

Water Landscapes and History

Paisagem, Água e História

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ABSTRACT

Heritage is composed by cultural assets, tangible and intangible, natural and environmental, that are the builders of Human History which must be preserved and protected for future generations. Protecting heritage is preserving the cultural memory of a community, the identity of a place, of a landscape. Protecting the asset for the visitor means to know it, communicate and interpret this heritage with the accuracy it deserves. In this work we intend to bring water's importance to a wider audience, as part of the landscape, intending to join its history to raise awareness for the value of an essential good to men and to the territories.

KEYWORDS

Tourism. Heritage. Landscapes. Water. History.

RESUMO

O património cultural é composto por bens tangíveis e intangíveis, naturais e ambientais, que são os construtores da História Humana, condição em que devem ser preservados e protegidos para as futuras gerações. Proteger o património é preservar a memória cultural de uma comunidade, a identidade de um lugar, de uma paisagem. Proteger o bem para o visitante significa conhecer, comunicar e interpretar essa herança com a precisão que merece. Neste trabalho, pretendemos discutir a importância da água para um público mais amplo, como parte da paisagem, com a intenção de associar sua história à conscientização quanto ao seu valor como bem essencial para os indivíduos e para os territórios.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE

Turismo. Patrimônio. Paisagem. Água. História.

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INTRODUCTION

Considering history and heritage as 'resources', there are well known issues that stand between these areas acting by different perspectives. From the heritage side, its concern increases due to the fact that its usage as an economic matter will wear it out. So they impose its conservation and protection, opposing the constant degradation to which it is subject due to an increase in visitations. From its side, tourism focuses attention on the asset. It is a critical dialogue but where balance is easy to maintain due to the mutual advantages and the surpassing difficulties when managed by thoughtful and articulate methodologies (Prats & Santana, 2011). González (2009) characterizes this relationship between tourism and heritage as a management of two realities of very different areas of their nature and the purposes they intend to reach. He believes that in order to overcome the difference in values, it is required a reflection that puts the various participants in agreement. Reinforcing the risk identified by Ashworth & Larkham, (2013) "between those producing heritage and those consuming it, either of which groups may or may not be conscious of their role in this relationship" (p.5). This important connection is fundamental to the relation between history, heritage and visitation.

It is essential that history and heritage are deeply familiarized to economic values and its sustainable projects and development. It should know thoughts and reflections of both disciplines, and unite researchers in areas that complement each other in order to create shared knowledge to explain theories and think them to more practical issues and to bring development to the area and society. As it was recognized by Shackel, Smith & Campbell (2001), heritage has an "interdisciplinary nature" (p. 291) to be explored. It is not a new concept that historic and heritage assets in all its natural, material or immaterial aspects are assets of economic value of manifest importance and relevance in the territories and societies. When talking about tourist visitation and economic development of historical resources and heritage is it possible to reinforce the question made by Mckercher and Du Cross (2002, p. 11) "collaborators or competitors"? (p. 11), certainly both, but on a positive way of exploration.

Their expressions, material, immaterial are also personal expressions of men and their experience of nature, men who lived in a particular space and time and have developed or created with the intention to explore the senses of all observers. "Rubens did not paint the sketches to provide future generations of art historians, restorers, and artists with lessons on materials and technique. An artist's intent is intrinsically bound up with aesthetic considerations and how we are meant to look at and appreciate works of art" (Price & Talley, 1996, p.2). So the world as it is presented to us today is the result of accumulated experiences that characterize landscapes, influence Man's behavior and construct cultures and identities. It is a fact that heritage is the result of a social construction over time, a social legacy for future generations, a symbolic representation of an identity of a place. Heritage and the use of the past is an expression of "place-identity" (Ashworth & Larkham, 2013, p. 13). These experiences are perpetuated by tangible and intangible legacies left over time and are the landscape in which we live today.

WATER LANDSCAPES AND VISITATION EXPERIENCES: CONTRIBUTION OF HISTORICAL AND MEDIEVAL STUDIES

Landscape is understood to be “an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors” (Déjeant-Pons, 2001, p. 24). As stated by Garcia (1998) the concern of human groups is not based on the preservation of cultural heritage, but the human phenomenon of the preservation of its ways of life. Man keeps objects and rituals for its social value of his generation or of past generations. Dormaels (2011) states that “el patrimonio no es el objeto, el artefacto, sino la significación simbólica que le da un grupo social⁴” (p. 8). This phenomenon is associated with the risk of manipulation and misleading of interpretation. In this sense a clear notion of ‘asset value’ is a warning to the uses and the most significant experiences of this heritage. The question is how to maintain a reliable and real speech, in face of economic demands based on the perspective of quantity. And it questions how to keep a real speech when the heritage is in constant construction and deconstruction of meaning and purpose in accordance with the changing of times. This can be a risk if not well led and well managed with a presence of a set of interdisciplinary experts.

What actions should be taken so that cultural destinations are transformed into places that remain in memory? What practices should be taken for heritage visitation that will seduce the next generation tourist that is active, eager to learn and experience, driven by private interests and by many expectations (Howie, 2003), but that fully protects the use of the assets and their values? We intend to find answers on the interdisciplinary work and with historian collaboration on this process. We believe the heritage process of interpretation, communication and valorization of the territory gives real experiences to the visitors. For that, we need the effort of historians and archeologist, architects and others humanist researchers to discover the landscape, its history, values and preservation of values.

It starts with the interpretation and comprehension as fundamental to understand the heritage value, economic and social, a contemporary debate (Dümcke & Gnedovsky, 2013) for the visitor experience, considering that the heritage must be correctly read as an accumulated process over generations, manifestations of the passage of time for a group in a given location and also need economic support to preserve their original characteristics. These factors guarantee the site’s identity and personality that mark today the diversity of its tangible and intangible components. This passage of time in spaces allows the construction of *historical landscapes*. Historical landscape means all contributions of the past societies on the landscape that need to be identified and communicated (Lambrick, Hind & Wain, 2013). In this sense, landscape cannot be understood only as a place of residence of cultural heritage, but also like history and passage of man as a cultural, social and emotional element. Or “the landscape cannot be perceived outside the human experience and senses” (McClellan, 2007, p. 27).

The passage of Man on a certain location, at a certain time produces changes on the construction of a space and defines a culture that today, given the knowledge of this passage, is possible to understand. The past can be read everywhere, the past is omnipresent (Lowenthal,

⁴ Heritage is not the objet, the artifact, but the symbolic significance given by a social group.

1985), it is everywhere in the present and will continue to be in the future. And this way, memories are built with all its evidence of existence of cultures and generational creations. Memory is based in history; heritage accumulates and landscapes are transformed so that today they create unique experiences to those who visit but it should be added that there must be care and protection of the elements that differentiate them. Over time, in this active design, factors such as historical and heritage conservation must be thought and reflected under the global conventions on the subject. For something to be preserved as a cultural heritage it has to be known, or, reinforcing the idea, well-known. The protection of the historical veracity and balance are crucial in the process of quality visitation (Unesco, 2013, p. 14)

Preservation emerges as a key issue in the work developed around the historic landscape. Preserving and maintaining history, knowing and disseminating are closely linked to social and cultural experiences produced in a given physical area. As stated by Seguin (2001, p.34), “L’approche historique des paysages permet de penser le territoire, non pas comme une feuille blanche, une ‘tabula rasa’, où nous pourrions prendre n’importe quelle décision, comme au premier matin du monde, mais d’inscrire notre politique dans une continuité qui, s’appuyant sur la mémoire de nos sociétés, permet de bâtir un meilleur futur⁵” (p.34). Assuming that historical landscape results from the passage of man and time and that their reading is very important for economic development, including tourism, we believe that history and their methodologies are critical to the construction of communication contents and interpretation for a real visitation experience. As is explored by Shackel, Smith and Campbell (2001), the heritage labour is also defined for the consequences of the political debate and influence on society, thought and action.

The historical survey of reading and interpretation of documentary and iconographic sources [historical documents, photographs, maps] are paramount in this context because it allows us to understand the times, attitudes and know the landscapes in its temporal construction: a fundamental analysis to learn messages and functions of heritage legacy that we see today, in a particular landscape. These are the contents to communicate for those seeking more knowledge and new experiences. Historians, using the methodology of analysis of documentary and iconographic sources have produced content that have to be explored in other areas of knowledge to communicate the landscapes evolutionary processes. Together with architects, urban planners, geographers and territory managers, historians, archaeologists, conservators and restorers have decisive roles as participants in a process of knowledge, signaling and maintenance of the urban landscape. They are key partners in the process of protecting the historic landscape and guaranteeing a quality visit. Meeting and communicating is protecting but is also having experiences of leisure, visitation and well-being.

The archival research centered on the documentary analysis of original written documents and others already studied, but now analyzed by the context of textual criticism around the theme of water and the projected methodological exploration. The written document is comprehensive as a living testimony of history, a living manifestation of the memory, and its methodological

⁵ The historical approach of the landscape allows to see the territory, not as a blank page, a “flat board”, where we could take no matter what decision, like the first morning of the world, but for our policy in a continuity which, relying on the memory of our groups, allows to build a better future.

exploration carried out for certain purposes allows us to understand the past and the traces left from the passage of man. It is through the document, through a process of paleographic reading, that we understand the forms and the historical contents resulting from the experience of communities in a certain place. The documents studied by analysis of documents or literature review are extracted all organized and interpreted as data according to specific objectives proposed by the research. In this sense, the documents were analyzed from the perspective of historical knowledge of water, its landscapes [cultural and natural], taking into account the safeguard, today and in the future, of this fragile resource. Therefore, the archives were worked in order to find documents that would give us more knowledge about the water and its elements, as well as the relationships of these elements with the various human activities in the material and immaterial domains.

It will become important to highlight the significance of textual criticism as the analysis of the intrinsic form of texts to return to its original shape and reveal historical information on the subject in study. Other published documents were reviewed and analyzed under the same methodology of document analysis and internal document criticism. All studies were within the domains of qualitative analysis.

In addition to the archival research, the literature review and the reflection on the main themes of theoretical and conceptual debate around water and its heritage were used as methodology. Were reviewed conventional documents as: books, book chapter, scientific articles of reference, in order to start the knowledge from published orientations and conceptualizations about water, its uses and material, immaterial and natural landscapes. Note that we speak before about document, written document, but the historical document is a source much profound than textual document only. According to the area of expertise, methodologies as iconographic and iconological analysis of historical image and archaeological vestiges were used, defined as meaning and testimonies of a cultural history (Mahiques, 2008). According to Panofsky (1986), iconography and iconology assumes the crossing with literary and textual sources in order to understand all the messages with clarity and objectivity. The same is true for other historical documents.

Archaeological Management and Urban Archaeology are recognized archaeological research disciplines that have provided important and abundant historical information on the medieval water heritage (Francovich & Manacorda, 2002). Archaeological methodologies - under multiple and varied forms - are serving to introduce material and patrimonial coordinates - to the written references to water in the Middle Ages, giving a visible (visible) image to a wide range of hydraulic and hydraulic manifestations. Excavations carried out in the urban subsoil have shed light on many artisanal facilities for which water was the raw material and driving force. We are referring, in particular, to pottery, tanneries, wineries or mills, basic activities for medieval society and whose knowledge has been greatly expanded from archaeological information (Villanueva, 2005, Villanueva and Martín Cea, 2012; Villanueva et al., 2011).

It is also important to note that the archaeological methodologies of historical research have also had an important role in the documentation, analysis and study of a certain public work of water character. For example, the application of methodologies proper to the discipline of Archaeology of Architecture have served to catalogue and study some bridges that were built throughout the Middle Ages in Douro basin. Undoubtedly, the interaction between the two

registers [the information coming from the written document with the archaeological / patrimonial], is basic for the achievement of a full and ambitious historical investigation.

Water is one of the subjects of contemporary studies and concerns. As a fragile resource of the world it has to be explored with care, sustainability, and of course with all its accumulated history and with all components of the passage of Man. In the 21st century, water is one of the most problematic features and deserves special attention. It is a topic addressed at an international level that involves not only the society but also governments and takes a large dimension in the policies of countries. UNESCO reiterates the importance and value of water in the social, cultural and economic issues. Water is a vital element of the natural and cultural heritage on which to develop cultures, societies approach and build elements that mark the times and record the memories. It is also recognized the value of water planning in the territory, the issues of settlement and definition of economic and leisure activities. Today's problems can be analyzed and frameworked so that when we look back we can find the source of problems, to understand how the changes occurred and how conflicts were solved. Current dilemmas are not new, they are issues of the present, of the past and will also be the issues of the future.

We can say water is an excellent resource for tourism experiences and, as fragile as it is, it is also related with human well-being. In that way we have to explore with a sense of knowledge and preservation. We need to exercise 'rethinking the meaning of place' (Castello, 2010). We need to rethink the meaning of water and it's diversity of places as historic landscapes to be preserved. So, the cultural, social, economic, political and ecological value of water sites, need to be explored today as an important heritage to preserve for the future.

With this main goal, a group of medieval researchers of Valladolid University and Simancas Institute got together and began to develop, since 1996, an approach to this subject that is intended to contribute to the knowledge around it and disseminate solutions of the past that could be a positive experience for the present and the future. This first group of medieval specialists grew with researchers of other areas as architecture, anthropology, literature, medicine, among others, and nowadays we can find several international researchers. All projects concern historical heritage, and are a source of information list to communicate and disseminate in Water materiality and immateriality. The studies that extend from 1996 concluded with comprehensive surveys of water landscape, particularly in the Iberian Peninsula in the Middle Ages since 2015.

The Research Group "Agua, espacio y sociedad en la Edad Media" [Water, space and society in the Middle Ages], of the University of Valladolid is composed by medievalists, belonging to the universities of Valladolid, Cantabria and Seville. It was renowned as Recognized Research Group [GIR] by the Governing Council of the University of Valladolid [UVA] on May 31, 2005. Since then the group has been developing an intense research and outreach activities whose objectives are the study of the dynamic elements of late medieval urban society, including water and sociability. Both are axis around which the urban dynamic structure in all matters related to social, political, economic and cultural. This intense research activity has also served to obtain the recognition of the status of the Research Group of Excellence of Castilla and Leon [GIE] [GR260] by the Directorate General of Universities and Research of the Junta de Castilla y León 6 February 2009.



The five projects approved between 1996-2015, were directed by Maria Isabel del Val Valdivieso [Valladolid University] and founded by DGICYT since 1996 - 1999 [PS95-0069]; Ministry of Science and Technology Policy. DG Research, since 2000 - 2003 [BHA2000-0940]; General Research Projects Branch. DG Research of the Ministry of Education and Science, since 2004-2007 [HUM2004-00333]; Secretariat of State for Universities, Ministry of Science and Innovation, since 2009-2011 [HAR2008-01441]; Ministerio de Economía y Competitividad. Dirección general de Investigación Científica y Técnica. Subdirección general de Proyectos de investigación, since 2013-2015 [HAR2012-32264]. The selection of these projects is made from a public call published in the *Boletín Oficial del Estado*, which can attend as many groups and researchers they want in the five major areas of knowledge of which is History and Art. The projects submitted are evaluated by two expert researchers in the field that qualify and punctuate. Later a National Commission with the participation of specialists from all areas of knowledge involved reevaluates these projects. Finally, once they are analyzed, the best are accepted for funding. The assessment of projects is made taking into account the submitted proposal, its adjustment to the current state of knowledge in the field, the quality and capacity of the research team, the Head Investigator in particular and the rest of the team members, the research topic taking into account its relevance, the objectives pursued and the means and methodology used to achieve the objectives.

The approval of these projects held by public notice, evaluated by experts in the field who approved based on research excellence criteria. Among the evaluation criteria stands out: (1) The adequacy of the research team with accurate and expertise to carry out the proposed research; (2) Feasibility and planning of the project; (3) The relevance of the theme of water that gathered exceptional conditions for the society and the scientific community for its originality and as a fundamental safeguard action; (4) The objectives and their implementation as well as the opportunity to deepen the knowledge about the role of water in history and historical landscape; (5) Proposed results that would allow an advance in knowledge of the historical landscape, cultural and mentalities related to water both as in matters of the daily life as in the economics.

Mainly research methodologies are used: survey and analysis of documentary historical sources, archival, iconographic and archaeological sources, narratives, published or unreleased. The project researchers worked with other large collections of documents published such as some municipal files, court documentation, and collections of ecclesiastical documents, especially monastic, chronicles of kings and great nobles. Literary and philosophic works have also been documented from which information has also been obtained. The researchers worked in major national, regional, local, public and private files, such as The General Archive of Simancas, the National History of Spain, the archive of the Nobility, Torre do Tombo, municipal archives, cathedrals, dioceses and nobility members where they obtained unpublished and unknown documents.

The iconography has also served on occasion to provide information through books of hours, medieval manuscripts and other works. Archaeological sites and pieces in museums, where also analyzed, particularly for everything related to the works of aqueducts and water drainage. The contents were analyzed according with methods, specific for each said area. To complement these contents analysis, it was made prospections *in loco* as well as queries to archives in library

collections and unpublished documents. International research centers were contacted in order to perform more extensive literature search and join in related research lines. Successive conferences, seminars, publications, periodicals, scientific meetings, developed under the project, allowed the debate of ideas, comparative data analysis and opened the understanding of issues and phenomena more widely. The joint, interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research allowed the combination of different categories of sources and different methodological analysis. These studies allowed also to get a very wide database of bibliographic references, literary, historical sources (various types), and images that allow to relate what was written with the visual. It can be use by any scientific area interested in the thematic of Water in Middle Ages.

In order to facilitate reading and access to the project publications, a keyword list will be created to direct the query to the different subjects of analysis:

Project 1: Water in the Castilian cities during the Middle Ages [PS95-0069] - Publications: El agua en las ciudades castellanas durante la Edad Media: Fuentes para su estudio. (Coord.) Maria Isabel del Val Valdivieso. Valladolid: Editorial Universidad de Valladolid, 1998, ISBN 84-7762-846-7. Keywords: Ecclesiastical documents, symbols of water, health and disease, salubrity, water and medical care, bathing, baptism and religious ceremonies, hygiene, municipal historical sources, river currents minutes, water networks, floods, rivers, bridges and architecture of water, water preservation, pollution, scarcity and consumption, storage and distribution, plumbing, pipes, water crafts, water and city waste water, discharged water on city streets, cleaning the city streets, dams, bridges and water constructions, livestock, boats, wells, washerwomen and washing places, stomps, water containers, iconographic sources, water image, symbolism, sacred image, irrigation water, supplies, personal hygiene, bathing, hydraulic mills, mills, oral historical sources, ethnography and history, literary sources and epic, water and settlements, water and communication, economic use of water, ideological, mental and religious significance, public baths and private baths, Christian and Islamic Middle Ages, rivers, water wells, fountains, water works, women's water works, water supply, water provision, water distribution, water control, Islamic water systems. Publications: Santo Tomás Pérez, M. (2002). Los baños públicos en Valladolid. Agua, higiene y salud en el Valladolid medieval, Valladolid: Ayuntamiento de Valladolid. ISBN 84-95389-39-8. Keywords: Public baths, water hygiene and health, baths of Santa Clara of Tordesillas, Valladolid baths, dimensions of the baths, the Bath Streets, infrastructure and architecture of the baths, exploration and property, baths regulations and use, presence of water in towns and Sewage disposal.

Project 2: Water as a resource in the cities of medieval Castile [BHA2000-0940] - Publications: Usos sociales del agua en las ciudades hispánicas de la Edad Media. (Coord.) Maria Isabel del Val Valdivieso. Valladolid: Editorial Universidad de Valladolid, 2002. ISBN 84-8448-160-3; Del Val Valdivieso, M. I. (2003). Agua y poder en la Castilla bajomedieval. Valladolid: Junta de Castilla y León. ISBN 84-9718-187-5. Keywords: Urban space, social organization, presence of rivers, urban plan due to rivers and streams, the role of rivers, urban and houses supply, municipal regulations, water consumption and pollution, hydraulic devices, bridges, water architecture in cities, water pipes, fishing, economic benefits of water, water professions, cooperation and conflicts around water, social conflicts around water, water mills, tanneries, evacuation of water, fountains, ponds, wells , aqueducts, safety and hygiene, access to water, public and private water, Christian and Islamic society, water control, public works, distribution network,

water taxation, popular and water religiosity, toponymy related to water, public baths and private baths, Christian and Islamic Middle Ages, water exploration.

Project 3: Water as a promoter for urban society in Medieval Castile [HUM2004-00333] - Publicacions: Vivir del agua en las ciudades medievales. (Coord.) Maria Isabel del Val Valdivieso. Valladolid: Editorial Universidad de Valladolid, 2006. ISBN 84-8448-373-8. Keywords: Crafts that use water supply, drink and hygiene, irrigation, industrial use, energy supply, water as private and public property, mills, watermills, water policies, sea and ocean, fresh water, salt water, conflicts around water, hydropower, river fishing, species of river fishes in the Middle Ages, fishermen, water properties, fishing rights, agriculture, livestock, towns and villages, water as an element of urban control, water as an instrument for the exercise of power, water sociability, physical location of urban areas related to water; social relevance and relationship around water, emotional expressions around water, sustainable management of this resource.

Project 4: Consensus and conflicts over water in the Medieval Castile [HAR2008-01441] - Publications: Musulmanes y cristianos frente al agua en las ciudades medievales. (Coords.) Maria Isabel Del Val Valdivieso; Olatz Villanueva Zubizarreta. Santander: Editorial Universidad de Cantabria y Universidad de Castilla –La Mancha, 2008, ISBN 978-84-8102-487-6 y 978-84-8427-642-5. Villanueva Zubizarreta, O; Palomino Lázaro, Á. L.; Santamaría Gonzalez, J. (2011). *El trabajo del cuero en la Castilla medieval: las curtidurías de Zamora*. Valladolid: Ediciones Castilla. Keywords: Water and heritage, Itero bridge (Burgos), tanneries in Zamora, bridges, iron bridge, industrial uses, Islamic cities, water in cities, irrigation and urban gardens, water Islamic culture, water mills, hydraulic energy, hydraulic landscape, customs, water management, conflicts around water, water resources, rivers as borders, water evacuation, technical and uses, mills, supply. Publications: Agua y sociedad en la Edad Media hispana. (Coords.) Maria Isabel del Val Valdivieso; J. Hernando Bonachía. Granada: Editorial Universidad de Granada, 2012. ISBN 978-84-338-5463. Keywords: Symbolism, the sacredness of water, supply, fountains, wells, conflicts around water, rivers, floods, islands, dangers, delimitation of space, law and water rights, hydraulic works, Roman Hispania, aqueducts, dams and dikes, irrigation, mills, water architecture, water monuments, clepsydras, water clocks, water essays, river Tagus, industrial uses of water, fishing, rainwater gathering, water storage, water use, water evacuation, underground water, estuaries and inlets, inland ports. Publications: Caminhos da Água: Paisagens e usos na longa duração. (Coords) Manuela Martins, Isabel Vaz de Freitas; Maria Isabel Del Val Valdivieso. Braga: CITCEM, 2012, ISBN 978-989-97558-8-8. Keywords: Management and use of water, water resources, pipelines, wells, fountains, aqueducts, mills, blacksmiths, Roman Braga (Portugal), waste water, baths and thermalism, Fonte do Idolo (Fountain of the Idol) in Braga (Portugal), roman gardens and atriums, wetlands, water historic landscapes, Limagne des Marais (France), drainage of wetlands, Roman period, the Iron period, Middle Ages, Parma (Italy), hydraulic mining, mining, water culture, water immateriality, water technology, hydraulic energy, public water, Castile Medieval economic activities, hygiene and health, taxation, water harvesting in fortress, urban water supply, Cister monasteries, Douro river, Douro River boats (Barcos Rabelos), Douro River piers.

Project 5: The water in the imaginary of the medieval Castile [HAR2012-32264] - Publications: Monasterios y recursos hídricos en la Edad Media. (Coord.) Maria Isabel Del Val Valdivieso. Madrid: Editorial Almadayna, colección Laya, 2013. ISBN 978-84-87090-68-4. Keywords:



Monasteries, river fishing, legal problems, fishing rights, monastic economy around water, symbolism, religion, fountains and waterways, economy around water, agriculture, crafts, water resources mapping, water and archeology, architecture of water, water monastic architecture, supply of monasteries, conduits, wells, gardens, treated water, water in Islamic cities, dirty water, municipal rules in around water, Middle Ages. Publications: *La percepción del agua en la Edad Media*. (Coord.) Maria Isabel Del Val Valdivieso. Alicante: Editorial Publicacions de la Universitat d'Alacant, 2015. ISBN 978-84-9717-345-2. Keywords: Water, sociability around the water, rights and control of water, gender inequality, fountains, public water, health, symbolism, imagined landscape, water architecture, sea representations, nautical knowledge, Atlantic Ocean, the water in Paradise, gardens, court life, medicinal water, lexicon around water, Christian and Muslim culture, water in cities, practices and rituals around water, popular imagination, imagined water, perceptions of water, the royal and noble courts, games around water, Fountain of life, Purification through water, water and religion, water landscape: sea, rivers, lakes, fountains, humidity's, immaterial culture, imaginary, religious daily life, dramatic issues, intangible value, religious rites, Christians, Jewish and Muslims, allegory.

In this line of work, we could highlight the several works made the last years regarding the different systems used for supplies and provisioning of water in medieval Christian towns and note the systems used in Islamic cities (Navarro & Jiménez, 2010). Interesting are also the concern of the evacuation systems of the wastewater as an indispensable tool for daily life and, at the same time, confirms the greatness skill that engineering works assume and its huge importance for the local authorities. It's a question of social health. The salubrity and pollution of the water floods and rivers, it is a real concern for the local and central powers as the extension of diseases, caused by this reason, have a great expansion on the Medieval and Modern world (Del Val Valdivieso, 1998).

The architecture of the storage and distribution is very important on a world that largely depends on water and the profitable implication in health and economic activities. Thus, the improvement, particularly on cities where the confluence of the urbanism and economic activities coexisted on the same areas, increases the dissemination of diseases (Torremocha Silva, 2008). Aqueducts, canals, fountains, cisterns and wells are regulated and cared by the main local government (Kucher, 2005). These significant elements of the aesthetics of towns are impressive artistic origins that remain nowadays as heritage. Or in a religious context, but not less social power, and with main focus in hydraulic engineering, driving the water appeals for the interest of monasteries and confirm the obvious importance to their survival and the aesthetics configuration of the spatial conception and rituals (Andrews, 2011).

As a social landscape, water takes relief for social projection as legacy of relationships between individuals and emotional expressions that occur over time on a certain space. We believe that is necessary more studies and investigation around the water, their exploration, conflicts and resolutions were pointed out (Del Val Valdivieso, 2002). This kind of questions still exists on our days and it's a question of domain of water as an element of power and not in the perspective of an element of preservation and safeguard. Referring the social environment, the struggle for control of water resources, endless to be well-known issue. For the same reason, as a social landscape, must be highlighted the public baths, clear contexts of these daily social

relationships. The baths were studied as a social behavior but also as a question of health and religion (Santo Tomás Pérez, 2002).

As an ecological landscape, water, essential item for life, requires permanently administrative attention against adverse degradations, such pollution, as protection of its quality and the quality of its spaces (Squatriti, 2013). This is a crucial concern, about hygiene and clean water, regarding the municipal action of nowadays (Martín Cea, 2002). This ecological aspect allows us, today, to promote awareness, education and inform about the sustainable management of this resource. Today, these spaces have a gathered history by the passage of man and the changes caused by his action. Surrounded by the natural elements of the landscape connected with water, we can identify; sea, rivers, lakes, fountains, humidity's. But the resilient marks on landscape happen on the coast and inland waterways, molded by economic activities, producing objects and constructions that nearby are born and developed. In reality, rivers and sea dominate the landscapes of water (Real, 2004). It's important to think the importance of rivers on our heritage and tried to reflect more serious about the territory development, planning and management.

Among the elements of the cultural landscape of water are urban architectures. It became an issue of crucial importance the attention to this matter in order to think the landscape with aesthetic concerns which affect the planning and structure of cities. In the rural landscape, water is also essential for the economic features ruled by exploration activities connected to it: fishing, farming, mills, industrial and craft activities and health and welfare [hot springs, leisure], among others (Martín Gutiérrez, 2004). The wind and water mills, marks of the landscape even today, pointed out the image and identity of territories and their protection justifies special attention to their functions and uses of the past, either by the technical attributes of hydraulic engineering either by the involvement in economic and social questions. In rural and urban landscape, the use of techniques related to water help us to understand the traditions, the local economy, and the uses and usual activities.

The water as a natural element produces effects on the mind, the imagination of societies and their behaviors, manifesting itself in religion, in feasts and rituals either popular, either courtesan or the nobility. Similarly, it expresses itself in daily life, in behavior and practices relating to the table, kitchen, hygiene and health [of soul and body]. The water, in these contexts, has a double facet; beneficial and dangerous. The sea and the river appears as foreground landscapes in man's imagination. Focusing attention on the imaginary, in the immaterial culture, the water takes us into the world of culture and historical mentalities. The chronicles and the literature of the time, as well as the iconographic sources and artistic representations, enable us to meet these societies and their experiences around water (Del Val Valdivieso, 2015). The fear, panic reactions related to water, have been addressed in a recent study of Lebrero Cocho (2015).

Other emotions related to love and the pleasures are an important line in the question of the immateriality of the water, studied by Freitas (2015). In these study explores the perception of society on the natural phenomena, either shortage or abundance of water. To these natural occurrences, dependent on climatic changes, are associated to disasters, especially around harvests or around geographic accidents. Faces by the disaster, the religious sentiments acquire a strong expression which manifests itself in moments of appeal that affects the religious daily



life of the people. In its immaterial aspect, the use of water takes important role in everyday life. As intangible heritage, water builds a historic cultural landscape where the festivities and the religious rites take place, allowing us to understand how the past and present attraction exerted on people. It was this appeal which stimulated the visit of places like ritual spaces and emotional, spiritual or religious. We can mention the 'healing water', the 'blessed water', plus healing properties of the body and soul. In this sense, we could highlight the study (Del Val Valdivieso, 2015). Entering the deeper imagination it was still possible to identify that water carries to the allegory of literature and the images, allowing the construction of narratives and metaphors, expressions of fear, trust, virtues or other emotions.

Given this situation we can know and understand the mentality of a medieval society and the effects of the passage of time until the present day. It is this cultural creation that some of the phenomena remained unchanged, while others have acquired nuances of the passage of other men, other minds and other crops. Today we are part of this construction/creation, time consuming, daily accumulation of experiences and events that mark the culture of people and places. This creation of the *spirit of a place* means protecting cultural values as the world's construction of a security process, a process in which we all partake emotionally, practically or inventively. Today, with all these publications and research works around water we may say we discovered water as a subject of research to be communicated as a precious resource of Human Life. It is a cultural and natural element with material and immaterial components of research. It is a real presence on territories and a real necessity in others where its scarcity is painful for inhabitants. It is a component of economic, political, social, religious and cultural activities.

The diversity of its presence assures people and places their own identity. We agree with (Terkenli, 2001, p. 7) that states that "as confirmed by multiple studies, heritage, if properly managed, can be instrumental in enhancing social inclusion, developing intercultural dialogue, shaping identity of a territory, improving quality of the environment, providing social cohesion and – on the economic side – stimulating tourism development, creating jobs and enhancing investment climate". This project, as said in its cited goals, also intended to reveal history to be properly managed as a territory discourse to develop social and intercultural dialogue and stimulated the territories visitation.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it may be noted that after these studies, we can better understand water uses in the daily life of Man in History and understand rituals, feasts, monuments, archeological remains, ceremonies of social relevance and individual forms. This interdisciplinary multi team [Archaeology, History, Health Sciences, Architecture and Hydraulic Engineering] enriched the results and has strengthened the work of history and heritage, opened doors to the communication of a vital element in the life of man and allowed us to know better its importance for the territories. It brought new elements that allowed us to understand the great familiarity lines in urban and rural centers and the role that water had in political and economic social relations. In short, basis for new developments and to society in general, new knowledge and understanding of water and its cultural and heritage elements were transferred to the scientific community.



We agree with the conclusion made by Stephenson (2006): “Landscape is a place and a concept in which insiders and disciplines meet, collide and, increasingly, interact. To improve interaction, and to assist those who care for and manage landscapes, it is important to find ways of achieving a more integrated and comprehensive approach to understanding landscape values” (p.129). Thus we started from the history and its methodologies as helpers to the understanding of social interests around a natural resource essential to life in the belief that communication of interpretative and scientific results assist decision making, creates awareness in society to problems of a continuous time and, simultaneously, allows the enlargement of the knowledge to the world we live in.

In these contexts, the historical dimensions of water were studied from an environmental, immaterial, material and emotional point of view, allowing the territory a worldwide cultural and social reading. Squatriti (2010) develop some important studies on this field and highlight the attention to this fragile resource and its transformation with the climate change on these last few years. The analysis of the medieval or modern historic documents with references about the water, could be impressive about it decrease if compared with the actual landscape. It may also be said that water contexts are numerous and diverse, and that water is present in the life of medieval society that is well aware of the dangers and benefits that itself contains. The perception of this fact must help seek solutions that are not equal for all communities. These solutions are dependent on technological development, culture, the dominant social organization and beliefs. As a result, groups in a given space are acquiring different features that characterize the identity of sites and they acquire their own ways of knowing the water, creating different attitudes towards the phenomena and cultural products, material and immaterial, relating thereto. Thus, the water manifests itself in this tangible relationship with the intangible and will create different traits that mark the territories and societies that inhabit it.

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