

The Concept of Sustainability in the Context of Built Heritage Management



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ABSTRACT

Management of architectural heritage is a complex phenomenon which in the modern era, highly involves national and international politics, a web of legislation and more practical issues such as planning in relation with economic and social development. Preservation of physical heritage is no doubt an important factor in shaping peoples' identities, sense of belonging, aesthetic and intellectual development, and in promoting national prestige in the international arena. The complexity of built heritage conservation, though a challenge in a rapidly changing world, presents many possibilities of partnerships and facilities in handling the thought and practices of the field. The current approach is to think about the heritage site, not as a single entity, but as an integral part of the whole landscape and/or the townscape. The approach, both justifies the purposes of conservation and helps with the sustainability of the cultural and the natural resources. Though not discussed in detail, the context of the paper serves also as an introduction to the concept of 'integrated conservation' which is the next step on following 'sustainable development'.

KEY WORDS :

Architectural Heritage, Built Heritage Management, Sustainability, Sustainable Conservation, Integrated Conservation.