




# **THE HERITAGE-CITY: A NEW PARADIGM OF HERITAGE PROTECTION**

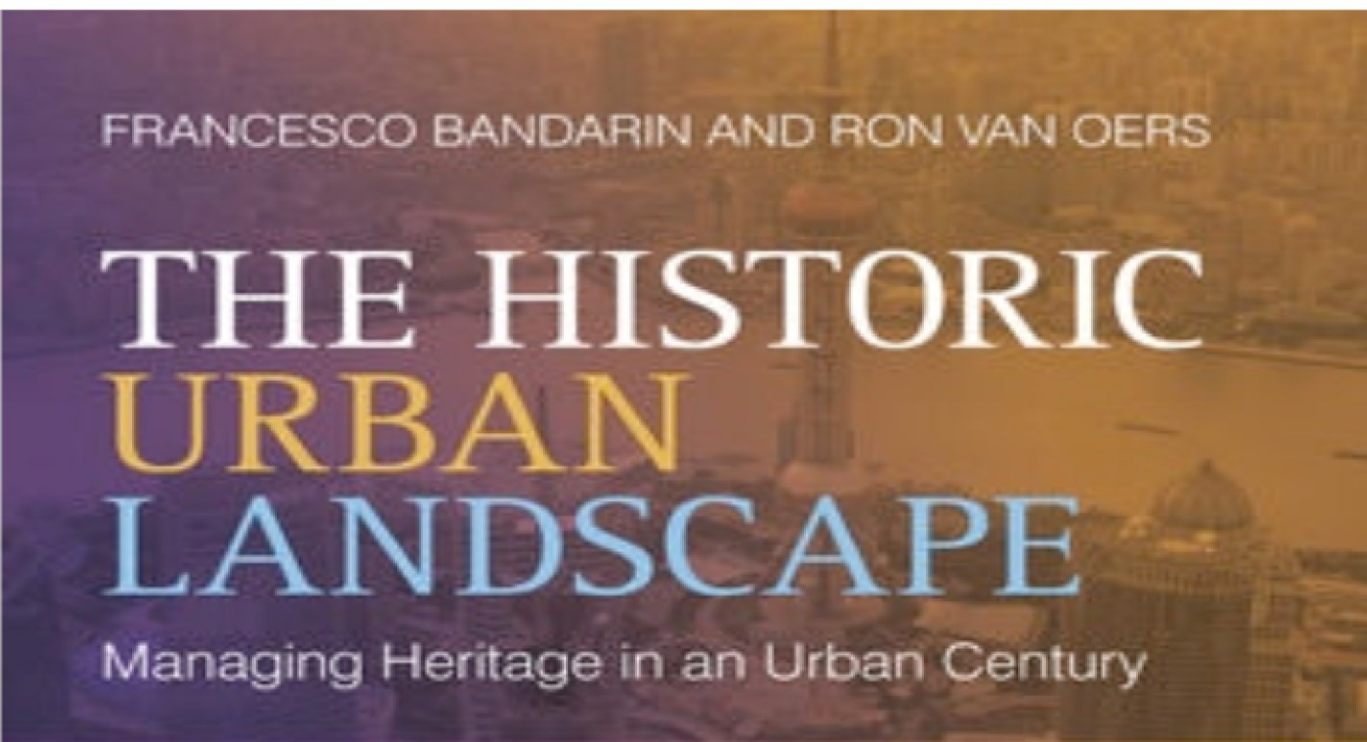
GÁBOR SONKOLY  
ELTE UNIVERSITY OF *BUDAPEST*

# THEMES

- I. The notion of Historic Urban Landscape (HUL): the summit of the expansion of the cultural heritage
  - II. The interior contradictions of HUL and their consequences
  - III. The HUL in the history of urban planning
  - IV. The Heritage-city (of HUL)
  - V. The intangible urban heritage in the urban planning
- 

- **A rapid success:**
  - First definition in 2005 (Vienna Memorandum)
  - It was defined as a solution to the problem of visual integrity
  - First UNESCO recommendation in 2011
  - It has become a new paradigm of urban planning
- **It is in the process of the territorialization of cultural heritage**
- **UNESCO and ICOMOS documents, 1964-2011**
- **Area – townscape- landscape**
- **Territory and identity**
- **Where does the “landscape” come from?**
- **HUL = tangible urban heritage (built and natural) + intangible urban heritage (social and cultural)**

## **I.1. THE NOTION OF HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE**




FRANCESCO BANDARIN AND RON VAN OERS

# THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE

Managing Heritage in an Urban Century



 WILEY-BLACKWELL

- HUL is “is not replacing but integrating”.
- Contemporary Utopia (without ideology).
- Different discourse united (academic, political, participant, investor, etc.)
- Unity of tangible and intangible
- Safeguarding and developing
- Analytical frame: **Regime of Historicity**
- HUL is at the edge of a new paradigm between modernism and presentism

## I.2. HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE NEW PARADIGM OF HUL?

- Worldviews based on the interpretation of time = Regime of Historicity
- Paradigm-shifts between the Regimes
- Traditional to modernist: (1500)-1800-
- Modernist to presentist: (1920s)-1970s-
- Causes of Presentism
  - Credit loss of the ideologies of the 19<sup>th</sup> century
  - The epistemological fail of determinism
  - Fear of the future

## 1.3. THE REGIME OF HISTORICITY

- Modernist approach is based on the future
- It is a Utopia (according to the tradition of urban planning)
- Urban development
- It is an answer to global economy and mass tourism
- TOP-DOWN

## **I.4. THE MODERNIST ASPECTS**

- The presentist approach is to avoid the future.
- Post or antimodernist (the role of urban industry)
- Traditional knowledge transfer (intangible urban heritage)
- Post-nationalist/occidental
- Post-mercantilist
- BOTTOM-UP

## **I.5. THE PRESENTIST ASPECTS**



- Modernist versus presentist
- The continuum of cultural heritage versus Regimes of Historicity
- Utopia without a theory
- TOP-DOWN versus BOTTOM-UP
- Global economy versus local stability

## **II.1. INTERIOR CONTRADICTIONS OF HUL**

- **The HUL is not a theory, but an ensemble of principles**
- **TIME**
  - Sustainability (HUL is part of the sustainability Kit)
  - The monumental approach was static, the HUL approach is dynamic
  - Cultural heritage is integrating: it is a harmonious continuum between past-present-future
- **SOCIETY**
  - The HUL is based on the local community and on its place (site)
  - It is based on local identity.
- **TERRITORY**
  - The historic center (urban heritage site) is the pivot of economic development
  - Any urban territory can become cultural heritage site (landscape): urban space of HUL is a continuum

## II.2. HOW TO SOLVE THESE CONTRADICTIONS?

**Modernist (future based) from 19<sup>th</sup> century**

**Unity between:**

- Built environment
- “Ideal” society
- Social ideology

**Presentist since the systematic legislation of conservation**

**Unity between:**

- Built environment
- Local community
- Lack of ideology
- Identity/participation

## **III. THE HUL IN THE HISTORY OF URBAN PLANNING**

- Heritage building: constructing new identities based on new belief systems
- Expansion of the notion of cultural heritage (through international documents) since the 1960s
- City as cultural heritage (and not as place of heritage sites)
- The notion of intangible cultural heritage
- Modernization by Foucault: territory, population, security
- Heritage building : territory, identity, temporality

## **IV.1. THE HERITAGE-CITY OF THE HUL APPROACH**

## **Conceptual evolution**

- Area – 1960s-mid 1970s
- Townscape – mid-1970s- end of 1990s
- Landscape
  - Cultural landscape – beginning of 1990s
  - HUL – mid-2000s

## **Functional evolution**

- Site – Zone – Place – Landscape
- Zone : management of SPACE
- Landscape: management of CHANGE

## **Evolution of landscape**

- Esthetical – Naturel – Cultural - Integrating

## **The territory of HUL**

- It follows historical separation neither in space nor in time

# **IV.2. THE TERRITORY OF HUL**

**The revival of community (without a clear definition)**

**To engage the individual in the community**

- 1930s – legal, 1960s – humanity, 1970s – identity
- The myth of participation

**The evolution of the notion of identity**

- 1960s – TOP-DOWN, 1970s – participative, educative, cultural, 1980s – sustainable
- 2000s : culture is replaced by Intangible Cultural Heritage
- Experts to avoid the catastrophe of loss
- Academics become experts or stake-holders

## **IV.3. THE POPULATION OF HUL**

- **Management of risk: assuring security to avoid catastrophe**
- **Evolution of the temporality of urban heritage:**
  - Till mid-1970s : monumental protection (static)
  - Till mid-1990s: cultural heritage imposing itself as continuity (as opposed to History of disjunctions)
  - From late 1990s: heritage as unity between present and future
  - The present is absorbing the future.
  - No more conflict between old and new.
  - The change must be avoided (management of change)
- **From the 2000s:**
  - Development is replaced by continuity
  - ICH is continuously recreated
  - The main goal is the continuity of culture (and not split or development)

## IV.4. THE TEMPORALITY OF HUL

- **Its territory**
  - Unified territory (anything can become heritage)
  - New mental map determined by places of cultural heritage
- **Its identity**
  - Integrating, sustainable, non-conflict
  - Knowledge transmission according to the logic of Intangible Urban Heritage
  - New local communities created by HUL
- **Its time**
  - Ahistorical: it lives in the cultural continuity of “past-present-future”
  - Ahistoric: the temporal distance is insignificant
  - Management of change, i.e. Management of risk to avoid catastrophe

## IV.5. THE HERITAGE-CITY



- **Modernist urban planning: ideology/society/territorial intervention for the future**
- **Presentist urban planning: identity/community/territorial preservation-intervention to avoid risk/change/future**
- **The HUL is a presentist urban Utopia**
- **Utopia of sustainability (fours pillars)**
  - Environment as an ecological risk
  - Economy as a contract between global economy and local stability
  - Society as a participative community with clear identity
  - Culture as intangible cultural heritage (transmission of knowledge)

## **V. THE INTANGIBLE URBAN HERITAGE IN THE URBAN PLANNING**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION.  
GSONKOLY@GMAIL.COM**