

Abstract

The conservation of archaeological sites and cultural landscapes

Since people are part of the landscapes, the various landscape elements will affect people's choice regarding everyday needs. Because of this, it is assumed that these choices are part of the archaeological investigation as they can provide insights into the human past.

The choices of human settlements are also influenced by environmental parameters, such as water, vegetation, soil types, grazing possibilities, topography, and transport facilities either by river or ocean.

The way people have been interacting with their environment created has created cultural landscapes that are also important information to interpreting the archaeological sites.

Some of the studied cases of landscapes related to archaeological sites include such examples as: landscape as social order, landscape as transformation and landscape as memory. They can be seen easily, in combination with heritage sites.

Despite of this knowledge, constantly, many heritage programs do not take into consideration the landscape component of any archaeological site and by doing so, they miss an important part of way people lived and how they interacted with their environment.

In this session it intended to open a wide discussion with diverse examples from different sites on how to combine the conservation of the archaeological sites with the whole cultural landscape, as part of heritage management strategy. In addition many sites are associated with the ecosystem and this also should be considered when it comes to conservation and heritage management.