Research Paper

'Integrity' in the Conservation and Development of Urban Heritage

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Abstract
Urban heritage and historic city environments pose significant challenges in urban conservation. The current conservation policies and regulatory frameworks appear inadequate in addressing the integration of conservation and development, as well as in adapting historic urban areas to modern lifestyles while safeguarding their integrity. This research explores how the concept of integrity facilitates the achievement of conservation in tandem with development and whether it can drive adaptability to the evolving world for sustainable development. The fundamental research approach utilizes textual content analysis to examine this relationship. The findings emphasize that the concept of integrity is essential for the conservation and conveying of heritage significance over time. Furthermore, it highlights the common aspects between integrity and sustainability in safeguarding heritage values for future generations. This suggests that the dynamic nature of integrity must be considered a constant factor in the conservation and development of urban heritage. The present century's theoretical literature and international documents underscore the dynamic, continuous, and adaptable nature of integrity, which aligns with the principles of sustainability and sustainable development.

Keywords: Urban heritage, Conservation and development, Integrity, Sustainability.

INTRODUCTION

Threats such as incompatible human development and natural disasters can have devastating effects on the integrity of heritage. How can we achieve protection alongside heritage development to respond to the needs of a changing world? Can the preservation of integrity be realized alongside the interaction of 'conservation and development' to meet future needs? Such questions are explored in this research, highlighting the significance of this topic. According to some scholars, we need to balance the heritage field's focus on the past with responsiveness to the future (Avrami et al., 2019). In the traditional view, according to the introduction of the Venice Charter, the aim of transferring unique and irreplaceable heritage is for future generations (UNESCO, 2021). However, planning for a future different from the present, characterized by ongoing changes, requires a reexamination of the traditional view of heritage, which continually preserves the material remnants of the past as having fixed value. For this reason, the necessity of addressing a new perspective on heritage is emphasized by the author, in this view, heritage serves the community during times of natural and human changes (Harvey & Perry, 2015). In this perspective, heritage values and significance are not static but dynamic and come to the forefront. In other words, the issue of heritage integrity in the urban and architectural realm becomes focused on dynamic values and significance. Considering this, after reviewing the theoretical literature on 'heritage

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conservation and development', the concept of integrity will be examined from the viewpoints of experts and international documents. This is important because the dynamic nature of this concept can provide a forward-looking approach to heritage that not only addresses future needs but also aligns with sustainable development goals, taking into account the adaptation of protection to the needs of a developing world. Consequently, recognizing the dynamic nature of integrity can facilitate the implementation of a 'new heritage perspective, which is based on the dynamism of heritage values and significance and the acceptance of change as a constant factor, thus leading to the alignment of the execution of conventions with global agendas, such as the United Nations 2030 Agenda.

RESEARCH BACKGROUND

In the examination of the theoretical framework within this subject, previous studies have only partially delved into the correlation between 'Integrity' and 'urban heritage'. Zancheti and Piccolo Loretto (2015) present 'Integrity' as the continuity of value amidst urban fabric transformations (Zancheti & Piccolo Loretto, 2015). Meanwhile, Fadaei Nezhad Bahramjerdi and Hanachi (2018) regard 'Integrity' as a determinant in safeguarding values and the significance of urban heritage (Fadaei Nezhad Bahramjerdi & Hanachi, 2018), particularly when the livelihoods of individuals are significantly impacted; this conservation underscores the specific value of such impact (Hanachi et al., 2023). Additionally, Lotfi and colleagues identify 'Integrity' as a factor in balancing conservation and development approaches (Lotfi et al., 2022). Jayhani and Saberi view 'Integrity' as analogous to a cohesive whole, where the preservation of tangible and intangible structures is essential to maintaining 'Integrity' (Jayhani & Saberi, 2023). Khalaf posits that continuity and compatibility are essential for evaluating ' Integrity' (Khalaf, 2020) and stresses the dynamic nature of the concept (Khalaf, 2022). Additionally, acceptance of change is emphasized as a constant factor related to the concept of 'Integrity' (Jigyasu & Imon, 2023). Furthermore, in the book 'History of Architectural Conservation', Jokilehto perceives the essential components for 'Integrity' in historical artifacts as including visual, structural, and functional dimensions (Jokilehto, 1999), with the primary challenge lying in globally addressing the significance of the subject and valuable historical artifact. In the context of urban heritage, historical cities, and evolving residential areas, adopting the concept of 'Integrity' from this perspective appears vague and insufficient.

This research focuses on the thorough analysis of the concept of heritage integrity from the viewpoint of theorists and international documents. The concept is known for its complexity and ambiguity, with undefined dimensions and influential factors. According to the conducted studies, the authors view integrity as closely linked to heritage values. It holds the responsibility for preserving and transmitting these values and is connected to conservation, integrity, sustainability, and their respective components, which will be further discussed in the following section.

Research Concepts and Literature

Due to the research topic's nature, it is essential to provide a brief theoretical exploration of the concepts of 'urban heritage', 'integrity', and 'conservation and development' and their interconnection as presented in current literature.

Urban Heritage

Urban heritage extends beyond distinct structures or historic landmarks and is not simply a collection of built-up areas. It encompasses the physical attributes of buildings, public spaces, and urban morphology, while bearing the imprint of user experiences and serving as a legacy for future generations (Orbasli, 2000). Sitte espoused an aesthetic appreciation of the historic city, valuing its aesthetic worth over modern urban districts. He also regarded the city as a historical continuum requiring morphological and typological analysis for a comprehensive understanding of its evolution (Sitte & Wieczorek, 1981). Sitte's concepts laid the groundwork for both urban heritage conservation and contemporary urban planning, influencing urban construction planning significantly in Germany and beyond (Collins et al., 2006). According to sources, Giovannoni was the pioneer in formally defining the 'urban heritage' concept in his influential book "Vecchie città ed edilizia nuova" (Giovannoni, 1931, Choay, 2009). Giovannoni perceived the 'old' city as a result of historical layering and advocated for the conservation of not just monumental buildings but also their surrounding environment to maintain urban integrity over time.

Conservation and Development of Urban Heritage

The concept of heritage conservation has evolved, broadening the understanding of urban heritage. Nevertheless, the conflict between conservation efforts and economic development in historic urban areas has led city administrators to perceive heritage

protection as a hindrance (Warren 1998, Turner et al., 2012, Carley et al., 2013). Recent studies have highlighted the discord between heritage conservation and development as a significant issue for professionals and researchers in both fields (The Getty Conservation Institute, 2010, Veldpaus et al., 2013, Khalaf, 2015). However, a new viewpoint has emerged, reconciling conservation and development as complementary elements (Rypkema 2005, Bandarin et al., 2011, Pereira Roders & Van Oers, 2014). Some scholars argue that urban heritage conservation supports development, with organizations such as UNESCO and ICOMOS viewing cultural heritage as a driver and foundation for sustainable urban development (Bandarin et al., 2011, Veldpaus et al., 2013, Van Oers, 2006, Landorf, 2009, United Nations, 2011, Felicori, 2014, ICOMOS, 2014, United Nations, 2014, Duxbury et al., 2016). Urban heritage is acknowledged as a critical asset for enhancing the livability and economic development of urban areas (UNESCO, 2011). The traditional approach to heritage conservation is seen as static, leading to a 'resistance to change' (Araoz, 2008; Veldpaus & Roders, 2014), failing to acknowledge the dynamic nature of urban environments and overlooking intangible aspects of heritage (Araoz, 2013; Zancheti & Piccolo Loretto, 2015), contributing to the fragmentation of urban values (Whitehand & Gu, 2007). In the 21st century, there has been a notable shift in focus towards sustainable development within urban heritage conservation, aiming to achieve a balance between conservation, sustainability, and development (UNESCO, 2002, UNESCO, 2005b). The Vienna Memorandum introduced the 'Historic Urban Landscape' approach in 2005, highlighting the evolutionary aspect of urban landscapes and the necessity for innovative methodologies (UNESCO, 2005b). Subsequently, in 2011, the adoption of the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape aimed to establish a more comprehensive framework for addressing the challenges encountered by historic urban environments. The HUL approach seeks to steer urban management by amalgamating diverse policies and practices to bridge the divergence between conservation ideals and practical realities (UNESCO, 2011). The implementation of the HUL Recommendation underscores the importance of adapting to local contexts, symbolizing a significant juncture in urban heritage conservation by bridging the gap with development (Van Oers & Pereira Roders, 2014). Frameworks such as the Valletta Principles and UN declarations have similarly stressed the requirement to manage change and actively pursue sustainable urban development (ICOMOS, 2011, UNESCO, 2015, United Nations, 2016). Both the New Urban Agenda and UNESCO policies have underscored the integration of urban heritage conservation into sustainable urban development strategies through the adoption of a human rights-based approach (United Nations, 2016, UNESCO 2015). Consequently, a new paradigm for urban heritage conservation has evolved, incorporating sustainable development (ICOMOS, 2017, UNESCO, 2017). In recent years, UNESCO has actively pursued the convergence of global heritage conservation with sustainable development needs (UNESCO, 2018, 2019, 2021).

Integrity is a key concept in the conservation and development of urban heritage

The Oxford Dictionary defines 'integrity' as a two-part meaning: 'the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles' and 'the state of being whole and not divided' (Oxford, 2023). The following will examine the definition and concept of integrity from the perspective of theorists and relevant documents.

Revisiting and exploring the concept of integrity from the perspective of theorists

The notion of the 'conservation principle' in distinguishing between old and new architecture can be traced back to Ruskin's 'principle of honesty' (Ruskin, 1890; Khalaf, 2016). This establishes integrity as synonymous with honesty. According to Herbert Stovel (2008), integrity is a critical aspect of heritage properties (Stovel, 2008). He links integrity to the completeness and intactness of the property, suggesting that its ability to convey significance is more about communication than physical reality (Stovel, 2007). Another perspective on integrity, suggested by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), stresses the importance of natural sites having sufficient size to preserve most, if not all, of the essential elements linked to significance and continuity (Rössler, 2008). The HUL approach prioritizes the conservation of integrity and continuity of urban heritage attributes over the protection of their authenticity (Bandarin and Van Oers, 2012, Khalaf, 2020). Hence, the definition of integrity holds great significance concerning the specific definition of urban heritage values. In literary theory, integrity is redefined as a gauge for assessing the conservation status of heritage properties (Zancheti & Piccolo Loretto, 2015). Accordingly, integrity is construed as honesty (Kalman, 2014) and alludes to the continuity in interpreting the concept of the city (Zancheti & Piccolo Loretto, 2015),

encompassing both tangible and intangible elements in the continuity of cultural significance (Wang et al., 2015). The evolving theory of conservation incorporates the concept of integrity within a dynamic context, allowing changes to the material or physical attributes of urban heritage without necessarily negating the continuity of its cultural significance. This highlights that heritage cannot be simply defined as a physical entity, site, building, or object. Although these things may hold significance, they alone cannot represent heritage.
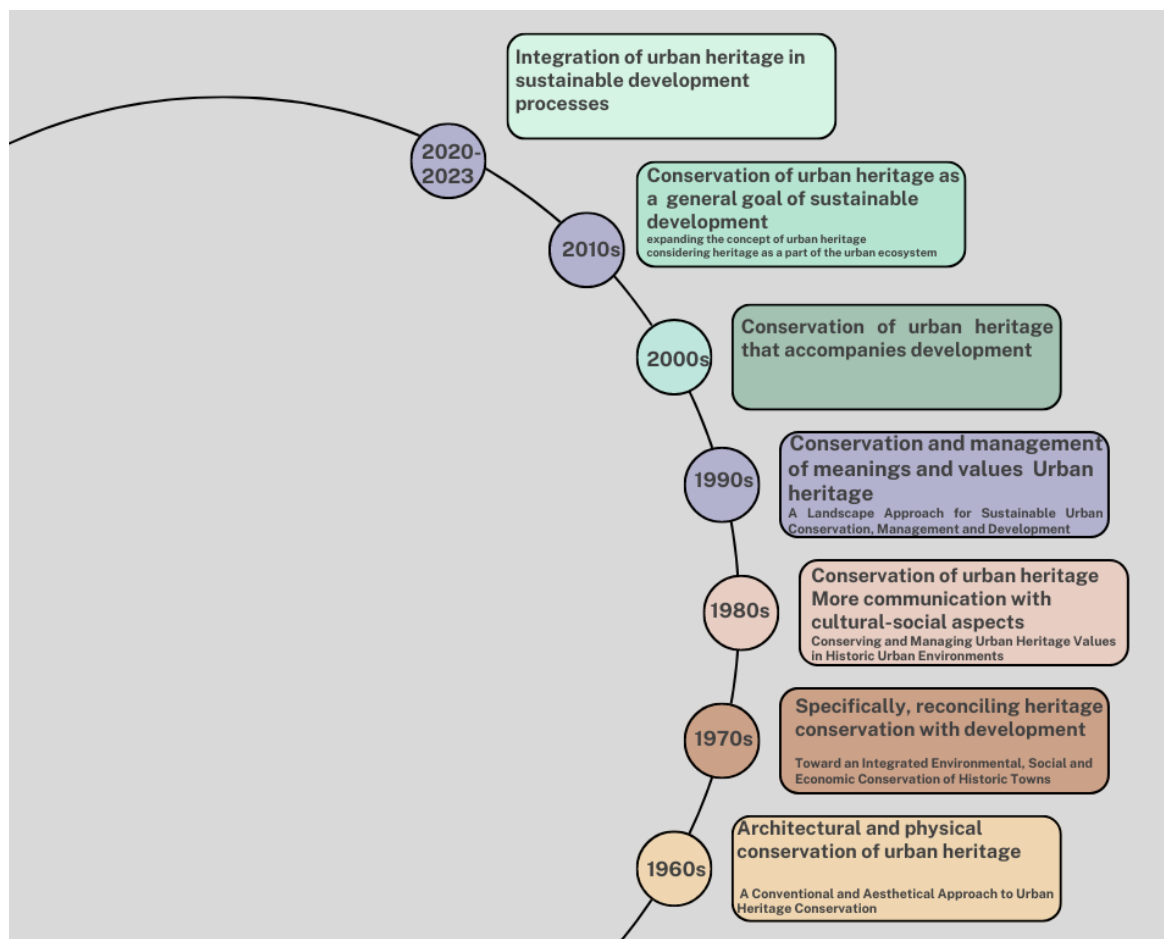

Fig 1. Timeline Diagram of the Shift in Approach to Urban Heritage over Time

Table 1. Exploring the Concept of Integrity from the Perspective of Theorists

Theorists	Date	Key Components Related to the Concept of Integrity
Ruskin, Khalaf 2016	1890	honesty/ conservation
Herbert Stovel	2007	- condition for heritage properties -the completeness and intactness of the property
Rossler	2008	significance and continuity
Bandarin and Van Ders	2012	continuity of urban heritage properties
Zancheti	2013	conserving heritage properties
Kalman	2014	honesty
Zancheti	2015	continuity and dynamism
Sam Huang & Kyoungjin Kim	2015	tangible and intangible elements
Khalaf	2020	Continuity and adaptive change
Khalaf	2021	convey and maintain its significance
Khalaf	2021	convey and secure/sustain its significance
Khalaf	2021	-Dynamic nature -Future-oriented approach to cultural heritage
Khalaf Taken from UNESCO 2019	2021	continuity
Jigyasu& Imon	2022	Change and sustainability Social activities and cultural characteristics

The essence of heritage transcends just its physical manifestation. Heritage embodies a continual cultural evolution, marked by ongoing change rather than cultural inertia. This evolution involves the re-articulation and reformulation of principles to align with present-day requisites (Smith, 2006). Hence, heritage constitutes a fluid and dynamic progression, where constituents and principles may either endure or transform, contingent on contemporary necessities. This understanding is pivotal as it posits that the qualities outlined in the Operational Guidelines should be linked to persistence (and evolution), rather than authenticity, presuming heritage as a developmental process (Khalaf, 2021). It is noteworthy that the World Heritage legitimacy concept stemmed from the American concept of integrity advanced by Connally in 1976 and defined as 'the capacity of a property to convey its importance' according to Herb Stovel (UNESCO, 1976). When integrity was incorporated as a prerequisite in the Operational Guidelines in 2005 for the selection of cultural properties for inclusion in the World Heritage List, Stovel proposed that 'authenticity could be grasped as the capacity of a property to demonstrate its significance over time, and integrity understood as the ability of a property to perpetuate or maintain its significance over time' (Stovel, 2008).

This implies that the original American concept of integrity evolved to become equivalent to authenticity, with integrity assuming a new definition. However, an argument can be made that if a property can maintain its significance, it also inherently possesses the ability to convey it. Consequently, integrity can be seen as the capability of a property to both communicate and uphold its significance, thus making authenticity superfluous (Khalaf, 2021). Furthermore, the term 'convey' is referenced in paragraphs 88(b) and 89

addressing integrity in the Operational Guidelines (UNESCO, 2019). While Stovel championed authenticity, other experts raised doubts about its validity. Michel Parent, ICOMOS Vice President and Rapporteur of the World Heritage Committee in 1979, observed that assessments of authenticity are subjective due to various influencing factors (Parent, 1979). Likewise, Léon Pressouyre, ICOMOS advisor in the 1980s, opposed the use of the term 'authenticity' in an expert meeting, highlighting the inconsistent interpretation of what he referred to as a 'European standard of authenticity' by the World Heritage Committee (Cameron, 2019). These criticisms indicate that not all experts shared Stovel's view that authenticity is a fundamental element for effectively implementing the Convention, primarily due to its inconsistent interpretation. 'Integrity' can be comprehended as the capacity of a property to both transmit and retain its significance through continuity and compatibility (Khalaf, 2021) and can be considered dynamic (Zancheti & Piccolo Loretto, 2015). Approaching World Heritage sites as dynamic processes that encompass continuity and adaptability can contribute to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Sustainable Development Policy, also known as the Policy for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the Processes of the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO, 2015), highlights this perspective. As heritage conservation efforts advance, the concept of 'integrity' has been broadened to include social, functional, structural, and visual elements (Jigyasu & Imon, 2023, Al-Hajj et al., 2022). In the context of historic cities, sustainability encompasses the physical environment as well as sociocultural and economic aspects (Jigyasu & Imon, 2023).
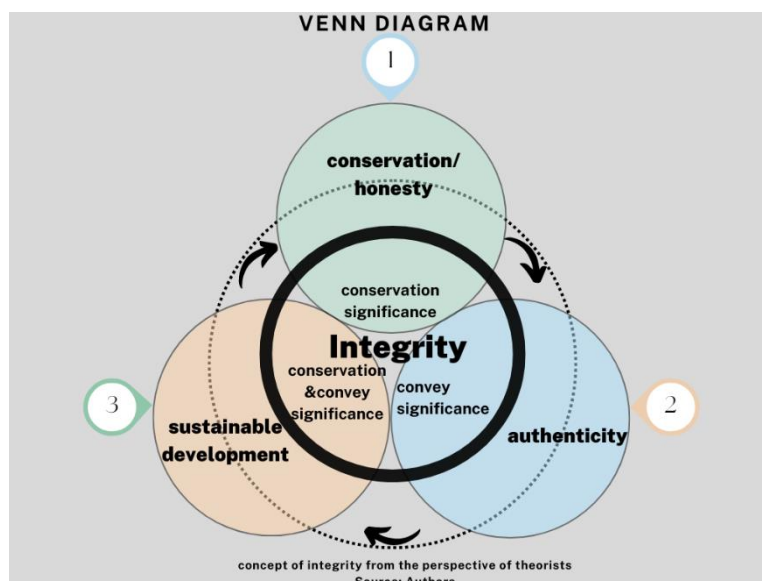

Fig 2. The Concept of Integrity from the Perspective of Theorists

Revisiting and exploring the concept of integrity from the perspective of international conventions

The concept of integrity is essential for documenting and evaluating heritage sites (UNESCO, 1976; Zancheti & Piccolo Loretto, 2015), focusing on their overall health and tangible aspects (UNESCO, 2005a, 2009). It involves preserving original states and associated values (Kalman, 2014). The Washington Charter (ICOMOS, 1987) connects integrity to the conservation of historical and natural properties, while the Nara Conference expanded this to include human activities. In 1995, integrity was defined as the ability to convey a place's significance (ICOMOS, 1996). Discussions, including the Vienna Conference, emphasized balancing conservation and development (UNESCO, 2005b). The Valletta Principles recognized integrity in historic urban areas as encompassing both tangible and intangible

elements (ICOMOS, 2011), highlighting its dynamic nature in heritage conservation (UNESCO, 2019, 2021). Table 2 presents the key components related to the concept of integrity from the perspective of international documents.

From the review of relevant documents and the examination of expert opinions, the concept of integrity is initially intertwined with the concepts of conservation and honesty (tangible properties), then combined with the notion of authenticity (conserving physical value). Subsequently, the assessment of development and changes is utilized alongside the concept of integrity. Finally, these concepts of conservation (honesty), authenticity, and development are emphasized again in order, but this time consider intangible characteristics in addition to tangible and physical attributes as indicators of the concept of integrity.

Table 2. Exploring the Concept of Integrity from the Perspective of International Conventions

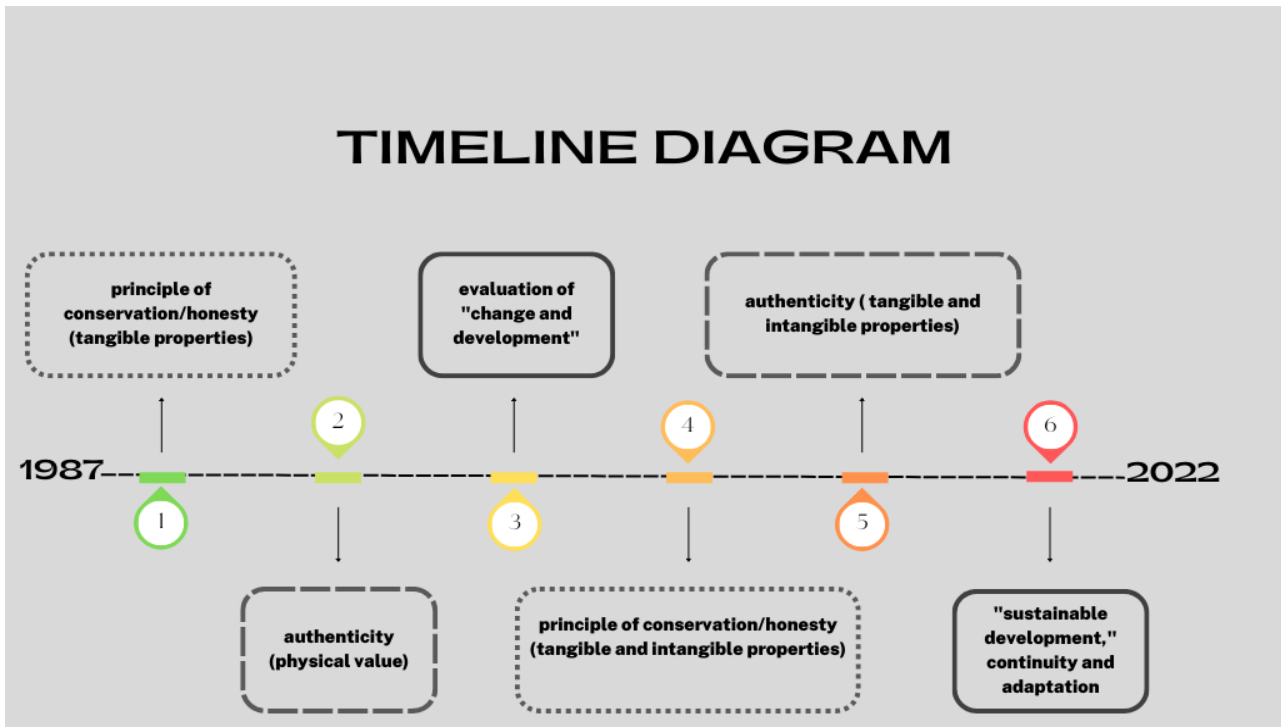| Declaration / Manifesto	Date	Key components related to the concept of integrity
UNESCO	1976	documenting heritage property
ICOMOS	1987	Integration of historical city with natural and built environment
ICOMOS (The Nara Document on Authenticity)	1994	Human activities, integration of components, relationship between socio-economic development, community welfare and conservation of historical and natural features
ICOMOS (The Declaration of San Antonio)	1996	Evaluation of changes
UNESCO	2005	- Integrity and conservation of natural and cultural heritage - All the necessary elements and components to demonstrate outstanding universal value, and the extent of damage caused by development and change
UNESCO -Vienna Memorandum on World Heritage and Contemporary Architecture	2005	Balancing conservation and development approaches
The International Declaration of Jerusalem	2006	new developments
ICOMOS (Quebec Declaration)	2008	Controlling the effects of development
UNESCO	2011	conservation of urban heritage
ICOMOS	2011	The coherence of all tangible and intangible elements
ICOMOS	2012	intangible elements
UNESCO	2015	wholeness and intactness
UNESCO	2019	wholeness and untouchedness
UNESCO	2019	Convey property
UNESCO	2019 & 1972	Sustainability and conveying of importance
UNESCO	2019	continuity and compatibility
UNESCO	2021	- conservation or enhancement of features over time (continuity and compatibility) - dynamic relationships and properties

Fig 3. The Concept of Integrity from the Perspective of International Conventions

The Manifestation of Authenticity and Integrity in the Development of Isfahan

The historical development of Isfahan's fabric can be beneficial in assessing its authenticity and integrity. Professor Baqir Ayatollahzadeh Shirazi, in his analysis of the historical transformations of Isfahan's fabric during the Safavid period, argues that the urban design changes that occurred during this time, although accompanied by the sacrifice of some valuable elements from the Seljuk era, did not lead to the destruction of the city's authenticity. Instead, they contributed to the preservation and enhancement of its status as an authentic Iranian city. He identifies several reasons for this success:

1. Elements from the old part of the city, such as mosques, were adorned in a way that allowed them to continue their roles and serve as documentation of the pre-Safavid identity of the city.

2. The center of urban development during the Safavid period was not placed over the ancient center, allowing new sections to strengthen the old fabric while defining their urban identity in relation to the older parts (Shirazi, 1974).

It can be concluded that after the development and transformation of the city during the Safavid period, the structure of the city of Isfahan as an urban heritage maintained its integrity, and a dialogue between the old and new sections was effectively established, resulting in a sustainable city. Consequently, the integrity of urban heritage has embraced change as a constant factor in responding to the evolving needs of the Safavid period and beyond. This change and development have led to the creation of a sustainable city, with future developments following suit, resulting in continuity and adaptability over time.

Such an approach can be traced not only in the context of a single city but also across a range of diverse historical experiences in preserving cultural heritage, such as the restoration of historical mosques based on ancient values or the formation of new representations from a tile mosaic.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

By examining the literature on 'conservation and development of urban heritage' in previous sections, it can be analyzed that the concept of integrity and its dynamic nature foster a forward-looking approach to heritage within the context of conservation and development. This aligns with sustainable development goals, achieved through attention to the dynamic values and significance of urban heritage. The concept of integrity contributes to the 'conservation and convey' of heritage values, while sustainability and sustainable development ensure the 'protection and transmission' of heritage to future generations. Therefore, integrity and sustainability in relation to the conservation and development of urban heritage must embrace change and the dynamism of values as constants to effectively respond to the needs of a developing world.
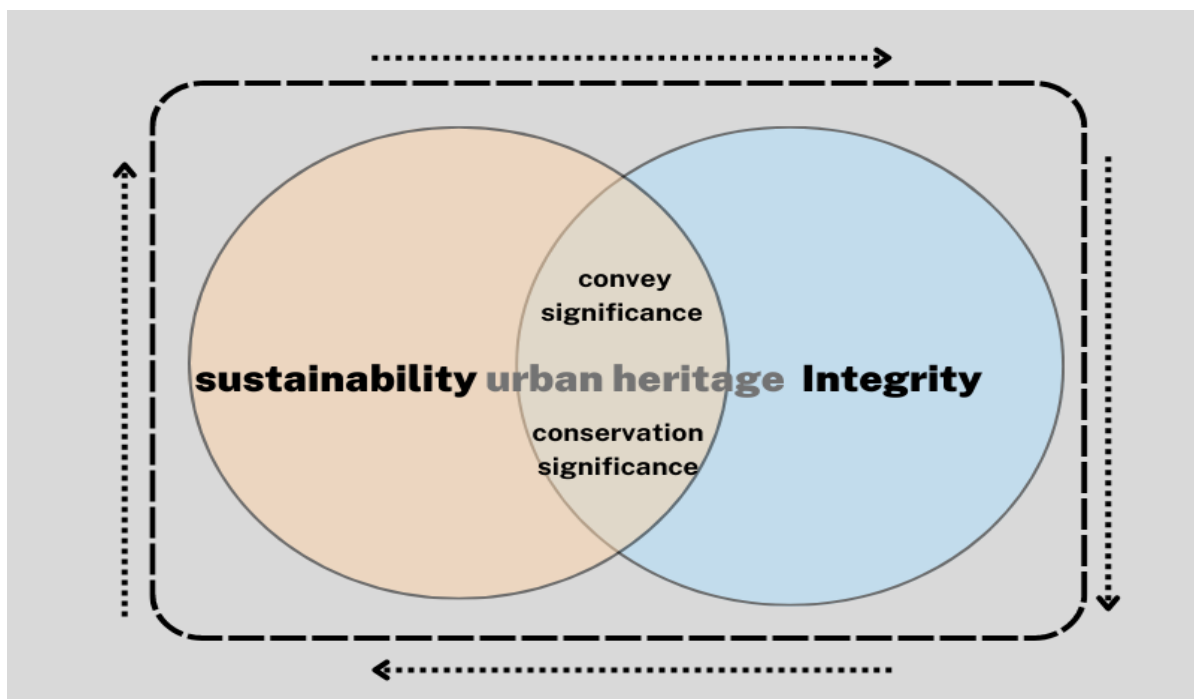
Fig 4. Common Aspects of 'Integrity' and 'Sustainability' in Connection with 'Urban Heritage'

CONCLUSION

The concept of the integrity of urban heritage has evolved based on relevant documents. In the first period (1987-2011), this concept was explained through three concepts: 'conservation' of tangible properties, the concept of 'authenticity' (tangible properties), and finally the evaluation of 'change and development'. In the second period (2011-2022), the same concepts were revisited, but with consideration for intangible aspects. The concepts of the second period included 'conservation' of tangible and intangible properties, 'authenticity' (conservation and conveyance of tangible and intangible properties), and finally, 'sustainable development', continuity and adaptation (continuation of cultural importance). The concept of the integrity of urban heritage from the perspective of theorists also starts with the principle of conservation (principle of honesty), then combines with the concept of 'authenticity' and ultimately aligns with the concept of 'sustainable development'. The concept of conservation and development of urban heritage has also evolved from physical and tangible conservation to highlighting authenticity and value conservation and encompassing tangible and intangible dimensions. In recent years, with the recognition of heritage as a process, its integration into sustainable development processes has been emphasized. Integrity helps to maintain and convey the importance of heritage features over time, while sustainability is responsible for ensuring the identification, conservation, presentation, and conveyance of heritage to future generations. Therefore, the concepts of integrity and sustainability are related to urban heritage and have common and consistent aspects of 'convey significance' and 'conservation significance'. Integrity emphasizes continuity and adaptation in changing the urban fabric and is a key concept in the conservation of urban heritage. Hence, the significance of the integrity status in preserving a broad interpretation of the past, present, and future urban fabric and reinterpreting the values of heritage depends on it. Therefore, the conservation of heritage amidst change and development is enabled through the concept of integrity. Similarly, the perspective of urban heritage from the lens of sustainability and sustainable development is elucidated and guaranteed by the notion of integrity. The conveyance and conservation of the values inherent to urban heritage is achieved by incorporating the concept of 'dynamism' as the third pillar of the 'conservation and development of urban heritage' triangle. This concept encompasses the notions of change, continuity, and adaptation. Consequently, both integrity and sustainability must embrace change as an ever-present factor.

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