

## A Method Proposal for the Preservation and Widespread Use of Mud Brick



**Authors  
Address**

**Gizem Kuçak Toprak; Kevser Çeltik Şahlan**  
**Ostim Technical University, Architecture and Design Faculty, Interior Architecture and Environmental Design; Ostim Technical University, Architecture and Design Faculty, Interior Architecture and Environmental Design**

**E-Mail**

[gizem.kucaktoprak@ostimteknik.edu.tr](mailto:gizem.kucaktoprak@ostimteknik.edu.tr);  
[kevser.celtiksahlan@ostimteknik.edu.tr](mailto:kevser.celtiksahlan@ostimteknik.edu.tr)

### ABSTRACT

Global warming, which is one of today's problems, and in this context, the effects of the use of materials that have high carbon emissions, contain chemicals, consume more energy in the production process, and tend to pollute the nature have begun to be discussed in detail in the world. Mud brick material is an important material due to its features such as shapeability with low labor force by taking materials directly from nature, drying with natural methods and not being waste in the nature after disposed. The mud brick material is defined by the Turkish Language Association [1] as “primitive brick, a mixture of straw and mud, which is poured into molds and dried in the sun for use in building walls”. One of the most basic materials of rural architecture in Anatolian lands, mud brick should be preserved and transferred to the future with its values. Transferring mudbrick material to the future, learning it, and combining it with new and contemporary technologies will enable to obtain a material that will respond to the fundamental problems of the world. However, the most basic way of preserving mud brick material is to preserve the areas where it is used. The mud brick, which is used extensively in rural areas, is on the verge of disappearing as these areas tend to disappear in Anatolian lands. This study is based on the hypothesis that rural areas must be preserved in order to preserve mudbrick material and transfer it to the future. And it aims to develop proposals for the preservation of rural areas. When Development Plans and National Rural Development Strategies prepared by the relevant institutions of the Republic of Turkey [2–10] is examined. It is seen that it is aimed to take various measures to maintain rural areas. However, it is seen that the population in rural areas decreased rapidly in the period from 1927 to 2020. The decline of 10% in the rural population between the years 1927-1960 to the situation where only 6% of the population of Turkey lived in rural areas in the 2000s [2,9,11] shows us that the population in rural areas cannot be preserved, therefore rural areas cannot be preserved either. The most basic condition for the preservation of rural areas is the protection of the local people and their survival. Bektas [12] draws attention to the act of protection that cannot be carried out by freezing the past and creating uninhabitable cities for the people of the age. In addition, he draws attention to the fact that areas which do not catch up with the era and do not respond to new needs will disappear on their own. It is emphasized that preservation can only be made by ensuring that the existing user stays in the city. In this context, this study aims to examine the Rural Area Design Guides, which first protect the users of rural areas, then directly ensure the preservation of rural areas, and will ensure the preservation and transfer of mudbrick material to the future.

**Keywords:** Mud Brick, Village Design Statements, Rural Architecture