Abstract

The positioning of high structures creates important effects on the city silhouette; even sometimes it is created by them. This silhouette could be in close relationship with the historical regions as well as developing outside the city. It was observed that tall buildings developed in two different ways in London and Paris. This study aims to examine the urban texture of tall building areas in two cities in terms of architectural and urban design aspects. The historical development of London and Paris, and the role of tall buildings in this process were compared. High buildings in London developed alongside with the historical texture, while in Paris they located in an especially reserved area outside the city. These different situations have developed with the city dwellers' lifestyles, as well as created spatially different effects on them. In this context, the relationship of tall buildings with urban fabric is examined, and an example of a high building selected from each city is discussed. These examples are The Leadenhall from London and Tour First from Paris. It was concluded that the locations of the high buildings have an important role in the urban texture, and it also depends on politics to make decisions.

Keywords: Urban planning, architecture, high structure, high rise building, tall building, design.

The Relation of High Structures with the Urban Texture: Examples of London and Paris

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Yüksek yapıların konumlanmaları, şehir siluetinde önemli etkiler yaratmakta; kimi zaman da bir şehrin karakteristik silueti yüksek binalar tarafından yaratılmaktadır. Bu siluet, şehrin tarihi yapısı ile yakın ilişki içinde olabildiği gibi şehir dışında da gelişebilmektedir. Londra ve Paris şehirlerinde yüksek yapıların bu iki farklı şekilde geliştiği gözlemlenmiştir. Bu bağlamda iki şehrin yüksek yapılarının kültürel, ekonomik ve politik olarak geliştiği çevrelerin, yapısal ve mekânsal açılardan incelenmesi amaçlanmıştır. Bu amaçla, Londra ve Paris şehirlerinin tarihi gelişimi ve yüksek yapıların bu gelişim içindeki konumları karşılaştırılmıştır. Londra'daki yüksek yapılar tarihi dokuyla iç içe ilerlerken, Paris'te şehrin dışında özellikle ayrılmış bir bölgeye yerleşmişlerdir. Bu iki farklı durum, şehir sakinlerinin yaşam tarzlarıyla birlikte gelişmiş, bunun yanında onların üzerinde mekânsal açıdan farklı etkiler oluşturmuştur. Bu çalışma, Londra ve Paris kent dokusundaki yüksek yapıların konumlarını incelemek ve seçilen yüksek yapıların konumlarını ve özelliklerini karşılaştırmak amacıyla yapılmıştır. Bu bağlamda, yüksek yapıların şehir dokusuyla ilişkisinin incelendiği araştırma kapsamında, iki şehirden konumları, çevreleri ve mimarileri göz önünde bulundurularak seçilmiş birer yüksek yapı örneği ele alınmıştır. Bunlar; Londra'da bulunan Leadenhall ve Paris'te bulunan Tour First yapılarıdır. Örnek yapılar ayrıca fonksiyonları, yükseklikleri ve konumları değerlendirilerek seçilmiştir. İki yapı da ofis işlevinde olmakla birlikte, yükseklikleri birbirine yakındır ve yüksek yapıların yoğunlukta olduğu bölgelerde konumlanmışlardır. Leadenhall binası, tarihi bölgelere yakın konumu ve çevresine karşı sergilediği mimari yaklaşımı sebebiyle bu çalışma için seçilmiştir. Ayrıca bina, Londra'nın silüetine katkıda bulunan ikonik bir değere sahiptir. Tour First ise Paris'teki yüksek yapılar arasından başarılı bir renovasyon örneği olduğundan dolayı seçilmiştir. Buna ek olarak, bina nehirden görülebilmekte, bu da binayı çevredeki yapılardan farklı ve özgün kılmaktadır. Bu bağlamda çalışma, nitel, teorik ve araştırmacı yaklaşımla yürütülmüştür. Çalışmanın yöntemi şu şekildedir: Öncelikle her iki şehrin kentsel stratejileri, şehirlerin en yüksek binaları ile birlikte; bölge, ulaşım, biçim ve tasarım olmak üzere dört açıdan incelenştir. Sonrasında iki şehrin yüksek binalarının konumları ekonomik, kültürel ve politik sebepler göz önünde bulundurularak karşılaştırılmıştır. Son olarak, seçilen yüksek binalar ayrı ayrı incelenmiş ve şu yönler dikkate alınarak birbirleriyle karşılaştırılmıştır: Konum, semt, ulaşım, yükseklik sınırı, çevre, tarihi çevre, simgesel değer ve ikonik değer. Çalışma sonucunda, iki şehrin birbirinden farklı stratejileri, yüksek binaların konumlarının kentsel dokuda önemli bir role sahip olduğunu ve aynı zamanda şehrin ikonik için alınan kararların politik seçimlere bağlı olduğunu göstermiştir. Londra'nın stratejisi, mimari çekiciliği ve dünya çapında uyumlu ve ılımlı bir lider şehir olmaya odaklanmıştır. Öte yandan Paris, yüksek yapıların şehir merkezinden uzağa yerleştirilmesine öncelik veren bir strateji geliştirmiştir. Her iki strateji de görüş farklılıklarına neden olmuştur. Londra'nın stratejisi çekici ve ikonik yüksek binaların inşa edilmesine ve yabancı yatırımcılar için ekonomik fayda sağlayan fırsatlar yaratılmasına izin vermiştir. Buna karşılık, Paris'in stratejisi altyapı kaygılarıyla oluşturulmuş ve şehir dışında yeni bir iş merkezi olarak sonuçlanmıştır. Her iki strateji de şehirlerin kültürel, politik ve ekonomik perspektifleri doğrultusunda geliştirilmiştir. Bu araştırmada, yüksek yapıların kent planlamasına uygun olarak geliştirilmesinin önemi vurgulanmış ve farklı stratejilerin kent dokusu açısından nasıl sonuçlandığı ortaya konmuştur. Leadenhall ve Tour First binaları bulundukları lokasyonda dikkat çeken yapılar arasındadır. Her iki bina da çevreyi göz önünde bulundurarak kamusal alanlar yaratmıştır. Ayrıca her iki yapının da bulundukları bölgede kendine özgü bir yeri ve değeri vardır. Leadenhall binasının Saint Paul Katedrali'nin arkasından görünürlüğü ve Tour First binasının Seine Nehri'nden görünümü oldukça özeldir. Bu çalışma sonucunda, yüksek katlı yapıların kentsel doku ile harmanlanması için alt katlarda kamusal alanların ve mekanların düzenlenmesinin önemli olduğu görülmüştür.

Anahtar Kelimeler: *Şehir planlama, mimarlık, yüksek yapılar, yüksek binalar, mimari tasarım.*

1. Introduction

High-rise buildings are important aspects of the urban texture and habitants of the city. According to a study conducted in Rutgers University Newark, USA, it has been found that the buildings with a height of 35-99 meters had a negative effect on the well-being, while the higher structures called skyscrapers had a positive effect. Besides, it has been observed that skyscrapers improved the sense of community and health in the city *(Barr & Johnson, 2019)*. As well as high-rise buildings create a characteristic silhouette in the cities, in terms of city life and its historical texture; they have a progress that varies from city to city due to cultural, economic, and political reasons, and they affect the lives of the city residents differently. High-rise buildings impact on urban texture is significant in consist of characteristics of the city *(Alistratovaite, 2005)*. The development of high-rise buildings in Eastern European countries affected from the market economy, which created opportunities for investors, and this evolved with the urban planning *(Tamošaitienė, et al., 2013)*. The area that high-rise buildings are located is based on the city administrations perspective and the real estate market trends *(Burinskiene, et al., 2011)*. Beside these, some of the individual buildings have become icons that changed the urban development in cities *(Avraham, 2004)*. In this study, it was aimed to investigate the locations of high-rise buildings in the urban texture of London and Paris and compare the locations of the selected buildings. Within the scope of the study, two sample buildings selected from two cities are examined by considering their locations, environment, and architecture. The examples are 'The Leadenhall Building' from London and 'Tour First' from Paris. The examples selected by considering their functions, heights and locations. Both buildings are offices, their heights are close to each other and they both located in the areas where high-rise buildings are predominant. This study is qualitative, theoretical and investigative.

In the 20th century, high-rise buildings began to develop in Western Europe countries such as England, Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, France, and Northern Italy. Especially office buildings, mostly below 150 meters, were built. Hotels, residences, or mixed-use high-rise structures started to be built in the 21st century. In this period, London, Paris, and Frankfurt were in the first place among the cities where the construction of high-rise buildings rose in Europe *(Pietrzak, 2013)*. London and Paris are among the major European cities with many examples of high-rise buildings. These cities are shaped differently from each other in terms of the locations of their high-rise structures. In London, high-rise buildings were first developed in the 'The City' district, where the city was founded during the Roman period, while in Paris, they were located in 'La Défense' district which is outside the city center *(Figure 1)*.

Although, The City district of London is the region where the city was first founded, high-rise buildings developed in this region

Figure: 1
High-Rise Building Locations, London and Paris, Google Maps, 2020 (URL-1a-b).

Image: 1
The Tower of London and the City of London, James Burns, 2015 (URL-2).

Image: 2
La Défense Skyline in December, David Giral, 2006 (URL-3).

alongside with historical monuments. By contrast, La Défense in Paris is a region especially designed for high-rise buildings outside the city center and its infrastructure was prepared according to increasing demand *(Aytıs, 2019) (Image 1-2)*.

Urban planning and zoning were carried out in London with the plans of "Unitary Development Plans", "London Building Acts", "Development Plan", "Regional Planning Guidance", and "London Plan". In Paris, "Plan de zonage", "Construction ann Inhabitat Code", "PLU of Paris", "SDRIF", "Loi SRU" plans were implemented. While each building in London was evaluated individually and no height restrictions were made, the aspect ratios were taken into consideration in Paris and three different height limits were set: 25 m, 31 m, and 37 m, and these limits updated in the following years. In terms of architectural design, the buildings were requested to be compatible with their surroundings in both cities. The high-rise building silhouettes are planned to have a view of historical monuments in London and to create a corridor that will protect the view of the historical sites, while in Paris it was shaped in the new area created by following the historical axis out of the city. Transportation to high-rise

buildings is provided by subway and bus lines in both cities. Additionally, there are trams and intercity trains in Paris, and one of the big streets extends to La Défense *(URL-4)*. In contrast, transportation by private vehicle is limited in London *(Saint-Pierre, et al., 2010) (Table 1)*.

1.1. London

The Development Plan of Greater London designed by The London Society had described in the collection titled "London of the Future" which contains a series of articles edited by Architect Sir Aston Webb published in 1921. In these plans, besides the development of city roads, the evaluation of empty spaces in London has been explained. It was discussed over London's distinctive atmosphere, unlike New York or Chicago *(Gilbert, 2004)*. With the determination of the city's transportation and areas for construction, high-rise buildings started to appear on the agenda of London rapidly.

London's strategy on high-rise structures increased the number of buildings during the period of Mayor Ken Livingstone who served between the years of 2000-2008. Livingstone's strategy was based on the idea that London is a city that can handle

Table: 1
Comparison of the high-rise buildings of London and Paris, 2020.

Criteria	London	Paris
Region	- The City - In the city center - Intertwined with historical monuments	- La Défense - Outside the city center - Away from historical artifacts
Transport	- Public transport - Wide subway network - Transportation with existing streets	- Public transport - Wide subway network - Transportation by a new big street
Form	- The buildings were evaluated individually - There is no height limit	- Attention was paid to the aspect ratios - Three different height limits: 25, 31, 37m
Design	- Contrast with the environment - View of historical monuments	- Compatible with the environment - Historical axis reflected to the area

supply-side problems while competing with the cities of the world. It was part of the plan to bring office buildings in London to an economic level that foreign investors can afford. Livingstone argued that while carrying out this plan, efforts should be made to improve public transportation. He also said that he was a Mayor who could decide whether a building was attractive or not at the project stage *(McNeill, 2002a; McNeill, 2002b)*. In this case, the importance of architectural values was also included in the high-rise building strategy developed in London.

The development of high-rise buildings intertwined with historical monuments in London revealed differences of opinion. Along with the more conservative of historical buildings, there are some who argue that high-rise structures increase the value of historical buildings. In this context, Gassner has the idea that having an opinion against the registered architectural heritage does not overlook the past *(Gassner, 2019)*.

There are various types and heights of high-rise buildings in London. These high-rise buildings are mostly offices, residential, and mixed-use buildings. The ten tallest high-rise buildings in London are higher than 200 m *(Table 2) (URL-5)*. Although, The City is the region where high-rise buildings began to develop first, Canary Wharf district formed as a business center later on *(Brown, 2017)*.

The Leadenhall building has been chosen for this study because of its location that closed to historical areas and its architectural attribute to surroundings. Besides, the building has an iconic value that contributes to the skyline of London.

1.2. Paris

Architect Auguste Perret started the first tall building proposals for Paris in the 1920s, and Le Corbusier continued with a tower proposal called "Plan Voisin" designed for the center of Paris. These offers for the city center were rejected. In the Great Paris Plan *(1932)*, suggestions about the design of Paris and its surroundings were presented. Therefore, the first step was taken for the implementation of La Défense *(Saint-Pierre, et al., 2010)*.

La Défense was planned in the west of the city center and was placed in the end of the historical axis which starts from the Louvre Museum, for preserving the city planning strategy of Paris. The first planning for La Défense was made in 1958 and it was foreseen to be completed in 30 years. The first high-rise building presentations of the project were made in the plans of 1964 and 1969 *(Scicolone, 2012)*. In the high-rise building strategy, priority has been given to position the buildings away from the city's texture. Besides, the fact that Grande Arche, referring to Arc de Triomphe, meets the historical axis coming from the city, is an indication that the city

Rank	Building	Function	Height	Location
1	The Shard	Mixed use	306 m	Southwark
2	Twentytwo	Office	278.2 m	The City
3	One Canada Square	Office	236 m	Canary Wharf
4	Landmark Pinnacle	Residential, Hotel	233.2 m	Isle of Dogs
5	Salesforce Tower	Office	230 m	The City
6	The Leadenhall	Office	224 m	The City
7	Newfoundland	Residential	219.7 m	Canary Wharf
8	Aspen at Consort Place	Residential, Hotel, Education	215.8 m	Isle of Dogs
9	Valiant Tower	Residential	214.5 m	Isle of Dogs
10	One Park Drive	Residential	204.9 m	Canary Wharf

Table: 2
High-Rise Building Locations, London and Paris, Google Maps, 2020 (URL-1a-b).

Rank	Building	Function	Height	Location
1	Tour First	Office	231 m	La Défense
2	Tour T1	Office	185 m	La Défense
3	Tour Total Coupole	Office	179 m	La Défense
4	Tour Areva	Office	178 m	La Défense
5	D2 Tower	Office	171 m	La Défense
6	Tour Gan	Office	166 m	La Défense
7	Tour Carpe Diem	Office	166 m	La Défense
8	Tour Saint-Gobain	Office	165 m	La Défense
9	Coeur Defense	Office	161 m	La Défense
10	Tour ALTO	Office	159.9 m	La Défense

of Paris has adopted a strategy that does not ignore its history.

On the other hand, Paris is a river city. Seine River bends and passes through the heart of the city. It was argued that the historical structure of the city can only be maintained by preserving the river. Although, development of Paris threatens the Roman style of the city that built on the river. There are discussions about that the biggest example of this is La Défense. They discuss that the view from the Arc de Triomphe which appears to be distorted *(Miller, 1973)*. La Défense constructed based on infrastructural principles. These are: a functional dissolution of flows along the defensive slab built above natural land level, containing a large, pedestrian-only area covering all vehicle routes, public transport networks and parking lots, delivery and technical zones; the development of a strong urban transport center which merges all existing public transport; creation of a ring road that provides a double function as a transportation axis and a main road which serves the business area *(Scicolone, 2012)*. The developing planning of Paris is efficient and adopts these main factors[1]:

- Embellishing the city by acknowledging historical places and green areas.

- Establishment of career offers and activities.

- Conservation of social diversity in order to cope with disparities.

The mobility and mixity could associate with these factors. Mobility is an important fundamental to create new social events and preserve the diversity of people. Also, mobility is among the major benefits for the development of Paris. Besides, mixity is one of the major elements in the improvement of districts. By contrast, high-rise buildings of Paris have only one function *(Saint-Pierre, et al., 2010)*. It is also important to determine the locations of the high-rise buildings. There are many methods on this subject and different implementation has been made in Paris. Therefore, possible good and average locations of high-rise buildings in Paris has been pointed out in study of Saint-Pierre et al.

There are various heights of high-rise buildings in La Défense which are mostly offices. The ten tallest high-rise buildings in La Défense are higher than 150 m *(Table 3) (URL-6)*.

Tour First has been selected for this study because it is a successful example of renovation. In addition, the building is visible from the river, which makes the building stand out from the surrounding structures.

1.3. The Locations of High-Rise Buildings in London and Paris

Two different urban strategies were developed for these cities and the results

Aspects	London	Paris
Economic	- Affordable economic level for foreign investors - Successfully handling supply-side problems	- Creating a business center based on infrastructural principles
Cultural	- Attractive buildings - Historical monument views - Improved public transportation and urban spaces	- Urban spaces around the offices for entertainment - Monument that carries the style of the city of Paris (Grande Arch) - Transportation with a highway and wide subway network
Political	- Competing with the cities of the world	- Preserving the historical texture of the city center

Table: 4
Comparison of high-rise strategies of London and Paris, 2021.

of them affected the cities in different ways regards to economic, cultural and political aspects *(Table 4)*. London followed a strategy that allows to build attractive and iconic high-rise structures while offering affordable economic numbers for foreign investors. Paris, on the other hand, built a business center with strategically designing a new infrastructure outside the city. Both strategies were shaped by the cultural, political, and economic aspects of the cities. Consequently, have their own benefits and difficulties.
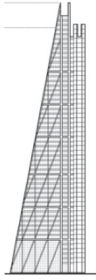
2. High Building Analysis: Examples from London and Paris

Within the scope of the study, high-rise building samples were selected one from each city to be examined. These are The Leadenhall Building from London and Tour First from Paris *(Table 5-6)*. The selected examples are located in The City district of London, and in La Défense district of Paris. Both buildings are used as an office, and their floor numbers and heights are close to each other.

2.1. London: "The Leadenhall"

The Leadenhall Building *(also known as Cheese Grater due to its form)* is located in Leadenhall Street, which hosts many historical monuments in the region of The City *(Figure 2)*, was designed by Rogers Stirk Harbor + Partners architecture firm *(Image 3- 4)*. Construction started in 2000 and completed in 2014. Spreading
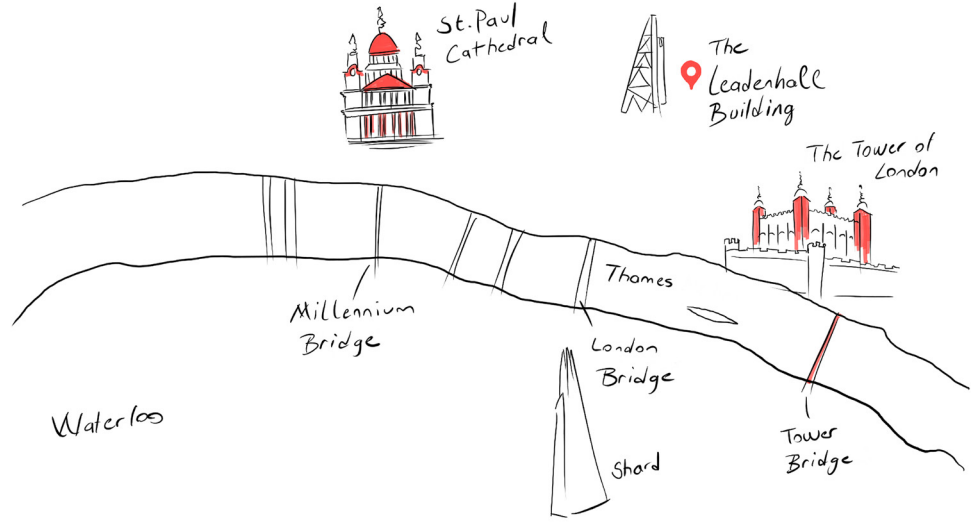
Name:	The Leadenhall Building	
Location:	122 Leadenhall Street, London England	
Design:	Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners	
Construction:	2014	
Function:	Office	
Floors:	48	
Height:	Top: 224 m Roof: 202.9 m	

Table: 5
The Leadenhall Building, The City, London, 2020 (URL-7).

|		
Name:	Tour First	
Location:	1-2 Place des Saisons, Courbevoie France	
Design:	Kohn, Pedersen Fox Associates & SRA	
Construction:	2011	
Function:	Office	
Floors:	51	
Height:	Top: 231 m Roof: 203 m	

Table: 6
Tour First, La Défense, Paris, 2021 (URL-8).

over a 3,000m² site area, the building is 224.5 m high and 48 floors. It has a gross interior area of 84,424 m² and a leasable area of 60,250 m². Instead of the central core system, the structure operates with a tube system that meets the floorings of the offices and balances the wind load. Vertical circulation, service areas, and floor facilities are gathered in a detached tower *(URL-9)*.

In the publication of the Greater London Authority on landscape management in the city, the following decisions have been made: the development of tall buildings

should be in harmony with the existing structures around and the cluster devoted to them, they should not be positioned to disconnect Saint Paul Cathedral from the sky in the view from Waterloo Bridge, and not to get too close on either side *(GLA, 2012: s.138)*. Consequently, the conical form of The Leadenhall Building was designed to leave the gap that connecting the silhouette of Saint Paul Cathedral with the sky. Considering the existing historical buildings and high structures in the surrounding, the architectural team created this conical form so that it was withdrawn from the view of Saint Paul
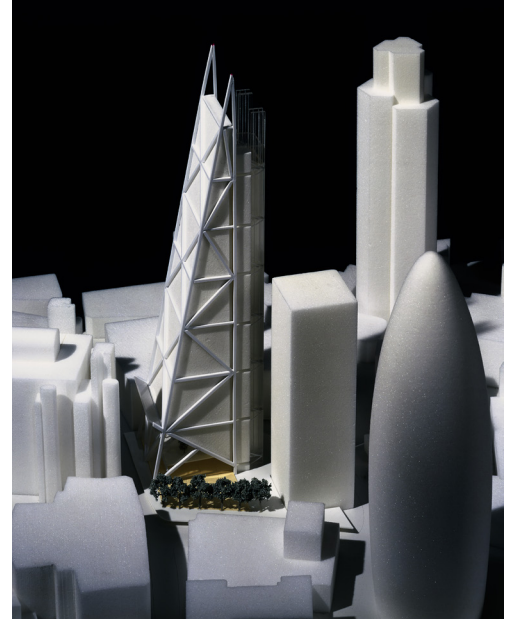
Cathedral as it rises. In the view seen from the north side of Fleet Street, the sloping facade of the building contrasts with Saint Paul Cathedral *(Image 5) (URL-9)*. Also, the form of the building is conducive to visual permeability in the city silhouette, leaving spaces for existing historical buildings *(Strelitz, 2011)*.

In the design of The Leadenhall Building, the historical artifacts in the surrounding area were taken into consideration. With the diagonal space created at the entrance of the building, Saint Andrew's Church became visible and in addition, a wide public space extending to the church was designed *(St. Helen's Square) (Figure 3)*. The square was connected to the entrance of the building and supported by shops placed on the lower floors. These areas were designed as social spaces *(Image 6-7-8) (URL-9)*. Therefore, visitors could be able to experience Saint Andrew's Church
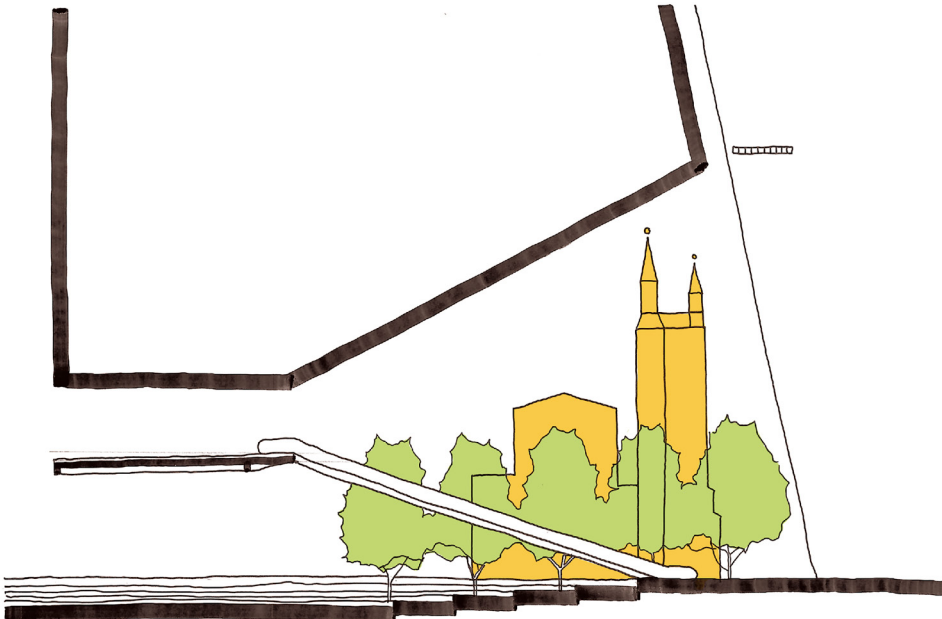
Image: 6
The Leadenhall Building Entrance, Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners, Raftery, P., London, 2020 (URL-14).

Image: 7
St. Helen's Square, Gillespies, John Sturrock, London, 2020 (URL-15)

Image: 8
St. Helen's Square 3D Model, Gillespies, London, 2020 (URL-15).

with a wide perspective from this social area. Besides, in this way The Leadenhall Building has also been visible from afar.

The City region, where The Leadenhall Building is located, has a lot of historical buildings since it was the region where the Romans were founded in the city. This attracts many visitors to the area. The Leadenhall Building has implemented a design strategy that aims to establish a social space and link between the permanent users of the building and the visitors, taking into account the historic structure of the region in which it is located. One of the factors that enabled this was that the square designed for the entrance of the building was directed to Saint Andrew's Church. Consequently, visitors coming from the direction of the church could be able to head towards The

Leadenhall Building and easily reach the social places. Likewise, St Helen's Church is very close to the building, so it also attracts visitors from this direction.

The Leadenhall, which has an important position in the historic texture, allows its users to communicate with historical monuments during the entrance and departure of the building. The Leadenhall has kept the visibility of historical monuments by leaving space around itself and has established a fluent communication with these structures through the public spaces it has created *(Figure 4)*.

In addition to the fact that most of the buildings on Leadenhall Street are low-rise, the west side of the street reaches to Cornhill Street and to the Bank subway station where the Bank of England and its museum are located. This made Leadenhall Street into an axis with a visitor density. Furthermore, Lloyd's of London headquarters, which Richard Rogers is one of its architects, and 30 St Mary Ax *(Gherkin)* designed by Norman Foster is among the attractive high structures in the vicinity *(Figure 5)*, along with the other attractive high-rise buildings, such as Saleforce Tower, Twentytwo, 20 Fenchurch St *(The Walkie-Talkie)*.

2.2. Paris: "Tour First"

Tour First, which is located in La Défense, was formerly designed by Pierre Dufau, Jean-Pierre Dacbert, and Michel Stenzel *(Tour Axa)* and were renovated by in collaboration of Kohn, Pedersen Fox
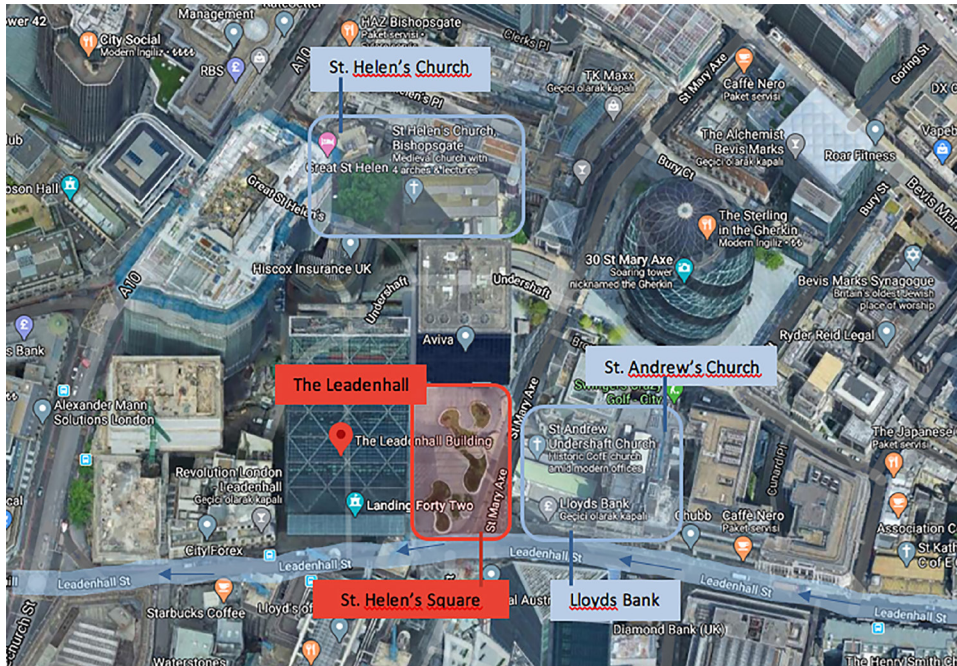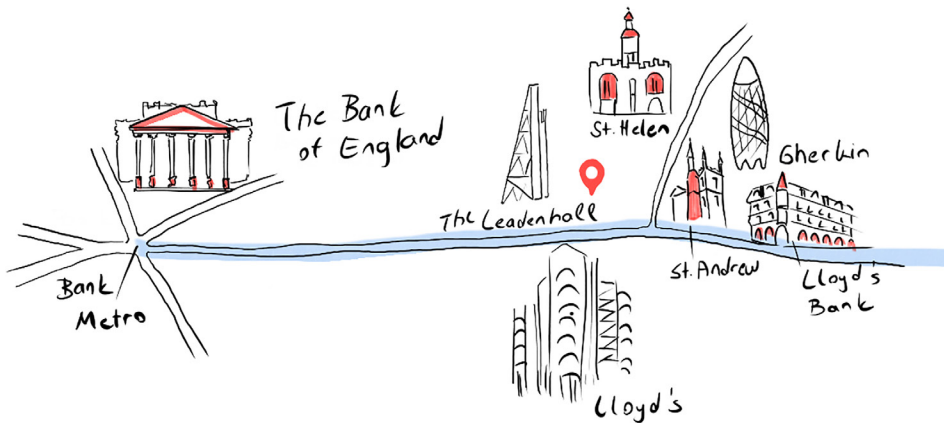
Associates and SRA *(Saubo, Rouit et Associés)*
(Figure 9-10). Construction started in 2007
and was completed in 2011. The building
is 51 floors, 231m high and has an area
of 87,000m² *(URL-16-17)*. The existing
building is one of the first tallest buildings
in Paris and was built in the 1970s. The
renovation project aimed to bring a modern
look and improve its relationship with
the environment while preserving the
integrity of the old building *(URL-17)*. In
the renovation project, the original plan,
which is divided into three equal branches
from the core, has been preserved. Besides,
indoor and circulation areas have been
improved *(URL-18)*.

Tour First connects to Esplanade de La
Défense subway station with a footbridge,
and the axis where the station is located
reaches Grande Arc *(Figure 6)*. This region
welcomes many visitors, but also serves as
an open social space for permanent users
of La Défense district. The other end of the
modern Grande Arc axis flows towards the
center of Paris and meets the historical Arc
de Triomphe *(Figure 7)*.

The historical axis, which is started from
the Louvre Museum to La Défense, is a
sign that the Paris city structure respects
the historical heritage as it develops.
Although this meeting symbolizes the
continuation of the unique texture of the

city, it is argued that the angle from the Arc de Triomphe is distorted *(Image 11)*.

Tour First is shown as one of the successful examples of reproduction in La Défense. In the design process of the building, a strategy was developed that focuses on the gaps between other buildings in the environment. There are studies on the subject, about the arrangement of La Défense's public spaces *(Scicolone, 2012)*. Although the tourist attraction in the area is mostly on the Grand Arc, other high-rise buildings in the vicinity also have architectural characteristics, such as D2 Tower, Tour Carpe Diem, and Tour Saint-Gobain.

3.   Results and Discussion

In this study that aims to investigate the relation of high structures with the urban texture, London and Paris were selected as example cities. Both are among the leading cities of Europe and have many high-rise buildings. Although, these two cities have developed different urban planning strategies. London's strategy has focused on architectural attractiveness and being a compatible leading city. Paris has developed a strategy that prioritizes locating the high-rise structures away from the city center. Both strategies have caused differences of opinions. In the scope of the study, one high structure
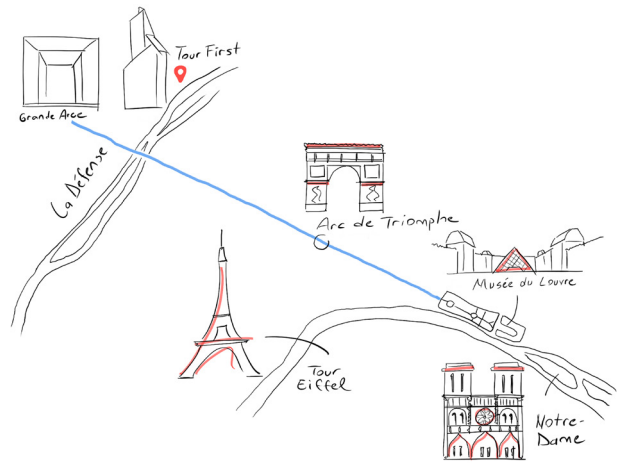
example selected from each city: The Leadenhall from London and Tour First from Paris. The examined buildings are among the leading high-rise structures of their cities as a result of their unique designs *(Table 7)*.

These two office buildings have sustainable design strategies that are compatible with the environment. Although the buildings have similar aspects, their locations in the city are quite different from each other. This shows that

the two structures have developed different values and policies *(Table 8)*.

Considering its historical heritage around The Leadenhall Building, its form has been designed in such a way as to provide clarity to these structures. Besides, the square created at the entrance is connected to the social area next to it. By making this, the entrance of the building is designed as a social space that brings different users together through the square that relates with St. Andrew's Church. In addition to

Table: 7
Comparison of The Leadenhall and Tour First, 2021.

The Leadenhall		Tour First	
	Location: The City		**Location:** La Défense
	District: Historical district		**District:** The area reserved for tall buildings.
	Transport: Public transport Subway City streets		**Transport:** Public transport Subway New big main street
	Height Limit: There is no height limit.		**Height Limit:** Three different height limits.
	Environment: Landscaping has been made by taking into consideration the historical texture and public spaces.		**Environment:** Landscaping has been made taking into account its relationship with other structures and public spaces.
	Historical Surroundings: There are many different historical buildings in the area.		**Historical Surroundings:** There are no historical buildings in the area.
	Landmark Value: The building is visible in the skyline of London.		**Landmark Value:** The building is visible in the skyline of the area but not visible in the city of Paris.
	Iconic Value: It has an iconic value due to its location in the city center.		**Iconic Value:** It has no iconic value due to its location far from the city center.

	London	Paris
Strategies	Affordable office buildings for foreign investors.	Preserving the original city planning and cityscape.
	Attractiveness of the building: iconic value, architectural value.	Creating a business center with infrastructural principles.
	Making the city of London as a leading economical center in the world.	Supply the need of financial business area for the city.
Location Choices	Having a view of historical monument raises the value of the building.	A business center away from the historical city.
	High-rise structures are visible in the cityscape.	High-rise structures are not visible in the cityscape.

Table: 8
Policies that affect the high-rise building development in London and Paris, 2021.

respecting historical buildings, although the building is on a narrow street, the openings on the entrance and lower floors are formed in as creating its own space. This enables the building to communicate with its surroundings. Looking at the other high-rise buildings in the vicinity, it is seen that they comply with London's urban planning and iconic architectural criteria. Their relationship with historical buildings could be discussed. Although there are opinions that high-rise buildings increase the value of historical buildings as well as opposing opinions.

Tour First is an example of reconstruction in high-rise structures, as it is a renovation project for an existing building. In the project, it was planned to increase its relationship with the surrounding social areas and transportation points. Consequently, it was possible to perceive the building from far distance. In addition, the building's location, which is close to Seine River, made it visible in the controversial La Défense silhouette. Considering other high-rise buildings in the vicinity, it has been observed that the relationship of the buildings with the surrounding environments is well planned. In addition to the middle axis of the Grande Arc, green areas of different sizes are designed between the buildings.

4.   Conclusion

Although high-rise structures have an important position in the modernization processes of cities, they affect the lives of the residents in many aspects such as architectural, cultural and psychological. From an architectural point of view,

it is seen that high-rise buildings also have important effects on the city silhouettes. Also, it is clear that they have responsibilities against the historical fabric of the city.

London and Paris are among the cities where high buildings started to develop in Western Europe since the 20th century and represent two different examples of strategies in terms of urban planning. Both cities are shaped differently in the way of their countries' economic and political goals, along with the demands of their users, visitors, historical heritages, culture, and nature. London's strategy was allowed the attractive and iconic high-rise buildings as well as creating economic benefits for foreign investors. By contrast, Paris's strategy was created with infrastructural concerns and resulted as a new business center outside the city. Both strategies were developed by the cultural, political, and economic perspectives of the cities.

In London, the high-rise structures district, which can be seen from the London Bridge on Thames River, has become the silhouette of the city and the buildings in the region have joined among the symbols that define London. In Paris, even though La Défense is not perceived by most of the city, the symbol that shows the district is a part of Paris was only Grande Arch, which refers to Arc de Triomphe. The phenomenon of 'iconic structure' carried out by the London policy allowed the construction of buildings that would be a symbol of the city. Paris policy, on the other hand, emphasized the consistency of tall buildings within themselves and their compatibility with the city order.

This study aimed to examine the relationship of the locations of high-rise buildings in the cities of London and Paris with the texture of the city. In the research, the importance of the development of high-rise buildings in line with urban planning was emphasized, and how different strategies have resulted were revealed. The Leadenhall and Tour First buildings are among the attractive buildings in their locations. Both buildings created public spaces considering the surrounding environment. Also, both buildings have a unique spot in their areas. The visibility of the Leadenhall Building behind the Saint Paul Cathedral and the view of Tour First from the Seine River are differently exclusive.

It is important to organize public spaces on the lower floors in order to blend the high-rise buildings with the urban texture. In addition, these modern buildings should follow strategies that glorify historical and cultural values. Most importantly, they must be built with respect for the memories of the city. Furthermore, as well as the architectural design of high structures, interior design has an effect on urban texture. It is important to design a building from space to facade in a holistic approach that considers its environment. In this context, architectural and interior design strategies of these two cities can be compared in further studies●

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