



An Example of an Application Project on Contemporary Office Design

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ARTICLE INFO

Research Article

Received : 15.11.2023
Accepted : 22.12.2023

Keywords:

Contemporary Office
Interior Design
Application Project
Natural light
Konya

ABSTRACT

This study aims to define the concept of office spaces and their requirements, as well as the contemporary interior design approaches. It will also cover the interior design and application process for an architecture office in Konya. The company, originally named Çınar Architecture and active in Konya between 1985 and 1990, has been operating as Kerimler Planning Construction Consultancy Company in Konya since 1995. The company requested an interior architecture project for their new location. In the current environment, the office is starting to become outdated and is unable to offer users enough physical amenities. The main goal of the new office's interior design was to create areas where employers and employees could collaborate in a welcoming and adaptable setting without facing any kind of discrimination. In Konya Meram Pirebi District, the Menekşe Apartment's ground floor, which is currently a street-level store, is the site of the project, which occupies a total of 280 m² and consists of a ground + basement. The office occupies 145 square meters on the ground floor of a recently constructed building, with glass extending to the open floor on the south, north, and west facades. The room has a very large opening because the columns are concealed by the walls, making the two stories easily visible from the entrance. The office, which occupies a 135 m² basement floor, is connected to the elevator and staircase at the back. Natural light enters the basement through the gallery area that is attached to the staircase. Within the parameters of the study, two- and three-dimensional architectural design tools, including phases of the interior design process, were employed in conjunction with a qualitative research method based on inspection and observation. The architectural office put it into practice about half a year after the design stage. The outcome was the creation of a dynamic, modern office analysis that values teamwork and permits the emergence of unique and creative ideas throughout the project.

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Introduction

“All things considered, offices are systems made up of people, technology, interpersonal and organizational relationships, and physical surroundings. Workplaces and offices are assemblages of social and physical systems. The social system consists of human relationships, task perception and meaning, expected needs of individuals, and organizational culture. The intended environment, technology, job specifications, and activities are all part of the physical system” (Goodrich, 1982). According to this viewpoint, offices serve as both practical places where information is exchanged and environments with social and physical elements where people spend the majority of their working hours. Offices should better be viewed as locations where time and space are occasionally broken for social activities, according to Çimen (2008), rather than as the primary location for solitary activities. It is also highlighted that while the office should be primarily designed as a social space, there should also be private areas available for concentration, thinking, and privacy (Çimen, 2008). Taking into account these definitions and

details, the office should be conceptualized as a place where various hierarchical relationships are established and common areas offer workers physically and socially productive working environments. The design setup should be based on these specifics.

Office spaces are dynamic environments where there is a constant flow of intense and ever-changing information. These environments establish hierarchical relationships of varying dimensions. With the advancement of technology, offices are no longer perceived as just working spaces, but also as living spaces. As a result, the interior design approaches of today's offices have changed. Concepts such as the importance of time, teamwork, providing prestige to clients, and corporate image necessitate an examination of contemporary office designs with today's approaches (Noraslı and Köse Doğan, 2020). This study explains interior design approaches for modern offices, the concept of an office and its requirements, and interior design and application for the architectural office in Konya.

Interior Design Approaches in Contemporary Offices

Office design approaches have changed due to factors like the speed at which technology is developing, the idea that time is important in business, and the desire of employees to work in more comfortable environments. The idea of the “Contemporary Office” was developed as a result of evolving office logic and the blending of technology and production-consumption relations.

In today’s highly technologically-influenced offices, there are several requirements for interior design that boost user satisfaction and create a more productive work environment. Personal space, social boundaries or togetherness, aesthetics, visual and auditory privacy, and the need for flexible space designs that can accommodate changes and innovations are some of these user-oriented needs (Kayan and Tuncel, 2012). The needs of the users have also changed as a result of the evolving perception of the office. As a result of technological advances; adaptable, modular, and privacy-conscious designs and solutions have been created to satisfy these shifting requirements.

Innovative approaches are used in contemporary office interior designs, such as workspaces that support both individuality and togetherness simultaneously with flexible and mobile modules, units that support group workspaces that will support brainstorming, common social use areas that encourage communication, and cell-type individual workspaces that promote focus while respecting privacy. In conclusion, modern offices should be viewed as a collection of areas created with a comprehensive approach, fusing technology and physical space, where creative thinking and novel viewpoints can emerge and connect to facilitate both solo and collaborative work.

Materials and Methods

After operating as Çınar Architecture in Konya from 1985 to 1990, the company has been operating as Kerimler Planning Construction Consultancy Company in Konya since 1995. The company asked for an interior architecture project for the new headquarters of the business. Given the current state of conditions, the office is beginning to become obsolete and unable to offer its users adequate physical amenities. The main objective of the new office’s interior design was to create areas where employers and employees could collaborate in a welcoming and adaptable setting, free from discrimination. Within the parameters of the study, two- and three-dimensional architectural design tools, including phases of the interior design process, were employed in conjunction with a qualitative research method based on inspection and observation. The author created the modern interior design and application within the parameters of the study, taking into account the demands of business owners. The design and application procedures are outlined below.

The project area

The Menekşe Apartment’s ground floor in Konya Meram Prebi District, which is currently a street-level store, is the site of the project, which occupies a total of 280 m² and consists of a ground + basement. The office occupies 145 square meters on the ground floor of a recently constructed building, with glass extending to the

open floor on the south, north, and west facades. The room has a very large opening because the columns are concealed by the walls, making the two stories easily visible from the entrance. The office, which occupies a 135 m² basement floor, is connected to the elevator and staircase at the back. Natural light enters the basement through the gallery area that is attached to the staircase (Figures 1-2-3).

Office Interior Design Process

The project phase has begun using the Autodesk-based AutoCAD program, taking into account the data of the projected area and the desired need program. First and foremost, a free and organized layout was produced in the project by keeping large openings and minimizing the use of closed dividers. There is multipurpose seating, an exhibition space (for material-project promotion), and a work area that can accommodate three persons or more on the ground floor. The basement floor is set up with kitchens, wet areas, archives, meeting rooms, and areas for seating and exhibition (Figures 4-5).

On the left side of the entry section, there is a cozy seating area that visitors and staff members can use. This area serves to greet incoming clients and provides a first impression of the office. The floor in this area, which is about 25 m², is divided with wooden laminate, while the floor material in other office areas is micro concrete with matte varnish and diagonal lines applied. The remaining walls were covered with a material that looked like concrete. Wire grids on the ceiling, certain wall surfaces, and dividers were taken into consideration for corporate identity works and project exhibitions (Figure 6).

To accommodate busy workers, the designers have created versatile communal areas situated side by side. The display boards showcasing the products for sale are neatly arranged, while the glass front on the other side of the workspace is closed. Computer support has been provided for controlling the daylight in the workspace. The back wall of the area features an open shelving system that staff members can use freely. The floor is covered with micro cement, a material that is widely used throughout the office. To complement the space’s dynamic lines, pendant lighting has been installed over the work desk, and hidden LED lighting has been incorporated into the plasterboard wall and suspended ceiling. On the product display panels, rail spotlights were also utilized (Figure 7-8).

The basement floor features a transparent meeting area designed to foster idea exchange and brainstorming, as well as serve as a social space for in-office celebrations and coffee breaks on special occasions. The area is partitioned from other spaces by a glass wall, and covered in carpet tiles on the floor and concrete-looking material on the walls. Whiteboards, shelves, and LCD televisions are also mounted on the walls for use during meetings (Figure 9).

Office Interior Application Process

The office’s plumbing and electricity were mostly replaced during the implementation phase, which was marked by the completion of the project design and 3D visualizations. After pouring the leveling screed for the basement floor, the wall masonry for the restroom was finished, and 60 by 60 ceramic tiles that resembled natural stone were placed on top (Figures 10-11-12).



Figure 1-2-3. General Views of Office Floors



Figure 4-5. Basement and Ground Floor Layout Plans.

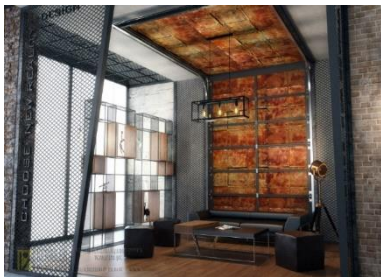


Figure 6. Ground Floor Seating Area



Figure 7-8. Views from the Workspace

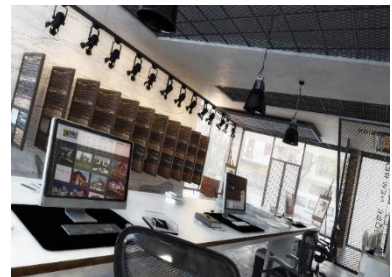


Figure 10-11-12. Renovation of Electrical and Plumbing Systems, Wall Construction in Basement and Ground Floor.

On the ceiling, the 3×4 metal profiles meant for the ground floor ceiling design were arranged in a grid pattern spaced 100 by 200 apart. It was covered with 100×200 sheet metal panels that were laser-cut. Solar shading panels were installed and the exterior door's aluminum joinery was replaced in accordance with the Project (Figures 13-14-15).

In compliance with the project, the plasterboard work for the basement floor's space divisions has been finished. The wallpaper chosen per the design was laid after the rough plaster and plaster works of the ground floor and basement were completed. Ceramic tiles measuring 60 by 120 were used to lay the ground floor (Figures 16-17-18).

A static paint that matched the wall paint color was used to paint the radiators in the basement and ground floor. Both the gallery area and the stairwell's edge have glass railings installed (Figures 19-20-21). Iron profile structure of kitchen was constructed on-site using 3×4 metal profiles in compliance with the drawing. After their frames were made from 2×2 metal profiles and painted with static paint, the bookcases that were designed for the ground floor and basement were put together on location (Figures 22-23-24). On the ground floor, the aluminum joinery measurements of the divided rooms (manager, meeting room and kitchen) were installed and glass was installed. General and local lighting enclosures were installed (Figures 25-26-27).



Figure 13-14-15. Ceiling Application on the Ground Floor.



Figure 16-17-18. Applications in Basement and Ground Floor.



Figure 19-20-21. Applications in Basement and Ground Floor.

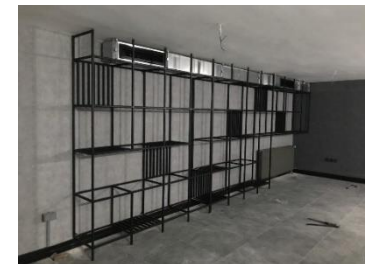
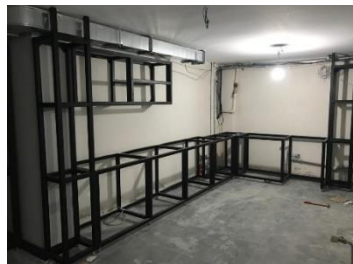
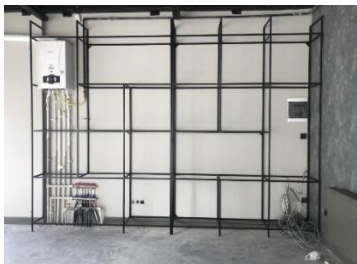


Figure 22-23-24. Views from the Workspace.

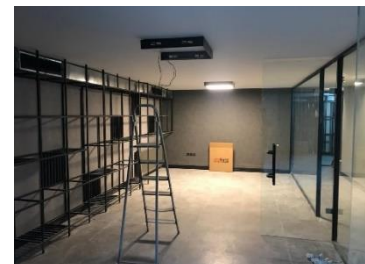
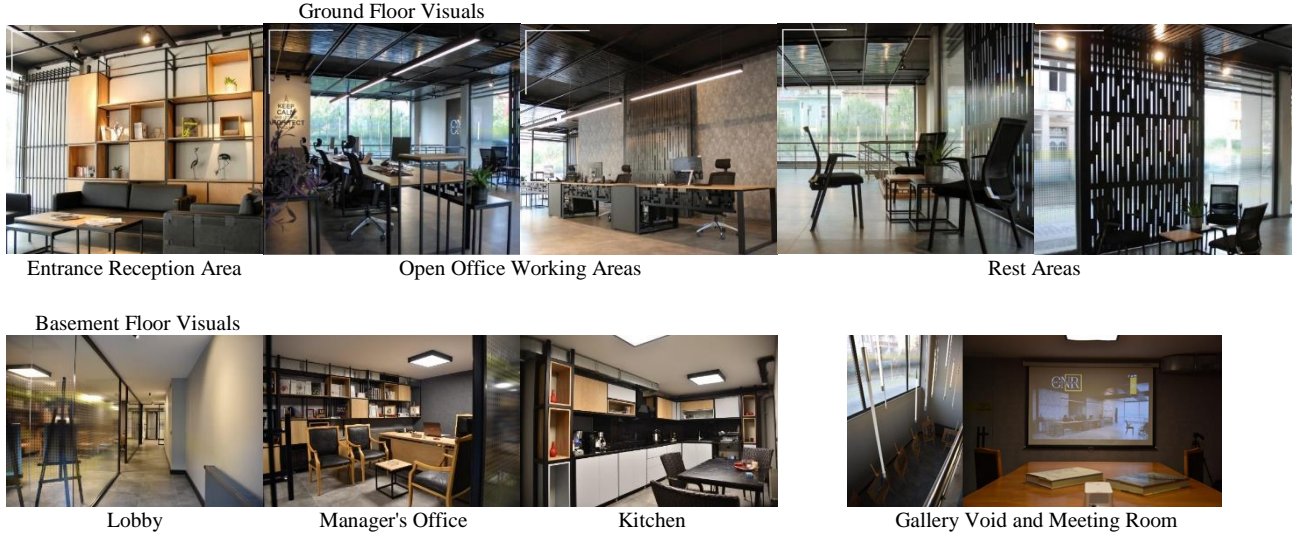


Figure 25-26-27. Views from the Workspace.

Table 1. Office Design Result Products.



Findings and Conclusion

After the design phase, the author implemented and delivered the architectural office in about six months. Throughout the project, a dynamic, modern office solution that values teamwork and fosters the emergence of creative, original ideas is stressed. Together with general and local lighting and accessory parts, the wooden furniture works, which were finished in the final stage of the design application created in compliance with the project, are displayed in Table 1.

The entrance hall, open office design areas, waiting-rest area, manager's room, meeting room, gallery space, kitchen, and WC areas were all created with the demands and requirements of the workforce in mind. These areas have been evaluated based on the physical indoor atmosphere criteria. The design concept applied in this direction is contemporary, inventive, and dynamic industrial, with a clear plan to ensure ease of use and to satisfy all user needs. As a result, a new perception of the space atmosphere has been created.

Acknowledgements

This article was presented orally in "3rd Congress of "International Agriculture - Food Science and Technology Journal (TURJAF-2023)" and published as a summary. Interior design application belongs to the author.

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