

concessions and conventions meetings with social or cultural and environmental voluntary organizations, in other cases by private investor long term concessions or more recently they adopted strategies of public-private partnerships for the intervention and management.

Moreover, are present two public companies – Arsenale s.p.a. and Marco Polo System g.e.i.e. – aim to the protection protect and enhancement of this heritage..

In addition, the historical defensive heritage sites are identified as systemic cultural resources for the territory by the planning strategy and tools at both the Municipality and the Province levels. It is useful to point out that the Veneto Region is elaborating the Landscape Regional Landscape Plan – PTRC – which will be the main reference for the future transformation process.

Nevertheless, the current actions are mainly limited to interventions in a single area of disposal, without a systemic approach with the exception of the Institution "Park of the Northern Lagoon".

Preliminary Conclusions

The analysis was designed to give information about in two main orders of results. The first concerns the consistence, formal and constructive characteristics of the sites, their interconnections, their context areas and the transformation of landscape, aiming to aimed at the identification of specific characteristics that could be understood by the present reading of the landscape. The analysis shows that the defensive heritage sites and their localization can be read as part of the urban history of Venice reflecting the urban transformations in the organization and development of new centrality in the city, new relations with the mainland and with other cities, etc. Moreover, the historical defensive systems reflect the

conception and the interpretation of the lagoon system and its morphology; on the other hand, the characteristics of the heritage vary depending on the military function and in relation with to the evolution and innovation in of the offensive technologies and army production, which implies defensive strategy changes. Moreover, they are placed in relation with to the morphological characteristics and land use that have been conserved or left traces that could be read, even though they are part of a transformed area: e.g. the five great defensive heritage sites at the harbor accesses to the lagoon, that which are strongly *compromised* by the realization of the MOSE project, so they are part of the radical landscape contemporary changes in the landscape. The second order of results is related to the long term processes of policy and planning tools and to the public interest and activities of citizens and associations. It is important to notice that the defensive heritage sites are state properties and thus the object of a specific legislation due to their cultural interest. This status of being "public places" drives to the local spontaneous demand for preservation and participation for the reuse of the sites.

Nowadays, the present condition of the analyzed heritage sites imposes intervention of conservation intervention and compatible reuse in order to overcome the risks connected to the abandonment, to and the lack of maintenance. At the same time the reuse intervention generates potential conflicts for the land uses and the transformation. The decisions-makers need to take into account that the intervention is related to both the specific heritage area and the context also at a the landscape scale level.

Further development of the research aims to analyze the potential of Local Observatories in the case of the defensive landscape and to elaborate guidelines for the enhancement of the elements in the landscape.

Relationships With Landscape and Spatial Policies, Planning and Design

CATPAISATGE 2020: a New Road Map For the Landscape Observatory of Catalonia

Pere Sala i Martí
Coordinator, Landscape Observatory of Catalonia

Catalonia enjoys a great diversity of landscapes and, fortunately, landscape is becoming a fundamental part of territorial planning policies and even more of sectorial policies of a social and cultural character. The Catalan Parliament joined the European Landscape Convention (ELC) in December 2000, two months after it was approved. Five years later, this Catalan Parliament approved the Act 8/2005 for the Protection, Management and Planning of the Landscape, and set up the Landscape Observatory of Catalonia.

Five aspects of the law foster participation and cooperation, which are crucial for landscape management and planning. Firstly, the law is clear and very easy to understand for citizens, associations and institutions alike. Secondly, the law is pragmatic and tangible, and its results are very easy to see. Thirdly, the spirit of the law is positive, rather than limiting or penalising, making it acceptable to all parties. Fourth, the Act has a transverse character: although it is from town planning policies that the Act is developed, it also opens the door to a progressive adaptation to the full integration of landscape into all areas of government action. Finally, the Act guarantees public and social participation and cooperation.

The Landscape Observatory of Catalonia (www.catpaisatge.net) has been operative since 2005. It was conceived as an advisory body to the Government of Catalonia and for awakening society to matters of landscape. The Observatory has become a meeting place between the administration (at all levels), universities, professional groups and the whole of society regarding everything related to landscape. The main functions are collaborating with the Catalan ad-

ministration for the implementation of the ELC; making Catalan society aware of the importance of landscape and the right to enjoy it; and acting as a centre for research, documentation, thought and action on landscape.

The Observatory's structure and organisation are important for fostering the spirit of cooperation and participation mentioned above. Three aspects can be outlined in this respect. Firstly, the Landscape Observatory is a public consortium, with its own legal personality. This gives the Observatory an open-ended character, and makes it very flexible in its functions and its activities. Secondly, the composition of the Observatory (www.catpaisatge.net/eng/observatori_organigrama.php), allows for a dynamic dialogue between members of the Governing and Advisory Councils, with voices from different places and often with opposing interests. Finally, the Observatory lies halfway between civil society and the administration. This is interesting insofar as it can advise the administration on drawing up landscape policies for the territory, while at the same time communicating concerns felt by society. Since 2005, the Landscape Observatory has focused its efforts on identifying and cataloguing the landscapes of Catalonia, setting up the instruments envisaged in the Landscape Law, and helping to integrate landscape in spatial and sectorial planning. Now that these lines are consolidated, the Observatory is embarking on a new approach, for which it has designed a roadmap called CATPAISATGE 2020. Under the slogan "Country, Landscape, Future", the new strategy places the emphasis on issues such as internationalisation, local and entrepreneurial development, highlighting new landscapes, and on the importance of values, research, and communication. CATPAISATGE 2020 is structured into ten lines of research:

Internationalisation from singularity. Internationalisation has always been one of the mainstays of

the work carried out by the Landscape Observatory. It must be borne in mind, however, that this will only succeed by focusing on the singular nature of a country that contains some of the greatest landscape diversity in Europe. It cannot be overlooked that landscapes that maintain, reinforce, and develop their identity and personality are more likely to prosper in the end than either urban or rural landscapes that have lost these qualities.

Living and producing in quality surroundings. The quality of the landscape contributes to the international profile of the country and facilitates the competitiveness of its territories, for example, by attracting skilled labour and innovative economies. On the other hand, quality local production is closely linked to quality landscapes.

Landscape, creativity and strategic sectors. The quality and singularity of the landscape have a positive impact on sectors such as cinema, advertising, fashion, gastronomy, design and so on, but at the same time, they are part of the more successful development strategies for tourism and agriculture. Quality tourism is known to shun spoiled or mediocre landscapes.

Landscape and the local world. There is a growing consensus that landscapes - especially landscapes with strong personalities - contribute to local development not only from the economic perspective but also in terms of self-esteem, identity, and quality of life.

The creation of new benchmark landscapes. Catalonia has many benchmark landscapes, landscapes imbued with strong symbolic significance, which gained their iconic status decades or even centuries ago. They have reached us today in reasonably good condition and it is now incumbent upon us to preserve both their cultural and identity value. However, in a context of increasing trivialisation of many ordinary landscapes, we must make an effort to create new benchmark landscapes, without overlooking their time-

honoured counterparts. Using good design and projects, we should be able to convert ordinary, anodyne landscapes into places of reference with which the local population can identify and establish a dialogue.

Landscape, values and community. Awareness of the diversity of landscapes, visual enjoyment of our surroundings, and respect and sensitivity to the natural or heritage dimensions are all values that reinforce the social fabric and dignify the community.

Landscape, employment and entrepreneurship. The landscape generates economic opportunities and becomes an agent for creating employment in sectors linked to the territory, and to agriculture, education, and the environment. This is also true of emerging creative fields in their relationship with the landscape, such as cinema, advertising, fashion, and gastronomy, among others.

Climate change, energy and landscape. Landscape is a first-class indicator for understanding the effects of climate change, imagining future scenarios, and designing adaptation strategies, while at the same time combating this change, above all by means of widespread use of renewable energies.

Research and innovation as growing values. Landscape research is a growing value that provides a comprehensive response to some of the new global challenges. It also reinforces the potential for entrepreneurship and the creation of employment in various sectors.

Education and communication. Landscape education is not sufficient: we must also know how to communicate the value of landscape education. Communication is a crucial aspect of contemporary societies and therefore we must make good use of the enormous communicative value of the landscape, a true bearer of messages easily recognised by the population.

The challenges faced are many and great: encouraging a climate of dialogue between governments, in order to overcome the fragmentation of the public administration structure; strengthening the dialogue between civil society and the different administrations; fostering cooperation between the public and private spheres, while exploring alternative channels for landscape management and planning, and means

of financing them; finding imaginative ways of surmounting the scarcity of economic resources destined for cooperation or solving the convoluted question of governance which is familiar to us all (who does what and at what level regarding landscape?). The Landscape Observatory of Catalonia aspires to continue playing a major role in achieving these important goals. These are collective challenges with no finishing line.

The Landscape Observatory of the Canary Islands. "Projecting the Landscape"

Juan Manuel Palerm Salazar

Prof. Dr. Architect

Professor of Architectural Design at the School of Architecture - University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain). - Professor and researcher at the University IUAV of Venice and Trento. Director of the Second and Third Biennial of Architecture, Art and Landscape of the Canary Islands, and Director of the Canary Islands Landscape Observatory. Founder and Senior Partner with Leopoldo Tabares de Nava of "Palerm & Tabares de Nava, Arquitectos"

The Landscape Observatory of the Canary Islands has its origins in the second biennial of the Canary Islands (2008), an initiative of the autonomous Canary Government alongside the creation of an Office for the Observatory, thus implementing the European Landscape Convention, which was ratified by the Government of Spain on 26 November 2007, and entered into force on 1 March 2008.

The establishment of this Observatory is an important step of the Canary Islands in its commitment to the Convention, and it puts the Islands at the centre of the debate on landscape, taking an active part in it. In contrast to the Mainland, the Islands are presented as commensurable territories. The possibility of having a controlled environment, or at least of quantifying the elements as they come together, make them ideal labora-

tories for understanding human behaviour and its relationship with the environment.

The last forty years have been a constant challenge for the Canary Islands in terms of the management of its territory, determined by almost 50% of protected soil, a very complex terrain which severely hinders the execution of infrastructure, and a struggle between the tourism model and agricultural land and resources, along with a population and urban settlements and metropolitan growth. Any decision related to the territory becomes dramatic, involving a very large number of factors.

The Canary Islands may be an example against globalization. Local experience generates ways of managing a greatly limited space. It is not intended to be an anti-globalisation model; the idea is to present local responses to specific situations that can be extrapolated to other places with similar problems. The geographical variety of the Canary Islands and the possibility of annotating the fields of study provide the archipelago with a privileged platform for testing new models and situations. The use of local materials and technical solutions are answers which can serve an infinite number of territories.

Parallel to the objectives of the Landscape Observatory in the Canary Islands and the island laboratories, is implementation of the European Landscape Convention. Artists, architects, botanists, sociologists and lawyers across a broad