Historic Urban Landscapes:
Discourse since UNESCO 2011 Adoption

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Abstract
Historic Urban Landscapes (HULs) is a landscape based approach to conservation of historic areas internationally since introduction in 2011 by UNESCO. They are important heritages that act as repositories of memories, histories contributing to identities besides tangible and intangible benefits that contribute to residents' quality of life. This article seeks to illuminate HUL discourse in terms the scales, typologies, components, importance, emerging areas of concern in terms of challenges in its implementation, public participation aspects and the need for local laws, policies to protect, conserve and manage them. It's based on content analysis using main term "Historic urban landscape" within open access platforms like Google and Google Scholar. Most existing studies have been conducted in Europe and Asia with Africa having very few. UNESCO has so far designated several sites as HULs across the world. Findings reveal that major components of HULs are natural, built and socio-cultural. HUL scales/typologies include city level, historic city centres, historic districts, historic ports, historic streetscapes and historic gardens that go beyond individual monuments. They are under threat from rapid urbanizations and fast transforming developments. Historic urban areas display dualism in terms of being both historic and cultural thus are considered as cultural landscapes as well. The study concludes that public participation in HUL issues is critical for success and there is need for more empirical studies to popularize its adoption in urban heritage planning. Recommendation is on enactment of laws and policies at various levels of government in different countries to identify, assess and inventorize with the main aim being conservation from threats. The findings are important to policy makers and heritage professionals in guiding HULs conservation and management.

Keywords: Historic urban landscapes, historic landscapes, cultural landscapes, conservation, landscape approach, urban heritage, UNESCO

INTRODUCTION

UNESCO (2011) defines Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) as "the urban area understood as the result of a historic layering of cultural and natural values and attributes extending beyond the notion of "historic centre' or "ensemble" to include the broader urban context and geographical setting". This wider context encompasses among other things a site's topography, the historic and contemporary built environment and social & cultural practices related to diversity and identity (UNESCO, 2011). HUL recommendation is an urban heritage conservation approach that passed and adopted in November 2011 by UNESCO. It is a shared aspiration by the member states though not a binding document. UN SDG target 11.4 aims to strengthen efforts that protect and safeguard the natural and cultural heritage within the world. Taylor (2023) posit that cities may be categorized as types of cultural landscapes and therefore the close relationship between the HUL approach and the cultural "Cultural Landscapes" concept also recommended by UNESCO. According to Girard (2013) the HUL approach can guarantee the transition towards a smart city in terms of development. This should be based on the local cultures in addition to innovations in technology. It's a useful approach that can be used to implement city development while conserving the historic places as well (Girard, 2013).

Nursanty et al. (2023); Oktay and Bala (2015); K'oyoo (2023b); K'oyoo and Breed (2023; 2024)

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state that cities face the challenge of globalization, urbanizations, cultural homogenizations and there is need for preserving and promoting authenticity in order to maintain their distinct and unique characteristics. HUL recommendation has a connection to the SDGs and the new Urban Agenda. The New Urban Agenda is by UN-Habitat and it underlines the need for integrated approaches to sustainability of urban areas. UN SDG number 11.4 provides for the importance of safeguarding natural and cultural heritages for the safe, inclusive and resilient cities. Erkan (2018); Santander and Olaun (2018) opine that the HUL recommendation (2011) by UNESCO was adopted to place development and conservation efforts of the heritage within urban areas on the same plane. According to Hoeven (2019) the HUL recommendation marks a brand approach to heritage in urban areas while Santander and Olaun (2018) refer to HUL as a conceptual paradigm that is used as a basis of urban conservation in the 21st Century. It seeks the integration of conservation of historic urban areas together with the strategies for urban planning.

Taylor (2016) posit that cities should be seen from a HUL paradigm. This is because the character of the urban landscapes is shaped to a great extent by the ways in which it is used by the people in addition to the social practices that take place within it. This author proposes the change in conservation from seeing cities in terms of monuments and famous buildings only to that of considering them as cultural landscapes that are full of people's values and systems of belief that is reflected in its entire settings. This is supported by Hoeven (2020), Francini and Rozochkina (2024) who opine that urban landscapes are dynamic as they are subjected to change from time to time and appear to be multi-layered. Francini and Rozochkina (2024) supporting Wang and Gu (2020) state there is a clash between visions for conservation of historical urban fabrics and modernizations. There is need to reconcile and balance conservation and demand for growth through urban development that cause transformations (Francini & Rozochkina, 2024; Wang & Gu, 2020).

This article seeks to ventilate discourse within HULs in terms the scales, typologies, components, importance, emerging areas of concern in terms of threats to existence, challenges in the implementation of its approach, public participation considerations, need for existing local laws, policies to protect, conserve and manage them. This is followed by a case study of UNESCO designated site where HUL approach was used in a post-blast context. The tail end presents selected studies on HULs, their methodologies and lastly the challenges to HUL approach implementations is presented. Part 26 of UNESCO (2011) HUL provisions encourages for scientific research from various bodies on HULs. This includes academia and other research bodies. This review seeks to investigate the research that has been carried out since introduction of HUL as a conservation approach within urban contexts. The author in this article believes that findings presented in this article in addition to more reviews and empirical research on HULs will help to popularize its framework for adoption towards planning and implementation of conservation within historic urban areas.

THEORY

Scales and typologies of HULs

UNESCO (2011) introduced HUL approach with the aim of going beyond emphasis on individual architectural monuments to include whole urban areas. The approach advocates for undertaking of the assessments, conservations and managements within sustainable development frameworks. The approach in part 11 aims to preserve the quality of human environments especially in public spaces in a sustainable manner. There is need for diversity in social and functional aspects. The approach advocates for HULs to be inclusive of both natural environment and the urban aspects both in balanced and sustainable manner (UNESCO, 2011). According to Huybrechts (2018) protection or preservation has always been for monuments, precincts that are historic and cultural landscapes. This author is proposing the inclusion of the metropolis as a new scale and object that befits conservation of heritage.

According to Rey-Perez and Pereira (2020) HUL focus is more prevalent in Europe than other continents. This is attributed to influence of UNESCO and European tradition into heritage. There is increasing HUL approach in China as part of Asia. Very little contribution of HUL approach has been witnessed from Africa (Rey-Perez and Pereira, 2020). Koyunoglu and Gulersoy
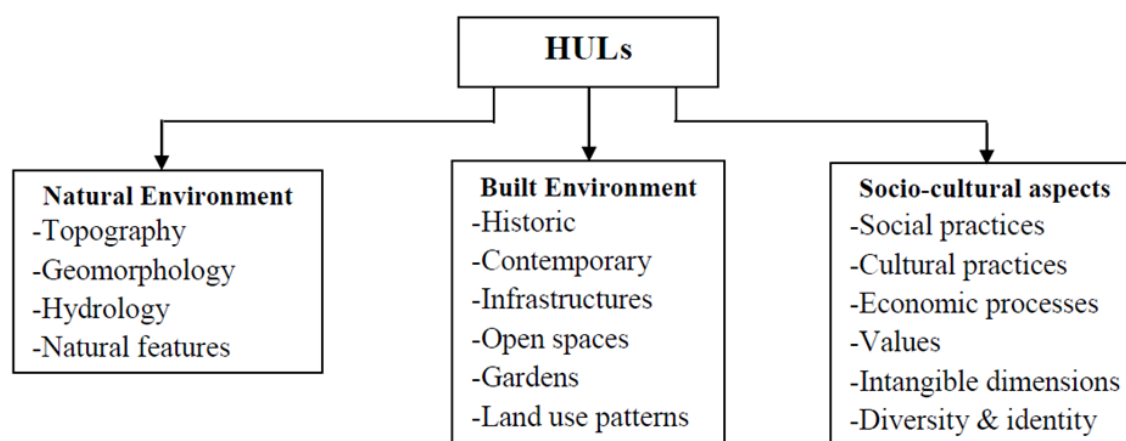
(2022) found out that HULs have been studied at case study levels in various scales/typologies that include city level, historic city centres, historic districts, historic ports, historic streetscapes and historic gardens (Koyunoglu & Gulersoy, 2022). According to Erkan (2018) HUL recommendation is applicable to all urban areas with different sizes in various contexts.

Components of HULs

HUL as a landscape approach put forth by UNESCO (2011) is geared towards the identification, conservation and management of the historic areas within various urban contexts. It aims to consider the interrelationship of the physical forms, spatial organizations and the connection to the natural features within the urban settings. The values to be included in implementing this approach include the cultural, social and economic values (UNESCO, 2011). Erkan (2018) breaks down the HUL approach into four attributes in terms of: historic that encompass the layers of the new and the old, Urban that encompass the heritage that is both intangible and tangible, the landscape that is the setting for the nature and culture to act within and lastly as approach used for the management through community involvement and partnerships (Erkan, 2018) **Figure 1**. This is supported by Hussein et al. (2020) who breakdown HULs into the natural and cultural dimensions (intangible and tangible attributes). These authors opine that cultural memory in terms of personal and collective memories cannot be separated from the landscapes. The urban landscapes in the HULs becomes the representation and recording media of the residents' attitudes, practices and beliefs. Cultural memories according to these authors encompasses the emotions, cultures, thoughts, senses and the memories.

Hoeven (2020) investigated HULs through three main values: experiential, social and historical value. This author defines values as the reasons why people protect heritage attributes of a given HUL. Experiential value is in terms of personal significance that is expressed through opinions, memories and emotions. The social value is in terms of collective attachment that carries the meanings and values that are important to a given community. It provides the basis for distinctiveness, belongingness, social interaction and identity. The last value on historical refers to the how the cities have evolved to the places that people know them to be today (Hoeven, 2020). Battis-Schinker et al. (2021) analyzed the attributes of HULs in terms of urban heritage. This included the urban structure, townscape, historic fabric and infrastructure and lastly immaterial attributes. Koyunoglu and Gulersoy (2022) proposed categorization of component groups for HULs are natural, cultural and identity. These authors categorize natural indicators in terms of (biotic and abiotic), cultural indicators in terms of (regulatory systems, built environments, infrastructure, historic environments, green areas and production) and lastly identity indicators in terms of (socio-cultural practices, memory and demography). The most studied component group of the HUL approach was the cultural followed by the identity component and lastly the natural

FIGURE 1
Interpretation of UNESCO (2011) HUL, part 9
Source: Field survey, 2025

component group (Koyunoglu & Gulersoy, 2022).

Hussein et al. (2020) supported by Francini and Rozochkina (2024) state that HULs are composed of layers of histories and memories that are embedded in the physical buildings, memorials and monuments. The physical aspects of the built environment are a store of the personal and cultural memories through the associations within communities. These authors opine that historic cities are an imprint of historical events and are a reflection of their identities while the urban settings consist of the buildings within the landscape that carry the layers of histories and memories (Hussein et al., 2020).

Importance of HULs
According to Erkan (2018) HULs are important for the social wellbeing in the current cities. This is through landscape planning that valorizes the natural components. This author believes that HULs can be used proactively to ensure the heritage components are utilized as key resources that can enhance urban livability to foster and enhance social cohesion and spur economic developments. In fast changing global environments within cities, cultural heritage as a component of HULs can be used to carry the visions and ideas for the futures. HUL approach therefore provides the tools for making urban heritage a resource for urban development (Erkan, 2018). HULs according to UNESCO (2011) are characterized by urban heritages that are both intangible and tangible that are key resources that are used to sustain the livability within the urban contexts. It considers heritage within urban areas as a social, cultural and economic assets needed for the development of cities (UNESCO, 2011).

Hussein et al. (2020) demonstrated the importance of cultural memories in management of HULs. They found out that cultural memory associated with the urban elements such as iconic heritage of buildings created a sense of place and enhanced identity of the urban realms. These authors posit that there is need for planners to consider the importance of cultural memories and their role in creating a sense of place within the HULs in order to achieve a better quality of life (Hussein et al., 2020). Hoeven (2020) state that heritage attributes are valued because of their social relevance, their connection to the biographies of citizens in terms of experiential value and lastly due to their

contribution of citizens understanding of the past within the urban realms. Bandarin (2012) posit that urban heritages represent identities and expressions of historical evolutions and are in recent times an invaluable asset in global tourism that is boasting economic growths in many parts.

HULs as Cultural Landscapes
UNESCO HUL (2011) aims to enhance the qualities of cultural landscapes while acknowledging their dynamic natures. This approach states that HULs are manifestations of cultural heritage that is shaped by several generations, considers urban heritages are cultural assets that need to be protected. It recognizes that HULs are a result of layering in history as a result of cultural and natural values, considers cultural practices and cultural diversity. This approach states that there is need for mapping of cultural characteristics in planning of urban heritages within HULs. All this show that HUL approach considers urban areas as cultural landscapes. The author in this article opines that historic urban areas show dualism in terms of being both historic and cultural. According to Taylor (2018) HUL approach considers urban areas to be in layers over time linking the future to present and the past as in the construct of cultural landscapes. This author posits that UNESCO's "Cultural landscapes" fits into the HUL approach in terms of urban conservation and that HUL approach considers the historic cities as embedded into the cultural settings. This then points to the connection to the cultural landscapes concept that is also put forward by UNESCO. Cities have a history within the cultural settings hence the connections and relationships of the two concepts put forth by UNESCO (Taylor, 2018).

Vileniske et al. (2020) consider HULs to be including cultural heritage as part of the urban landscapes. According to Wang et al. (2024) cities are systems that are dynamic by involving historical periods that are multiple in addition to multiple cultures of the people within them. Samani et al. (2012) posit that cultural landscapes consists of histories in different time periods that are then connected seamlessly. This brings out the fact that urban areas can be considered as both HULs and cultural landscapes. According to Taylor (2023) the word "landscape" is used in the HUL approach because of the connection that is inextricable between the human values, memories and identities and the cultural landscape as a
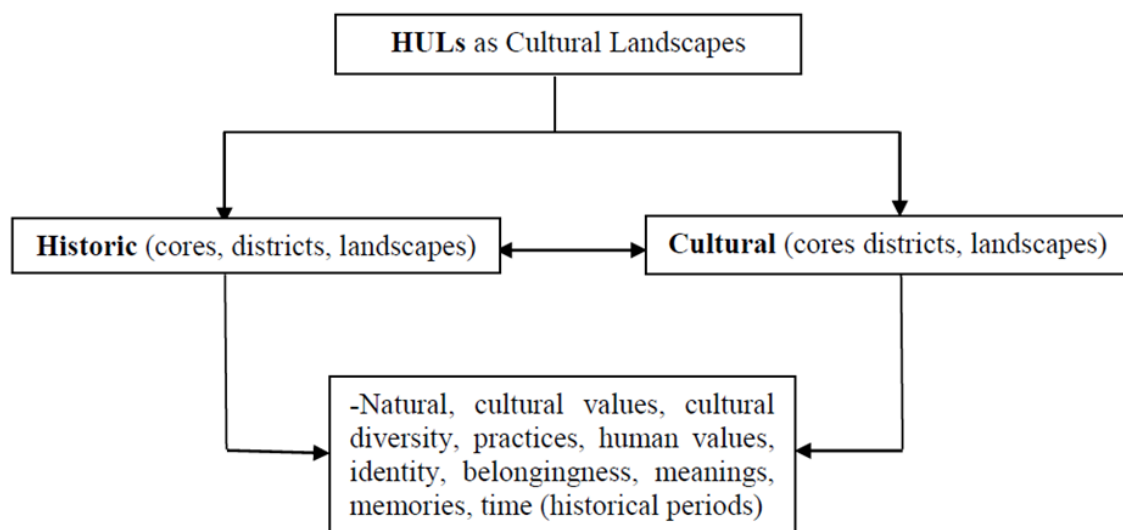
construct. All these act to influence the sense of place for people with the various places or landscapes (K'oyoo, 2025). The link of urban areas through HUL approach to the cultural landscape concept is that we need a sense of identity and belongingness. The need for attachment to the various landscapes and how we then find identity in the landscapes is important from a cultural landscape point of view (Taylor, 2023; Taylor & Lennon, 2011; Scazzosi, 2004). Scazzosi (2004) assessed the landscape to be both a cultural and historical heritage and opines that landscape as cultural heritage is composed of the immaterial and material aspects that consist of huge "archive" of history and memories (Scazzosi, 2004). Studies that have analyzed HULs as cultural landscapes include Koyunoglu and Gulersoy (2022); Hussein et al. (2020). The author in this article configures HULs dual nature through **Figure 2**.

Emerging Areas of Concern for HULs
Urban Threats to Existence of HULs
According to Erkan (2018) supported by Francini and Rozochkina (2024); Wang et al. (2024); El-Bastawissi et al. (2022); Wang and Gu (2020); Samani et al. (2012) urban heritage under HULs can be threatened if left in isolation as previously due to urbanization that is fast increasing. UNESCO (2011) state that pressure from urbanization and globalization that causes changes to the urban density and growth can undermine the urban fabrics in terms of identities

of communities in addition to the sense of place. If unmanaged these can lead to lose of functionality and traditional roles of these areas. HUL approach is fronted to manage and mitigate such impacts. Other challenges according to Francini and Rozochkina (2024) include evolving social dynamics, pressing environmental concerns that all cause tensions between conservation and urban development. Muminovic et al. (2020) state the problems that face HULs as decreased visual, cultural and historical identity, significance and distorted character to the historical cores and centers. The problems include spatial, functional, social, economic, environmental and governance problems that tie all the other problem areas.

Hussein et al. (2020) opine that rapid developments due to demolitions and redevelopments change the nature of the HULs thus affecting their memory storages. This is supported by K'oyoo (2023a); K'oyoo and Breed (2023; 2024) who found out that urban renewal changes within the urban realms affected the residents' memory of the environments that they were accustomed to. Memories according K'oyoo (2023a); K'oyoo and Breed, (2023; 2024) are important in the formation of urban landscape identity as a result of interaction with the physical, socio-economic and meaning aspects within a given landscape. Scazzosi (2004) supports importance of collective memories within the extended landscapes. Francini and Rozochkina (2024) state that not

FIGURE 2
Dual nature of HULs
Source: Field survey, 2025

a single historic city has managed to preserve its original character as they undergo constant changes. These authors opine that cities should accommodate conservation of cultural heritage with urban developments that are ongoing (Francini & Rozochkina, 2024).

According to Taylor (2016) many cities are significantly changing as they seek to compete and innovate within the global arena and economy. Economic developments have accompanied rapid urbanizations thus affecting cities. There is privilege accorded to modernization efforts at the expense of traditional urban settings and its people. There is need to consider the meanings of urban heritages for different communities in everyday urban planning. The values attached to the various urban landscapes are diverse and are not static as they keep changing (Oktay and Bala, 2015). According to UNESCO (2011) rapid and frequent uncontrolled developments are transforming urban areas and their settings. This has the effect of causing fragmentation and deterioration to the valued heritage affecting community values. Part 12 of HUL recommendation recognizes need for the physical and social transformations within the urban contexts to be integrated harmoniously with the existing heritage components (UNESCO, 2011).

Need for Public Participation
HUL recommendations provide for inclusion of public participation through various stakeholders. It promotes civic engagement tools to empower people in decision making processes. Hoeven (2020); Ginzarly et al. (2019) advocate for an online media approach to urban heritage conservation within HULs. They opine that online media can support people centered form of heritage conservation. Ginzarly et al. (2019) posit that professionals in cultural heritage and scholars agree that social media is a good participatory platform that can enable encounters and dialogue across many issues amongst many stakeholders. According Erkan (2018) when culture and people are placed at the center of the heritage approaches then policies can be inclusive and as such be an asset in achieving urban development that is sustainable. Variety of stakeholders could enrich the identification of values beyond the historic core and extend to the broader contexts within the urban area and thus include many layers (Erkan, 2018).

According to UNESCO (2011) there is need for including of several actors that are involved in urban development processes. This should be at different levels from the local, national to regional and international levels. The private and public alike should be involved in these processes. The various actors should be able to address the policies, governance and management concerns that relate to the HULs. Part 13 requires that the traditions and perceptions of the local communities to be respected both at various levels of HUL implementations (UNESCO, 2011). Hoeven (2019) and Ginzarly et al. (2019) opine that little attention has been paid to social media as a potential way to foster and enhance conservation of HULs and strengthen the UNESCO recommendation on the same. Hoeven (2019) states that social media has forms that can be accessed to enhance the knowledge of the public in HULs. This is supported by UNESCO (2011) Part V: 27 that recommends the promotion of information and communication technology to understand the complex layers within the urban areas.

Need for Local Laws, Policies to Protect, Conserve and Manage HULs
According to UNESCO (2011) there is need to include the protection of natural and cultural heritage of HULs through conservation, strategies of management and planning into development processes at the local levels. There is need to employ the landscape approach to maintain identity in HUL management, conservation and strategies for planning (UNESCO, 2011). Muminovic et al. (2020) posit that integrated urban planning that is strategic is important in the development, regeneration and preservation of HULs as protected valuable urban realms. These authors decry the presence of models in the planning and management of HULs in Serbian context that they feel are not efficient, not effective and not realistic about the requirements for HUL developments. They do not contribute to the preservation of HULs in an adequate way to protect the existing architectural heritage.

Makhzoumi et al. (2024) point out no legal set up in Lebanon that recognizes the landscape as "heritage in a comprehensive manner. These authors state that the existing laws on landscapes have missed to attribute values to landscapes. The laws only mention natural and environmental values with

cultural aspects of the landscapes missing. There is no recognition for "cultural landscape heritage". El-Bastawissi et al. (2022) posit that municipalities should formulate policies in planning that guide the conservation and management of urban heritage through the HUL approach. This will help in planning of the distinctiveness of various cities. According to Veldpaus and Roders (2013) it is upon the various countries in the world at various levels to implement the HUL approach through adoption and dissemination. Zeayter and Mansour (2017) supported by El-Bastawissi et al. (2022) posit that the HUL approach through various frameworks cannot be implemented without legislative and financial supports.

RESEARCH METHODS

The study employed content research design in investigating the HULs concept. The review covered relevant secondary data from peer reviewed journal articles. Relevant sources picked for this study were from open access platforms like Google and Google Scholar that are free. The search for inclusion was by using the main term "Historic Urban Landscapes". Other sources that yielded the search terms through allied concepts of "Historic Landscapes", "Historic urban areas" and "Historic cities" were also included. Each source was analyzed according to its contents for inclusion of the HUL concept within the title, abstract and key words before finally including them into the study. The review included articles, book chapters and books in English language from all regions. The review on discourse on HULs entails 2011 after its introduction to 2025 time of this study.

RESULTS

Analytical Critic of Theory

Case Study of UNESCO HUL Designated Site
UNESCO designated Beirut in Lebanon as a HUL post-disaster case study site. HUL approach was applied in this case study after massive port blast that catastrophically destroyed the city's heritage. The approach was used to identify the heritage according to Makhzoumi et al. (2024); El-Bastawissi et al. (2022). Makhzoumi et al. (2024) state that this study area provided an opportunity for recognition of various components of urban landscapes and layers. Their contributions to

memories and socio-cultural identity of Beirut City was also considered. Challenges in this case study was in framing the scale of the modern built and landscape heritage in addition to the formal spatial, urban, landscape, socio-cultural and environmental values. These authors opine that that this case study can serve as a pilot for application of HUL approach in contexts that share similar characteristics. This case study employed transdisciplinary approach involving the local people at various levels from the community to the institutions. It served as a basis for generating strategies to be used in conservation that is responding to the local culture and the people (Makhzoumi et al. 2024). According to El-Bastawissi et al. (2022) HUL approach offers a good opportunity for conserving the remaining urban heritage in Beirut during the reconstruction of the port and other surrounding areas that were damaged.

Selected Studies on HULs
According to Rey-Perez and Pereira (2020) systematic review on HULs showed that most researches on HULs were case studies followed by research papers and lastly literature reviews. Different methods have been used to investigate HUL due to the different scales of urban heritage. **Table 1** summarizes selected HUL studies and methods of investigation.

Challenges to HUL Approach Implementation
According to Erkan (2018) HUL approach action plan for cities with different needs includes setting priorities for actions, establishing partnerships, mapping consensus on heritage values with the main aim of integrating it into the wider city development. This author however points out the problem of urban planning that is not well coordinated in many countries. Wang and Gu (2020) point out that there is a challenge in linking strategic line of HUL to the processes that produce spatial information so that there is effective transfer of knowledge between this framework and the policies in place. According to Koyunoglu and Gulersoy (2022) there is inadequacy in the use of the HUL approach. The implementation of the approach was either incomplete or not understood in most of the cases. Very few studies of the HUL approach implemented it to its entirety (Koyunoglu & Gulersoy, 2022). Taylor (2023) points out that a challenge to HUL approach implementation could be because of differences

TABLE 1
HUL studies

Author (s)	HUL study	Methods of investigation
Nursanty et al. (2023)	-Shaping identity and cultural preservation in HULs	-Survey
		-Interviews
		-Document analysis
		-Observations
Battis-Schinker et al. (2021)	-Indicators of quality of life in HULs	-Participatory workshops
		-Focus Group Discussions
		-Expert consultations
Wang and Gu (2020)	-Urban changes within HUL (UNESCO site)	Morphological approach
		-Field observations
		-Literature review
		-Cartographic reviews
Hussein et al. (2020)	-Cultural memories, sense of place in HULs	-Qualitative
		-On site semi-structured interviews (12no).
Aysegul (2027)	-Case study assessment of landscape character using HUL approach-Turkey	-Survey
		-Remote sensing

Source: Field survey, 2025

in regulatory systems in various countries within different levels of national, provincial, state and local. This author suspects that there could be a problem in accepting it as a UNESCO imposition of universal values to the disregard of the various local and national contexts. The challenge stated by Makhzoumi et al. (2024) based on a UNESCO case study is in contextualizing of the HUL approach to address the distinct local, geographic and cultural conditions and framing it to fit a given scale and scope.

Santander and Olaun (2018) decry the all-encompassing nature of HULs approach. These authors point out that HUL encompasses everything without really providing effective tools that are capable to manage the large numbers of the items it is covering. They posit that HUL is not capable to answer several issues: First being the limits of change that is acceptable that is capable to reconcile the management of old towns and the modern areas of the historical cities. Second is how the new heritage values are capable of assuming contemporary expressions. This is especially between the immaterial dimension and the natural elements. Thirdly they question the all-embracing nature of the HUL approach and how

it can be adopted to the legal frameworks that are in various sectors in order to achieve governance that is effective within the various environments in urban areas. All these three issues they feel complicate the effective application of objectives within HUL frameworks (Santander & Olaun 2018).

CONCLUSION

HUL scales/typologies include city level, historic city centres, historic districts, historic ports, historic streetscapes and historic gardens. The scale go beyond ordinary monuments, precincts to include up to metropolis. HUL components include both the physical aspects (natural and built) and the urban socio-cultural aspects. HULs are important heritages that act as repositories of memories, histories contributing to identities besides tangible and intangible benefits that contribute to residents' quality of life. They have been studied in several aspects that relate to conservation, landscape perception evaluations, perceived restoration values, place attachments, cultural memory, regeneration, history and cultural heritage, reconstruction post disasters among others. To date UNESCO has designated

several sites as HULs in various countries across continents. Most researches on HULs are in European and Asian contexts with very few in Africa. HUL approach shows that urban areas are both historic and cultural thereby exhibiting a dualism. Findings reveal that major components constituting HULs are natural, built and socio-cultural. HULs are under threat from rapid urbanizations and inevitable changes due to fast transforming urban developments. HULs are also considered as cultural landscapes. Many scholars agree that the HUL approach can be used to achieve sustainable urban development if integrated into the various existing strategies for urban planning and conservation in the changing urban environments. The study concludes that there is need for more empirical studies in order to popularize HUL approach. It's important to analyze on a case by case basis the various components that constitute various HUL typologies before adoption of its proposed frameworks.

The main limitation of this study is the use and reliance on Google scholar and Google sources for the review without other sources such as Scopus and Web of Science despite using peer reviewed articles. Other studies that are Bibliometric in nature could be undertaken to improve reviews on HUL studies for clearer illumination of its discourse since UNESCO 2011. Despite the limitation, the review provides a nuanced understanding that is important to both scholars and heritage professionals in planning and managing the HULs as both cultural and historic landscapes.

RECOMMENDATIONS

There is need for more empirical studies on HULs within Africa to popularize its landscape based approach to conservation and to add to the body of knowledge. The following general recommendations have been suggested based on the review:

(i) Carry out elaborate identification, assessment and inventorying of HULs existing in various jurisdictions for heritage planning and management.

(ii) Need to develop and implement recommendations in policies (concepts and approaches) for the protection, conservation and management of the HULs in various jurisdictions at different levels of government from national, regional and local/municipal.

(iii) To implement local laws that deal with the safeguarding of the HULs in all areas to avoid threats local urbanizations besides homogenization and globalization.

(iv) Need for public participation in all aspects that involve HULs in terms of identification, assessments, conservation and management to encourage and foster preservation and conservation stewardship.

(v) Foster public-private-people partnership to enhance and foster sustainable development of HULs at the local, national and regional landscape level from landscape and multi-disciplinary perspectives.

(vi) Create awareness through education, trainings, social media enlightenment about the urban landscapes that constitute HULs amongst the general public to ensure preservation and conservation awareness.

(vii) There is need for various countries at various levels to support the UNESCO HUL approach in sustainable development of historic cores within urban areas through adoption, funding during implementations.

(viii) Need for various countries to borrow from the best practices of UNESCO designated HUL sites that have adopted and implemented the approach towards sustainable development.

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