

(Coastal) landscapes, social wellbeing and cultural sustainability



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Landscape identity

- the perceived uniqueness of a landscape (Pedroli, Stobbelaar 2011)
- Never absolute, as people's perception don't coincide
- identity belongs as much to the landscape as to the observer
- the unique psycho-sociological perception of a place defined in a spatial-cultural space.

Landscape identity

- can either refer to the landscape itself and the features that render its differences, or on how people use the landscape to construct their individual or collective identity, but it can always be understood as the mutual relation between landscape and people (Loupa Ramos et al, forthcoming)

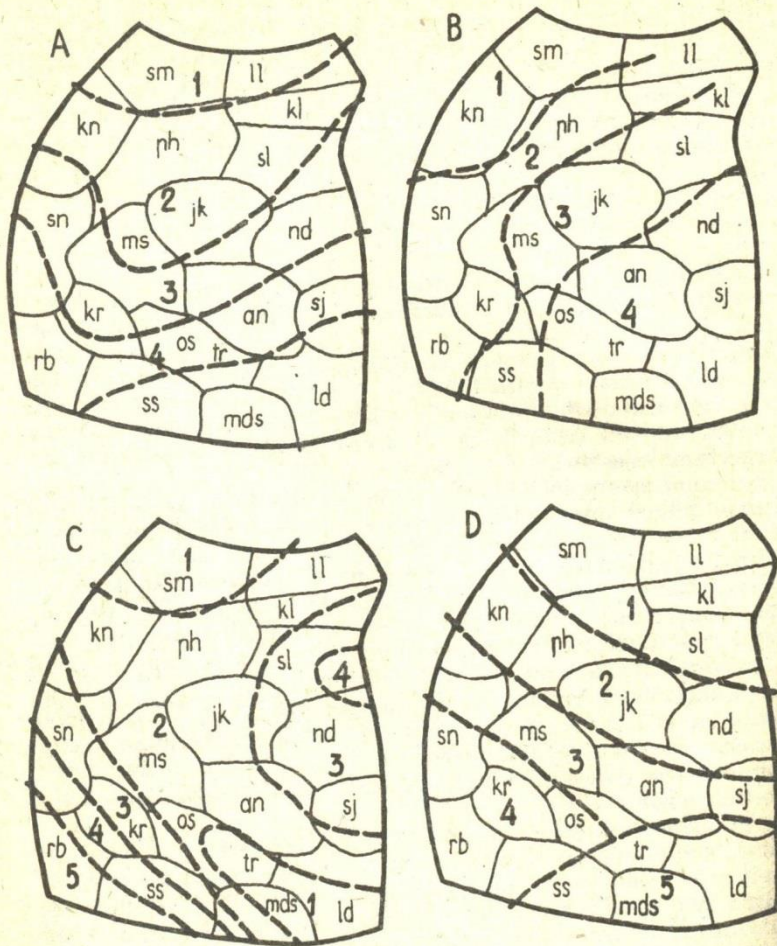
Well-being – an emerging trend? Or a new buzzword?

- A MSc programme in Edinburgh:
- The programme provides a unique opportunity for academics and practitioners working in landscape architecture, planning, design, geography, public health, psychology, epidemiology, horticulture and ecology to understand the evidence base and to operationalise the planning and design of salutogenic landscape.

Aesthetics

- *Appeal of the landscape, its ability to satisfy human needs and guarantee normal recreation (privlekatel'nost).*

Reimers 1990



Joon. 2. Metsakasvukohatüüpide ordinatsioonipinna jagunemine rekreatsiooni-
alaste hinnangute järgi.
Kasvukohatüübid: *sm* – sambliku, *ll* – leesikaloo, *kn* – kanarbiku, *ph* – pohla,
kl – metskastikuloo, *sl* – sinilille, *sn* – sinika, *ms* – mustika, *jk* – jänesekapsa,
kr – karusambla, *os* – osja, *tr* – tarna, *an* – angervaksa, *sj* – sõnajala, *rb* –
raba, *ss* – siirdesoo, *mds* – madal soo, *ld* – lodu.
A. Läbitavus. 1 – väga hea, 2 – hea, 3 – rahuldav, 4 – halb, 5 – väga halb;
B. Kasutustaluvus. 1 – väike, 2 – keskmine, 3 – suhteliselt suur, 4 – suur või
tõrjuva alustaimestiku tõttu vähe külastatav;

Jagomägi, Raik 1983:
habitat suitability for
recreation

Abraham et al

Int J Public Health (2010) 55:59–69

- A set of meaningful pathways that link landscape and health have been identified. Landscapes have the potential to promote mental well-being through attention restoration, stress reduction, and the evocation of positive emotions; physical well-being through the promotion of physical activity in daily life as well as leisure time and through walkable environments; and social well-being through social integration, social engagement and participation, and through social support and security.

Yuill et al 2019

<https://doi.org/10.1177/1363459318804603>

- This article explores why landscape is a crucial element in researching the relationship between environment and well-being. **The main point we make is that human social agents are embedded in particular landscapes, and it is in landscapes that environmental changes are experienced, which can have implications for well-being.** ... Landscape is understood here as an assemblage of different forms of matter, animate and inanimate objects, as well as symbolic and cultural processes.

Cultural sustainability?

- Fourth pillar?
- In the Nordic tradition, landscape is also seen as an interface of culture and nature, with culture deeply embedded in the term landscape. Landscape reflects the way humans have cared for, built in and exploited the surroundings. Culture represents in this way both problem and possibility, form and process, and concerns values and practices whereby a landscape may continue to exist or change.
- Landscape as an archive, a record

Cultural sustainability

- A sustainable landscape is not based on a deterministic state or condition that is frozen in geographic space and time, or something likely achieved by practicing a cookbook of practices. It represents a dynamic state of the system with multiple trajectories and outcomes and embodies multi-functionality, provides ecosystems services, and is resilient and adaptive' (Musacchio 2009, 1007).

Ecosystem Services or Landscape Services?

- As Keller and Backhaus (2019) put it, 'ES has a stronger focus on (natural) science aspects, such as species, while LS is more a social science approach that focusses on human perception. Moreover, landscape is a common expression that people understand better than the term 'ecosystem'.
- CES are supposed to include, among other issues, security (Pascua et al. 2017) originating from the capability of reading (Widgren 2004) and understanding surrounding landscapes, the time depths of these, orienting and navigating there – the loss of it may have influence on human well-being. This is secured by history and heritage creating identity resulting in better social cohesion, stronger sense of place, spiritual and cultural well-being and thereby better care for the environment (Daniel et al. 2012). This way CES are also linked with care.

Culture matters

- Links to land matter
- Security matters
- Good leaders matter
- Planning and community matters
- Identity matters
- Strong local identity and culture can at least mitigate the marginalisation to some extent. This notion could also be used in mapping CES.



Puolanka
Festival of
Pessimism

Every Year
Jan 1- Dec 31

- Living off the past? (Lotman and his semiotics)
- Living towards the future? (Valsiner 2017)



Thank you for
your attention!