

AUTHENTICITY IN THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPES: ALANYA CASTLE

Kültürel Peyzajlarda Özgünlük: Alanya Kalesi

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Makale Bilgisi

Makale Geçmişi:

Geliş	14.11.2023
Düzeltilme	04.12.2023
Kabul	05.12.2023

Anahtar Kelimeler:

Kültürel Peyzaj
Kültürel Miras
Özgünlük
Alanya Kalesi

ÖZ

Özgünlük kavramı bir kültürel mirasın hakiki, sahici, orijinal bir varlık olma halidir. Aynı zamanda özgün olma hali mirasın turistik değerini artıran ve turizmin gelişmesine katkıda bulunan bir özelliktir. Toplumların, kültürlerin, mekanların her birinin istisnai ve özgün özellikleri vardır. Bu makalede kültürel mirasların ve peyzajların doğru bir şekilde yorumlanmalarında ve değerlerinin anlaşılmasındaki "özgünlük" aracı Alanya Kalesi örneğinde tartışılmıştır. Çalışmanın sonucunun kültürel peyzajların anlaşılması, korunması, yönetimi ve tanıtımına katkı sağlaması beklenmektedir.

Article Info

Article History:

Received	14.11.2023
Revised	04.12.2023
Accepted	05.12.2023

Keywords:

Cultural Landscape
Cultural Heritage
Authenticity
Alanya Castle

ABSTRACT

The concept of authenticity is the state of a cultural heritage as a genuine, authentic, original entity. At the same time, authenticity is a feature that increases the touristic value of heritage and contributes to the development of tourism. Societies, cultures and places each have exceptional and unique characteristics. In this research, the tool of "authenticity" in the correct interpretation and appreciation of cultural heritage and landscapes is discussed in the case of Alanya Castle. The result of the research is expected to contribute to the understanding, conservation, management and promotion of cultural landscapes.

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To Cite This Article: Tülek, B. (2023). Authenticity in the Cultural Landscapes: Alanya Castle. *Akdeniz University Journal of the Faculty of Architecture* 2(2), 122-137

RESEARCH ARTICLE / ARAŞTIRMA MAKALESİ

1. INTRODUCTION

Cultural landscape is a result of the activity of all its inhabitants from natural process and biological species to human. The cultural landscape, as [O'Hare \(1997\)](#) states, is the environment that is changed and regulated by human beings ([Kaya, 2002](#)).

Cultural landscapes, which are blended with the creativity and development of societies, have been examined with their unique identities, especially in recent years. The concept of authenticity, which is defined as "originality, self, authenticity" in cultural landscapes, is an important actor that reflects the personality, spirit and character of a cultural landscape. Every culture, every society, and therefore every cultural landscape has qualities that are unique to its values. Authenticity, which has become an increasingly important concept, is important for understanding and evaluating the value of cultural landscapes.

The concept of authenticity, which has come to the fore in the evaluation of world heritage sites in recent years, has become one of the important criteria in defining, protecting and ensuring the sustainability of cultural landscapes, which are evaluated in a separate category in the UNESCO World Heritage List. The concept of authenticity is open to different interpretations in different cultural contexts and even if some ambiguities in the concept of authenticity make it difficult to perceive the concept of authenticity, this concept will shed light on all studies to be carried out for the evaluation of cultural landscapes.

Authenticity in cultural landscape is an essential factor to support cultural heritage conservation. The authenticity criteria have an active role for explaining, understanding, protecting and gaining to cultural value in the cultural landscapes. The role of authenticity of heritages has been evaluated with authenticity criteria in the cultural landscapes from Antalya namely Alanya Castle within the scope of this study.

2. MATERIAL AND METHOD

2.1. Research Area

Antalya is located within Lykia, Pamphylia and Cilicia regions in ancient times. Antalya region have improved under domination of the Seljuk in between 1207-1391; in between 1391-1923, Ottoman Empire had got the whole region. Alanya is a tourism district of Antalya Province in the Mediterranean Region of Turkey. Its distance to the city center is 154 kilometers. Located on the southern coast of Turkey, Alanya has an area of 1,598.51 km². Alanya, formerly Alaiye, was located in ancient Pamphylia and Cilicia regions on the southwest

Mediterranean coasts. The town has been an important stronghold for many Mediterranean-based empires, including the Ptolemaic, Roman, Byzantine, Seljuk's and Ottoman Empires which was typically a Seljuks city with Red Tower, Shipyard and the Castle ([Tülek and Atik, 2014](#)). The cultural heritage of the cultural landscape of Alanya Castle from the Seljuks to the present day within the framework of different time periods constituted the main material of this study ([Figure 1](#)).



Figure 1. Location of the study area ([Wikipedi, 2023](#))

Şekil 1. Araştırma alanının konumu ([Wikipedi, 2023](#))

2.2. Method

In this research, Alanya Castle is evaluated with Location and Settlement, Traditions, Techniques and Management Systems, Materials and Objects, Usage and Function and Tourism Target and Visitors Type are based with the authenticity evaluation criteria. This evaluation table is below ([Table 1](#)).

Table 1. Evaluation scale table of authenticity (Commented from [UNESCO, 2005](#) and [Taylor, 2011](#))

Tablo 1. Özgünlük için değerlendirme ölçeği tablosu (UNESCO, 2005 ve Taylor, 2011'den geliştirilmiştir)

Location and Settlement	Traditions, Techniques and Management Systems	Materials and Objects	Tourism Target and Visitors Type	Usage and Function
The Physical Structure of The Area	Construction Techniques	Material Types	Target Group	1.Usage in Original form
- Plain, - Light Curved, - Curved, - Rolling, -Wide Valley	-Traditional, -Modern, -Ancient, -Mixed	-Concrete, -Wood, -Stone, -Metal (aluminum, iron, steel)	-Local -Regional -Provincial/State -National	-Residential purpose usage -Agricultural usage -Industrial usage -Tourism purpose usage
	Uses of Historical Building	Tangible Values	Visitors Type	2.Usage in New Function
	-Placement -Military, -Education, -Health, -Defence, -Social events, -Commercial, -Religious.	-Archaeological data (Excavation area, Museums, etc..) -Historical Environment -Old materials, handmade -Green areas, national parks -Architecture, traditional structures .. -Picture, -Sculpture, -Miniature, -Music, -Letters	-Aficionados -Event visitors -Tourists -Casual visitors	- From Residential Usage to Touristic Usage -From Agricultural usage to -From Industrial usage to - From Touristic usage to..... -From Religious Usage to Touristic Usage.
Using of the Area	Old Management Systems	Intangible Values	Predominant Groups	
-Traditional residential area, -Traditional agricultural area, -Religious field, -Military field, -Commercial area, -Tourism area.	-Union (Lycian Union, Colonial, and so on.) -Kingdom, -Dynastic, -Imperial, -Monarchy	-Emotional effects, -Religious effects -Historical ties -Sounds, smells and tastes, -Creativity, -Innovation, -Artistic Interactions -Traditional interactions, -Political Interactions	-Educated visitors -Professionals -Families or Groups -School Children -Nostalgia Seekers	

3. RESULTS

3.1. Authenticity and The Cultural Landscapes

Heritage that carries the traces of the past is an important carrier of the cultural tradition of societies ([Sigala and Leslie, 2005](#)). The concept of “cultural heritage” can have different meanings. While in the past only monumental relics were referred to as heritage, today new values such as intangible values are also included in the scope of cultural heritage. Especially

in recent years, it has become important to conceptualize human values such as festivals, music, tales, languages and call them intangible cultural heritage. It has been clearly demonstrated that heritage is a mirror of the cultures living today as well as the past ([UNESCO, 2005](#)).

The criteria of World Heritage List are updated regularly however an area should have at least one or more natural and cultural features and authentic features which are expected for taking part into the World Heritage List ([WHC, 2008](#)). 6 cultural (Criteria i, ii, iii, iv, v and vi) and 4 natural criteria (Criteria vii, viii, ix and x) identified by the World Heritage Committee ([UNESCO, 1972](#); [WHC, 1992](#); [Fowler, 2003](#)).

Over time, the guidelines for the protection of World Heritage Sites have become clearer. Operational Guidelines have come to the fore here ([WHC, 2008](#)). Although the protection of World Heritage Sites is of global importance, practical measures are the responsibility of individual countries. At this point, countries are guided by the authenticity criteria, which provide guidance on tangible and intangible measures to ensure the protection of a cultural heritage ([Alberts and Hazen, 2010](#)).

Cultural heritage values with the following qualities can be evaluated with their authenticity ([Stovel, 2007](#); [UNESCO, 2005](#)):

- Form and design;
- Materials and substance;
- Use and function;
- Traditions, techniques and management systems;
- Location and setting;
- Language, and other forms of intangible heritage;
- Spirit and feeling; and
- Other internal and external factors.

The concept of authenticity is not an easy one to define because it carries different meanings in different cultures. While this situation provides flexibility in the protection of heritage, it also brings some problems ([Labadi, 2007](#)). At this point, in order to eliminate these problems, the concept of authenticity was discussed at the Nara Conference in Japan in 1994

and the Nara Document on Authenticity was published. The document emphasized that each cultural heritage should be evaluated within its own cultural context ([WHC, 2008](#)).

3.2. Artistic, Technical, Historical and Social Dimensions of Authenticity

Respect for the diversity of cultures and heritage requires a conscious effort to avoid imposing rigid formulas or standardized procedures in attempts to define and determine the authenticity of a monument or site. Efforts to identify authenticity in respect for cultures and heritage diversity require approaches that encourage cultures to develop analytical processes and tools according to their nature and needs. These approaches can have much in common ([Stovel, 2007](#)):

- Interdisciplinary collaboration in assessing authenticity and striving to make appropriate use of all available knowledge and expertise,
- Strive to ensure that the values adopted are truly representative of a culture and its diversity, especially when it comes to monuments and sites,
- Clearly document the unique nature of authenticity for monuments and sites in a way that provides a useful guide for future maintenance and monitoring,
- Update assessments of authenticity in the light of changing values and circumstances.

It is particularly important to ensure that accepted values are represented and that the process of determining these values includes, as far as possible, actions that foster interdisciplinary and inter-communal consensus. In order to contribute to the universal respect and understanding of the different expressive forms and values of each culture, all those concerned with the protection of cultural heritage should base their actions on and seek to foster international cooperation ([Stovel, 2007](#)).

3.3. Conservation and Authenticity

Recognizing that landscapes are an essential component of the European natural and cultural heritage contributing to the shaping of local cultures and to the consolidation of European identity and human well-being, the [European Landscape Convention \(2000\)](#) defines "landscape conservation" as actions taken to preserve and maintain the important and typical features of a landscape, justified by its heritage value resulting from its natural form and/or human activity.

Conservation includes all actions aimed at understanding a work, recognizing its history and meaning, ensuring its material preservation and, where necessary, restoring and valorizing it. As this concept is defined in the first article of the World Heritage Convention, cultural heritage includes monuments, groups of buildings and sites ([UNESCO, 1994](#)).

As a part of the landscape, cultural landscapes constitute the most fundamental part of authenticity assessments. It is possible to identify the unique qualities and components of cultural landscapes that shape their identity by expressing their authenticity in the most honest and convincing way. With the studies carried out for this purpose, the protection and continuity of the authenticity of cultural landscapes can be ensured. Considering the complexities that may arise in the process of analyzing the authenticity of cultural landscapes, a new framework has been tried to be brought to this analysis. This framework can be explained as follows:

Completeness/Integrity: A cultural landscape should encompass all features, including patterns, dynamic use and management processes, in direct relation to the outstanding landscape values of candidate regions. The boundaries of candidate regions should be created in a way to support outstanding landscape features and include all these components.

Completeness: A cultural landscape should be in good physical condition in terms of overall significance and functioning. All physical, social and economic conditions are necessary to ensure that the conservation quality of landscapes is maintained.

Authenticity of the material: the historic fabric from the past that contributes to the outstanding landscape values of cultural landscapes should be preserved. In some cases this may mean striving to preserve original features and patterns that are recognized as important; in other cases, if changes in outstanding landscape values have been identified, this may mean striving to preserve evidence of successive periods in time.

Authenticity of spatial and formal organization: the distinctive patterns of spatial organization (landscape arrangement and organization-circulation systems; roads, railways, water channels, infrastructure systems, etc.) that contribute to outstanding landscape values should be clear and legible. If the continuity of landscape heritage value extends over several centuries, then it should be possible to read the development and changes in the structural form and pattern of spatial arrangements on the remaining layers of the landscape.

Continuity of function: where there are primary historic functions that contribute to outstanding landscape values, all efforts should be directed towards ensuring the continuity of

these functions over time. Valuable landscapes are valued for their design qualities or relational qualities, especially when vulnerable to changes in function. Developing landscapes (especially rural landscapes) are best managed where the character-defining function is maintained.

Continuity in landscapes: Candidates should demonstrate regulation that applies across the continuum of cultural landscapes to an extent that links the quality of regulation directly to the characteristics of outstanding landscape values.

The correct analysis of completeness, authenticity of materials, authenticity of organization of space and form, continuity of function, and continuity of arrangements is linked to the identification of the basic criteria of authenticity.

Authenticity criteria provide guidance to the states and site managers on which conservation approach to adopt and which concrete measures to implement in order to sustain the exceptional value of the site ([Alberts and Hazen, 2010](#)).

In addition, a prerequisite for increasing the practical value of authenticity in the conservation of the common heritage of humankind is the continuation and expansion of intercultural dialogues in various regions and cultures of the world. In order to take concrete measures, raising public awareness of this fundamental dimension of heritage is an absolute necessity ([Stovel, 2007](#)).

3.4. Conservation Approaches (Restoration, Reconstruction, Adaptation)

Conservators of history continue to debate the best approach to the preservation of man-made structures. A philosophical divide has emerged between those who advocate the preservation of historic buildings in a near-original manner and those who argue that adaptation to contemporary uses is necessary or desirable ([Tyler, 2000](#)). 4 different approaches to conservation have emerged across this spectrum. "Preservation" and "conservation" describe the maintenance of a site in its original condition to the maximum extent possible, with some precautions, such as repairing a leaking roof to prevent further damage. "Restoration" describes the return of a building to its previous, often original, state. "Reconstruction" involves the construction of new buildings based on historic designs and approaches. Site managers use this approach, usually when a building is badly damaged, but mainly for contextual ideas. For example, in the context of a historic city, conservationists may rebuild buildings in order to save structures in the city center. Finally, "adaptation" describes the harmonization of historic

buildings with modern uses ([Aplin, 2002](#); [Tyler, 2000](#)). At this point, in addition to definitions of authenticity, a new concept of "integrity" is introduced.

The confusion in the use of "integrity" as a new qualifier for cultural heritage nominations in today's World Heritage sites is evident everywhere. In response to this confusion, the 2005 Implementation Guidelines define integrity as follows. "Integrity is a measure of the completeness and integrity of natural and/or cultural heritage and its attributes." In the 2005 Code of Practice there are 2 important concepts that play a major role in the use of integrity in cultural heritage ([Stovel, 2007](#)):

- Integrity / Completeness: Do all elements need to be present in telling the story of the site? Is it necessary for the significance of the site to be sufficiently process-oriented and to include all features?

- Completeness: An assessment of the condition of the site in relation to existing threats and risks in the environment surrounding the site.

Completeness is defined in relation to each of the 4 natural heritage criteria. The relevant sections in the implementation guide are described as follows ([WHC, 2008](#)):

92. The features proposed under criteria (vii) should be of outstanding universal value and include areas necessary to sustain the beauty of the feature.

93. Features proposed under criteria (viii) should contain all or most of the interrelated and interdependent elements within their natural relationships.

94. The features proposed under criteria (ix) should be of sufficient size and contain the elements necessary to illustrate key aspects of the processes required for the long-term conservation of their biodiversity and ecosystems.

95. The features proposed under criteria (x) should be the most important features necessary for the conservation of biodiversity. It is only those features that are the most biologically diverse and the most defining, that best fulfill the criteria.

These concrete examples are important to help States Parties to the treaty by providing coherence within their nominations. This diagnosis illustrates the challenges associated with developing the use of quality conditions for cultural heritage nominations ([Stovel, 2007](#)).

When examining the conditions of integrity, it is necessary to determine the dimension along which an attribute is to be assessed ([WHC, 2008](#)):

- a) contain all the elements necessary to explain its outstanding universal quality
- b) to ensure that it is of sufficient magnitude to provide a full representation of the features and processes that convey the significance of the attribute;
- c) be suffering from the effects of development and/or neglect.

For cultural properties, this means that the structure of the properties should be well preserved and the quality of the elements preserved, "expressing the integrity of the value of the properties".

In this sense, the four methods of conservation, restoration, reconstruction and adaptation exemplify different attitudes towards authenticity and integrity. While the continuity of integrity is possible through reconstruction techniques, conservation and restoration are the best methods of authenticity in an area. However, there is a clear tension between these two methods, as measures of appropriate contextual material reorganization to enhance the integrity of an area may perhaps jeopardize its authenticity. How local authorities can/should apply the concepts of authenticity and integrity is therefore a site-dependent question. In particular, the materials used in the area and the arrangements within the area are associated with authenticity and integrity, and it is discussed whether they have an impact on its continuity and what compromises may be necessary. Different building materials present different constraints in attempts to maintain authenticity. For example, stone structures can survive for hundreds or thousands of years, while adobe structures require regular renovation to establish authenticity, which brings a different understanding. However, stone structures are also subject to these concerns. Today, some of the world's most iconic buildings are threatened with loss of quality due to deterioration of building materials. For example, acid rain has destroyed many historic marble monuments in Greece, including the Acropolis, sparking debate about how restoration work can and should be carried out. Many measures are highly controversial, with unusual authenticity and integrity practices enhancing the preservation of integrity at the expense of the demands of authenticity ([Alberts and Hazen, 2010](#)).

The problems associated with individual buildings are magnified when issues of the conservation of historic cities and cultural landscapes are developed. One of the goals for a whole city or part of a city is to try to maintain its integrity as a world heritage site, but extended scales are problematic when governing authorities are struggling to manage and finance the conservation of large areas. Historic sites and cultural landscapes, which in reality are home to very large populations, add to the challenge, and development targets are contested. UNESCO

has in fact warned many European cities to withdraw from the World Heritage List because proposed new development plans could destroy the historical context of protected parts. For example, in Vienna, Austria, and Lübeck, Germany, proposed modern high-rise buildings would have compromised the visual integrity of the World Heritage-listed city center, leading to public outcry ([Labadi, 2007](#)). In Dresden, Germany, the proposed construction of a modern bridge over the Elbe River led to the removal of the area from the Heritage List ([Alberts and Hazen, 2010](#)).

Living in historic cities and cultural landscapes will undoubtedly pose a major challenge to the preservation of these sites, and the debate will be about the qualities that, through conservation, over time become museum pieces, often separating them from their cultural and historic context ([Jenner, 1985](#); [Handler, 1987](#)). Likewise, not allowing any modern development, such as transportation infrastructures and economic activities, often limits people's ability to survive ([Ford, 1985](#); [Alberts and Brinda, 2005](#)). In short, settlements need not only to be protected, but also to provide a decent standard of living and economic opportunities for their inhabitants ([Baer, 1995](#); [Ford, 1985](#)).

3.5. Understanding Authenticity of Alanya Castle

Alanya Castle is a work of Seljuk which was built by Sultan Alaeddin Keykubat on 13th century. It is such a open-air museum with cisterns, bushings, inscribed doors, stars and cruciform tiles, tile mosaics, frescoes, glass and ceramic pieces of art and splendor of a variety of small artifacts reflect the best works of Seljuk. It is difficult to reach to the castle by land and sea forts with its length of 6500 meters from the outer wall ([Wikipedi, 2023](#)). There are some figures about Alanya Castle and an evaluation table below ([Figure 2](#)).



Figure 2. Alanya Castle ([Alanya Municipality, 2023](#); [Anonymous, 2013](#))

Şekil 2. Alanya Kalesi ([Alanya Belediyesi,2023](#); [Anonim, 2013](#))

In the evaluation table, the prominent unique features of Alanya Castle are marked in red. In this evaluation, when the cultural landscape features are examined, the fact that it is a settlement and defense structure from ancient times, and that it appeals to the emotions with its architecture and its environment bearing traces of history, and that it enables the local people and tourists to connect with history come to the fore (Table 2).

Table 2. Evaluation scale table of authenticity on Alanya Castle

Tablo 2. Alanya Kalesi özgünlük değerlendirme ölçeği tablosu

Location and Settlement	Traditions, Techniques and Management Systems	Materials and Objects	Tourism Target and Visitors Type	Usage and Function
The Physical Structure of The Area	Construction Techniques	Material Types	Target Group	1.Usage in Original form
- Plain, - Light Curved, - Curved, - Rolling, -Wide Valley	-Traditional, -Modern, -Ancient, -Mixed	-Concrete, -Wood, -Stone, -Metal (aluminum, iron, steel)	-Local -Regional -Provincial/State -National -International	-Residential purpose usage -Agricultural usage -Industrial usage -Religious usage -Tourism purpose usage
	Uses of Historical Building	Tangible Values	Visitors Type	2.Usage in New Function
	-Placement -Military, -Education, -Health, -Defense, -Social events, -Commercial, -Religious.	-Archeological data (Excavation area, Museums,etc..) -Historical Environment -Old materials, handmades -Green areas, national parks -Architecture, traditional structures .. -Picture, -Sculpture, -Miniature, -Music, -Letters	-Aficionados -Event visitors -Tourists -Casual visitors	- From Residential Usage to Touristic Usage -From Agricultural usage to -From Industrial usage to - From Touristic usage to..... -From Religious Usage to.....
Using of the Area	Old Management Systems	Intangible Values	Predominant Groups	
-Traditional residential area, -Traditional agricultural area, -Religious field, -Military field, -Commercial area, -Tourism area.	-Union (Lycian Union, Colonial, and so on.) -Kingdom, -Dynastic, -Imperial, -Monarchy	-Emotional effects, -Religious effects -Historical ties -Sounds, smells and tastes, -Creativity, -Innovation, -Artistic interactions -Traditional interactions, -Political interactions	-Educated visitors -Professionals -Families or Groups -School Children -Nostalgia Seekers	

4. CONCLUSION

Cultural landscapes, which represent different regions of the earth and have a wide variety, are defined as geographically bounded areas that gain value over time due to the mutual relations between culture and the natural environment and can be expressed by their natural, cultural, visual and semantic qualities. Cultural landscapes, which have a great diversity in the world, are mirrors of the social development, creativity and spiritual richness of human beings and constitute parts of our common identity ([Özsüle, 2005](#)).

Authenticity, which has become an increasingly important concept today, is important for understanding and evaluating the value of cultural landscapes. Authenticity criteria can play an active role in protecting the cultural landscapes that are owned by addressing this concept in a healthy way.

Alanya Castle cultural heritage is on UNESCO World Heritage Sites Tentative List for Turkey and a member of the Norwich-based European Association of Historic Towns and Regions ([Association of Historic Towns of Turkey, 2008](#)) as a cultural landscape. Alanya Castle was home for different cultures in history such as Hellenistic, Roman, Byzantine, Seljuk and Ottoman eras. Nowadays a Byzantine church in the castle was restored as a Christian community centre ([Tülek and Atik, 2014](#)).

It is possible to evaluate Alanya Castle according to the criteria of authenticity. Alanya Castle is natural, archaeological and urban conservation area since 1999 and it has a defensive cultural landscape value with especially major ecological characteristics today. Alanya Castle was harmonised with coastal geography on a Mediterranean peninsula. The castle is also a habitat for many species such as 322 plant species, 29 insects and 31 butterflies some of which are endemics ([Tülek and Atik, 2014](#)). There are many historic villas examples of the classical period of Ottoman architecture in Alanya Castle. Mostly built such as Süleymaniye mosque and caravanserai in the early 19th century, built by Suleiman the Magnificent. There are coolest examples of medieval military architecture in the Mediterranean. Nowadays, traditional silk and cotton textiles are also symbolically displayed in wooden and stone houses as an inherited cultural heritage in Castle settlements. Alanya Castle and its harbour were an important political commercial maritime centre of trade of its time. Traces of the different eras with the structure of the ancient settlement and defence walls in architecture of the era from Alanya Castle is

faced with dense tourism activities especially in summer time and the most important tourist resorts in the region of Antalya.

The effective protection of heritage sites's authentic textures are directly connect with their "usability". The city of Rothenburg in Germany is considered as a historical environment which is well-preserving with all vitality of living authentic elements of heritage so it also hosts special festivities every year ([Usal and Oral, 2001](#)).

Authenticity is one of the prominent actor for understanding, conserving and marketing of heritage's value which defines as to be true, accurate, honest and comprehensible. Heritage traces the history of societies. The conservation of authenticity without removing society from the heritage will be possible with true cultural landscape sustainability.

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