Cultural Landscape Preservation in the Context of Urban Sustainability

Sahl Abdullah Waheeb

Assocaite Profesor

Applied Collge, Umm Al-Qura University, Makkah Al Mokaramh, KSA.

sawahieb@uqu.edu.sa

Abstract: The study explores the intersection of cultural landscape Architecture preservation and urban sustainability, highlighting the significance of integrating cultural and natural dimensions within urban development frameworks. By surveying 200 members of the cultural landscape preservation associations, the research captures diverse perspectives on the importance, challenges, and alignment of preservation efforts with urban sustainability goals. Findings recognise the critical role of cultural landscapes in shaping urban identity and fostering community cohesion, yet also reveal challenges such as limited public awareness and conflicting development needs. The study emphasizes the need for cohesive frameworks, enhanced policy support, and strong stakeholder partnerships to advance preservation efforts. Future strategies should focus on public engagement through educational initiatives and collaborative projects, underscoring the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration. Ultimately, the research advocates for adaptable frameworks and empirical evaluations to effectively integrate cultural landscape Architecture preservation within urban sustainability, thereby enriching urban environments for future generations

Keywords: Cultural Landscapes, Urban Sustainability, Heritage Preservation, Community Engagement, Sustainable Development, and Interdisciplinary Approaches.

1. Introduction

1.1 Significance of cultural landscapes

Various studies have paid significant attention to the concept of cultural landscapes. They highlight the interconnectedness of natural environments and human activities and challenge traditional perceptions of isolated heritage sites.

Taylor and Lennon (2011) emphasize the role of cultural landscapes as integrative frameworks that bring together cultural and natural dimensions in heritage conservation. Their study underscores the notion that heritage sites are not merely isolated entities but are interdependent with surrounding social structures, landscapes, and ecological systems. This recognition aligns with the 1992 World Heritage Cultural Landscape categories, which were developed to bridge the philosophical and practical gaps between culture and nature. Particularly in the Asia-Pacific region, where culture and nature are traditionally intertwined, respecting cultural associations with natural sites is crucial for maintaining both cultural and biological diversity. Through heritage nominations and inscriptions that highlight these associations, cultural landscapes can contribute to a more holistic understanding of heritage conservation.

Jacques (1995) notes the rise of interest in cultural landscapes as a necessary reappraisal of countryside heritage concepts. He points out that the cultural landscape. Architecture challenges the conventional split between cultural and natural values, fostering a more subjective approach

to landscape assessment. This shift encourages interdisciplinary communication as specialists recognize the interconnected processes and values embedded in landscapes. The push by ecologists in the 1980s to have cultural landscapes recognized on the World Heritage list exemplifies this changing perspective, leading to a reevaluation of World Heritage Criteria and a broader understanding of countryside value. However, Jacques acknowledges that further philosophical and practical matters require resolution to fully integrate cultural landscapes into heritage frameworks.

Gibson (2016) explores cultural landscape architecture in the context of identity, using Blackpool's regeneration as a case study. Here, cultural landscapes serve as a means of marrying tradition with innovation while seeking new economic opportunities. In pursuing World Heritage Site status, Blackpool leverages its industrial archaeology and the historical significance of the seaside holiday industry. This case illustrates how cultural landscapes are about preserving the past and creating a narrative that resonates with modern identities and economic needs. Gibson argues that the cultural legitimacy of such landscape architecture, primarily when representing recent or undervalued pasts, plays a critical role in their preservation and valuation.

1.2 Urban Sustainability and Its Goals

The concept of urban sustainability has emerged as a critical area of focus amidst rapid urbanization, as cities are increasingly recognized as pivotal determinants of regional, national, and global sustainability (Huang et al., 2015; Beck & Ferasso, 2023; Du, Zhou, & Xiao, 2024). The sustainability of urban areas is essential for the well-being of their immediate environments and holds significant implications for broader ecological, economic, and social systems. Therefore, understanding the overarching goals of urban sustainability is imperative for devising strategies that ensure cities contribute to the sustainable development of their regions and the planet.
.

At its core, urban sustainability aims to balance environmental, economic, and social dimensions often called the three pillars of sustainability within urban settings (Huang et al., 2015). Achieving this balance involves mitigating environmental impacts, fostering economic viability, and enhancing social

welfare, enabling cities to cater to the needs of present and future generations. Integrating these dimensions is foundational for promoting the health of towns and their inhabitants while preserving essential resources.

One critical element in advancing urban sustainability is assessing progress through urban sustainability indicators (USIs). As noted by Huang et al. (2015), USIs are valuable tools that help measure and monitor the state and advancement of urban sustainability. These indicators are typically organized into indicator sets and composite indices that evaluate various aspects of urban life, encompassing the three core dimensions of sustainability. USIs thus serve as essential metrics for policymakers and urban planners in diagnosing issues and implementing solutions tailored to specific urban contexts.

However, assessing urban sustainability is fraught with challenges. There is a notable diversity in the methods and frameworks utilized to evaluate urban sustainability, reflecting a need for more unified approaches across the field (Cohen, 2017). According to Cohen (2017), existing literature on urban sustainability assessment often needs more cohesion, with varying methodologies and categorizations of indicators. This fragmentation poses difficulties in comparing and generalizing findings across different urban contexts and limits the potential for consistent policy application. To address these challenges, scholars like Cohen (2017) suggest the development of a more unified framework for urban sustainability assessment. Such a framework would standardize the categorization and application of indicators, thus ensuring alignment with common sustainability principles. Moreover, the employment of mixed-methods research is recommended to enrich assessments by combining quantitative and qualitative insights, broadening the understanding and applicability of findings.

1.3 Rationale for integrating cultural landscape preservation with urban sustainability practices

Integrating cultural landscape preservation with urban sustainability practices is necessary and strategically advantageous in the pursuit of holistic urban development. Cultural landscapes between natural and cultural dimensions, challenging the traditional dichotomy that often separates cultural

heritage from natural environments (Taylor & Lennon, 2011). This integration underscores the value of considering human histories and practices deeply embedded in the land as fundamental components of urban sustainability. By acknowledging these interconnected narratives, urban planners and policymakers can promote ecologically robust and culturally vibrant cities.

The rationale for integrating these domains is anchored in the understanding that cultural landscapes contribute significantly to the identity and heritage of urban areas. As Gibson (2016) noted, cultural landscapes, such as Blackpool, illustrate the dynamic relationship between past and present, marrying tradition with innovation. This blending creates a living narrative that can drive economic opportunities, such as tourism and local enterprise, while preserving cultural significance. In this context, cultural landscapes serve as relics of the past and as active components in the socioeconomic fabric of urban environments, thus supporting the economic dimension of sustainability goals.

Also, cultural landscapes are crucial in encouraging interdisciplinary collaboration and a broadened perspective on urban sustainability (Jacques, 1995). The complexity inherent in these landscapes demands input from ecologists, historians, urban planners, and local communities, fostering communication across traditionally siloed fields. This collaboration can lead to more innovative and integrated solutions that encapsulate urban settings' diverse values and processes. By aligning cultural landscape preservation with urban sustainability frameworks, cities can leverage a more nuanced approach that respects cultural identities while promoting environmental and social well-being.

Lastly, recognizing and preserving cultural landscapes within urban sustainability practices enhances social cohesion and community resilience. As cities face challenges from rapid urbanization and climate change, maintaining a connection to cultural heritage can provide communities with a sense of belonging and collective identity. This emotional and cultural grounding strengthens social networks and supports collective action, which are vital for navigating future uncertainties.

2. Objectives of the research

The research aims to explore and understand the intersection of cultural landscape preservation with urban sustainability. Specifically, the objectives of this study are:

Examine how various demographic factors, such as age, education, and occupation, influence perceptions and attitudes towards cultural landscape preservation and its integration with urban sustainability.

Determine the awareness and perceived importance of cultural landscape preservation among individuals affiliated with cultural landscape preservation associations.

Explore the perceived alignment between cultural landscape preservation efforts and urban sustainability goals and identify the most significant challenges associated with this integration.

Assess the effectiveness of current policies in supporting cultural landscape preservation as a part of sustainable urban development.

Explore the perceived importance of community involvement and identify practical measures for engaging communities and stakeholders in preservation efforts.

Suggest strategies to improve cultural landscape preservation efforts within urban sustainability frameworks.

3. Literature Review

3.1 Historical perspective on cultural landscape preservation

The historical perspective on cultural landscape preservation is a complex tapestry woven from diverse cultural, political, and technological threads. Understanding this historical background provides critical insights into the contemporary practices and challenges of preserving cultural landscapes in the context of urban sustainability. O'Donnell (2017) describes cultural landscape preservation as a relatively recent but rapidly evolving field, having garnered significant professional interest over the past three decades. This evolution reflects a growing recognition of the intertwined nature of cultural and natural elements within landscapes. Cultural landscapes are now considered valuable heritage assets embody both tangible and intangible heritage, necessitating a multidisciplinary approach to preservation that integrates community involvement, governance, and planning. The increasing global trends of climate change, urbanization, and migration further complicate this field, presenting challenges

and opportunities. O'Donnell highlights the importance of incorporating multiple perspectives into preservation practices and aligning them with sustainable development goals, ensuring that cultural landscapes endure and contribute positively to community growth and heritage tourism.

The origins of modern historical preservation, as explored by Betts and Ross (2015), trace back to early 18th-century Europe, highlighting a shift in historical sensibility due to the French and Industrial Revolutions. These revolutions fundamentally altered perceptions of the past, leading to a widespread desire to preserve ancestral heritage. This "hunger for heritage" can be traced to events like the Swedish Royal Proclamation of 1666 and the establishment of England's Society of Antiquaries in 1717. The French Revolution was pivotal in redistributing royal and ecclesiastical properties and fostering discussions around creating a new national past. Concurrently, the Industrial Revolution inspired a romantic fascination with ruins, evidenced by establishing national museums, restoration projects, and national parks. These movements spread beyond Europe to North America, reflecting an urge to protect relics of the past from modernization's impact.

The works of O'Donnell (2017) and Betts and Ross (2015) underscore the dynamic and evolving nature of cultural landscape preservation. The historical groundwork laid by 18th and 19th-century European movements set the stage for contemporary practices that now encompass a global perspective. As cultural landscapes face modern-day challenges of sustainability and rapid change, the historical roots of preservation continue to inform strategies that balance heritage conservation with present and future needs. This historical awareness ensures that efforts to preserve cultural landscapes remain reactive to past developments and proactive in shaping sustainable urban futures.

3.2 Key theories and frameworks in urban sustainability

The discourse on urban sustainability is deeply enriched by diverse theories and frameworks offering insights into sustainable urban development's behavioural, systemic, and ecological facets. Each framework and theory, from psychological models to sustainability indicators and water management strategies, provides unique lenses through which urban sustainability can be understood, measured, and achieved.

A significant contribution to understanding urban sustainability comes from integrating environmental and behavioural theories, as highlighted by Topal, Hunt, and Rogers (2021). They note that effective urban sustainability requires comprehending human behaviours and psychological determinants. Central theories, such as the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB), Norm Activation Theory (NAT), Value-Belief-Norm Theory (VBN), and the New Environmental Paradigm (NEP), explore how people's beliefs, norms, and intentions influence sustainable actions. Their proposed framework categorizes these influences into internal socio-psychological determinants, personality traits, and external factors like social and economic contexts, underlining the need for holistic models that synthesize these multifaceted influences to better guide urban policy and planning.

Meanwhile, Michalina et al. (2021) emphasize the role of Urban Sustainability Indicator Frameworks (USIFs) in assessing and guiding sustainable urban development. These frameworks allow cities to measure their sustainability progress systematically, although disparities in existing USIFs reveal inconsistencies in urban sustainability assessments. By analyzing global and European USIFs, Michalina et al. identify key indicators across environmental, economic, social, and institutional dimensions, suggesting a need for more consistent and universally recognized measures. Their work offers a critical foundation for refining USIFs to ensure precise sustainability assessments and inform policymaking.

Managing urban resources, particularly water, represents another crucial aspect of sustainability. Bell (2020) outlines multiple frameworks for urban water sustainability, such as integrated water management, urban political ecology, and radical ecology. Each framework highlights different priorities and strategies, from technological innovations and policy reforms to sociopolitical critiques of water distribution equity. The socio-technical framing examines the interactions between technology, culture, and institutions, emphasizing how water systems evolve across multiple scales. Understanding these frameworks allows for more nuanced dialogues about water management's role in broader urban sustainability initiatives and informs policy interventions that address human needs and environmental challenges.

3.3 Existing studies on the intersection of cultural landscapes and urban sustainability

The intersection of cultural landscapes and urban sustainability presents a multifaceted domain of inquiry, embracing themes of identity, heritage preservation, and the sustainable management of urban spaces. The convergence of these areas reflects a growing recognition of the importance of integrating cultural and natural elements in urban settings to achieve meaningful sustainability outcomes.

Ziyaee (2018) emphasizes the critical role cultural landscapes play in shaping urban identity. As urban growth and modernization have widened the gap between cities' physical forms and cultural identities, there is an urgent need to incorporate cultural dimensions into urban planning and design. Ziyaee proposes an analysis framework that uses a "matrix of cultural landscapes" to preserve cultural features during urban regeneration. This approach underlines that improving urban identity requires more than just addressing physical attributes; it also necessitates attention to the nonphysical, cultural aspects that define a community's character and heritage.

Miani (2010) further develops the relationship between cultural landscapes and urban sustainability by examining the Italian context. He argues that the sustainable development of urban areas hinges on recognizing people's deep-seated identity and cultural connections with their landscapes. Cultural landscapes, therefore, should not be treated as mere backdrops but as areas shaped by historical and cultural factors that influence local identity. In line with this view, local identity emerges as a vital component of sustainable urban development strategies, particularly in historical European cities. Miani advocates for a model of urban development that respects and promotes local cultural specificities, thereby fostering sustainable growth that harmonizes with the area's historical and environmental context.

Taylor (2016) challenges traditional urban conservation approaches through the Historic Urban Landscape paradigm, which advocates viewing cities holistically as cultural landscapes. This perspective is critical as urbanization intensifies, and economic pressures often lead to the erosion of traditional communities. Taylor argues that urban conservation should extend beyond iconic buildings and monuments to encompass the broader cultural landscape, which reflects the city's values and belief systems. This paradigm shift encourages a more inclusive understanding of urban areas, recognizing them as living communities where cultural and natural elements are interconnected and crucial to sustainable urban development.

Four groups of papers were identified by (Schmitz & Herrero-Jáuregui, 2021) in an editorial. The first group dealt with the need to involve local communities in decision-making to manage cultural landscapes worldwide. The second group dealt with cultural heritage around cities and the adverse effects of urban development on conservation and its potential as a tourist attraction. The third group dealt with tourism development and offered innovative solutions for conserving cultural landscapes. The fourth group characterized and described cultural landscapes and traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) in different contexts.

Sopiana & Harahap (2023) evaluated Bandung City's current sustainable urban planning and noted many environmental challenges. Based on a mixed-methods approach of interviews, surveys, observations, and secondary data analysis, they highlighted the need to integrate environmental, economic, and sustainability aspects in urban planning and suggested a holistic approach to balancing environmental, economic, social, and cultural aspects.

In the core area of Beijing city, the most frequently used ecological space was the community-level space, albeit its severe shortage. Residents perceived high levels of cultural ecosystems. The spatial vicinity of ecological space with historical value seriously affected cultural value perceptions. Based on these observations, (Zheng, et al., 2023) suggested more effective methods for the preservation of these elements.

Vardopoulos, Papoui-Evangelou, Nosova, and Salvati (2023) analyzed four smart cities Amsterdam, Barcelona, Seoul, and Stockholm and revealed the need for local communities' involvement in smoothing the transition of existing (European) cities into smart and sustainable tourism destinations.

Combining cultural sustainability analysis with the traditional typo-morphological approaches of urban spatial analysis, (Jiao, Wu, Fang, & Liu, 2023) showed that the continuing presence of cultural traits is reflected in the consistent features of the block and the design of architectural spaces. Cultural transformation and man-made social

factors affect the changes in spatial forms in the case of the Damazhan and Xiaomazhan historical area, the only area that reflects the development of the assembled-clan hall culture in Guangzhou.

In a discussion paper on rewilding cultural landscapes, (Massenberg, Schiller, & Schröter-Schlaack, 2023) observed that many landscapes developed from ecological and socio-cultural interactions. Only a landscape perspective allows for considering network effects and diverse anthropogenic uses in cultural landscapes.

3.4 Gaps identified in the current literature

While the existing body of literature provides a robust foundation for understanding the intersection of cultural landscapes and urban sustainability, several gaps remain. If addressed, these could significantly enhance the integration of these domains in theory and practice.

Firstly, more cohesive frameworks that effectively integrate cultural landscape preservation within the broader scope of urban sustainability need to be developed. As noted by multiple scholars, cultural landscapes are essential for urban identity and sustainability (Ziyaee, 2018; Miani, 2010). However, existing studies often treat these as separate entities rather than components of a unified urban sustainability model. A more integrated approach that accounts for tangible and intangible cultural elements in sustainability metrics is necessary to advance the field (Taylor, 2016).

Secondly, there needs to be more literature related to implementing cultural landscape preservation strategies in diverse urban contexts. Most of the studies focus on specific geographical or cultural settings, such as the Asia-Pacific region (Taylor & Lennon, 2011) or historical European cities (Miani, 2010), which may limit the applicability of their findings in other contexts. Cross-contextual studies exploring cultural landscape preservation in varying urban environments from rapidly growing urban centres to historically rich but economically challenged areas would broaden the understanding and applicability of these practices worldwide.

Furthermore, while there is a profound recognition of the need for interdisciplinary approaches, as Jacques (1995) suggested, the operationalization of such collaboration still needs to be explored. Integrating disciplines ranging from urban planning to cultural studies often requires

overcoming institutional and methodological barriers that current studies still need to sufficiently address. Mechanisms that promote interdisciplinary collaboration and communication are crucial for creating comprehensive and practical frameworks for cultural landscape preservation within urban sustainability.

Additionally, the dynamic nature of urban environments, characterized by rapid urbanization and technological change, presents challenges that the literature has not yet fully addressed. The need to adapt preservation strategies to accommodate evolving urban forms and functions highlights the importance of flexible, adaptive frameworks that can guide sustainable urban development while preserving cultural landscapes (O'Donnell, 2017).

Finally, despite the theoretical advancements in understanding cultural landscapes and urban sustainability, more empirical research is needed to measure the impact of cultural landscape preservation on urban sustainability outcomes. Quantitative studies and practical case analyses that evaluate the socio-economic and environmental implications of preserving cultural landscapes within urban settings provide valuable insights and guidance for policymakers and practitioners.

In addressing these gaps, future research could develop more comprehensive and adaptable frameworks, employ interdisciplinary methodologies, and conduct empirical studies that link cultural landscape preservation with measurable urban sustainability benefits. Such efforts would contribute to both academic inquiry and practical applications in urban sustainability.

4. Research Methodology

This research adopted a survey methodology based on the literature.

4.1 Data collection

The survey targeted members of cultural landscape preservation associations worldwide to gain insights from individuals interested in the topic. By focusing on different demographic groups defined by age, education, and occupation, the survey aimed to capture a diverse range of perspectives.

The survey was disseminated via a link circulated on various social media platforms, specifically targeting cultural landscape

preservation associations around the globe. This approach ensured that the study reached individuals engaged in or knowledgeable about the subject matter. Data collection was strategically stopped upon receiving 200 completed responses to provide manageability and a focus on quality over quantity.

4.2 Data analysis

Once collected, the survey data underwent thorough analysis to extract meaningful patterns and insights related to the research objectives. The study involved categorizing responses to each survey question and calculating frequency distributions and percentages. This quantitative analysis provided a clear depiction of trends and commonalities within the responses, enabling a detailed examination of participants' familiarity with cultural landscapes, perceived importance of preservation within urban contexts, and the effectiveness of existing policies. Additionally, the analysis identified perceived challenges and strategies for improving preservation efforts, focusing on community and stakeholder engagement. These results were then synthesized to inform strategic recommendations and future actions for integrating cultural landscape preservation more effectively within urban sustainability frameworks. Data was analyzed using R language (version 4.4.1).

5. Results

The results from the data analysis are shown in Tables 1 to 9, and Figure 1.

5.1 General Information

The survey revealed a balanced demographic representation among the participants. Regarding age distribution, the majority of respondents were younger, with 25% falling within the 18-24 age bracket, followed by those aged 55-64, who constituted 19% of the sample. Notably, the age groups 35-44 and 45-54 had the lowest representation, comprising approximately 12% of participants. Regarding educational levels, the sample was quite diverse, with a significant portion, 34%, possessing 'Other' qualifications, which highlights a variety of non-traditional academic backgrounds. Additionally, 22% of the respondents held a doctorate, underscoring the presence of highly educated individuals within the

Table (1). General information

	Category	Frequency	Percent
Age	18-24	50	25.0
	25-34	29	14.5
	35-44	25	12.5
	45-54	24	12.0
	55-64	38	19.0
	65 or older	34	17.0
	Total	200	100.0
Education	High school diploma or equivalent	40	20.0
	Bachelor's degree	25	12.5
	Master's degree	23	11.5
	Doctorate	44	22.0
	Other	68	34.0
	Total	200	100.0
Occupation	Architect	28	14.0
	Community leader	22	11.0
	Conservationist	34	17.0
	Government official	32	16.0
	Student	32	16.0
	Urban planner	22	11.0
	Other	30	15.0
	Total	200	100.0

sample. Regarding occupation, Conservationists emerged as the largest group, accounting for 17% of participants, while Government Officials and Students represented 16% each. This suggests a strong engagement from professionals interested in cultural landscape preservation.

5.2 Awareness and Importance of Cultural Landscapes

The survey highlighted a varied level of awareness regarding familiarity with cultural landscapes, as both extremes of familiarity those not at all familiar and those very familiar each accounted for 27.5% of the respondents. This distribution indicates that participants possess diverse levels of understanding about cultural landscapes. Regarding the perceived importance of preservation, a majority of respondents acknowledged its significance, with 24% considering it "very important", 18.5% considering it as extremely important and 20.5% viewing it as "moderately important." This consensus underscores a general recognition among participants of the value and necessity of preserving cultural landscapes.

5.3 Cultural Landscape Preservation and Urban Sustainability

The survey results reveal differing opinions

Table (2). How familiar are you with the concept of cultural landscapes?

	Frequency	Percent
Not at all familiar	55	27.5
Not very familiar	52	26.0
Somewhat familiar	38	19.0
Very familiar	55	27.5
Total	200	100.0

Table (3). In your opinion, how important is preserving cultural landscapes within urban environments?

	Frequency	Percent
Extremely important	37	18.5
Moderately important	41	20.5
Not at all important	35	17.5
Slightly important	39	19.5
Very important	48	24.0
Total	200	100.0

5.4 Community and Stakeholder Engagement

The survey underscores the critical role of

Table (4). How well do you think cultural landscape preservation aligns with urban sustainability goals?

	Frequency	Percent
Mostly aligned	39	19.5
Not aligned at all	47	23.5
Not very aligned	33	16.5
Perfectly aligned	43	21.5
Somewhat aligned	38	19.0
Total	200	100.0

Table (5). What are the most significant challenges in integrating cultural landscape preservation with urban sustainability?

	Frequency	Percent
Conflicting urban development needs	45	22.5
Insufficient policy frameworks	28	14.0
Lack of funding	41	20.5
Limited public awareness	49	24.5
Other	37	18.5
Total	200	100.0

Table (6). How effective do you believe current policies are in supporting cultural landscape preservation for sustainable urban development?

	Frequency	Percent
Ineffective	30	15.0
Not very effective	46	23.0
Somewhat effective	41	20.5
Unsure	36	18.0
Very effective	47	23.5
Total	200	100.0

regarding aligning cultural landscape preservation with urban sustainability goals. A total of 41% of respondents felt that these efforts were either "perfectly aligned" or "mostly aligned," demonstrating a significant portion who see a strong synergy between the two. However, 23.5% of participants felt that cultural landscape preservation is "not aligned at all" with sustainability goals, highlighting a notable divergence in perceptions. Regarding challenges, a lack of public awareness was identified as a significant hurdle by 24.5% of respondents. In comparison, 22.5% pointed to the conflicting needs of urban development as substantial obstacles to successful integration. These challenges underscore the complexities of harmonizing cultural preservation with sustainable urban development. Perceptions of policy effectiveness were split between "not very effective" and "very effective," each around 23%, suggesting divided opinions on current policy frameworks.

community involvement in cultural landscape preservation initiatives, with 65% of respondents considering it extremely or crucial. This highlights the prevailing belief that active community participation is essential for practical preservation efforts. In terms of strategies for engaging stakeholders, respondents identified "collaborative projects with local organizations" (20.5%) and

"educational programs and workshops" (20%) as the most impactful measures. These strategies emphasize the importance of fostering partnerships and enhancing awareness through education to promote successful preservation outcomes.

6. Recommendations and Future Actions

Table (7). How important is community involvement in cultural landscape preservation efforts?

	Frequency	Percent
Extremely important	45	22.5
Moderately important	43	21.5
Not at all important	33	16.5
Slightly important	37	18.5
Very important	42	21.0
Total	200	100.0

Table (8). What measures do you think are most effective in engaging communities and stakeholders in preservation efforts?

	Frequency	Percent
Collaborative projects with local organizations	41	20.5
Educational programs and workshops	40	20.0
Other	47	23.5
Public consultations and forums	34	17.0
Use of social media and digital platforms	38	19.0
Total	200	100.0

The survey results suggest that "strengthening partnerships between stakeholders" and "enhancing government policies and incentives" are promising strategies for advancing cultural landscape preservation, with 21.5% and 21% of respondents supporting these approaches, respectively. By fostering stronger collaboration among stakeholders, there is potential to unify efforts and resources towards common preservation goals. Simultaneously, improving government policies and introducing incentives can create a more supportive regulatory and financial environment, encouraging broader participation and investment in preservation initiatives. These strategies collectively represent key focus areas for future actions aimed at integrating cultural landscape preservation more effectively within urban sustainability frameworks.

The data indicates the importance of cultural landscape preservation and its challenges. The varying levels of familiarity, perceived importance, and the need for effective policies and community engagement highlight areas for further development and strategic focus. Through collaborative efforts and improved policies, cultural landscapes can be better integrated within urban sustainability frameworks.

7. Discussion and Conclusion

Table (9). What strategies could most effectively improve cultural landscape preservation within urban sustainability frameworks?

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Developing comprehensive preservation plans	37	18.5
	Enhancing government policies and incentives	42	21.0
	Increasing public awareness campaigns	34	17.0
	Other	44	22.0
	Strengthening partnerships between stakeholders	43	21.5
	Total	200	100.0

7.1 Discussion

The findings of this study reaffirm the complex interrelation between cultural landscape preservation and urban sustainability, as articulated by key scholars in the field. The survey results reveal a diverse understanding of cultural landscapes among respondents, with significant numbers both highly familiar and unfamiliar with the concept. This mirrors the findings by Taylor and Lennon (2011), who emphasized the need for greater integration of cultural and natural dimensions to enhance public understanding and appreciation.

Respondents predominantly recognized the importance of preserving cultural landscapes, with a consensus that these efforts are vital within urban environments. This aligns with Jacques' (1995) assertion that cultural landscapes challenge traditional divides between culture and nature by fostering interdisciplinary communication and understanding. The varied opinions on aligning cultural landscape preservation with urban sustainability goals underscore the complexities Cohen (2017) noted regarding the diverse methods and frameworks in the field.

Key challenges identified in the survey, such as limited public awareness and conflicting urban development needs, echo earlier literature's

calls for better public engagement and policy support (O'Donnell, 2017). The role of policies is a recurring theme where divided perceptions of their effectiveness highlight a crucial area for reform. This supports Cohen (2017) and others who argue for developing unified frameworks that align preservation efforts with sustainability principles.

The survey's insights into community involvement reinforce its critical role, aligning with literature emphasising collaborative approaches (Ziyaee, 2018; Miani, 2010). Practical measures such as educational programs and partnerships with local organizations demonstrate the need for tangible community engagement strategies that resonate with the public, as Taylor (2016) described.

7.2 Conclusion

The questionnaire designed for this study was essential to capture diverse insights on integrating cultural landscape preservation with urban sustainability frameworks, targeting members of preservation associations globally to ensure relevant and expert perspectives. Communication with participants was facilitated through the dissemination of the survey through email. The purposeful sampling respondents had vested interests and expertise in the subject matter. Data analysis was conducted using the R programming language, focusing on quantifying responses to assess familiarity with cultural landscapes, perceived importance, policy effectiveness, and challenges in alignment with sustainability goals. Although no pilot study was conducted, incorporating one could have enhanced the questionnaire by pre-testing it with a smaller group, allowing refinement of questions to improve clarity and relevance. The data gathered offers valuable statistical insights into current perceptions and identifies strategic areas for advancement in policy and community engagement efforts.

Addressing the gaps identified in this research, such as the need for empirical evaluations and adaptable frameworks, will be pivotal in advancing the field. By doing so, cultural landscapes can be preserved for future generations while simultaneously contributing to the broader objectives of sustainable urban development.

8. References

Beck, D., & Ferasso, M. (2023). Bridging 'stakeholder value creation ' and 'urban sustainability': the need for better integrating the environmental dimension. Sustainable Cities and Society, 89, 104316.

Bell, S. J. (2020). Frameworks for urban water sustainability. Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Water, 7(2), e1411.

Betts, P., & Ross, C. (2015). Modern historical preservation—Towards a global perspective. Past & Present, 226(suppl_10), 7-26.

Cohen, M. (2017). A systematic review of urban sustainability assessment literature. Sustainability, 9(11), 2048.

Du, X., Zhou, J., & Xiao, C. (2024). Spatial effects and influencing factors of urban sustainable development: An analysis of urban agglomerations in China. Economic Analysis and Policy, 81, 556-575.

Gibson, L. (2016). Cultural landscapes and identity. In Valuing historic environments (pp. 67-92). Routledge.

Jacques, D. (1995). The rise of cultural landscapes. International Journal of Heritage Studies, 1(2), 91-101.

Huang, L., Wu, J., & Yan, L. (2015). Defining and measuring urban sustainability: a review of indicators. Landscape ecology, 30, 1175-1193.

Jiao, L., Wu, Y., Fang, K., & Liu, X. (2023). Typo-Morphological approaches for maintaining the sustainability of local traditional culture: A case study of the Damazhan and Xiaomazhan historical area in Guangzhou. Buildings, 13(9), 2351. doi:10.3390/buildings13092351.

Massenberg, J. R., Schiller, J., & Schröter-Schlaack, C. (2023). Towards a holistic approach to rewilding in cultural landscapes. People and Nature, 5(1), 45-56. doi:10.1002/pan3.10426.

Miani, F. (2010). Cultural Landscape and Local Identity for a Sustainable Urban Development: The Italian Historical Heritage. In Sustainable Architecture & Urban Development (Vol. 2, pp. 475-490). CSAAR Press. The Center for the Study of Architecture in the Arab Region.

Michalina, D., Mederly, P., Diefenbacher, H., & Held, B. (2021). Sustainable urban development: A review of urban sustainability indicator frameworks. Sustainability, 13(16), 9348.

O'Donnell, P. M. (2017). Cultural landscape preservation: An evolving field. Landscape Journal, 35(2), 203-217.

Schmitz, M. F., & Herrero-Jáuregui, C. (2021). Cultural landscape preservation and social–ecological sustainability. Sustainability, 13(5), 2593. doi:10.3390/su13052593.

Sopiana, Y., & Harahap, M. A. (2023). Sustainable urban planning: a holistic approach to balancing environmental conservation, economic development, and social well-being. West Science Interdisciplinary Studies, 1(2), 43-53. doi:10.58812/wsis.v1i2.87.

Taylor, K. (2016). The Historic Urban Landscape paradigm and cities as cultural landscapes. Challenging orthodoxy in urban conservation. Landscape Research, 41(4), 471-480.

Taylor, K., & Lennon, J. (2011). Cultural landscapes: a bridge between culture and nature?. International journal of heritage studies, 17(6), 537-554.

Topal, H. F., Hunt, D. V., & Rogers, C. D. (2021). Exploring urban sustainability understanding and behaviour: A systematic review towards a conceptual framework. Sustainability, 13(3), 1139.

Ziyaee, M. (2018). Assessment of urban identity through a matrix of cultural landscapes. Cities, 74, 21-31.

Vardopoulos, I., P.-E. M., Nosova, B., & Salvati, L. (2023). Smart 'tourist cities' revisited: culture-led urban sustainability and the global real estate market. Sustainability, 15(5), 4313. doi:10.3390/su15054313.

Zheng, S., Yang, S., Ma, M., Dong, J., Han, B., & Wang, J. (2023). Linking cultural ecosystem service and urban ecological-space planning for a sustainable city: Case study of the core areas of Beijing under the context of urban relieving and renewal. Sustainable Cities and Society, 89, 104292. doi:10.1016/j.scs.2022.104292.

الحفاظ على المشهد الثقافي في سياق الاستدامة الحضرية

سهل عبدالله وهيب

استاذ مشارك
الكلية التطبيقة، جامعة ام القرى، مكة المكرمة، المملكة العربية السعودية.

sawahieb@uqu.edu.sa

ملخص البحث. تستكشف الدراسة التقاطع بين الحفاظ على المشهد الثقافي والاستدامة الحضرية، وتسلط الضوء على أهمية دمج الأبعاد الثقافية والطبيعية ضمن أطر التنمية الحضرية. من خلال استطلاع آراء أعضاء الجمعية السعودية لعمارة البيئة، يلتقط البحث وجهات نظر متنوعة حول أهمية وتحديات ومواءمة جهود الحفاظ على الاستدامة الحضرية مع أهدافها. تعترف النتائج بالدور الحاسم لعمارة البيئة الثقافية في تشكيل الهوية الحضرية وتعزيز التماسك المجتمعي، ولكنها تكشف أيضاً عن تحديات مثل: الوعي العام المحدود واحتياجات التنمية المتضاربة. تؤكد الدراسة على الحاجة إلى أطر متماسكة ودعم سياسي معزز وشراكات قوية بين أصحاب المصلحة لتعزيز جهود الحفاظ. يجب أن تركز الاستراتيجيات المستقبلية على المشاركة العامة من خلال المبادرات التعليمية والمشاريع التعاونية، وهو ما يؤكد على أهمية التعاون بين التخصصات. في النهاية، يدعو البحث إلى أطر قابلة للتكيف وتقييمات تجريبية لدمج الحفاظ على هندسة المشهد الثقافي بشكل فعال ضمن الاستدامة الحضرية، ومن ثم إثراء البيئات الحضرية للأجيال القادمة.

الكلمات المفتاحية: المشهد الثقافي والهندسة المعمارية، والاستدامة الحضرية، والحفاظ على التراث، والمشاركة المجتمعية، والتنمية المستدامة، والنهج متعدد التخصصات.