MSc 3&4 Public Realm Studio, Ankara | “EUtopia Ankara”

Transit and service hub - Recentralizing the fragmented city fabrics in Ankara

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MSc in Architecture Urbanism and Building Sciences
Faculty of Architecture, Delft University of Technology
1. Introduction

The main discovered problem in the city of Ankara is the fragmented urban fabrics, which leads to different level of social stratification and diminishing common sense of belonging to the city. By, intervening a transit and service hub along the border of the designed park in the state farm, which serves different parties in the city, it would be acted as a prove of concept to the situation.

In urban level, a park would be proposed in the statefarm to recentralize the city to the position. Formalized strips of greenery is also designed adjacent to the border between the city and the park to initiate the buffer zone between them.

In architectural level, the transit and service hub would be acted as an integrated hub to fulfill different needs from different parties around the node. With the addition to other community and park services, the hub would not only be a node, and also a place. With the strategical location, in materialization level it would also be performed differently in different facing. Towards the city, the facade would be designed as normal urban wall, while to have a gesture to extend the park to the building on the park side.
2. Reflection

From generating the idea to architectural design, the focus of this thesis project has been adjusted and altered in order to accomplish a more potential development of the project. Yet, the alteration of the design objective is still valid and related to the previous stage of research development.

First, the design is response to the research of urban fabrics condition and its organization of the city Ankara. With the statement which followed the research that describing that the city of Ankara is full of undesirable condition, a proposal of making a leisure place within the state farm is suggested.

With regard to the theme of the studio, as the studio focuses on theme "EUtopia" and the research of the topic of utopia in relation to the state farm, the following urban and architectural design followed the same theme and idea. The design suggesting an urban wall along the edge of the state farm, which in turn become an aggressive approach of protecting the state farm and dividing the city and state farm into two characters, which has the utopian sense of achieving a larger goal. And in response with the issue found by analytical studies of the city, an architectural design is proposed to re-interpret the utopian notion of the capital city. The study of the design is focused on the utopian idea of re-creating a new form of centrality within the state farm. With the concern also about the public building in this studio, introduction of series of public building along the edge of the state farm is proposed.

The analysis approach of the design is consistent with the previous recognized analytical method. The same approach of city analysis of Ankara was further moved on to acquire more basic information about the urban fabrics condition in Ankara and so strengthen the design.

A study of precedent project with utopian notion was proceeded to relate the architectural design with the precedent one. By study those project, an analogy will be made to response to the stance of the architectural design. In this project, the proposal of integration of infrastructure and program has similar analogies to some precedent projects. Yet, during the design process more analogical studies of precedent projects are needed to strengthen the idea and the urban and architectural part of the design. Also, some of the previous case studies are not applicable anymore as the focus of the design has been altered.

In the graduation plan it is stated that the social relevance are reflected in the city planning with utopian sense and also stated that the economy would be benefited from more social interactions with a plan of centrality. The design in architectural and urban level followed with the idea, with the division of the city between contrasting sides, which is potentially attract citizen to the leisure side, and achieve the idea of social integration. And with the intervention of transit and service hub as building mode on the border of the state farm, it strengthens the idea of social integration since different sectors of people encounter in the same roof, resulting in benefit of social condenser.