

Heritage, Memory and the Politics of Identity

New Perspectives on the Cultural Landscape

Niamh Moore and Yvonne Whelan

The study of the cultural landscape has gained momentum in recent years, revealing new insights to geographers, archaeologists, sociologists and architects. The cultural landscape is often viewed as an emblematic site and thus a key player in the heritage process. This book explores the overlapping and often complex relationships between identity, memory, heritage and the cultural landscape. It provides an overview of new approaches in the study of these relationships, combined with evidence from Ireland, England, Scotland and the United States. These case studies demonstrate the significance of the past in the contemporary construction of identity narratives and draw attention to the powerful role of monuments and parades as sites of cultural heritage. The focus then shifts to the way in which heritage has become politicized for various ends, demonstrating the changing perception of particular heritage sites and buildings, and the role that this has played in constructing and reconstructing particular identities.

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Preface; Part I Landscape, Memory and Identity: Landscape and memory: historiography, theory, methodology, Tadhg O'Keeffe; Memory, identity and the memorialization of conflict in the Scottish highlands, Iain Robertson and Tim Hall; The battle for Annie Moore: sculpting an Irish American identity at Ellis Island National Monument, Joanne Maddern; Constructing famine memory: the role of monuments, John Crowley; 'Fostered to trouble the next generation': contesting the ownership of the Martyrs commemoration ritual in Manchester 1888-1921, Mervyn Busteed. Part II The Politics of Heritage and the Cultural Landscape: Changing conceptions of heritage and landscape, Paul Claval; Valorizing urban heritage? Redevelopment in a changing city, Naimh M. Moore; Moving buildings and changing history, Stephen F. Mills; Military heritage, identity and development: a case study of Elvas, Portugal, João Luís Jesus Fernandes and Paulo Carvalho; Landscapes in the living memory: new year festivities at Angkor, Cambodia, Tim Winter; Index.

Reviews

'What is really important about this fascinating book is that it is written and edited by the generation that has inherited "the cultural turn" first explored over twenty years ago. Focusing on the role of landscape in cultivating narratives of national and personal identities, they provide stimulating insights into identity, memory, heritage and the cultural landscape.'

Anngret Simms, University College Dublin, Republic of Ireland

'By teasing out...multi-layered tensions the authors reveal the richness and subtlety of the memorial-making process; they also expose the complexity of such concepts as heritage, identity, memory and culture...the book...would be of as much interest to a lay reader as to a cultural historian, landscape designer or professional geographer.' Green Places

About the Author/Editor

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ISBN: 0 7546 4008 6

Publication Date: 01/2007

Extracts from this title are available to view:

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ISBN-13 978-0-7546-4008-0