



Value and Relevance: Cultural Landscapes and Renewal of Meaning in Place

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Introduction

- New social role of heritage
- Myriad ways the past is made meaningful in the present
- Democratizing and diffusing heritage

Introduction

- Cultural landscape
 - Fusion of culture and place derived from sustained interaction between the two
 - Co-creation of a new form that is greater than the sum of its parts
- “solidarity between concept of heritage and landscape”

Cultural Landscape

- Sauer – landscape as material product
- Intangible practices, meanings and associations secondary to material aspects of landscape
- Implications:
 - Undermines dynamic quality
 - Overlooks heritage of social actors not represented in material form
 - Detracts focus from landscapes without material form

Landscape as practice

- Landscape:
 - An embodied process of dwelling
 - A process of being-in-the-world
 - ‘Embodied acts of landscaping’
- A cultural relationship with place
- Values and meanings actively embedded in places and things

Aboriginal Cultural Landscapes



Practices of Inhabitation



Practices of Activation



“The objective of seeking the designation is to safeguard the Anishinaabe cultural landscape and boreal forest as one living system to ensure the well-being of the Anishinaabe who live there”

- Pimachiowin Aki 2012

Continuity and Relevance



- “While most people see changing land uses as a threat, the Elders point out the main threat to the [...] cultural landscape would be for the land to become detached from the survival of the people.”

Conclusion

- Continuity, renewal, perpetuation and relevance
- Ongoing production of meaning in place that occurs through practice
- Cultural landscape approach accommodates diverse practices that sustain identities, cultures and livelihoods



Thank
You