

An Assessment of the Design Criteria of Market Areas in Terms Of Urban Space Quality

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Abstract

This study was conducted to determine how the public markets that serve as open urban areas fit themselves among the other functions in the city and how the design criteria could be shaped in a good organized city. In the study, urban space quality was analyzed over Yeşilköy market (İstanbul), Kemberburgaz Bol Pazar market (İstanbul) and the Braga Market (Portugal) in terms of design criteria. These evaluations were applied by revealing the urban space quality criteria through literature research. In addition, design parameters were created based on site selection, circulation, street furniture (lighting, landscape and signing) determined for open market places through design guidelines and existing examples. On-site field work for the examples in İstanbul was carried out. Three different examples discussed in the study were analyzed over the design parameters. The location selection, that is among the design criteria of the market areas, is to some extent important for users to use these areas, but it is not the only indicator on its own. Today's modern market areas are not only for selling fruits and vegetables, they are created using good design elements and equipped with versatile activities and social areas.

Keywords

open markets; public area; urban space quality; market area; design criteria

1. Introduction

The development of “public spaces” has been an important element of the social, economic, and political development of cities. Especially the open public spaces (squares, parks, market places, etc.) have not only served as hubs of economic mobility but also as centers with highly active social interaction. Although public spaces, including open market places, have gradually lost their dominant character in urban life from the Middle Ages to the present day as a result of the rise of capitalism, they continue serving as an effectively used urban focal point. The public term semantically suggests the non-private, something that concerns all or accessible by all.

The open and semi-open market places are preferred in Turkey because they offer more affordable and cost-effective products compared to the shopping malls, while those

places rather provide a ‘boutique’ service in Europe in conceptual terms. The European market places are structured with a more accentuated focus on tourism, aimed to promote and sell traditional products and keep the past alive. The marketplaces for special occasions, including festivals or Christmas, not only to appeal to local users, but act as a center of attraction for all the visitors from around the world. As regards the permanent open markets, the frequent practice in certain countries, including Spain and Italy, is to convert previously non-functional old buildings to serve as a permanent marketplace. Furthermore, due to the COVID-19 outbreak in the later 2019, both the importance of open public spaces and especially the open/semi-open markets remarkably increased with regard to design and that the latter have been considered safer and thus favorable compared to the confined spaces.

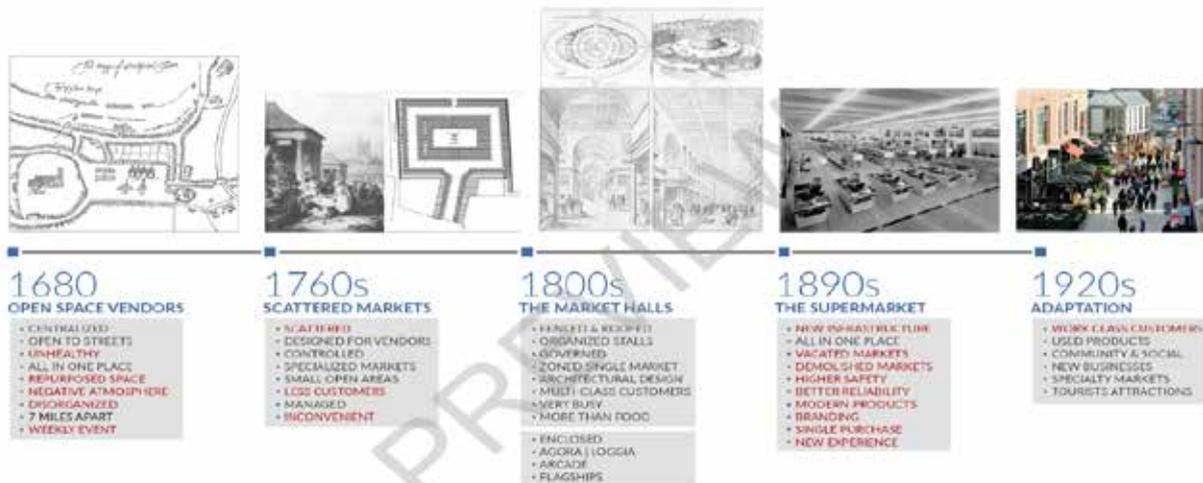


fig 2.06 | Public markets in the United Kingdom through time. Each period defines a shift in the design due to different drivers pushing public markets to reiterate and change.

Figure 1. Historical development of marketplaces (Al-Shidhani, 2021)

Vural and Yücel (2006) referred to the “public space” term as urban or rural areas that were accessible by people in their studies, namely “A critical look at shopping malls, the new public spaces of our time”.. From the pre-Roman period, until the mid-20th Century, the food and beverage-oriented market places and wine shops, and land uses associated with dining spaces served an urban function in the center of the neighborhoods. These spaces were used for celebration days, administrative events, rituals, and other public ceremonies (Parham, 2005).

Required standards intended for the marketplaces were set during the development of the zoning plans for the market places. Accordingly, the market places should be designed large enough to accommodate a minimum of 2.500 people with a maximum distance to the market of 1.5 km and a minimum service area of 700 hectares. In terms of size, the marketplaces must be established on a minimum of 4.000 to 6.000 square meters (Aksoy, 2009).

Public space consists of open or semi-open areas, including streets and alleys, squares, parks, markets, and closed spaces, including religious buildings, museums, hospitals, and schools that are outside the private areas and accessible by everyone (Cordan Çolak, 2015).

1.1. The Aim of The Study

Urban spaces serve not only to their intended function in the society, but also provide social facilities that bring people together at their location. The main purpose of the present study was to investigate how market places as urban open or semi-open spaces had a place among the other functions in the city and how the quality of space was shaped by means of design criteria in a well-organized city. Accordingly, it was aimed to investigate the quality of urban space in the context of marketplace design parameters. It is observed that the permanent markets are not used actively and effectively in Turkey. How the quality of space was shaped in the market areas was investigated upon a comparison between exemplary cities that actively used market places as an urban function in daily neighborhood life and examples from Istanbul.

1.2. Context of the study

The Yeşilköy Market in Bakırköy, Istanbul and BolPazar in Kemerburgaz and the Braga Market, which received design award, were considered sample areas within the scope of the research. The Yeşilköy Market was chosen because it was accessible to everyone in Istanbul and appealed to the middle-income group in terms of social structure. BolPazar was included in the research on the

grounds that it appealed to a higher income group and was designed for luxury consumption rather than the need for the region as a general design criterion. A comparison of these two different samples from the same city provided significant input for the purposes of the study. Furthermore, selection of another example from abroad allowed a comparison of the marketplace design criteria in place in different countries. The Braga Market was selected due to the fact that it was good example among of semi-open marketplaces; as a matter of fact, the market received the Loop Design award in 2021.

2. Methodology

First, a literature review on public market places and their development was performed pursuant to the methodological approach of the present study. Sample areas were selected and field studies were conducted upon the literature review with an aim to define the design criteria. The examples from Turkey were investigated in situ by means of field studies. The attributes, including transportation, lighting and signing, and interior design that would affect the design parameters were captured by photography. The existent characteristics of the sample areas were investigated within the scope of the design parameters, which were determined during the literature review stage.

Within the scope of this research, three examples, two from the same city and one from abroad, were investigated in the context of urban space quality with a view to the design criteria of open markets. The confined and permanent marketplaces were excluded from the scope of the study and the research was limited to open and semi-open market areas in consideration of the fact that the foregoing marketplaces would have differences in design criteria terms.

2.1 The problem of the study

A comparison with the public open market spaces in developed countries indicated that the examples from Turkey were located in arbitrary unoccupied spaces due to functional needs but not developed as planned spaces in line with design criteria. In this context, design criteria and parameters were determined in order to help determine the quality of the space and to suggest the attributes of a good marketplace design.

The associated sub-problems include how to choose a location for a semi-open marketplace designed to serve as a focal point not only for the neighborhood per se but also for the entire city, how to shape the access infrastructure, and how the bicycles', pedestrians', and vehicles' accesses would be provided. Another sub-problem is the requirement of creating urban furniture elements, which are in direct relationship with the quality of space in a marketplace, not only in terms of design but also in consideration of location choices. For example, the design and location selection of lighting elements included in the urban furniture would affect the architectural quality of the spatial appearance, but at the same time, the locations and numbers of such elements would also affect the security of the space in question.

3. Literature Review

An investigation of the formal characteristics and design criteria of the marketplaces included the public spaces and a better understanding of their development would ensure an enhanced planning and user experience. Therefore, a literature search was conducted prior to an analysis of the examples by design principles to investigate which parameters were of importance. The design criteria of the marketplaces as public spaces are important for the organization of the entire city as a part of a proper planning network.

It was suggested that one of the most important functions of open urban spaces is to create a social fabric. Certain criteria, including central location, proximity, accessibility, delimitation, decisiveness, focusing, guiding, continuity, provision, conjunctivity, and differentiation associated with those places provide guidance for the user behaviors (Erdönmez, Akı, 2005). İnceoğlu and Aytuğ described the primary needs of users in public space as comfort, rest, active/passive participation, exploration, and human needs (İnceoğlu, Aytuğ, 2009). Whyte defined the basic attributes that should be featured by public spaces as accessibility, people's ability to engage in various activities, the comfort and good image of the space, and offering a sincere space that would support social activities, where people meet each other, and provide further social interaction (Whyte, 2000).

Open markets as the public and open urban areas are classified as food-oriented (fruit and vegetable markets and organic markets), clothing-oriented (clothing and souvenir markets), animal markets (markets intended for Muslim Festival of Sacrifice, bird markets, fish markets), and second-hand product sellers (flea markets, antique markets, and car markets) (Uzgören, 2021).

3.1. Concept Of Quality In Urban Space

The quality concept is associated with necessity. Uzgören and Erdönmez (2017) suggested that the ability of public open spaces to accommodate certain human needs, including freedom, feeling safe, rest, and comfort were associated with a quality physical environment.

The criteria of the Project for Public Space (PPS), an interdisciplinary, non-profit organization on public spaces, regarding the quality of urban spaces, are provided in Figure 2.

Inceoğlu and Aytuğ emphasized four main topics associated with the quality of public spaces as identified by Roger Tym & Partners for One Northeast. The said topics are;

- Vitality (in terms of use and activities)
- Sense of place (identity, image, and physical quality)
- Entry, connection, and movement
- Community involvement (Inceoğlu, Aytuğ, 2009).

Lynch defined the quality parameters as vitality (a healthy environment), feeling (sense of place or identity), adaptability (the flexibility of a place to adapt), accessibility (people, activities, resources, space, and information), and control (responsible control of the environment) (Lynch, 1984). Van der Voordt referred to as the quality of space in architecture under four headings. These are technical quality, functional quality, aesthetic quality, and economic quality (Van der Voordt, 2005).

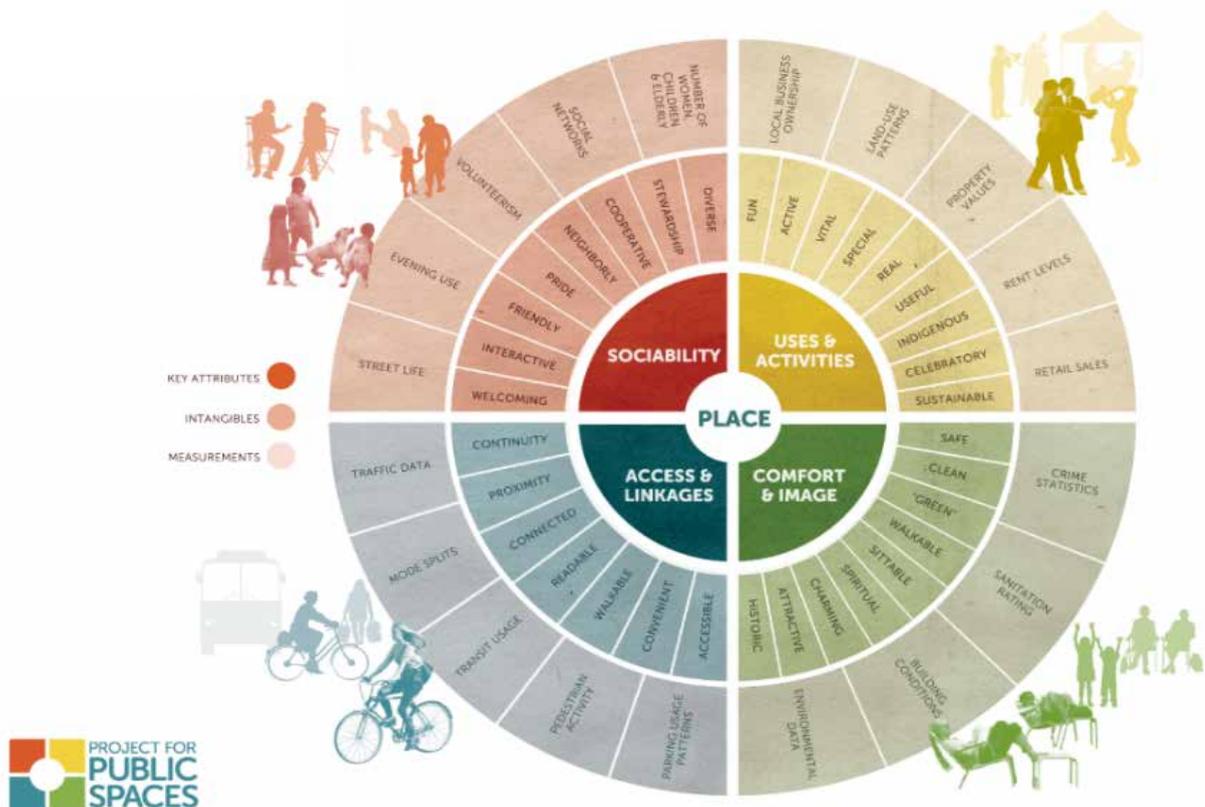


Figure 2. Criteria that determine the quality of urban space according to PPS (Project for public places, 2022)

The perspectives suggested by different scholars and experts on the quality of urban space are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Parameters determining the quality of urban space discussed in the literature section

Uzgören ve Erdönmez, 2017	Freedom, feeling safe, rest, comfort
Project for Public Space (PPS), 2022	Sociability, use and activities, access and connections, comfort and image
Roger Tym Partners, 2006	Vitality (<i>in terms of use and activities</i>), sense of place (<i>identity, image and physical quality</i>), entry, connection, and movement, and community involvement
Lynch, 1984	Vitality (<i>a healthy environment</i>), feeling (<i>sense of place or identity</i>), adaptability (<i>flexibility of a place to adapt</i>), accessibility (<i>people, activities, resources, space, and information</i>) and control (<i>responsible control of the environment</i>).
van der Voordt, van Wegen, 2005	Technical quality, functional quality, aesthetic quality, and economic quality.

3.2. Design Principles Of Urban Markets

The market design criteria in different studies and guides were reviewed in order to determine the relationship between the design criteria of the market places and the quality of the place. It was aimed to determine the parameters to be used in the investigation of the example marketplaces in the study. PPS suggested 10 main topics important for the design of a good market place. Those are listed below with their important points;

The right supplier (*quality, appearance and cleanliness, innovation, competitiveness, locality, attractiveness, and service*)

The selection of right location (*visibility, accessibility, memorability, ease of flow, parking lots, connection to nearby places - restaurant, cafe, etc.*)

The right connections (*identity that reflects the public, public transport connection, local economy, common benefit with nearby commercial units, greenery - bike connections, bringing neighborhoods together*)

The right economy (*sustainable foundation, fund research, booth rental, promoting new investments*)

The right combination (*international competition, variety, different price and quality level, local, balance, clarity*)

The right mission (*intentions and goals, new job opportunities, sustainability, local culture, ability to make people happy*)

The right publicity (*events, passive education, sponsorship and fundraisers, partners, liaising with the community*)

The right value (*quality product, quality experience, local economy, social benefit, local food system*)

The right management (*effective management, customer-seller balance, future-oriented design, open-mindedness, flexibility*)

The right public space (*entrance, seating, maintenance, shading, flexibility, provision*) (URL-1)

A study by Moore emphasized accessibility, physical and psychological comfort, and physical and visual access to landscape and water elements in the spatial design of open market places. A study by Balsas and Carlos, namely "The role of public markets in urban habitability and competitiveness", which investigated examples from different countries, suggested the important design criteria for the markets as follows:

Location (neighborhood or a commercial area, etc.)

Access-transportation (pedestrian, public transport, and parking lot, etc.),

Building design (multi-storey or open market on the ground),

Structural interior design (individual sales stands or as an open store),

Main commercial area,

Additional services (additional spaces such as library, benches, library, social center),

Animation program (concerts, art festivals, etc. indicative of the flexible use of the space),

Administrative structure (private or public) (Balsas and Carlos, 2019).

The main and subheadings of the parameters set for the “Cambridge market area concept project” were as follows: design (operational frequency - permanent or on occasional operation criterion, flexibility of use, booths, area layout (wide space, usable area status, etc.), activities (eating and drinking places), coating (asphalt, reinforced concrete, coating, block coating, tile, etc.), battens, drains, existing pedestrian accessibility, booths (design, module

feature, structure and material feature, roof features), access (road design, parking pockets, bicycle access, pedestrian and handicap access), additional services (electrical resources, internet, infrastructure-drainage, water resources, waste-related systems, toilets and warehouses), and urban furniture (benches, signage, trash cans, mailboxes, telephone booths, bollards, lighting elements).



Figure 3. Examples of urban furniture in marketplaces (Riccation-Cambridge Market Square Concept Design, 2021)



Figure 4. Signage examples, Greenville Island-Canada (Project for public places, 2022)

Table 2 shows the data included in the design criteria guide for an exemplary market area in New Zealand.

Table 2. Criteria included in the Auckland marketplace design guide (City of Auckland, 2004)

<p>Urban Design Guidelines (for buildings)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) be located in areas which are not subject to major pedestrian pathways. (ii) be architecturally expressive of their temporary nature. (iii) be simple in form, color, and materials to place emphasis on the activities taking place. (iv) complement, and contrast with, the architectural character of permanent buildings. (v) not intrude on any view shaft. 	<p>Street Furniture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) design and construct a rich variety of high quality durable public space paraphernalia, such as seats, litter bins, bollards, sign posts, advertising signs/billboards, lamp posts, other lighting fixtures, drinking fountains, plant containers, flags, awnings, canopies, umbrellas, and temporary structures, that reflect the waterfront character of the Viaduct Harbour and avoid imposing a standardised precinct style. (ii) the layout of street furniture should be determined by the plan form of and circulation patterns within the public space. Such furniture should generally reinforce the periphery of the space, leaving the centre clear and free of clutter. (iii) lay out street furniture in a simple, axial, and formal fashion rather than an abstract or haphazard manner. (iv) 'standard issue' elements, such as telephone booths, should be discretely located so that they are easily seen and accessible but do not dominate their surroundings. (v) minimise the number of sign posts and supports by attempting to combine more than one sign or notice on to any one vertical support. Consideration should be given to attaching signs to buildings sympathetically, rather than mounting them on poles.
<p>Car Parking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) provide access to car parks from streets and lanes (ii) combine car park access with service vehicle access wherever possible (iii) avoid access ramps running parallel to street edges (iv) restrict the width of any street front car park access. (v) provide pedestrian access to and egress from above or below ground car parks directly within buildings via lifts and stairs not locate access to and egress from car parks in public squares, as this may compromise the flexibility of use of these places 	<p>Lighting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) optimise public safety throughout the area. (ii) use lighting to enhance and modulate the public environment for night time activity. (iii) carefully consider the type, placement, and quality of lighting as a fundamental design component, including lighting of building facades and details. (iv) vary lighting levels to suit various locations but without compromising security and safety (inadequate lighting) or privacy and character (excessive or harsh lighting). (v) not use fluorescent lighting. (vi) not use coloured lighting, except for special events on a temporary basis. (vii) where the use of neon is desired, ensure that its design and colour is integrated with the architecture to which it is attached, and the expressive of the premises and activities to which it is drawing attention.
<p>Planting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) deploy planting as a space-defining materials, species should be selected for their architectural form and sculptural qualities, (ii) not use planting to soften or camouflage inappropriately designed building edges. (iii) respect the urban planting tradition, where trees typically grow out of a horizontal, hard or planted ground plane. (iv) A suburban approach to planting where trees typically arise out of a mass of other plant types is considered inappropriate. (v) where appropriate public and urban space defining forms can be achieved, preference should be given to the use of native planting 	<p>Signboards/Signage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) ensure that signs are designed to a high standard and complement the architectural qualities, materials, details, and colours of the buildings to which they relate. (ii) ensure that shape of signs and their location on the building, assist in reinforcing a vertical proportional emphasis in the building facade. (iii) avoid free-standing commercial signs. (iv) exclude billboard type signs that draw the eye from vistas or buildings, and are not of pedestrian scale
<p>Ground Coverings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) use materials and details in the design of public places which are typically encountered in urban and port-operating waterfront locations. Materials should have a robust, durable quality. (ii) select materials for all components of street development (and maintenance) on the basis of the collective criteria of economy, serviceability, durability and appearance. (iii) surface public places with hard paving which should be simple in design and pattern, and assist in tying surrounding buildings into a coherent relationship. (iv) provide paving and alternative textural, tonal, and modular materials which contribute to human comfort in scale and appearance, and which prevail over harsh surfaces such as asphalt and concrete. (v) consider level changes, especially where these assist in achieving a transition between the levels of land and water, but not to the extent that the flexibility of use of the public place or the access of non-ambulant people is likely to be constrained or compromised. (vi) that street engineering responds to the nature and character of the area. minimise the slope and number of falls provided for the drainage of surface water 	<p>Service Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) provide service access points which do not compromise long lengths of what should predominantly be vibrant and pedestrian-comfortable commercial/retail street edges. (ii) combine service access with car park access wherever possible. (iii) provide service vehicle access from streets and lanes. (iv) seek to combine vehicle access/egress points so as to limit their effect on the pedestrian environment. (v) house all rubbish and rubbish containers so that they are not visible from public spaces.

3.3. Case Studies

Two examples from Istanbul and an example from Portugal, an award-winning project implemented upon a design competition, were compared by design parameters within the scope of the study. The two examples from Turkey were selected so as to ensure that they were different from each other in terms of intended purpose and location. The general parameters associated with the design of marketplaces were compiled from different studies and collected under common headings during the literature review. The Yeşilköy Market is a marketplace in the city center that appeals to the middle-income group on a local scale. Bol Pazar Market of Kemerburgaz has a focus on food and beverage and designed so as to appeal to luxury consumption rather than serving the needs of the local population.

The Yeşilköy Market is operated between Florya and Yeşilköy neighborhoods in Bakırköy. The semi-open market area with a permanent location, has a roof cover. Access is provided by public transportation, including shuttles, buses, and minibuses. Although it is easy to access by a private vehicle, the marketplace and its surroundings was not designed in a planned way to accommodate this function, and therefore parking lots are mostly insufficient and traffic jams occur at entrances and exits. There is

no bicycle park belonging to the marketplace. There is no special landscaping area or seating elements around the market. An eating and drinking unit is placed in each corner of the marketplace, which has a rectangular plan scheme.

Bol Pazar is a semi-open marketplace operating in the weekends. The space is inside the Kemer Country Club and consists of food and beverage areas, children's activity areas, and booths, where products, including fruits and vegetables, dry food, and souvenirs are sold. It is placed inside a forest as regards the landscape. It is not located in an area suitable for bicycle or pedestrian access (Bol pazar, 2022).

The Braga Market is a conversion project that received the Loop Design Award in 2021. Dated back to the 1950s, the building was renovated and converted to its present status as a marketplace. Waste storage areas, food and beverage units, and infrastructure systems were completely renewed and aligned with the needs 21st century. A space with high accessibility was created thanks to planned sufficient parking spaces and its location in the city center (Loop design awards, 2022).

Table 3. Images of example marketplaces by design criteria (prepared by authors)

	The Yeşilköy Market	BolPazar	Braga Market
Location Selection			
Transportation		There is no regular parking lot	
Parking lot			
Bicycle access/ park	X	X	X
Pedestrian access/ circulation			
Architectural design			
Roof cover			
Floor covering			
Urban furniture			
Lighting			
Signage and sign-boards			
Landscape	X		X
Additional services			

4. Research Results

For the purposes of the present study, the relevant literature on quality of urban space was reviewed to compile criteria in the scope thereof. The concepts that defined the quality of urban space as suggested by Uzgören and Erdönmez, PPS, Roger Tym & Partners, Lynch, and Van der Voordt are given in Table 1. The different perspectives in those studies were grouped under certain titles and presented in Table 4 as the urban quality parameters. These parameters were used in the assessment of the Yeşilköy Market, BolPazar and the Braga Market, which are the sample areas of the study. The sample market places were scored insufficient (-1), ineffective (0), and sufficient (1) in accordance with the criteria. In addition, the design parameters that were important in relation to the urban space quality of the marketplaces were investigated with the help of different studies and design guides of the applied examples. The aforementioned common headings as a compilation of the studies in the relevant literature were used in the generation the design criteria provided in Table 3. The main headings of location selection, transportation, architectural design, urban furniture, and additional services were determined as important criteria in the design of marketplaces.

Three sample areas were assessed by those criteria using Table 3 supported by the images thereof. This assessment is presented in Table 5. In terms of the relevant criteria, the marketplaces were rated as insufficient (-1), ineffective (0), and sufficient (1).

Accordingly, Yeşilköy Market is an easy to access space thanks to its location. It is a popular and widely used area for the users. However, it is inadequate by certain aspects

on the grounds that Yeşilköy Market was not designed as a marketplace from the very beginning but arbitrarily chose to accommodate the needs of the city. This inadequacy in terms of design can be associated with the lack of an architectural identity of the marketplace. To reiterate, such limitations with regard to design adversely affected the sense of place, freedom, and perception of space. The marketplace began its operations on an available space in a central location as required. Therefore, it fails to offer adequate flexibility for future changes or the use of the area for another purpose.

Although the size of the marketplace is limited, Bol Pazar was designed as a social activity hub and an open public urban area outside the city center. Bol Pazar is not easily accessible for most of the inhabitants of Istanbul. The marketplaces appeal to a more special audience. Space diversity is considered sufficient and successful in accordance with such criteria as vitality, sociability, and comfort thanks to various facilities appealing to different age groups and the fact that it was specifically designed for its intended purpose. Its open spaces and the fact that the marketplace was operated in a private area positively affected people's preference of this market and their sense of belonging. The space features adequate flexibility and is sufficient for use for other purposes, including concerts, or for future opportunities such as growth or amendment. The Braga Market was constructed upon conversion of an existing building with a new design. It is a positive example in terms of accessibility and connections with its vicinity thanks to its location in the city center. As an award-winning conversion project, it has no deficiencies associated with the need for social activities and other additional services. It features a high design flexibility. It was designed

Table 4. An assessment of example marketplaces by urban quality criteria (improved by authors)

Urban Quality Parameters	Yeşilköy Market			Bol Pazar			The Braga Market		
	-1	0	1	-1	0	1	-1	0	1
Connection/ access									
Comfort/ convenience									
Vitality, sociability									
Sense of place, feeling safe, sensation, freedom									
Adaptability									

Table 5. An assessment of the example areas by the criteria affecting the quality of urban space in the context of marketplace design (developed by authors)

	Yeşilköy Market			Bol Pazar			Braga Market		
	-1	0	1	-1	0	1	-1	0	1
Location Selection									
Transportation									
Parking Lot									
Bicycle Access/Park									
Pedestrian Access/Circulation									
Architectural Design									
Roof Cover									
Floor Covering									
Urban Furniture									
Lighting									
Signage And Signboards									
Landscape									
Additional Services									

so as to appeal to everyone from different segments and age groups during the planning stage, and in that respect, it incorporates positive design features with a view to sense of place and sense belonging.

The parameters, which determine the quality of urban space in terms of design, are compiled and presented in Table 3. Location selection was taken as the first criterion in the analysis of the example marketplaces. Yeşilköy Market is a place that is actively used in the city thanks to its central location. It is easy to access with its close connection to public transportation alternatives. There are different public transportation alternatives such as minibuses that provide access to the marketplace. Pedestrian access is easy for the inhabitants of the surrounding area. Nevertheless, the area is a busy in terms of vehicle traffic and is not suitable for transportation by bicycle. The parking lot is not well designed and insufficient. The marketplace roof cover does not have a special design. It was not specifically designed for its intended purpose, and therefore, the floor covering is an asphalt-based hard ground that is not suitable for walking. There are sufficient light and lighting facilities and guiding signage in the marketplace.” There is no guiding landscape element that would make the mar-

ketplace special. There are food and beverage courts that sell similar products at the entry points and at almost every corner of the marketplace.

Bol Pazar is a project that was considered as an alternative to standard marketplaces. It is located in Kemerburgaz area. It is situated away from the city center as regards location selection. It is not placed in a location suitable for bicycle or pedestrian access. Its location in the forest does not allow access by any means of public transportation. Although the only access option is by private vehicle, there is no regular parking lot specifically available for the marketplace. As regards the architectural features, the marketplace was designed so as to employ soft ground covering suitable for walking and a roof cover. Lighting and signage of the spaces and guiding plates in the vicinity are sufficient. The marketplace is located within the Kemerburgaz city forest.

The Braga Market is located in one of the areas with the highest accessibility in the center of the city. Due to the fact that its design was based on a conversion of the old market area, the parking area, social facilities, and architectural parameters were considered in the design. Food

and beverage courts, roof and floor coverings, signboards and circulation areas are highly sufficient for a marketplace. Bicycle parking or access was not considered.

5. Conclusion

The present study aimed to investigate the place of marketplaces among other functions within the city and to suggest the development of design criteria and spatial quality in a well-organized city. Two different marketplaces in Istanbul and a marketplace from Portugal were selected as the example marketplaces for the purposes of the study. The relevant literature was reviewed in order to understand the quality of the urban space and accordingly the design criteria suggested for the market places. The compiled parameters were tabulated in the results section, and the example marketplaces were investigated based on those parameters.

Accordingly, it is important to provide good connections and easy access expected for a good marketplace. Nevertheless, the fact that even the marketplaces such as Bol Pazar, which is not accessible by public transportation and not located in the center of the city, is a favorite destination, is indicative of the importance of other design criteria in people's preferences. Furthermore, even an award-winning design, i.e., the Braga Market, failed to address such an important issue as energy consumption and did not include bicycle access in the considerations at the planning stage.

Among the three marketplaces in question, only the Bol Pazar example featured a landscape element as it was located inside the forest area. The other two marketplaces were heavily used, although there were no landscape layouts. The Bol Pazar marketplace was a destination of choice for recreational purposes thanks to its advantageous landscape features over its marketplace function. In that respect, the variety of eating and drinking courts and social units at Bol Pazar and Braga examples, was preferred by the users and allowed those marketplaces to appeal to many different segments. On the other hand, the qualities of the places that offered food and drink were simplex and limited, in the case of the Yeşilköy Market. Therefore, the Yeşilköy Market, did not provide a center of attraction that would motivate the visitors but merely act-

ed as a venue, where people could meet their shopping needs. to the market.

The examples within the scope of the study suggested that a well-designed marketplace, not only met the shopping requirements but also accommodated different social needs. The improved versatility for different activity services increased people's tendency to prefer the marketplace in question. In addition, the examples of Bol Pazar, which was open on weekends, and the Braga Market, which was a converted design, showed that today's marketplaces were not only venues with mere function of selling fruits and vegetables, but also places created with care in terms of design.

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