39 , were made by roman architects that were responsible for public works and urban plans of the capital city of Albania , and Durres. The port of Durres was built with great architectural skills , designed by the engineer Luigi Luiggi , who was well-known for the important projects done by him. It was developed a regulatory plan for the main urban centers and construction of roads.

Vittorio Ballio Morpurgo was called to design the Albanian National Bank in Tirana and the Durres-Valona branches, along the lines Tirana-Durres, Shkoder - Elbasan, with several bridges and works of art in Coriza and Durazzo , where he used different engineering techniques that weren't seen before. The urban plan of Armando Brasini , for the new capital, established a provisional government that decreed Tirana as the temporary capital of Albania.

After the decision of Ahmed Zog . to keep Tirana as the capital of Albania , it was now necessary to completely design a capital city of the European type , in order to achieve an urban structure equipped with an adequate network of infrastructures. With a perfect geographic position, in an intersection of north-south and east-west roads, Tirana seemed at the right place to house the government structures of the new

state. The city appears today as an agglomeration of sloping roofs and partitions of raw earth plastered in white. The narrow and winding streets, without a logical order, flow, getting lost in the shapeless and irregular urban fabric. The interplay of these recurring roofs is altered by the presence of Islamic and Catholic religious public buildings. Important are the construction of the Et'hem Beu Mosque.

In 1938 , great urban interventions for the development of Tirana capital city, became a binding urban pre-existence. The urban development of the Old Bazaar, adjacent to the complex of the Et'hem Bej Mosque and the Clock Tower, divided Tirana into two parts: in the east the residential part made up of simple buildings, mostly partly in raw earth, and to the west that of the bazaar, trade and handicraft production, where the system of streets and squares was an integral part of the compact vernacular city. Furthermore , presented a typically oriental structure, where the existing urban fabric, considered by many as a "garden city", had to quickly make room for the new government structures of the new state, which had not existed until then .Also due to demographic shifts , there was an expansion of the city. Main urban and architectural intervention in Albania, 1925 - '39 reorganizing the new blocks placed to replace one of a deserving European capital. Squares, by the urban doors that screen the enclosed space, delegated to the monumental key celebration of the political and administrative power ". Renewing or changing aspects and uses of the public space appeared fundamental, in a context in which any description of the current state was aimed at condemning the hygienic, aesthetic and moral aspects.

Other projects worth to be mentioned , designed by italians , were :

National Bank of Tirana by Guido Fiorini . It was assumed that the building should have been constructed in the city centre , at Skanderbeg square. It was composed with elementary volumes:central dome resting on a parallelepiped.Also decorative elements like friezes , ornaments were very used.

Port of Durres:Luiggi's interventions is accompanied by the design of an important port , customs and office building,which still serves as the main entrance to the port .The urban layout of these buildings welcomes with its extended arms, to open the flows from the city to the port.

Ministry of the Interior and Public Works: The buildings of the Ministry of the Interior and Public Works are located by Di Fausto in such a way as to create the final fifth, the closure of Piazza Scanderbeg, and, at the same time, to be the starting point of the second part of the boulevard. The two buildings had two floors high with a single central entrance positioned along the central axis of symmetry. Even the details used on the façade, albeit simplified, referred to the education building. In the 1940s, both offices of the ministries underwent changes, modifying them in an important way: the addition of a top and the exposed brick covering of the facades.

Municipal Palace (Bashkija) : 1928-31 Di Fausto's building of the Bashkija is considered to be the most successful building designed around the Scanderbeg Square. Built in 1931, the building, which overlooked two important streets, Boulevard Zog, and via Nana Mbretneshe . In the 1939 master plan, in the study for the center, Bosio decided to demolish the building built eight years earlier as it was not part of the project area. In fact, the building was demolished only forty years later, during the communist regime, to make room for the new National History Museum

Tracce dell Architettura Italiana in Albania 1925-1943 , Armand Vokshi

2.4 Case study of Italian period on other Albanian cities (Vlora)

One of the oldest cities in the country and the capital after the declaration of Independence by Ismail Qemali. From 1912 to 1920 the city was occupied by the Italians. A series of urban settlements and new constructions followed, road widening and paving, construction of a hospital, a slaughterhouse and a covered market. Thanks to S.V.E.A funds, large infrastructure systems were also invested, such as: the construction of a water supply system, which had a length of 7 km. After 1929, thanks to state funds, the Hospital Municipality was built psychiatric, high school. As in the case of Gjirokastra, in Vlora there were great changes in the commercial and

industrial fields, which led to the further development of the city. In 1932 a Regulatory Plan by Italians was drafted for the settlement of Vlora, some partial urban studies were done by the technical office of the Municipality. The plan was followed by a series of variants, in 1934 and 1935, which was a continuous line with the existing one and represented a polycentric urban structure.

After the relocation of the capital to Tirana and the creation of the port of Durrës, the port of Vlora experienced a period of decline compared to its flourishing past especially during the Ottoman rule. For the city center the 1934 plan proposed the creation of the famous Flag Square and its public park, separated by an artery to lead to the port. The trapezoidal square opened scenically over the wide garden where in 1932 a statue was erected commemorating the historic act of declaring Independence. In the emerging square, there was only one important building, Bank of Albania built in 1927, for which in 1941 the architect Vittorio Ballio Morpurgo designed an extension with the construction of a new building, opposite the existing one. The new building was to have a trapezoidal shape and serve as the façade of the new block of buildings. Its facade with the entrance portico in all its height, the walk slightly bent and the central courtyard are reminiscent of the headquarters of the Bank of Tirana. The project also envisaged the expansion of the existing headquarters by turning it into a courtyard building with a uniform facade.

In 1942 a Regulatory Plan with a big vision for the city was approved. Following the step-by-step instructions of the previous plan, he focused the development of the city between the old core and the port.

Article : Overview of the italian architecture in durrës from 1920 to 1944.

CHAPTER 3

THEORITICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 Overview of Italian Architecture in Albanian cities

Traditional architecture is an instrument for each country, to express their cultural representation including people, dwellings, behaviors, that makes a country different. If we speak on the architectural aspects, Albania has had a great impact and developments on architecture, notably during 1920-1945. That why during those years our country became acquainted with development in both economic and social live, consequently in architecture.

Albania has been firstly conquered by ottomans and before Italians, there was a great impact of ottoman architecture In Abania's cities. The constructions of that period were mainly of a religious character, in such a way that the Ottomans could reach their intention to change the religion of Albanian people. Urban structures were created around mosques which was the element of social and political unity. In this way every city began to rise above these urban structures when the mosque was the nucleus of this structure shown in (Figure 2)

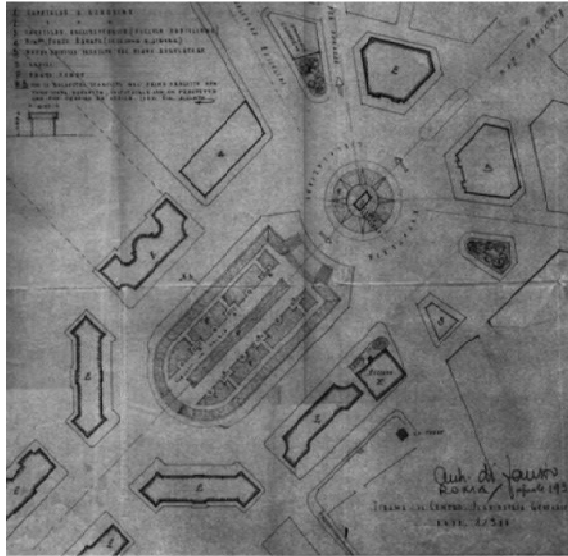


Figure 2: Masterplan of Tirana in 1923.

In November 1912 , Albania won the independence from Ottoman rule, ending the transition with urban structures during which the city had a clear and oriental development.

After the proclamation of Tirana as the capital of Albania, the need arose to give the city a new political and administrative image. In this way in 1923 under the direction of the Albanian engineer Eshref Frashëri the first regulatory plan was sketched. This first project was based, for the first time, on a cartography of correctly, thanks to IGM Florence surveys.

In 1925, Armando Brasini came to Albania to offer his professionalism regarding city projects. Brasini proposed a plan that envisioned an intervention in the city center, which consisted of a group of six administrative buildings, with a central boulevard. Then the plan would be simplified by Florestano Di Fausto , which consisted of the realization of a wide boulevard which would separate the existing city from its periphery and which was proposed as the monumental and governing center of a new city and a new autonomous city.

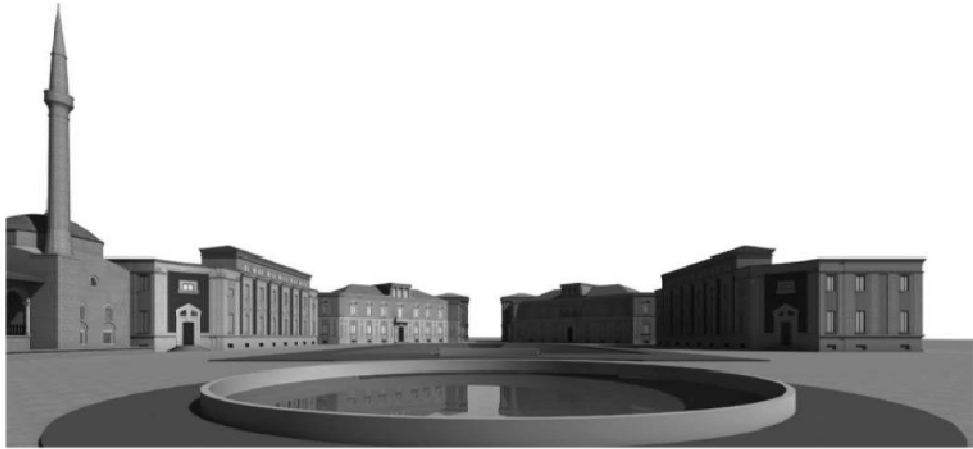


Figure 3: Proposal of boulevard in 1925, Armando Brasini.

In 1926 the second general plan for the city was drafted, which was characterized by the idea of Brasini for the construction of the axis north-south as an element of the hierarchical structure of the rectangular grid of roads. Brasini's project for Tirana was approved because it offered a simpler composition and a harmonious solution, but also because it included the Ethem Bey Mosque and the pre-existing Clock Tower. The variant proposed by the architect Florestano Di Fausto intended to make Tirana a modern European city. In Di Fausto's project the square predicts a large park in its center and a range of buildings representative surrounding it. As a conclusion the contribution of Italian architects in building the image of Tirana. Gherardo Bosio, developed a new regulatory plan, in his capacity as Advisor and First Director of the Central Office for Construction and Urban planning of Albania. He devoted a special commitment, in addition to planning the capital, to drafting regulatory plans and building regulations for the main Albanian cities: Durrës, Vlorë, Elbasan, Porto Edda, Korçë, Shkodër. The office was engaged in designing city plans in economic, design and executive terms, both for public interventions and private construction.

According to the data, Italian architects have contributed to the planning of Albanian cities according to two periods during the holiday: The first phase, which runs from 1915 to 1939. Their contribution starts from the design and construction of the infrastructure system, continuing with drafting Regulatory Plans.

Gjirokastra, as one of the oldest cities in the country, is characterized by stone fortified dwellings, 2 or 3 storeys, elements that came as a result of the Ottoman occupation during the war. During the years 20-30, when it was under Italian occupation, it was given a boost for the construction of the city where there were public and private investments.

Berat : Even this city was one of most ancient cities , and one of and with a high cultural heritage, a very small investment fund was made available to them. Among them we can mention a vocational school, two hotels, a cinema, several administrative and commercial buildings, a power plant electricity, reconstruction of the Gorica bridge, flour factory, some small manufactures, a garden, an aviation runway and a small number of dwellings.

Korca : Between 1920 and 1939 the city of Korça became one of the most developed cities. New offices, a barracks, an aviation runway and the urban resettlement of many parks and public spaces began to be created. Thanks to very large donations¹¹ some socio-cultural works were built such as cinemas, investments in light industry such as the alcohol tobacco factory.

3.2 “Italian architecture of '900 in Gjirokaster”

Along this study it will be stopped mostly in the period of Italian occupation in Gjirokastra. The aim is to analyze the impacts of Italian architecture in this city , developments on urban and residential areas . Many of the models of Italian imperial architecture and planimetry are similar or identical to other buildings in other parts of the Italian colonies. Italian architecture in Gjirokaster is represented in the built and un built projects of Italian architects in the space-time between 20-45 years. As mentioned before , Italians there were not only developments in the architectural aspect, but also in the socio-economic one, bringing a new spirit of development in the country. Taking advantage of the geographical position of Gjirokastra which was located at the crossroads, traders began to get rich, creating a new layer besides the feudal one. Sea port of Saranda was one of the most important in Albania , in terms of trade exchanges, thus making a very large economic development of the city. The construction of air lines and airport had impact on trade developments with Italy,

which also brought about the creations of new economic relations that extended beyond the sea.

According to the author (Teodor Bilushi) the flourishing of trade with neighboring countries such as Italy and Greece brought a new spirit of construction to Gjirokastra. There were different typologies constructed during this time , starting from power station, high school (gymnasium) of the city, Prison in Kala, Hotels, Residence The Catholic Church up to the aqueduct. For the first time , due to, economical developments , thanks to trade relations with Italy , in the city were built banks , gymnasium , electrical station . Among these constructions, for almost twenty years, stand out apartments and villas, but also hotels in the characteristic Bazaar area, as well as shopping complexes.

3.3 Design studio and construction company "Poselli".



Figure 4 : Vitaliano Poselli

The first Italian specialist to open a design studio and a construction venture in Gjirokastra was the Italian architect Vitaliano Poselli in 1927. This architect lived

and worked in this city for about 10 years, designing, building and reconstructing social, commercial, residential and art objects in the engineering network of national roads, which had just begun to be built in our country.

His arrival in Gjirokastra was not made by any intergovernmental agreement, it was an individual choice of Vitaliano himself for personal motives in search of the labor market. This architect had worked in other places in the region. Vitaliano Poselli married Emma Covi (23/10/1897), daughter of Giacomo Covi born in Cles in Trentino and Serafina Theosoglu (born in Smirne). Lives with architecture together with uncle very famous in Istanbul for the reconstruction of the Church of "St. Stephen" and many other works realized in Istanbul and Turkey.

Vitaliano Poselli and Emma Covi due to the Greek-Turkish war are transferred to Thessaloniki - Greece. Here they collaborate in designs, ventures and constructions with the Italian architect Piero Arrigoni born in Turin in 1856. Their collaboration in Thessaloniki Gjirokastra, will make possible the construction of some important facilities still present in Thessaloniki such as the Italian hospital, but also some neo-classical style villas and buildings. From 1927 to 1936 Vitaliano will live and work in Gjirokastra, where he settles with his family. In Gjirokaster Vitaliano designs, builds and reconstructs several houses and buildings for Albanians and Italians. His company works in this period also in the construction of several bridges and roads in Tepelena, Sinanaj, Berat, Korca, etc. In the period 1937 - 1949 Vitaliano and his family transfer from Gjirokastra and worked in Vlora .



Figure 5: Poselli's studio

According to the memories of his nephew Aldo Terrusi, Vitaliano found in Gjirokastra not only a job market but also warmth and hospitality so he settled with the whole family in Gjirokastra. This architect stayed in Albania until 1949, after Gjirokastra he worked in Vlora and Tirana. Vitaliano's son, Giacomo Poselli, was the goalkeeper of the Albanian national team that won the Balkan Games in 1946. In 1949 they were repatriated to Italy. But the Italian construction in Gjirokastra of the '20s-'40s has also recognized large-scale projects in the framework of major investments such as roads, bridges, airport, total reconstruction of the Lyceum, water supply, etc. Here we meet other names such as the well-known Gjirokastra society "Selfo", which implemented the reconstruction of the Lyceum but also built the former Catholic Church, etc. As well as the Italian company "Puricelli" specialized in infrastructure such as roads, bridges, etc

Architettura moderna italiana per la citta d' Albania: F.Pashako

Article from Teodor Bilushi , Italian Architecture in Gjirokaster.

3.4 Importance of landscape on architecture of Gjirokastra .

Gjirokastra represents a wide range of the orthographic features , and intertwines with a diversity of urban elements which reveal a dramatic natural landform. The geographical position of the castle is situated in a post that shows the commanding role on the city ,looking over the valley. Here is a longitudinal section to understand better the terrain.

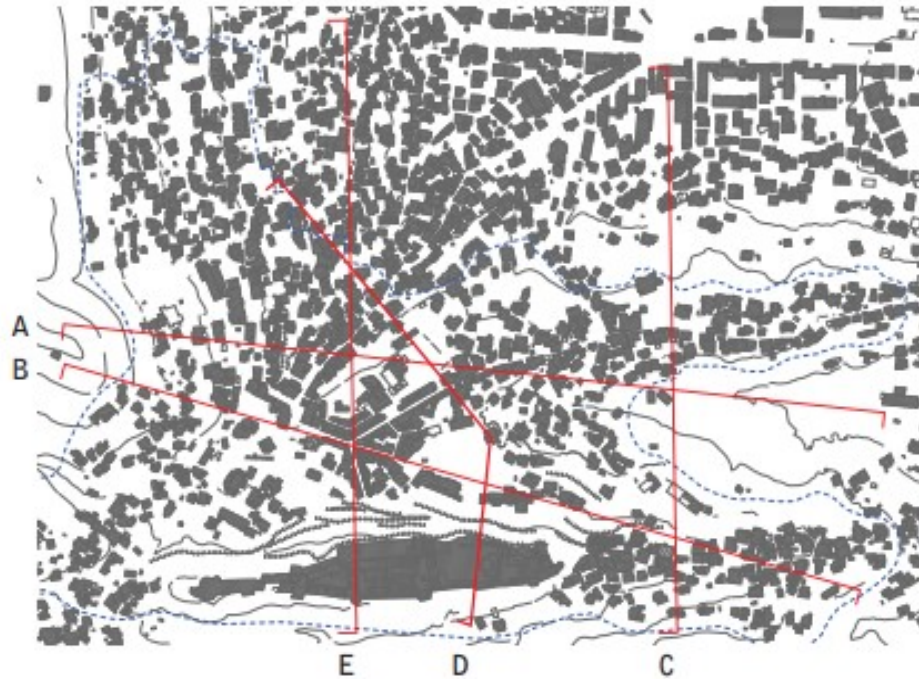
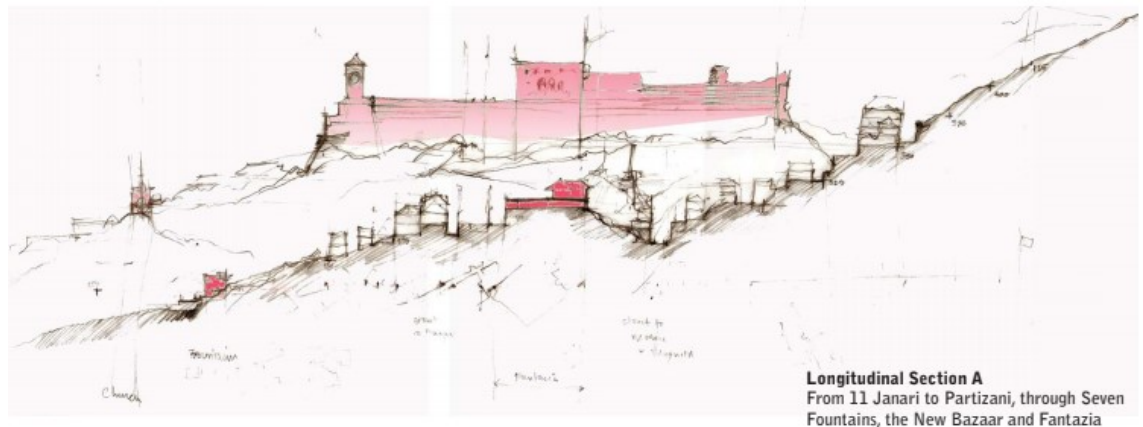


Figure 6 : Top view map of sections

The steep terrain was the key factor to determine the building character , material and techniques used , and consequently the architecture that the city represents. City has a very dramatic system of road and circulation , when the old roads are steep, winding, and tightly constricted by buildings , leaving so , a very little space for pedestrians. Although the steep , helps the city for to leave districts vegetated , as it serves as a drainage channel. The town's districts are organized along ridges and the main roads generally follow the centerline of the ridges, linking town and castle. Roads are made of stone due to the terrain and wars , buildings have been fortified using strong materials like stone , steel .

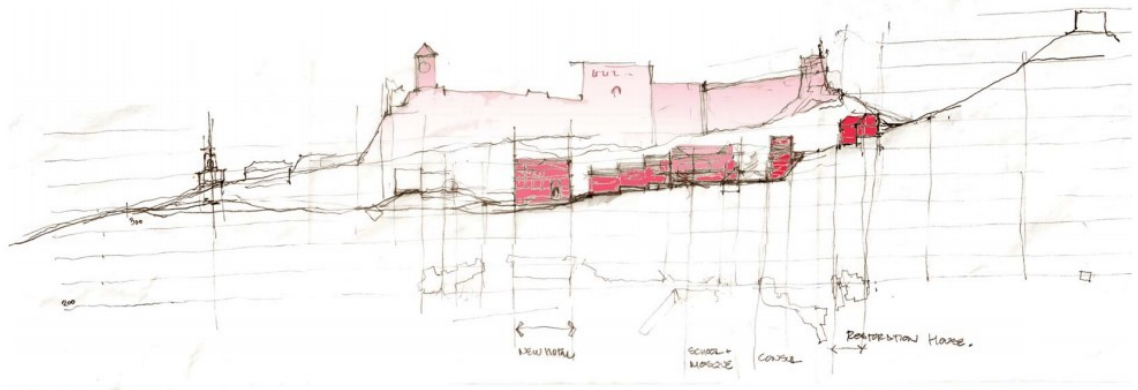
However the urban condition of the city is not sustainable , due to traffic and tiny roads. Many historic towns in the world have developed successful strategies to avoid vehicular and pedestrian traffic , including : the creation of car parks along historic district , restricting traffic to residential and official vehicles, providing low-cost buses for people.

Sections below , shows the relationship of the town with topography , when the reveal proximities and separations between places in the city, created by the dramatic changes in elevation.



Longitudinal Section A
From 11 Janari to Partizani, through Seven Fountains, the New Bazaar and Fantazia

Figure 7. Section A



Longitudinal Section B
From Old Bazaar to Pazari i Vjeter, through Orthodox Church, Cerciz Topulli Square, Mosque and Regional Council Building

Figure 8. Section B

3.5 Historical monuments of Gjirokastra , building typologies evolution during Italian period.

During this period we have the opening of first hotels : “Royal” and “Savoya” Royal hotel was in ownership of Haderaj family , and was constructed in different time phases .It has been an example of an luxury object of that time in Gjirokaster , where apart from bedrooms , there was a a modern restaurant . The value of this hotel it is seen by the powerful people that used to have time there , like Italian king and his family , Albanian king , senior soldiers of Italy and Germany. Rapid developments in trade exchanges would bring to Gjirokastra the need for investment in shopping centers or commercial units. One of the most prominent and that today is left in a miserable condition is the Shopping Complex of "Zigai" in the Bazaar, owned by Mr. Aristidh Zigai. This building, dated in 1937, in terms of its construction, architecturally and functionally presents a completely new element for the city.

For the first time, Gjirokastra was introduced with the banking activity in the '30s by the construction and operation of two Banks: "Banca Nazionale d'Albania" and "Banco di Napoli". Those objects brought an innovation of elements to the city not previously known. For the function that they had here we have the use of concrete, iron and massive stone walls with mortar. At "Banco di Napoli" we have the presence of balconies with decorative railings, but in these facilities there are also bars on the windows in the form of railings, heavy shutters and railings as a security element. We also encounter the use of decorative tiles in laying floors. Constructed in 1942 Gjirokastra High School represents the main educational facility in the Historic Center built according to the most advanced architectural and structural techniques of the time. Architectural, structural, functional, hydraulic elements applied there gives unique values to the city.

3.5.1 Evolution of balconies parapet, and other elements in houses.

In appearance, balconies, verandas, window shutters, iron railings worked on balconies, verandas and courtyards, iron doors, etc. stand out. From the structural point of view, the use of concrete and steel columns and beams is noticed, as well as the division of the floors with concrete slabs and bricks placed half-arched on steel

rails. In the interior we have the use of tiles, marble stairs and decorative tiles. Tiled roofs are another characteristic element in most of the constructions of this period. All of the above elements are missing in the characteristic Gjirokastra dwelling previously built. In the constructions of this period we also notice the use of new construction technologies which bring new architectural typologies in Gjirokastra. Dealing with new technologies and construction techniques is an issue that even today deserves special attention and raises many discussions that I believe we will leave to other studies of this type.

3.5.2 Different materials and techniques in traditional dwellings .

On the structural side, apart from the massive walls, columns, beams and concrete slabs, the characteristic covering remains the floors of the corridors and classrooms with granite tiles as well as the marble stairs. An important element not mentioned above but very characteristic for the constructions of this period are concrete terraces with parapets and the presence of red tiled roofs and , that gave the city a wonderful panorama . In addition to the numerous constructions mentioned above, where the influence of the Italian school of construction and design is clearly felt, we have in this period some studies that would help in the future urban development of the city of Gjirokastra. In 1937, the Military Geographical Institute of Florence carried out for the first time the cartography of the city of Gjirokastra at a scale of 1: 5000. This cartography served the studies and development plans that were carried out in later years. In those building we see evolutionary in construction , that wasn't found before. The houses underwent changes in both architecturally and functionally aspect. All the above elements introduced before Gjirokastra new elements unknown before, but later they would become something normal.

-Towards an urban landscape masterplan for Gjirokastra

-The vernacular heritage of Gjirokastra: Analysis of urban and constructive features , threats and conservation strategies .

3.6 Monumentet : Problems and criteria for building restoration.

Our legislation on the protection of monuments characterizes the historic dwellings of Gjirokastra according to two categories. In this way, the restoration criteria for the monuments of the first category must be applied in the whole apartment, while in the buildings of the second category, in facilities or elements with important values.

Plan of restoration interventions of Gjirokastra, seems to be an even more necessity after the proclamation of the city, as “ Pasuri Boterore”. Recognition of objects, especially their technical condition is the most important criterion to undergo restoration interventions . Damage, weakening or loss of technical parameters of materials, which form various structural structures, which become the cause of the collapse of buildings, are of greater importance, which affects their selection to be restored immediately . It is also important to observe the supporting structures of the masonry and the roof covering which can cause serious damage in the collapse of their various stages.

The historical center of Gjirokastra in today's situation seems problematic, where among the main remains that of matching the opportunities offered by monuments compared to contemporary conditions and requirements for living. The demands are ever increasing while the opportunities offered are very limited . Monuments of the first category about 12% of the number are preserved in all architectural components, exterior and interior. More problematic seems to be the situation of the monuments of second category .

Restorations criteria that should be taken into consideration while selecting dwellings in need of restoration :

1- Technical situation of the building , which has to do with the damage or weakening of the technical parameters of the materials, various structural elements which threaten the collapse of the building. Particularly important is the look of retaining structures and roofs that can cause major damage to the collapse of buildings.

2- The value of the monument that is related to the degree of importance of the monument from the point of view of its rarity, architectural and technical values, rare ornaments, special elements of interior and exterior.

3- Typology of the monument: the typological rarity of the monument is a very important factor in the selection of restoration interventions.

4- Category of the monument: Albanian monuments are divided into two categories according to value: the first category which includes buildings with greater values from the architectural point of view compared to those of the second category, making this feature very important in the selection of building restoration interventions .

5- Location of the monument: the location of the monument in the architectural ensembles should be evaluated in selection, taking into account those monuments with new distinctive characteristics.

Depending on the case study, it may be a single criterion or some of these criteria. This will be determined by the specialist who is well acquainted with the historical-architectural values, and the restoration criteria to achieve a more accurate ranking of the buildings that need restoration intervention.

3.6.1 Abandonment and Illegal Constructions

There are two very big threats that we are facing every day and more, in the buildings of Gjirokastra. The characteristic houses of Gjirokastra are becoming more and more extinct as a result of abandonment by the owners and lack of institutional attention . More than 200 houses, second and first category monuments in Gjirokastra, have collapsed or been declared uninhabitable during the last 2 decades.

Dwellings such as Kabilatët, Selfatët, Lolomani, Lito, Topulli, Hadëraj, Kunavi, Cene, Cici , Çabej have already been turned into ruins or half-ruins. This dwelling belonged to Cene family . In this building it is clearly to see Italian intervention , in such decorative elements , but it was firstly constructed during ottoman period , which is also understood from its planimetry which represents the type of planimetry with two wings. Today this object is not even monument and his condition is critical and risks losing forever

This house which belonged to Cici family is another example of abandoned building , there is a lack of interest from both the owners and by the authorities. Before 90' it has functioned as a Radio , but because of the fire which engulfed it which left considerable consequences, it was abandoned and neglected.

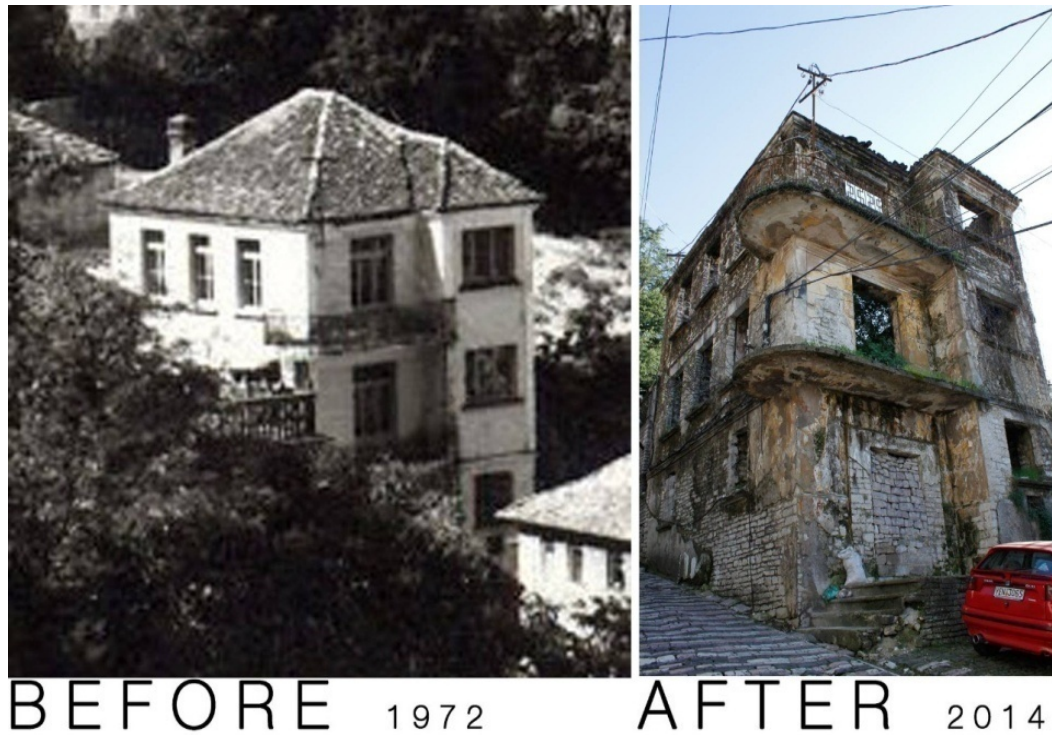


Figure 9 . Cici dwelling before/after

Also , In January 2014, the house of Hadëraj, a cultural monument of the first category, collapsed due to lack of investment. The 250-year-old building had begun degradation years ago, collapsing parts of the building . The danger that causes by this building for the surrounding buildings forced the Committee of Civil Emergencies in the Municipality of Gjirokastra to take the decision to demolish the western part. The magnificent building with a roof area of 516 square meters had lost all hope of restoration after the fire that engulfed April 2013. 1/3 of the residents of this neighborhood have left. Residents say the degradation came from non-investment, abandonment and eviction of owners. People do not have the economic

means to restore centuries-old houses and it seems that demolition is a phenomenon that is not stopping.

Illegal Constructions are another problem nowadays in this City . Emin Riza, at the same time the compiler of the Gjirokastra file for UNESCO, claims that this problematic situation has existed for a long time in this historical center. According to him, this has come not only because the law is not implemented, but also because in many cases the word of specialists has not been heard. In his reaction, academician Emin Riza claims that illegal constructions in Gjirokastra are many, and these undermine the authenticity. "Illegal constructions cause irreparable damage. If this destruction continues and no measures are taken to prevent these problems that are today in Gjirokastra, it may be removed from the UNESCO list.



Figure 10 . Hotel Argjiro , Zigai.

In the first photo , it is the case of Argjiro-Hotel , a case of non –professional interventions are done , when we have to do with the replacement of windows with duralumin windows, a floor has been added, the roof has been eliminated and replaced with a new one. Those interventions have endangered the authenticity of the building where often these objects have been demolished and rebuilt again or in other forms replacing almost everything.

In the second case , there is another object , Zigai building, one of the buildings in the center of Gjirokastra Bazaar. in this building, in addition to changing the color, we are also dealing with the replacement of other architectural elements, specifically the roof, stairs or interior. In Gjirokastra it is not difficult to distinguish in the historic area interventions without criteria that come as slight additions to the structures of historic dwellings with new elements, which conflict with the old style of construction.

Regarding the illegal constructions in the museum area of Gjirokastra, the architect Kreshnik Merxhani says that the city experienced a period of calm after the UNESCO reactive report of 2012, where the organization sought protection of monuments.

"But the illegal constructions, although they seem to have been temporarily suspended, were never stopped," says Merxhani, adding that to date there is no plan to recover those assets that have been damaged by previous interventions.

"There are about 400 illegal constructions, for which there is no long-term recovery program," said the architect.

Kreshnik Merxhani : Gjirokastra during Italian period.

Monumentet.

CHAPTER 4

Study areas

4.1 Analyzes on most important buildings in Gjirokastra, during this period, in Varosh.

During Italian period the city of Gjirokastra was introduced to a series of developments in architecture . Were constructed different hotels , banks , dwelling , commercial objects , schools , administrative objects , ect.

During this period began the construction of several hotels in the city in the Italian architectural and functional style. Royal hotel which was owned by the Haderaj family represented a luxury hotel, the class of which was noticed by his powerful visitors such as: former - King of Italy Victor Emmanuel III, sisters of King Zog, senior military, merchant, politician , the protagonist diplomat of the time.

- Hotel "Savoia", today hotel "Argjiro"

Around the '30s, after some restructuring interventions, the building located at the entrance of the Bazaar in a part of it was used as a hotel“ Savoia ”, while in 1941, the rest was used by the Bank of Napoli.



Figure 11. Hotel "Savoia".

- Villa "Kokalari"

Villa "Kokalari", built in 1931-'33 according to the project of the ark. Vitaliano Poselli. This villa was owned by well-known lawyer Emin Kokalari. Characteristic for this villa from the architectural point of view are: balconies, verandas, shutters on the windows, railings with wrought iron on the balconies, cured courtyards, iron doors, etc. Structurally, the use of concrete and steel columns and beams is noticed, as well as the division of floors, often with concrete slabs. In the interior we have the use of tiles, stair marble and decorative tiles. Tiled roofs constitute another characteristic element in most of this period .



Figure 12. Vila Kokalari.

- Villa Papavangjeli

Villa "Papavangjeli", known as the villa of the "capitalist" of the leather factory in Gjirokastra. In the exterior of this villa stand out the balconies, verandas, railings with wrought iron on the balcony and the courtyard cured in detail, iron doors, etc. Structurally, the use of concrete columns and beams is noticed. In the spacious interiors we also use decorative tiles.



Figure 13. Vila Papavangeli

- Zigai commercial complex

Rapid developments in trade exchanges bring investments in shopping centers in Gjirokastra. One of the most prominent is the "Zigai" Shopping Complex in the characteristic Bazaar, owned by the merchant Aristidh Janneta. This building, dated as a building in 1937, from an architectural point of view, presents a unique model of functionality and architectural elegance. In a somewhat narrow place, the architect has skillfully developed the building in height. Here we encounter the use of concrete in columns, beams and slats, as well as decorative iron in the numerous railings and stairs from the outside of the building. In the lower part, in the premises that have served as warehouses, we have the use as a security element of metal terraces, while, on the first floor where there are trade areas with the public, the building has windows and large spaces. On the upper floors we have living quarters and at the top is a tower-type place for placing a clock.



Figure 14. Kompleksi Zigai

- Kallaixhi dwelling

This is a house with a special architectural style that can be called Italian-Albanian, in its facade the eye catches a type of plaque with the date 1937 of construction and the name of the owner Zija B. Kallaixhi , found in Palorto neighborhood . In the main facade of this apartment stand out the balcony with iron railings as well as the decorations and frames of different parts such as windows, corners, balcony, etc. The architect has been careful in introducing new elements and environments more functional for the time such as balconies, windows etc. has respected the surrounding environment by adapting the new elements with those of the buildings around it.



Figure 15. Kallaixhi Dwelling

4.2 Creation of technical files for some of buildings of Italian period.

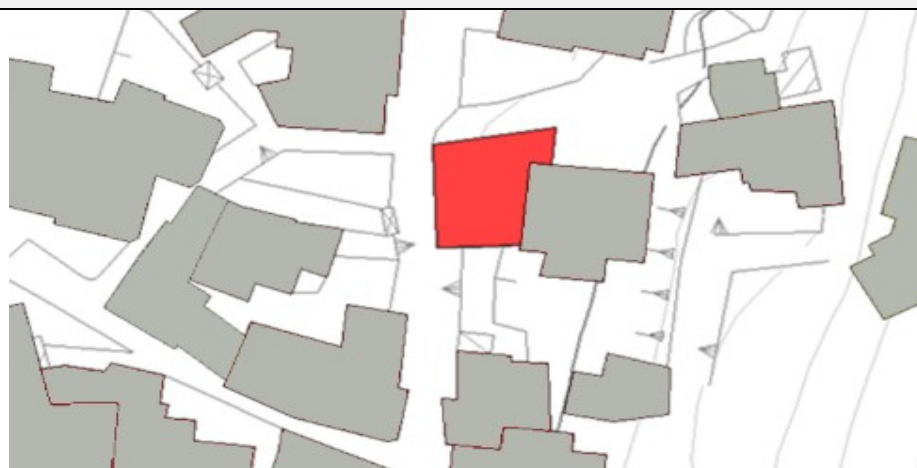
The following format of the files is adopted from IMK and then additional elaboration by me and my supervisor , adding specific structural and general characteristics for each building .

Table 5. Technical file for “Banesa Qurku”

Technical files for cultural heritage			
Data			
NR. OF FILE	1		
BUILDING NAME	Banesa Qurku		
FIELD	ARCHITECTURE		
ARCHIVE CODE	291		
ADRESS	Varosh		
LOCATION	DISTRICT	MUNICIPALITY	VILLAGE
	Gjirokaster	Gjirokaster	
PROTECTION STATUS (CATEGORY I, II)	1		
ANNOUNCMENT DATE	-		
ANNOUNCEMENT INSTITUTION	Instituti Monumenteve të Kulturës		
CONSTRUCTION DATE (YEAR / SHEK)	1918		
RESTORATION DATE	1968		
ADMINISTRATIVE INSTITUTION / DRKK	DRKKGJ		
FIRST USE	Dwelling		
ACTUAL USE	Dwelling		
BUILDING STATE	Good , Habitable		
PROTECTED ZONE	Qendër Historike – Gjirokastër		
GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES	Longitude :		

OF MONUMENT	Latitude :
GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES OF PROTECTED ZONE	Qendër Historike – Gjirokaštër = 684371 m2
OWNERSHIP	Private
CONSTRUCTION SURFACE / BUILDING HEIGHT	6m
SURFACE OF THE PROTECTED	Qendër Historike – Gjirokaštër = 684371 m2
VEHICULAR ROAD TO THE MONUMENT? / ITS CONDITION	Yes/Good Condition

GRAPHICAL/HARTOGRAPHICAL DOCUMENTATION



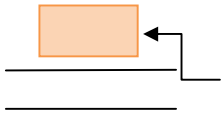
GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

In the Varosh neighborhood, the “Qurku” dwelling represents an architectural example that combines new architectural influences with old commercial ones. The former house of Niko Toles, now inhabited by his nephew prof. Stefan Qurku, reconstructed with Italian project of the '30s. The coexistence of several architectural and structural elements stands out in this building: the balcony with concrete and iron railings, the windows with shutters and those of the medieval style of Gjirokastra, as well as the roof covering where one part is tiled and another part with stone cases.

BUILDING STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS

• FLOOR	-Wooden	<input type="checkbox"/>
	-Concrete/Cement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	-Stone (Dome,Volte)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	-Ceramic +Iron	<input type="checkbox"/>
	-Brick +Iron	<input type="checkbox"/>
• COLUMNS	-Wooden	<input type="checkbox"/>
	-Stone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	-Iron	<input type="checkbox"/>

	-Concrete	<input type="checkbox"/>
• VERTICAL SUPPORTED STUCTURE	-Stone -Brick -Concrete -Mixed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
• WALLS	-Stone +Wooden ties -Stone/Mortar -Brick -Wooden Walls -Concrete Blocks	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
• ARCHITRAVE	-Wooden -Iron -Concrete	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
• ROOF	-Tile + Stone Roof - Concrete Roof - Wood Roof - Metal Roof - Mixed (Wood +Metal)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
• PARAPET (BALCONY)	-Concrete Parapet -Steel Parapet -Brick Parapet	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
BUILDING ELEMENTS TYPOLOGIES		
• PLAN	- Part of a complex - L-Shape - U-Shape - T- Shape - Regular angular planimetry - Irregular planimetry	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
• NUMBER OF FLOORS	-One Storey Building -Two Storey Building -Three Storey Building	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
• BUILT FROM BEGINNING	-One building phase -Two phases -Three phases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
• DOOR	-Round Door -Paneled Door -Single Fold Door -Double Fold Door -Wooden Door -Steel Door -Combination -Glazed Door	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WINDOW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Round Window <input type="checkbox"/> -Squared Window <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Single Window <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Double Window <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Glazed window+Wood Frame <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Glazed window+ Steel Frame <input type="checkbox"/> -Shuttered Windows <input type="checkbox"/> -Barred Windows <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FACADE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Plastered Concrete Façade <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Unplastered Brick Façade <input type="checkbox"/> -Unplastered Stone Façade <input type="checkbox"/> -Wooden Façade <input type="checkbox"/> -Steel Façade <input type="checkbox"/> -Continued Façade <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> - Interrupted Façade <input type="checkbox"/> - Façade with Balcony <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> - Decorative Elements Façade (Frieze . Column) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BALCONY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Concrete Balcony <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Stone Balcony <input type="checkbox"/> -Wood Balcony <input type="checkbox"/> -Mixed <input type="checkbox"/> -Iron <input type="checkbox"/> -Round Balcony <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Regular Angular Balcony <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Cantilever Balcony <input type="checkbox"/> - Balcony with cover <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Balcony without cover <input type="checkbox"/> -Balcony with support elements <input type="checkbox"/> -No balcony <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TERRACE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> -Wooden <input type="checkbox"/> -Iron <input type="checkbox"/> -Mixed <input type="checkbox"/> -Stone <input type="checkbox"/> - No terrace <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVER ROOF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Single Sloping Plane <input type="checkbox"/> -Two Sloping Plane <input type="checkbox"/> -Flat Roof <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Complex Roof <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SITE ELEMENTS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Yard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private -Garden <input type="checkbox"/> -Parking <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REALATION WITH ROAD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Indirect exit to public road <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Direct Exit to the road <input type="checkbox"/> -Both <input type="checkbox"/>  <p style="text-align: right;">Building Main Road</p>



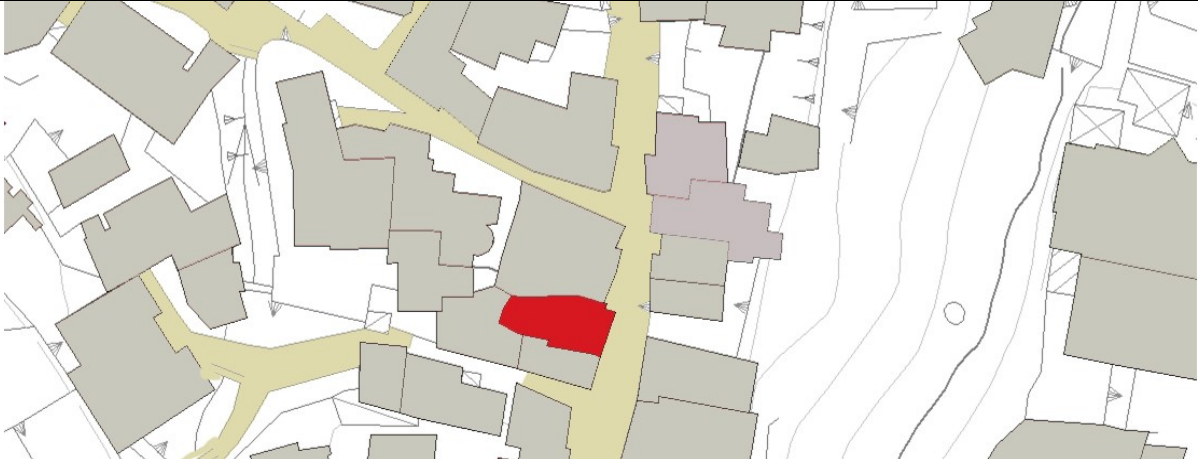
BUILDING COLOUR	-White -Yellow -Brown -Occra -Pink -Mixed -Pea colour	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
BUILDING DIMENSIONS				
RESTORATION INTERVATIONS <i>/1/2/3/4/5/ (FROM EASIEST TO DEEPEST INTERVATIONS</i>	YEAR 1968	YEAR	YEAR	YEAR
	4	---	---	---
CONSERVATION CONDITION <i>CONDITION DEGREES /1/2/3/4/5/ (FROM BEST TO WORST CONDITION)</i>	ROOF / COVERING	DOOR	WINDOW	COLUMN
	1	1	2	---
	MURALS	BALCONY	FACADE	FLOOR
	---	2	1	2
PHOTOS				
2006		2021		
				

Table 6. Technical file for Gjirokastra monument

Technical files for cultural heritage			
Data			
NR. OF FILE	2		
BUILDING NAME	-		
FIELD	ARCHITECTURE		
ARCHIVE CODE	441		
ADRESS	Varosh		
LOCATION	DISTRICT	MUNICIPALITY	VILLAGE
	Gjirokaster	Gjirokaster	
PROTECTION STATUS (CATEGORY I, II)	Unclassified		
ANNOUNCMET DATE	-		
ANNOUNCEMENT INSTITUTION	Instituti Monumenteve të Kulturës		
CONSTRUCTION DATE (YEAR / SHEK)	1922		
RESTORATION DATE	1969		
ADMINISTRATIVE INSTITUTION / DRKK	DRKKGJ		
FIRST USE	Dwelling		
ACTUAL USE	Dwelling		
BUILDING STATE	Good , Habitable		
PROTECTED ZONE	Qendër Historike – Gjirokastër		
GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES OF MONUMENT	Longitude : Latitude :		
GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES OF PROTECTED ZONE	Qendër Historike – Gjirokastër = 684371 m2		
OWNERSHIP	Private		
CONSTRUCTION SURFACE / BUILDING HEIGHT	S =162 m2 /12m		
SURFACE OF THE PROTECTED	Qendër Historike – Gjirokastër = 684371 m2		
VEHICULAR ROAD TO THE	Yes/Good Condition		

MONUMENT? / ITS CONDITION	
GRAPHICAL/HARTOGRAPHICAL DOCUMENTATION	
	
GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION	
<p>Four storey dwelling , built in 1934, with access to the main street, decorated window frames , surrounded by iron railings. The building has a concrete balcony and iron railings. Floor partition with decorative elements of Italian style .Plastered –decorated white façade.</p>	
BUILDING STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FLOOR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wooden <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Brick/Cement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Stone (Dome,Volte) <input type="checkbox"/> -Ceramic +Iron <input type="checkbox"/> -Brick +Iron <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COLUMNS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wooden <input type="checkbox"/> -Stone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Iron <input type="checkbox"/> -Concrete <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VERTICAL SUPPORTED STUCTURE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Stone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Brick <input type="checkbox"/> -Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> -Mixed <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Stone +Wooden ties <input type="checkbox"/> -Stone/Mortar <input type="checkbox"/> -Brick <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Wooden Walls <input type="checkbox"/> -Concrete Blocks <input type="checkbox"/>

• ARCHITRAVE	-Wooden <input type="checkbox"/> -Iron <input type="checkbox"/> -Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> -None <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• ROOF	-Tile + Stone Roof <input type="checkbox"/> - Concrete Roof <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> - Wood Roof <input type="checkbox"/> - Metal Roof <input type="checkbox"/> - Mixed (Wood +Metal) <input type="checkbox"/>
• PARAPET (BALCONY)	-Concrete Parapet <input type="checkbox"/> -Steel Parapet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Brick Parapet <input type="checkbox"/>
BUILDING ELEMENTS TYPOLOGIES	
• PLAN	- Part of a complex <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> - L-Shape <input type="checkbox"/> - U-Shape <input type="checkbox"/> - T- Shape <input type="checkbox"/> - Regular angular planimetry <input type="checkbox"/> - Irregular planimetry <input type="checkbox"/>
• NUMBER OF FLOORS	-One Storey Building <input type="checkbox"/> -Two Storey Building <input type="checkbox"/> -Three Storey Building <input type="checkbox"/> Four Storey Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• BUILT FROM BEGINNING	-One building phase <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Two phases <input type="checkbox"/> -Three phases <input type="checkbox"/>
• DOOR	-Round Door <input type="checkbox"/> -Paneled Door <input type="checkbox"/> -Single Fold Door <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Double Fold Door <input type="checkbox"/> -Wooden Door <input type="checkbox"/> -Steel Door <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Combination <input type="checkbox"/> -Glazed Door <input type="checkbox"/>
• WINDOW	-Round Window <input type="checkbox"/> -Squared Window <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Single Window <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Double Window <input type="checkbox"/> -Glazed window+Wood Frame <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Glazed window+ Steel Frame <input type="checkbox"/> -Shuttered Windows <input type="checkbox"/> -Barred Windows <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• FACADE	-Plastered Concrete Façade <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Unplastered Brick Façade <input type="checkbox"/> -Unplastered Stone Façade <input type="checkbox"/> -Wooden Façade <input type="checkbox"/>

	-Steel Façade <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Continued Façade <input type="checkbox"/>			
	- Interrupted Façade <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	- Façade with Balcony <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	- Decorative Elements Façade <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	(Frieze . Column , Floor distrubers)			
• BALCONY	-Concrete Balcony <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	-Stone Balcony <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Wood Balcony <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Mixed <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Iron <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Round Balcony <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Regular Angular Balcony <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	-Cantilever Balcony <input type="checkbox"/>			
	- Balcony with cover <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Balcony without cover <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	-Balcony with support elements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	-No balcony <input type="checkbox"/>			
• TERRACE	-Concrete <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Wooden <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Iron <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Mixed <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Stone <input type="checkbox"/>			
	- No terrace <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
• COVER ROOF	-Single Sloping Plane <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Two Sloping Plane <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Flat Roof <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	-Complex Roof <input type="checkbox"/>			
• SITE ELEMENTS	-Yard <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Garden <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Parking <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Road <input type="checkbox"/>			
• REALATION WITH ROAD	-Indirect exit to public road <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Direct Exit to the road <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	-Both <input type="checkbox"/>			
			Building	
			Main Road	
BUILDING COLOUR	-White <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	-Yellow <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Brown <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Occra <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Pink <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Mixed <input type="checkbox"/>			
	-Pea colour <input type="checkbox"/>			
BUILDING DIMENSIONS	Length: 18m Width: 9m			
RESTORATION INTERVATIONS /1/2/3/4/5/ (FROM EASIEST TO DEEPEST INTERVATIONS	YEAR 1969	YEAR	YEAR	YEAR
	2	---	---	---

CONSERVATION CONDITION <i>CONDITION DEGREES</i> <i>/1/2/3/4/5/</i> <i>(FROM BEST TO WORST CONDITION)</i>	ROOF / COVERING	DOOR	WINDOW	COLUMN
	2	1	2	---
	MURALS	BALCONY	FACADE	FLOOR
	---	3	1	2

PHOTOS

2006



2021



Table 7. Technical file

Technical files for cultural heritage			
Data			
NR. OF FILE	3		
BUILDING NAME	-		
FIELD	ARCHITECTURE		
ARCHIVE CODE	268		
ADRESS	Varosh		
LOCATION	DISTRICT	MUNICIPALITY	VILLAGE
	Gjirokaster	Gjirokaster	
PROTECTION STATUS (CATEGORY I, II)	Category II		
ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	1963		
ANNOUNCEMENT INSTITUTION	Instituti Monumenteve të Kulturës		
CONSTRUCTION DATE (YEAR / SHEK)	1914		
RESTORATION DATE	-		
ADMINISTRATIVE INSTITUTION / DRKK	DRKKGJ		
FIRST USE	Dwelling		
ACTUAL USE	Abandoned		
BUILDING STATE	Burned		
PROTECTED ZONE	Qendër Historike – Gjirokastër		
GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES OF MONUMENT	Longitude :20 08'14.3"E Latitude :40 04'29.2"N		
GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES OF PROTECTED ZONE	Qendër Historike – Gjirokastër = 684371 m2		
OWNERSHIP	Private		
CONSTRUCTION SURFACE / BUILDING HEIGHT	S =104 m2 / h = 9 m		
SURFACE OF THE PROTECTED	Qendër Historike – Gjirokastër = 684371 m2		
VEHICULAR ROAD TO THE MONUMENT? / ITS CONDITION	Yes/Good Condition		
GRAPHICAL/HARTOGRAPHICAL DOCUMENTATION			



GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Three-storey building on the cobblestone side. It is already abandoned and in a state that is degrading. The roof and ceilings have completely collapsed. Stone masonry placed in a row and connected with lime mortar. We distinguish the presence of concrete balconies. There was an arched gate in the steam room, which is now enclosed by a wall. Maintains the rhythm of windows.

BUILDING STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FLOOR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wooden <input type="checkbox"/> -Brick/Cement <input type="checkbox"/> -Stone (Dome,Volte) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Ceramic +Iron <input type="checkbox"/> -Brick +Iron <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COLUMNS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wooden <input type="checkbox"/> -Stone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Iron <input type="checkbox"/> -Concrete <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VERTICAL SUPPORTED STUCTURE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Stone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Brick <input type="checkbox"/> -Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> -Mixed <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WALLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Stone +Wooden ties <input type="checkbox"/> -Stone/Mortar <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Brick <input type="checkbox"/> -Wooden Walls <input type="checkbox"/> -Concrete Blocks <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ARCHITRAVE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wooden <input type="checkbox"/> -Iron <input type="checkbox"/> -Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> -None <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

• ROOF	-Tile + Stone Roof <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> - Concrete Roof <input type="checkbox"/> - Wood Roof <input type="checkbox"/> - Metal Roof <input type="checkbox"/> - Mixed (Wood +Metal) <input type="checkbox"/>
• PARAPET (BALCONY)	-Concrete Parapet <input type="checkbox"/> -Steel Parapet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Brick Parapet <input type="checkbox"/>
BUILDING ELEMENTS TYPOLOGIES	
• PLAN	- Part of a complex <input type="checkbox"/> - L-Shape <input type="checkbox"/> - U-Shape <input type="checkbox"/> - T- Shape <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> - Regular angular planimetry <input type="checkbox"/> - Irregular planimetry <input type="checkbox"/>
• NUMBER OF FLOORS	-One Storey Building <input type="checkbox"/> -Two Storey Building <input type="checkbox"/> -Three Storey Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Four Storey Building <input type="checkbox"/>
• BUILT FROM BEGINNING	-One building phase <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Two phases <input type="checkbox"/> -Three phases <input type="checkbox"/>
• DOOR	-Round Door <input type="checkbox"/> -Paneled Door <input type="checkbox"/> -Single Fold Door <input type="checkbox"/> -Double Fold Door <input type="checkbox"/> -Wooden Door <input type="checkbox"/> -Steel Door <input type="checkbox"/> -Combination <input type="checkbox"/> -Glazed Door <input type="checkbox"/>
• WINDOW	-Round Window <input type="checkbox"/> -Squared Window <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Single Window <input type="checkbox"/> -Double Window <input type="checkbox"/> -Glazed window+Wood Frame <input type="checkbox"/> -Glazed window+ Steel Frame <input type="checkbox"/> -Shuttered Windows <input type="checkbox"/> -Barred Windows <input type="checkbox"/>
• FACADE	-Plastered Concrete Façade <input type="checkbox"/> -Unplastered Brick Façade <input type="checkbox"/> -Unplastered Stone Façade <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Wooden Façade <input type="checkbox"/> -Steel Façade <input type="checkbox"/> -Continued Façade <input type="checkbox"/> - Interrupted Façade <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> - Façade with Balcony <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	- Decorative Elements Façade (Frieze . Column , Floor distrubers)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
• BALCONY	-Concrete Balcony -Stone Balcony -Wood Balcony -Mixed -Iron -Round Balcony -Regular Angular Balcony -Cantilever Balcony - Balcony with cover -Balcony without cover -Balcony with support elements -No balcony		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
• TERRACE	-Concrete -Wooden -Iron -Mixed -Stone - No terrace		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
• COVER ROOF	-Single Sloping Plane -Two Sloping Plane -Flat Roof -Complex Roof		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
• SITE ELEMENTS	-Yard -Garden -Parking -Road		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
• REALATION WITH ROAD	-Indirect exit to public road <input type="checkbox"/> -Direct Exit to the road <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> -Both <input type="checkbox"/>		Building Main Road	
BUILDING COLOUR	-White -Yellow -Brown -Occra -Pink -Mixed -Pea colour		<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
BUILDING DIMENSIONS	Length: 18m Width: 9m			
RESTORATION INTERVATIONS /1/2/3/4/5/ (FROM EASIEST TO DEEPEST INTERVATIONS)	YEAR	YEAR	YEAR	YEAR
	---	---	---	---
	ROOF / COVERING	DOOR	WINDOW	COLUMN

CONSERVATION CONDITION	4	5	5	4
<i>CONDITION DEGREES /1/2/3/4/5/ (FROM BEST TO WORST CONDITION)</i>	MURALS	BALCONY	FACADE	FLOOR
	---	4	4	4

PHOTOS

2006

2021



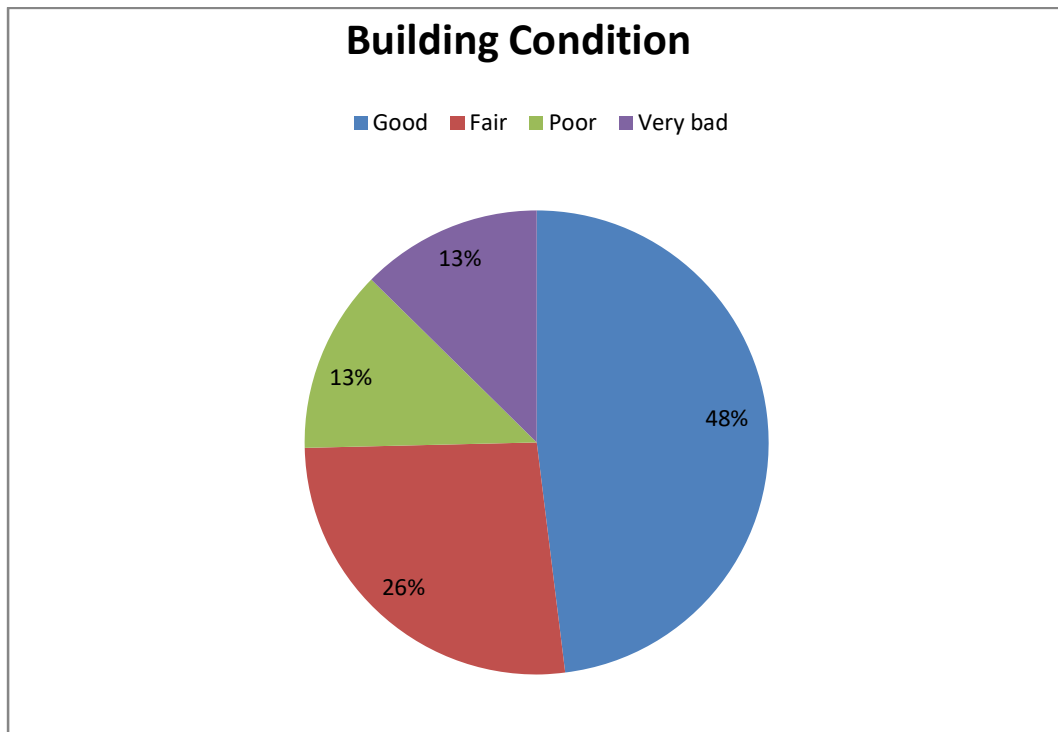
4.3 Maps and Graphics

According to studies done on the monuments of first and second category , in Gjirokaster resulted that there were 62% of the monuments that had a very high risk on ruin , and needed immediate restoration intervention .

Approximately 122 buildings have lost almost all their monumental features , 170 have been transformed , a great number of them have been subjected to illegal constructions , 79 are abandoned .

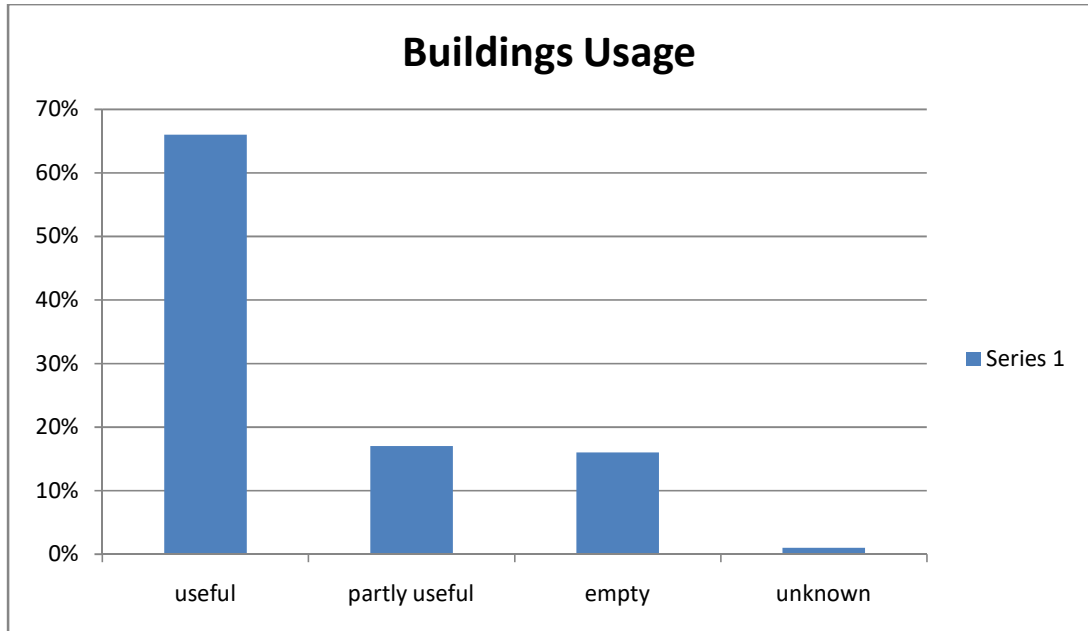
It resulted that from 658 monuments of first and second category , 316 of them are in good condition , 175 fair condition , 84 are in poor condition and 83 in a very bad condition . The study has taken into consideration exterior and interior elements of the building to reach the conclusions .

Table 8 . Building Condition



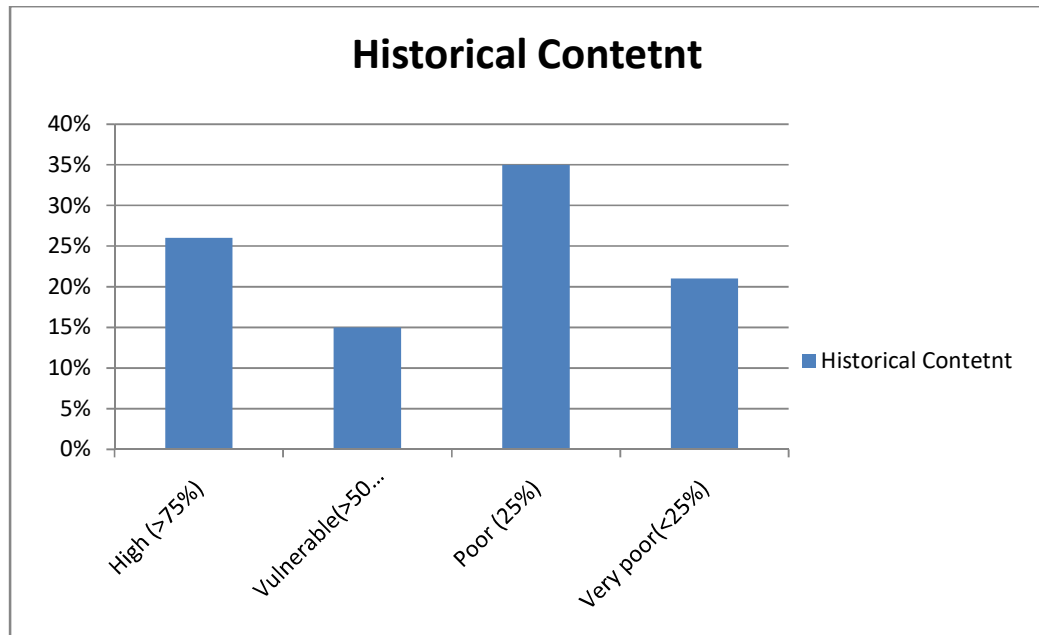
Monumentet

Table 9. Building Usage



According to the graphic it shows that the largest percentage of buildings are useful , 17% are partly useful , only on the ground floor , 16% are abandoned and the houses are empty , 1% is unknown.

Table 10. Historical Content



According to the table :

26 % of the buildings with high historical contents , which means , all elements of the buildings including interior and exterior , that have been preserved by the owners . High historical content means the content of 75% or more of traditional elements that building had since beginning .

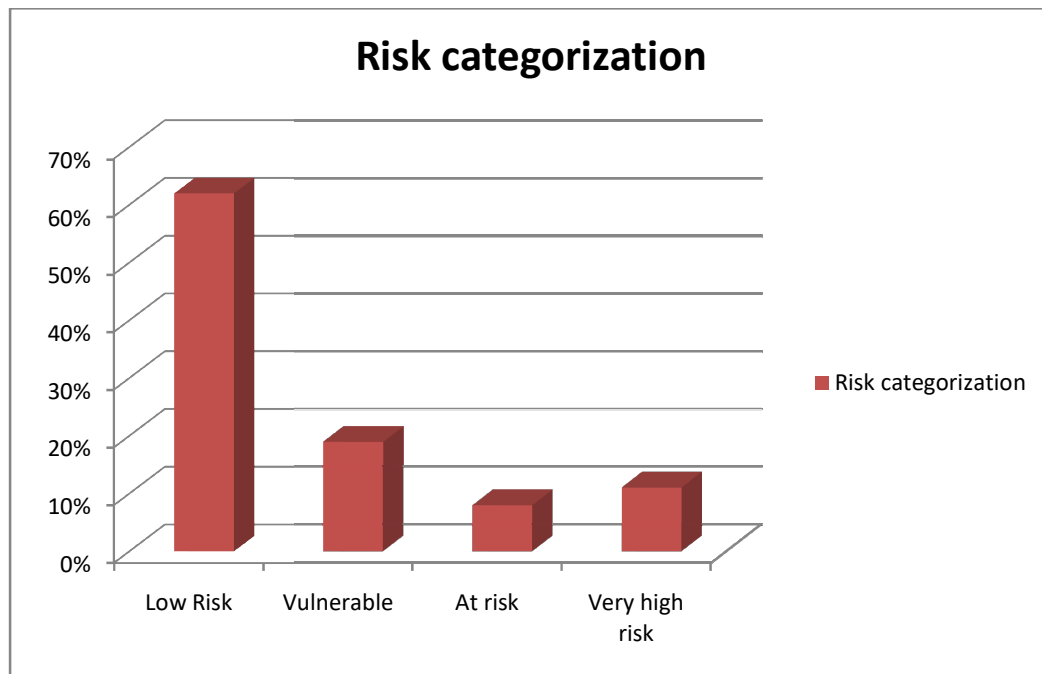
15% of Gjirokastra building have vulnerable historical content , that means 50% content of traditional elements .

38% of buildings have poor content that means only 25 % of historical elements .

21% have very poor historical content .

We reach into a conclusion that most of the building have lost their historical features and elements , due to different reasons , and only a low number of them have been preserved.

Table. 11 Risk Categorization .



According to the Table :

62 % of historical building monuments , are at low risk of categorization , which means that the major number of buildings have major low risk for their category that currently are , as their condition is not bad to risk them .

19 % of the buildings have a vulnerable risk categorization

8 % of them are at risk

11 % of the building are at a very high risk ,since their historical elements are being lost , and their condition is not as good as it should.

Analyses about traditional dwelling of Gjirokaster , **Varosh** (The neighborhood on which my study is focused.) .

Taking into consideration surveys , questionaries done to the people , it has been reached to conclusions about the current state of the buildings , shown in a graphical manner.

From 35 dwellings in Varosh , the neighborhood that has most of Italian constructions , 42% of them are In good condition, 32% have a fair condition , 22% bad condition and only 4 % in a very bad condition.

Table 12. Building Condition Varosh

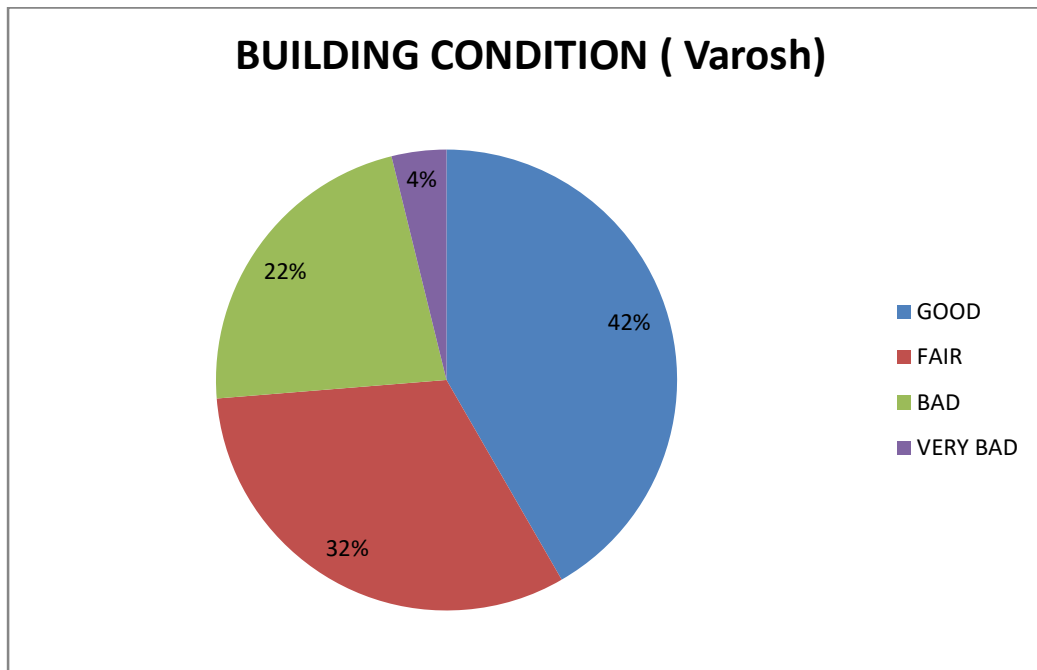
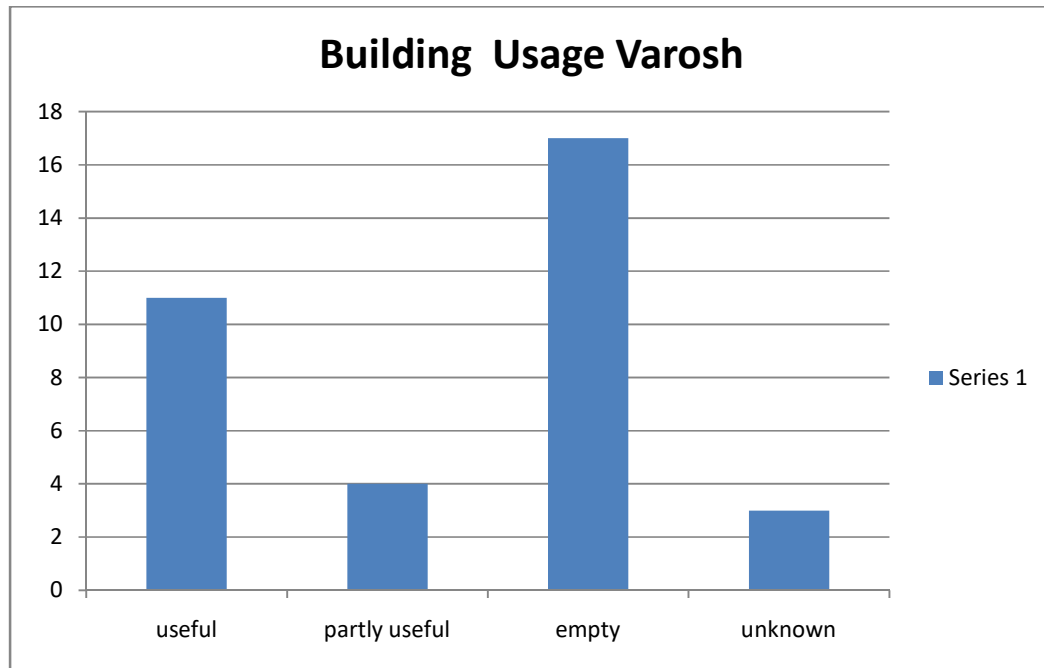


Table 13. Building Usage Varosh .



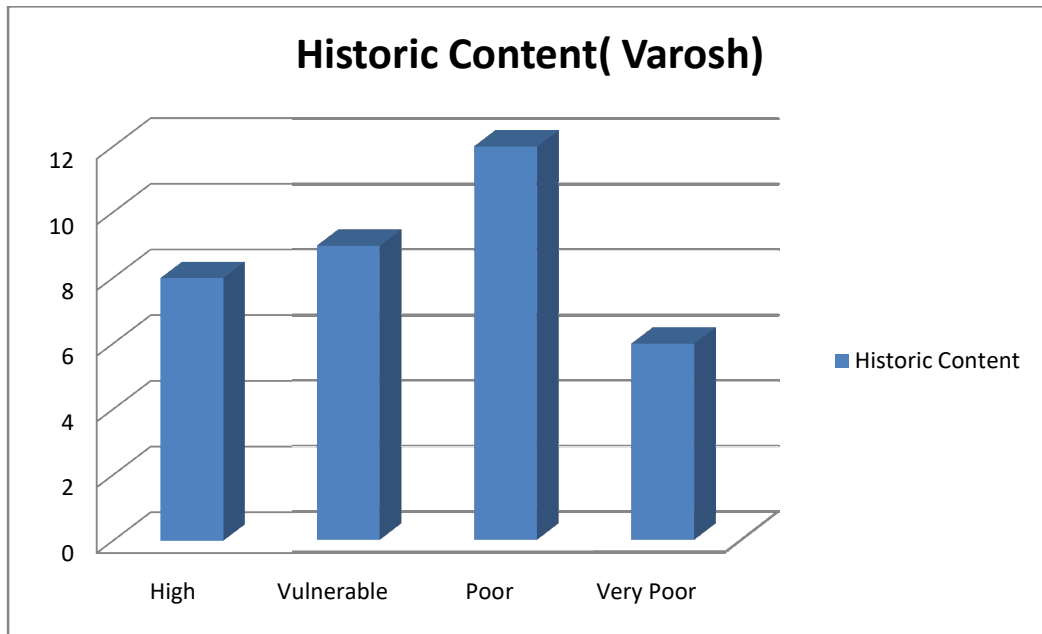
In the graphic shown above , it has been resulted that in 35 dwellings , only 11 of them were useful , 4 of them partly useful , 17 of them were empty and 3 of them unknown . The largest number of buildings are abandoned from owner from different reasons , where the most common one is immigration .

Partly Useful- were only 4 , and this means that not all the building is in use but , commonly only the ground floor which has commercial function and the upper ones are dwellings .

Useful – The building is used in all its floors .

Unknown – We could not receive information for 3 houses about their usage status , even from people around .

Table 14. Historic Content Varosh .



It has been resulted , from the surveys and analyses , that :

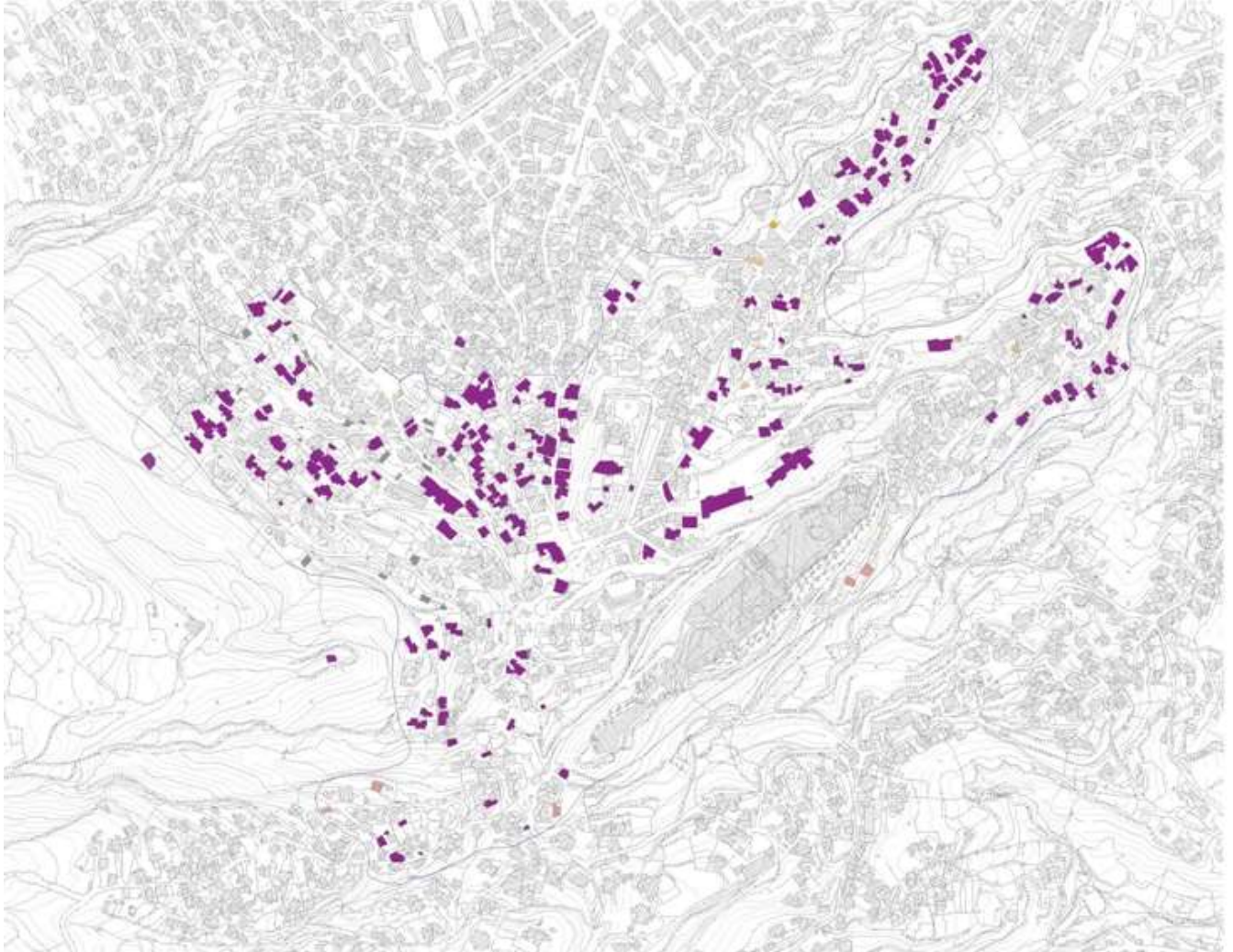
-8 buildings in Varosh from 35 of Italian period , have high historical content ,

-9 building vulnerable historical content

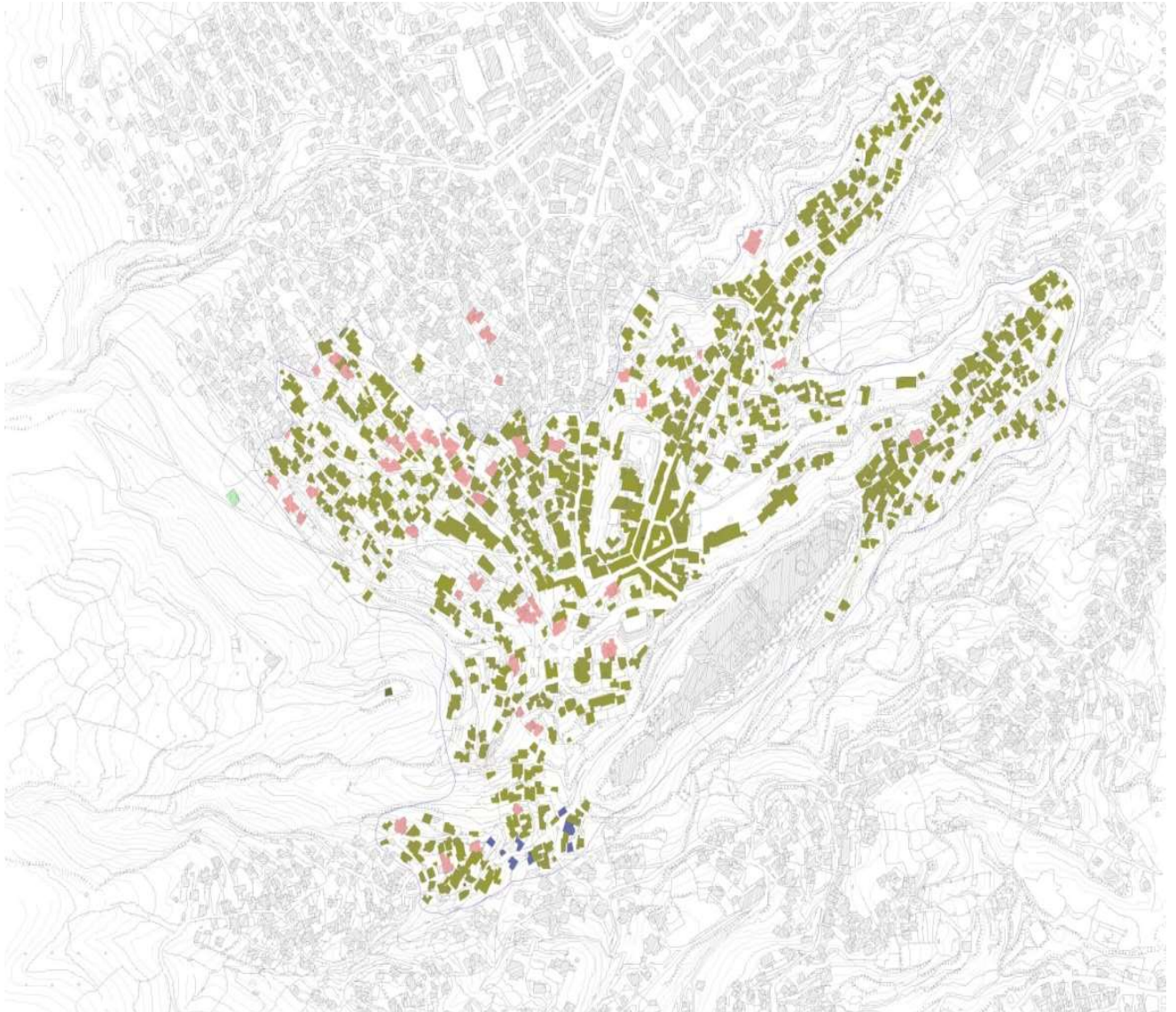
-12 buildings poor content

-6 building very poor content.

Map of building built during Italian Period (1900-1945)



Map of building categorization

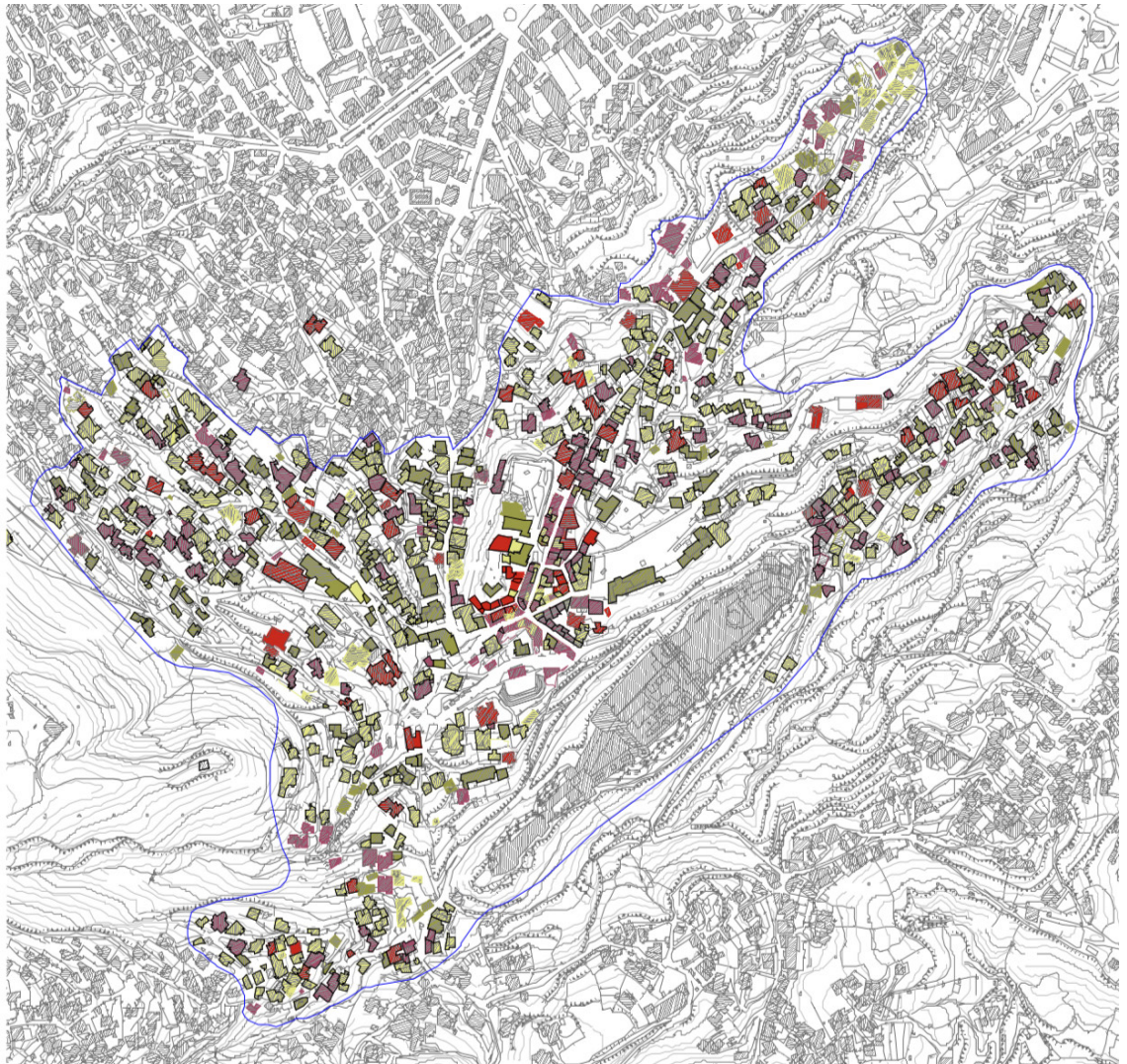


First category ■

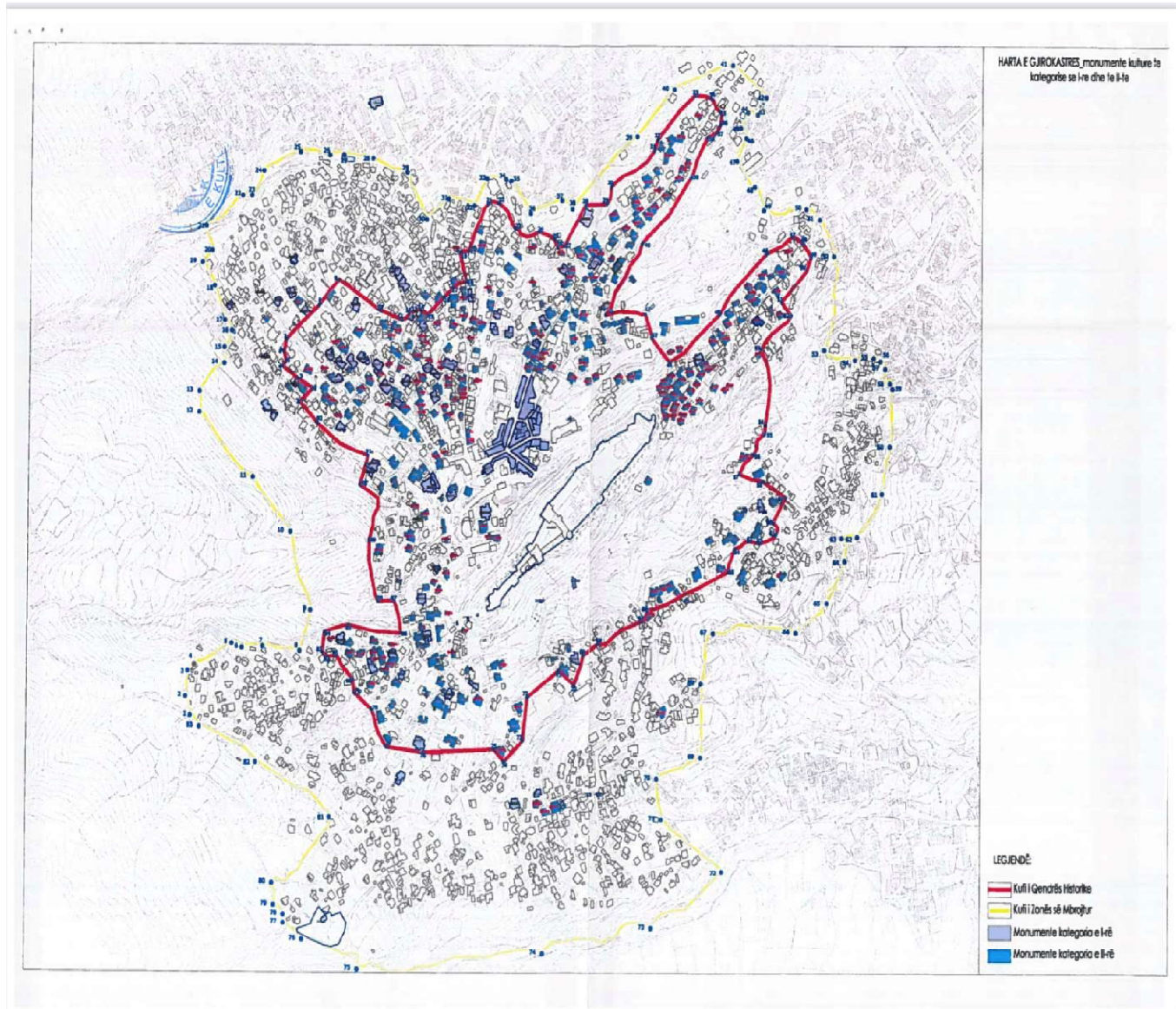
Second category ■

Unclassified ■

Map of building condition.



Gjirokastra Map in 2016



Gjirokastra map , from Revista Monumentet

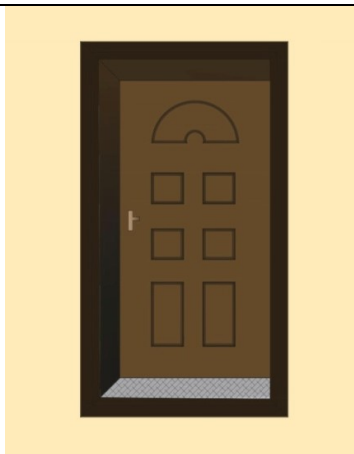
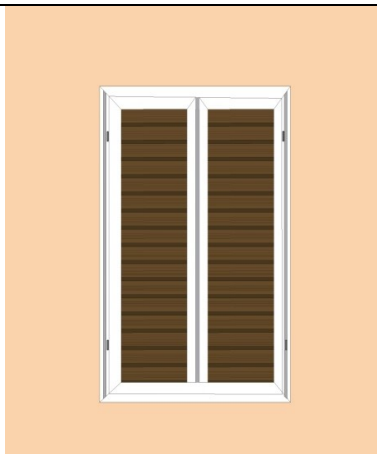
Table 15: Door and balcony types

- Door photos			
			
- Door sketches			
			
Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Authentic Italian Wood Door - With glass and steel decorations on the upper part. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Simple glass door used as an exit to balcony 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Authentic Italian Wood door . - Worked with frames as a decorative element of the door 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wood door , with square elements , and decorated with frame from the outside.

Photos



Sketches



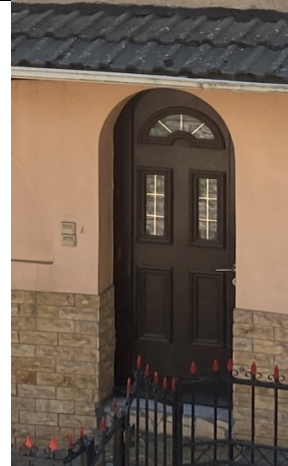
Description

- Door with wooden shutters characteristic of Italian architecture.

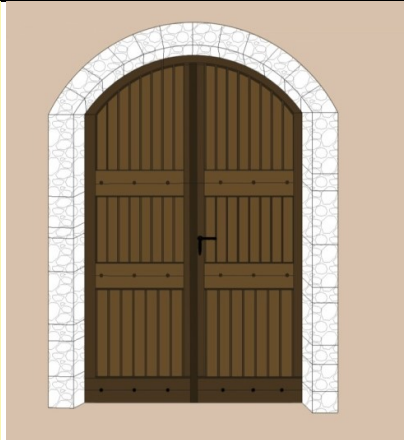
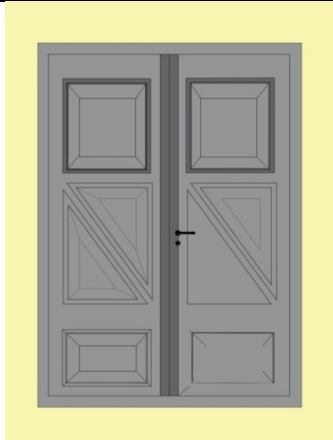
- Simple wood door

- Authentic Italian wood door with.
- Glass element on the upper part and decorative frames, frieze column .

- PHOTOS



- SKETCHES



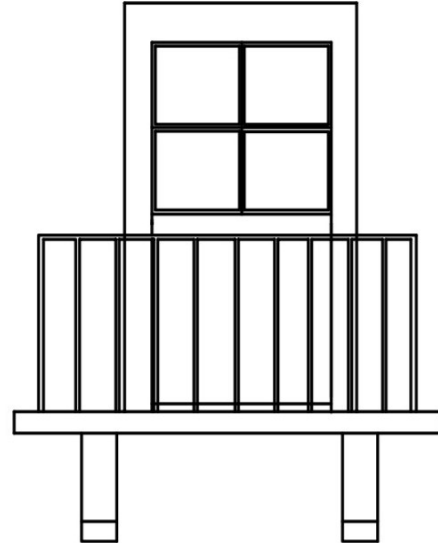
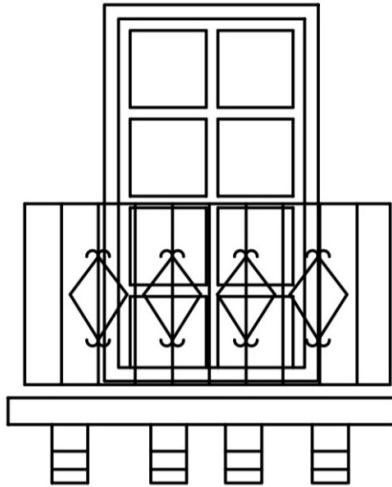
- DESCRIPTION

- Simple Steel door

- Wooden arched door , decorated with stone frame from outside

- Arched metallic door with glass on the upper part

SKETCHES OF BALCONY

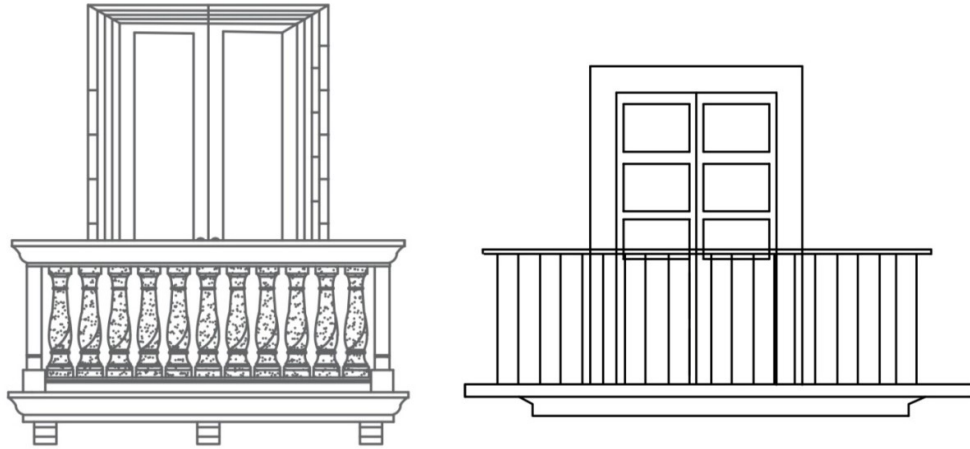


DESCRIPTION

- Concrete balcony , with decorative steel railings .
- With concrete retaining elements .

- Concrete balcony with steel parapet and with horizontal supportive elements .

SKETCHES

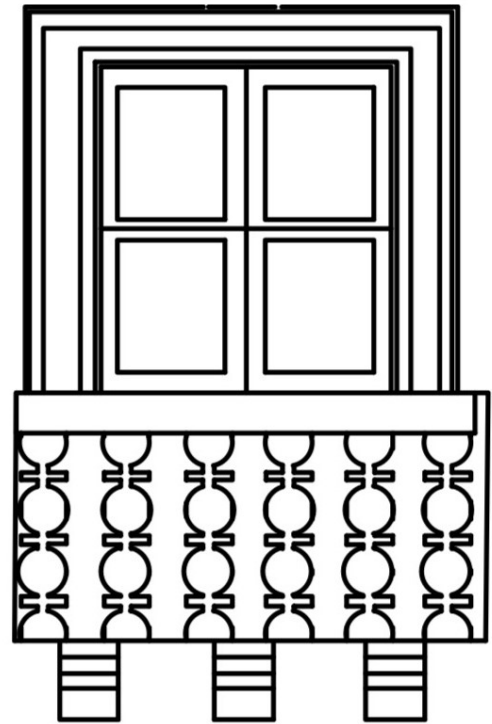
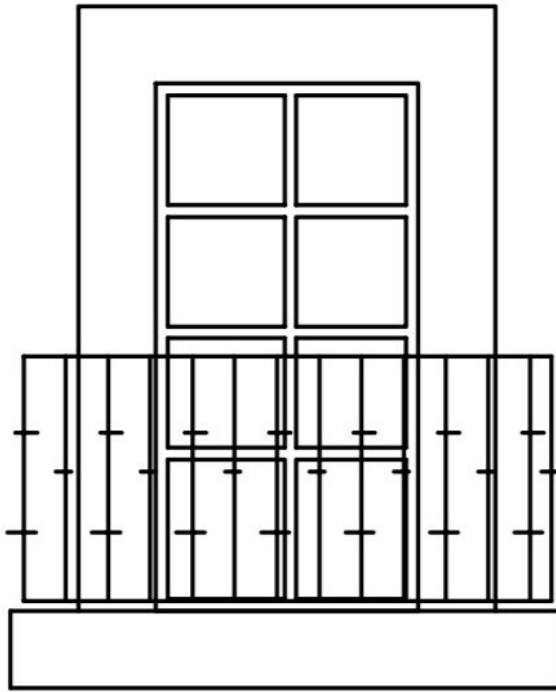


DESCRIPTION

- Concrete balcony , with concrete parapet , and decorative columns on the side , as well as decorative elements above and below
- Supportive elements

- Simple Concrete balcony without supportive elements

SKETCHES



DESCRIPTION

- Simple Concrete balcony , with steel decorative railings , without supported structures, as it is part of the building , being supported on the floor below.

- Concrete balcony , with concrete parapet , and support elements .

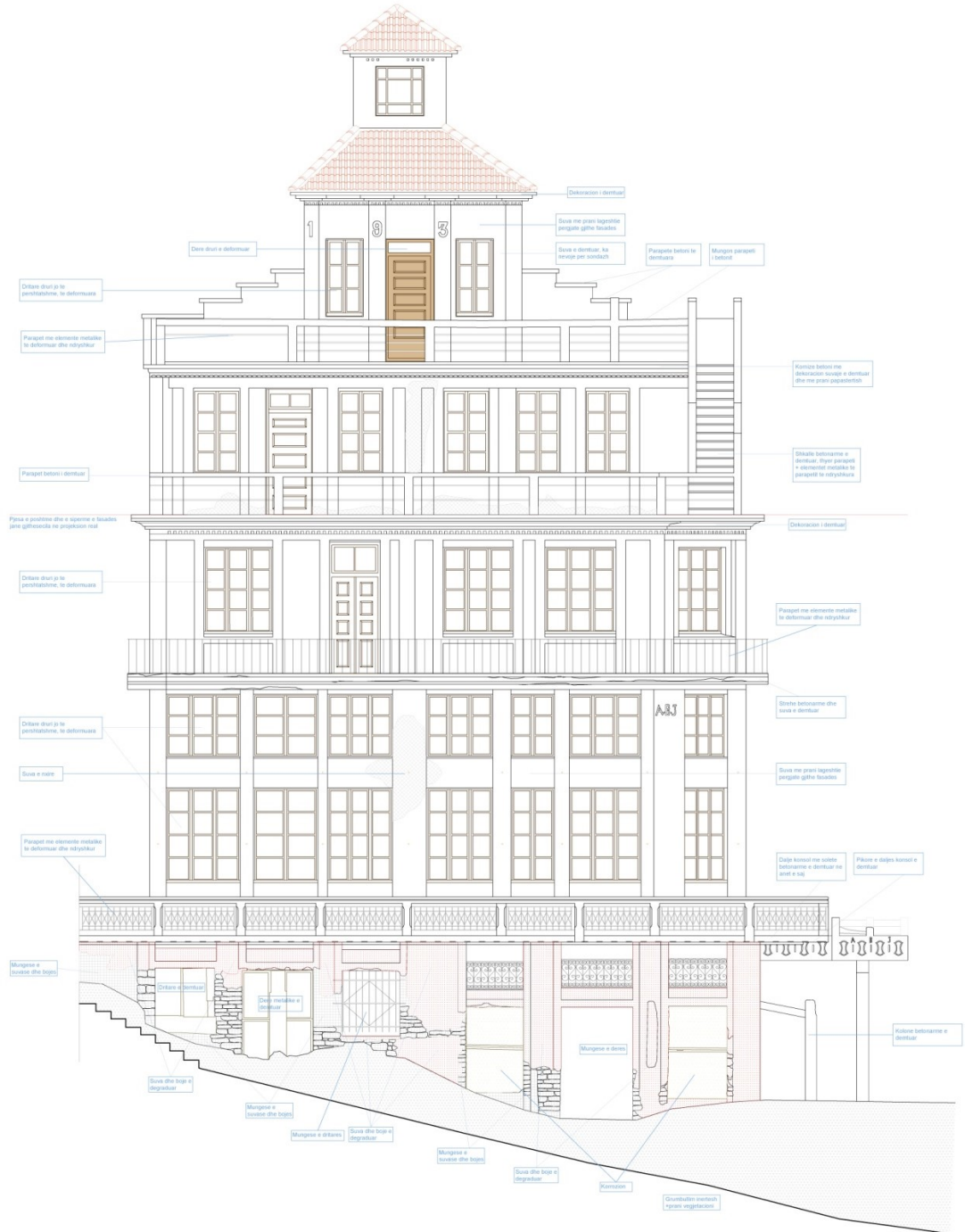
CHAPTER 5

5.1 Discussion and proposal

The building that I have chosen for restoration is the complex of Zigai . This building dated as a construction in 1937, by the architecture this building presents a unique model of functionality and architectural elegance. Here we encounter the use of concrete in beam columns and slats as well as decorative iron in railings and other stairs that have objects. In the lower part, in the premises that have served as warehouses, we encounter the use as a security element of metal terraces, while on the first floor, where the trade areas with the public are, the buildings have large windows and spaces.

Upstairs we have living quarters and at the top a place to put a clock. It is not easy to distinguish a modernity that builds if it does not build buildings of the Ottoman period, today it represents a value that must be built and the function of the function taken. In the history of Albanian architecture this construction should be a study object as a special model of a shopping center of the beginning of the last century.

5.2 Proposal on restoration of Zigai building



Zigai façade : Kreshnik Merxhani





Restoration proposal : Mirsada Ahmati

CHAPTER 6

6.1 Conclusion

1. The nr of Monuments category II , in 2005 by UNESCO in Varosh were 103 buildings of II-Category
2. According to decision nr. 60 of Ministry of Culture in 2016 , it was approved the announcement of second category monuments , in Varosh of 38 objects in total .
3. The number of monuments that have been removed from the list are 65 .
4. From 35 building that my study was focused in Varosh , 2 building are monuments of 1ST Category , and 5 of them monuments of II-Category.
5. So , according to this studies , I reach a conclusion that many building should be declared as cultural monuments .
6. Restoration of the building that have been abandoned and not conserved also by the government , considering the criteria of restoration of monuments.
7. Designing an itinerary with key historical buildings in order to raise awareness of the people of Gjirokastra, for their non-abandonment and maintenance

REFERENCES

- [1] Baçe.A , Vështrim mbi qendrat e banuara antike dhe mesjetare në luginen e Drinos (Gjirokaster), 1972.
- [2] Disa të dhëna mbi teknikën e ndërtimit të banesës gjirokastrite, in Monumentet, - Banesa e fortifikuar gjirokastrite, in Monumentet.
- [3] Riza,E Një shembull i zhvilluar i banesës gjirokastrite. Banesa e Skëndulajve, in Monumentet, n. 2, pp. 77–93.
- [4] Riza .E Gjirokastra – Museum city 2006.
- [5] Riza . E, Vështrim mbi urbanistikën e qytetit shqiptar (shek. XII- XX), Monumentet, 1977.
- [6] F. Zarshati, Banesa të fillimit të shek. XX në vendin tonë, Monumente historike në vendin tonë, Tiranë, 1978.
- [7] Zigai facades : Kreshik merxhani.
- [8] Book : “History of albanian architecture”.
- [9] Revista Monumentet,Nr 2,Gjirokastra dhe vlerat e saj kulturele.
- [10] Evliya Chelebi , documentary for Gjirokastra.
- [11] History part. "History of Gjirokaster" . Organizata për Ruajtjen dhe Zhvillimin e Gjirokastrës (GCDO).
- [12] Nr. 2 of Art & Heritage magazine, Gjirokastra: The stone city.
- [13] Mbrojtja dhe restaurimi i monumenteve në Shqipëri , Emin Riza
- [14] Historia e arkitekturës shqiptare 1 : nga fillimet deri në vitin 1912 / Meksi.A , Baçe,A Riza ,E.
- [15] Restaurimi i banesave popullore ,Riza.E

APPENDIX

Below you may find a questionnaire example directed to the informants

Table 16 : Questionnaire

Question	Answer
1- When was this building built , and to whom it belonged in the beginning ?	
2- What parts of the building has been restored, when?	
3- Percentage of building that have been risked by: a- Fire b- Flood c- Earthquake d- Illegal construction	
4- Building Condition	
5-Has the building been yours since it was constructed or later?	
6-What is the profession of the owner , and how many family members it has ?	
7- Has the interior elements been preserved since Italian period , or they have been replaced ?	
8- Do you have any pictures of your house before , and now ?	
9- Which category It belongs to ?	
10- Which architectural elements would you mention that have been important to you and are existing now days?	
11- Has your house business function or only residential ?	
12- The function of each floor , before and now .	
13-Typological class to which it belongs :	<input type="checkbox"/> Planimetry L

	<input type="checkbox"/> Planimetry T <input type="checkbox"/> Composite planimetry <input type="checkbox"/> Planimetry C <input type="checkbox"/> Irregular planimetry.
14 -Conservation condition	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Very good
15 – Information about exterior construction materials , and preservation of elements	<input type="checkbox"/> Balconies <input type="checkbox"/> Roofs <input type="checkbox"/> Façade <input type="checkbox"/> Door <input type="checkbox"/> Window
16 - Current uses and conditions of the building?	
17 - Are there any sign of defects occur at the building? If yes, at which element?	
18- Does the building needs any conservation approach? Or the current conservation approach is suitable?	

Table 17 : Results of Questionarie

Building name	Construction Year
Emin Kokalari	1931-1933
Papavangjeli	1937
Teli Mihali	1937
Aleks Ceci	1930
Kompleksi spitalor I Gjirokastrës	1940
Adriatik Sulejmani	1945
Athanas Kovaci	1925-1945
Kozeta Nika	Before 1945
Panajot Foto	1943
Roland Carka	1925-1945
Mihallaq Cakalli	1945-1990
Tornino Hido	1945-1990
Gjimnazi “Asim Zeneli”	1923
Kallajxhi	1930

Building name	Reconstruction Year
Emin Kokalari	-
Papavangjeli	-
Teli Mihali	-
Aleks Ceci	-
Kompleksi spitalor I Gjirokastrës	-
Adriatik Sulejmani	Partly Restoration of Roof
Athanas Kovaci	-Wall and Windows modifications. -Partly restoration of roof
Kozeta Nika	-
Panajot Foto	Restoration of “Catma”
Roland Carka	Roof restoration.
Mihallaq Cakalli	-
Tornino Hido	-
Gjimnazi “Asim Zeneli”	All building has been restored
Kallajxhi	-