

THE LANDSCAPES OF DEPOPULATION. AN APPROACH AND ANALYSIS OF THE RURAL ENVIRONMENT THROUGH PERCEPTION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN CASTILLA-LA MANCHA

Natalia Mayordomo Giner^a, Adolfo Vigil de Insausti^a, Susana Iñarra Abad^a

^aUniversitat Politècnica de València, Valencia, Spain

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ABSTRACT

Recently, rural depopulation has grown steadily. Therefore, rural areas have survived through tourism and capitalizing on their landscapes and natural resources. Often, these situations lead to poor planning and superficial analysis of these territories, becoming not-so-good interventions that want universal solutions in a very fragile and specific landscape. The *urbanalization* and the massive and quick consumption of rural landscapes bring convivial problems between the local population and tourists.

This research is based on the perception of the landscape via our affective relationship and identity with the environment. Using environmental psychology and public participation tools, we explore different ways to look at rural areas. Specifically, we study the case of Ayna (Castilla-La Mancha, Spain), pursuing better relationships between tourism and rural landscape and heritage memories meanings. We present a participative methodology in two phases: the first one (interviews and walks) serves as support and analysis to develop the second phase, consisting of a survey divided into three sections. First, data from the sample (48 people) is collected, characterizing attachment degree and identity. Then, we use the rating between antagonistic adjective pairs to

quantify the collative properties over 21 visual stimuli of different landscape types within Ayna. Finally, respondents select the most beautiful landscape and why. These tools allow us to recognize zones with specific characteristics based on the way that three potential groups of use perceive rural territories: locals, frequent population, and tourists.

This work aims to establish a fresh eye questioning our organizational perception schemes and ways to experience, intervene, and relate to rural landscapes. The results provide different views on specific places regarding the potential future group of people living there. These views should be considered in future interventions, plans, and projects over these territories if we want future generations with rural villages, landscapes, and heritage to be reflected.

KEYWORDS

Rural depopulation; perception; landscape; collative; public participation

1. INTRODUCTION

It can be said that the Industrial Revolution led to an exodus of inhabitants from rural

areas globally, especially in Europe. In Spain, this demographic movement meant that cities increased exponentially in size in less than 20 years. Meanwhile, in the countryside, large tracts of land that were never very populated ended up depopulating, entering into "what geographers call the *cycle of rural decline*" (Molino Molina 2016, 19). This empty, rural Spain is, at heart, full of landscape.

After the signing of the European Landscape Convention in 2000, the role of landscape in the sustainable development of societies and the formation of cultures was recognized, as well as its status as cultural and natural heritage, which contributes to the consolidation of European identity.

In Spain (in the early years of the 21st century), this has led to a boom in demand for agricultural and natural landscapes, where the architecture and uses of the traditional countryside, festivities, and a way of life far from the prevailing speed of the city are preserved. Thanks to subsidy programs such as LEADER or FEADER, rural tourism and the transformations in the territory necessary for its accessibility are promoted (Cebrián and García 2016).

At the same time, methodologies, regulations, and instruments are generated, such as landscape studies, which include cultural and social components within the landscape in the analysis of the territory. These studies must be accompanied by public participation processes that aim to obtain "valuable information about the landscape, which otherwise might not be taken into account" (Muñoz 2012, p. 154), as well as the participation of citizens in the future of the landscapes that concern them.

Although this tool is helpful for knowledge of the intangible values of the landscape, in practice, it identifies fragile points from a landscape perspective (Berque 2013). It puts them at the service of the massification of tourists and encourages the renunciation of modernity

while at the same time stripping it of its identity. The consumption of productive and natural landscapes, the transfer of land for the production of renewable energy, the use of valuable landscape resources for the creation of bio-healthy tourism, as well as the marketing and dissemination of traditions and customs associated with an idealized rural life, are the means that many populations have used to resist their extinction, in exchange for capitalizing on their environment and their relationship with it. Although these strategies attract the attention of the urban citizen during the summer and holiday season, they don't represent a real driving force for the evolution of the village and tend to turn the environment into a museum, distancing the local population from their relationship with their landscape and their identity.

It is necessary to preserve the relational intimacy between the inhabitants and their environment while at the same time ensuring that these interventions, such as tourist ones (why not), involve an experience of the landscape that goes beyond consumption. Public participation must serve as a basis for protecting these intangible elements, which new research fields such as environmental psychology and landscape architecture can value. This proposal would allow technicians and administrations to plan the environment more resiliently, with renewed hopes of progress in the future. In the words of Idelfonso Cerdá: "*Rurizad lo urbano, urbanizad lo rural*" ("Rurify the urban, urbanize the rural") (Cerdá 1968, 3).

To address these questions, we will delve into the theories of perception that explain landscapes' phenomenological, affective, and aesthetic dimensions. Based on them, a series of experiments have been carried out focused on introducing phenomenological characteristics for the assessment of the landscape in public participation, supported by recent studies, in continuous expansion and revision.

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Numerous articles have been written in recent years on this problem, which arises from the current relationship between human beings and their landscapes, by the geographer Joan Nogué (2009) and the art historian Federico López Silvestre (2008), both of whom have focused on the aesthetics of Landscape. The experience of landscape from the perception of space and the subjectivity of the individual and society has been explored by humanistic geography since 1970. One of its main references is the North American geographer of Chinese origin, Yi-Fu Tuan. His work *Topophilia* (Tuan 1990) studies the sensorial, symbolic, affective, and emotional relationships we have with places and the surrounding landscapes (Nogué 2014). Topics such as emotional geographies (Nogué 2009) and the social character of the landscape, places, memory, theoretical approaches to the concept of landscape (López 2008) make up the bulk of the texts of these authors.

Not all discourses on landscape have transcended society in the same way. Some authors have hardly been the object of study or review by modern landscape thought, despite pointing to a sensitivity towards the landscape, somewhat higher and calling for the involvement of the human being, as an animal, in the environment as well as its involvement in the formation of the landscape. We are discussing Simmel's (2013) and Berque's (2013) texts. Specifically, Berque's work is of direct relevance to this paper. His conception of *landscaping thought*, distinct from landscape thinking, gives rise to a way of intervening in the landscape that overcomes trivialization (Muñoz 2008) and the media and visual consumption of the territory, apprehending it and attending to our media relationship with it.

While all this theoretical volume was being expanded, scientific knowledge was being developed to protect the natural environment from the convulsive urbanization that built the Spain we know today and to understand our

relationship with the environment we inhabit from a scientific vision. The emergence of environmental psychology as a science has led to contributions to the feelings generated by and towards the landscape, such as identity, attachment, or appropriation of space (Pol 2002; Pol et al. 2004; Galindo and Corraliza 2012). Meanwhile, the processes that lead to the preference of one landscape over another are studied, such as Berlyne's collative properties (Berlyne 1960) or the informational or restorative capacity models of Kaplan & Kaplan (1989). However, in Western, theory and design have been developed separately, so environmental psychology doesn't contribute to landscape design.

Nowadays, there is a growing number of authors who understand landscape and the experience of landscape from that medial relationship of which Berque was a precursor. From writings that appeal to multisensoriality (Carlson 2000; Valdés 2017) to manifestos in favor of beauty as an engine of sustainability (Meyer 2008) lay a more solid foundation on the importance of this issue. Moreover, there are numerous doctoral theses (González 2011; González 2018) dedicated to the investigation and opening of new research fields about quantifying these phenomenologies to project an increasingly sustained landscape in our deep sense of it and our relationship with it.

We adhere as closely as possible to the tools used in the work of Galindo and Corraliza (2012) and (González 2011; González 2018).

Although they haven't been used explicitly, it seems interesting, to assist future researchers, to mention works, guides, and articles that have helped to develop the perspective and methodology of these participatory experiences (Pol et al. 2004; Martínez et al. 2010; Nogué et al. 2010; Sánchez et al. 2012).

3. RURAL DEPOPULATION: AYNA

Ayna is in the heart of the *Mancomunidad de Municipios de la Sierra del Segura* in the

province of Albacete (Castilla-La Mancha, Spain) (fig. 1). Specifically, it is within the geological formation of the Sierra de Alcaraz, dominated by the *Río Mundo* (Mundo River), which also flows through Ayna, giving rise to the amazingly rugged and ravine-like landscape that has given it the nickname of *La Suiza Manchega* (The Manchega Switzerland). This municipality has an area of 146.81 km² and 11 population centers. The largest urban center is Ayna, which can be reached via CM-3203, a road that connects with the provincial capital (Albacete).

Regarding the physical environment, Ayna within the systems associated with alpine mountains. On the other hand, the *Atlas of Castilla-La Mancha's landscapes* categorizes it into three levels: association of types, landscape types, and landscape units. At the association level, the population center of Ayna is included in the category of Gorges and Defiles. The *Río Mundo* (Mundo River) elaborates on those geological formations, from its source in Riópar to the Talave reservoir, 35 km downstream. Along its course, it is giving rise to slopes of some 200 m high, populated by pines (mostly), gall oaks, maples, and the occasional yew, allowing cultivation in terraces on the bottom of the valley (Del Pozo et al., 2011). Regarding landscape types, Ayna belongs to *Sierras*

Béticas and *Hoces y Gargantas* (Gorges), subdivided into four landscape units on the Atlas, locating the village of Ayna in *Hoz del Río Mundo Alto*.

There is no specific analysis of the Ayna's landscape in greater detail. However, to be able to refer to areas with common characteristics and the possible resources to be found in them, we will make a tiny approximation of it. On a broader scale, we can speak of 4 main types of landscape: the urban, comprised of the population center; the river and its cultivated alluvial plains; the dry land crops on terraces; and the mountain slopes. Within these four types, we distinguished seven landscape units. (fig. 2).

Within these units, there are numerous cultural and environmental resources, such as the 8-peaked mountain, known as *Los Picarzos* or the *Toba* waterfall (*Rincón de la Toba*), *los Cantalares* (Old town) or the Arab irrigation system, and numerous visual resources due to its unique orography.

It is worth highlighting the great variety of landscapes that follow one another in overwhelming harmony. The transitions between urban and rural land and the contrast between different characters within the same landscape types generate subtle, coherent, and unique ecotones.

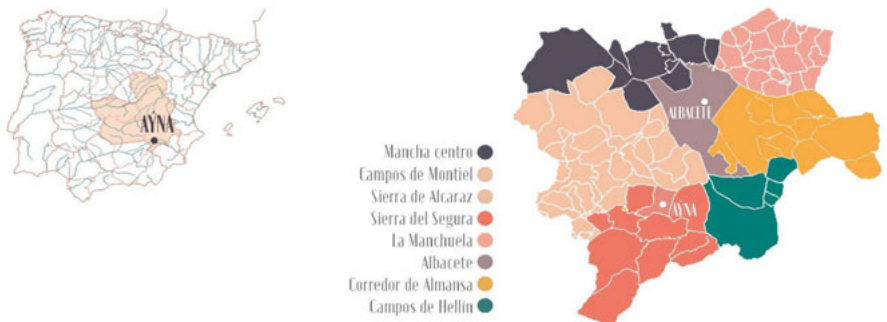


Figure 1. Ayna location within Spain (left). The shires of the province of Albacete and the location of Ayna in it (right). Source: Elaborated by the authors



Figure 2. Ayna's landscape units and some of its most important cultural and environmental resources. Source: Elaborated with QGIS software by the authors

Its oldest anthropic vestige dates to the Paleolithic period. However, it was probably the Arabs who began to populate the land when they entered the peninsula in 711 (Turismo Ayna 2022). This is evident in the layout of the town center and the agricultural system, made up of irrigation channels and irrigated orchards. From 1213, now part of the council of Alcaraz, the Christians occupied the land, and Ayna obtained the privilege of *villazgo* in 1565, granted by King Felipe II.

Ayna became a center of relative importance in the region's economy between the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th. The work of *esparto*, widely present in the area, has been the primary source of income for the population for many years, along with livestock and some agriculture. The older local people used to go out into the fields to look for *esparto*, with which wove all kinds of objects. This sector and some small flour factories meant an economic boom for some families in the village.

The limited space available to Ayna for growth and the rural exodus to the cities from the 1960s onwards plunged Ayna into a depopulation dynamic that has lasted until now.

Its proximity to the capital and the access to higher education and more qualified jobs have resulted in a displaced population of Ayna.

4. MEASURING PERCEPTION: MATERIAL AND METHODS

We have relied on the landscape evaluation's two main lines or orientations to assist the participatory process, which both study who places the landscape in a specific position in the landscape *continuum* and based on what criteria it does (Galindo and Corraliza 2012).

Since the 1980s, numerous changes have been taking place in the approach to this type of study, the methodological framework of Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) being the most used regarding landscape studies developed in Europe in recent decades. It integrates historical, social, and territorial variables in the study of landscape, where landscape characterization takes on relevance (Díez 2015).

On the other hand, public participation in these types of studies involves the democratization of the landscape, while

generating an emotional bond and appropriation of the places, both individual and collective. This is necessary for the correct transformation and resilience of the environment and transmitting values and feelings towards it that are transferred between generations.

However, few approaches have been made to the population's appreciation of the landscape's collative qualities. One of the main reasons is the number of variables to be considered, and the attempt to establish a sufficiently neutral sample of each collative quality to study independently makes the amount of resources and effort required for their study challenging. Therefore, our proposed methodology consists of two phases to quantify these qualities.

4.1 First phase: Interviews and walks

Semi-structured personal interviews were conducted with the local population to gather information and identify landscapes and emotional geographies that are significant to them. These areas could be significantly impacted by excessive tourism. These interviews were carried out in July and August 2022 with people who live in Ayna, have spent their youth there, or are the first-generation floating population. The age range was 30 to 56 years, obtaining a sample of 5 people. Of these five people, one lives in Ayna, three spent their childhood there, and one belongs to the first-generation floating population group.

The interview lasted a mean of 28 minutes, following the recommendations established by (Garrido et al., 2003) due to its similarity with the objective we are pursuing: to know the opinion and preference of the affective landscapes of the local population to elaborate a walking route to follow.

This interview is open and semi-structured by themes, which don't follow a pre-set sequence but are conditioned by the responses of the interviewed. There is a short introduction indicating the academic purpose of the work, as well as the subject matter to be dealt with,

structured in three large blocks: relationship of identity and attachment to Ayna, preference of landscapes, and relationship with tourist activity. In all of them, in addition to asking about the specific topic in a concrete way (*What is your relationship with Ayna? What is your favorite place in Ayna? What do you think about the increase in tourist activity in Ayna?*), statements were followed to find out above all the reasons for certain opinions, in search of landscapes with more intangible characteristics and, a priori, less perceptible to tourists.

With all this knowledge, we designed a flexible walking route (walk and drift) that contributed to the survey and was to be carried out later. From a technical point of view, but based on information provided by the population, we collected information that can help to identify points and/or elements in which the collative properties of the landscape can make the locals, the floating population, and tourists, perceive the elements of the landscape in a different way. Therefore, we will look at the vegetation and its formation, the presence of water, the filtering of light through plant elements, the tranquility or mystery that emerges from the harmony or contrast of the different landscapes in Ayna, meteorological phenomena, etc.

4.2 Second phase: Survey

This methodology phase has the most significant weight of public participation. The online platform Google Forms has been chosen for data collection due to its accessibility and ability to collect responses through any mobile device. A sample of 48 people responded to it; the duration is approximately 20 minutes and is structured following the pattern Galindo and Corraliza (2012) used. As most of the examples are focused on the urban landscape, there is a slight adaptation when generating the questionnaire to be adapted to the rural characteristics of the study area where we work.



Figure 3. Photographs used in the second section of the survey, from which assessment was requested to quantify the collative dimension of the Ayna's landscape. Source: Photographs by the authors

Dimension	Negative adj.	Very	Quite	Bit	Neutral	Bit	Quite	Very	Positive adj.
Beauty	Ugly Repulsive	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	Pretty Attractive
Pleasantness	Uncomfortable Unpleasant	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	Comfortable Pleasant
Activation	Boring Dead	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	Interesting Alive
Mystery	Common Simple	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	Singular Explorable
Control	Restless Unsafe	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	Quiet Safe
Complexity	Homogeneous Primary	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	Diverse Richly layered
Coherence	Discordant Chaotic	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	Harmonic Ordered

Table 1. Pairs of antagonistic adjectives used for the affective and preference judgement dimensions. Source: Elaborated by authors based on (González 2018, 66).

Thus, the survey will be made up of three distinct parts. The first section consists of collecting general data on the respondents and asking questions to determine the degree of affection for and identity with Aýna. It helps us distinguish between locals (L), the floating population (FP), and tourists (T).

On the other hand, the questions related to people's attachment to and identity with Aýna and its landscapes are taken directly from Pol et al. (2004, p.42, table 2).

The second section directly assesses the collative properties of the landscapes visited during the walking experience. Twenty-one photographs were selected from the urban area, rural territory, and natural territory (fig. 3), from which an assessment was requested between two attributes antagonistic to each other to obtain an aesthetic assessment of the collative dimensions of the landscapes (González 2018).

Two pairs of adjectives (González 2018, González 2011) are chosen for the judgment dimensions of beauty, pleasantness, activation, mystery, control, complexity, and coherence, which can be evaluated in a scalar response (table 1).

Finally, the third section asks respondents to determine the most beautiful place according to their preferences. It

incorporates the word *pretty*, suggest as a fundamental component of the pleasure dimension according to Russell's and Pratt (1980) work. Subsequently, respondents were asked to select the reasons for their answers so that we could obtain information about their preference for landscapes and the elements involved (Galindo and Corraliza 2012).

5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Regarding the people interviewed, four of them agree that they have a deep affection for Aýna, as well as an inevitable regret or guilt at not being able to do more to make the village more inhabited.

Cantazorras (fig. 4), a viewpoint located to the east, stands out as a significant place from where anyone can enjoy views of the entire basin of the river and the sunset behind *Los Picarzos*. At the same time, *los Cantalares* is another of the favorite landscapes despite its ruin in progress (fig. 5). The oldest corrals and dwellings of Aýna are in this area. The arguer reason for this landscape preference is the tranquility and the perceived beauty of these places. Regarding characteristic elements favoring these feelings, the light and the rain stand out.



Figure 4. Panoramic view from Cantazorras viewpoint. Source: Photographs by the authors



Figure 5. From left to right: Río Mundo, los Cantalares, and a sunset over Los Picarzos. Source: Photographs by the authors

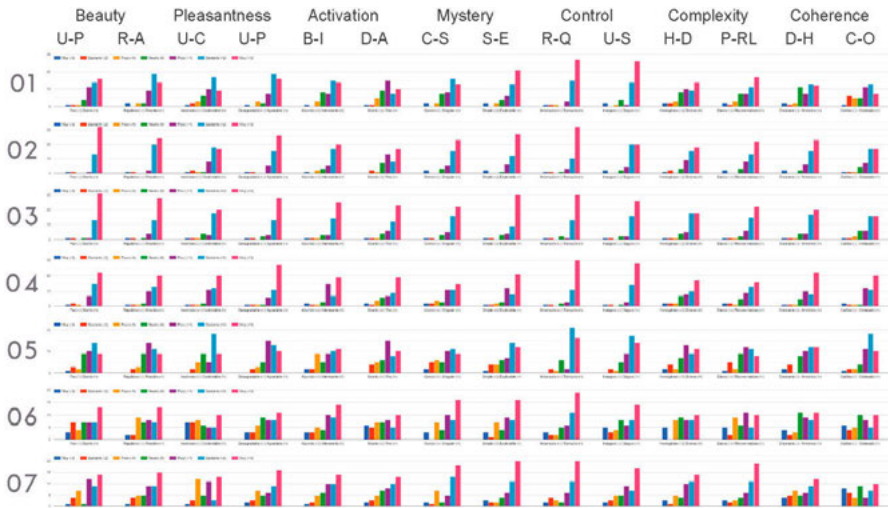


Figure 6. Matrix of answers about the collative properties asked on the survey (only first seven photos). Each row represents the collative properties of each image. From left to right, the responses to every pair of antagonistic adjectives in Table 1. The color bar explains the results from negative "very (-3)" in dark blue to positive "very (+3)" in pink. Source: Elaborated by authors

The answers to the first section of the survey, show that the predominant age range is between 25 and 34 years old (50% of the sample). Most people surveyed are *Manchega* (from Castilla-La Mancha),

whose knowledge of Ayna comes from tourism (41.7%), followed by people born in the village (18.8%). About the time spent in Ayna, occasional tourism every few years predominates (27.1%).

Attachment and identity questions display that it is common to miss Ayna (31.3%) and to feel it as a part of the *self* (33.3%) (Galindo and Corraliza 2012), followed by a lack of attachment (31.3%). This indicates that there are tourists whose experience of its landscape does generate a feeling of attachment and a desire to return. A high percentage of respondents have integrated Ayna into their personal history (45.8%), while they feel identified with Ayna (37.5%), and it is part of their identity (33.3%).

Concerning evaluating the collative properties across 21 photographs (second section of the survey), the information collected on each surveyed image forms a table comprising 21 graphs (fig. 6).

For the sake of simplicity, we don't show the total amount of collected data in this work. Therefore, we analyzed the images (horizontal axis) and collative properties dimensions (vertical axis) separately, clustering the answers according to the evaluation for each proposed group (L, FP, T). We configured those three comparison groups of perception of the collative properties based on the responses about how often people go to Ayna: Locals (L), people who live there or go every weekend, long weekends, or holidays (7 people), Floating population (FP), people who go at least one weekend every three months or less, on long

weekends and holidays (Christmas, Easter, summer) (9 people), and Tourists (T), people who go to Ayna for tourism, regularly or occasionally, as well as people who have only been once or have never visited the village (32 people).

The photographs to be studied will be chosen according to the heterogeneity of responses obtained in the pair of antagonistic adjectives. On the other hand, we will study the dimensions of preference judge that tend to provoke a more variable response in their evaluation.

To transform the data collected into data categorized according to the three proposed study groups, Matlab software is used. First, we run a script (Daniel 2022) that allows us to load the table of survey results directly into the program. We then create our own code to index the data and organize them according to these proposed groups. In this way, we get simple-to-interpret graphs from cross-referencing data that are more complex to handle. Furthermore, in the future, this script could be used for the statistical analysis of the data, which, as it is linked directly to the Google Forms platform, will automatically update the analysis of results after new responses to the survey.

As result, the photographs with the higher variability of perception according to each group (L, FP, and T) are 08, 11, and 18. (fig. 7)



Figure 7. Photographs with the higher variability of perception according to each group, used for the evaluation of the collative properties. Source: Photographs by the authors

Image 08 corresponds to *los Cantalares*, the area of old corrals and abandoned dwellings. The L-group mainly perceives this landscape in a positive way, as was the case in the interviews. T-group, conversely, has a generalized opinion contrary to the L-group.

The most significant deviation in the pairs of adjectives is found on dead-alive (53.13%), ugly-pretty, uncomfortable-comfortable, and chaotic-orderly, with 50% of the evaluations answered in the negative semantic values. They are followed by the pairs unpleasant-pleasant, common-singular, and unsafe-safe (43.75%). The results are exciting about the data for FP-group since most of the pairs mentioned have negative evaluations (33%) below those of the T-group but above those of the L-group, except for the ugly-pretty evaluation (23%), which is closer to L-group. There is, however, a negative evaluation of the homogeneous-diverse pair (44%). At the same time, tourists appreciate it more as a place between little and very homogeneous, a position closer to the local population. In T-group, the dimensions of beauty, activation, and coherence may be derived from respect for others from the lack of relationship with the memory of the village, which could explain the lack of appreciation of beauty and coherence that comes from knowing the history behind the ruins.

Photograph 11 shows one of the passages close to the main square but nocturnal. The perception of this landscape among the L-group is positive, while it is primarily negative among tourists. Except for a few anecdotal votes, the FP-group also perceives the landscape positively.

It is also observed that the highest concentration of negative responses occurs in the attributes dead-alive and unsafe-safe, which shows that the lack of attachment and the nocturnal condition possibly make the perception of this landscape different.

Photograph 18 corresponds to an abandoned house with a corral and a farmyard on one of the paths near the urban center. In

this case, L-group perceives this landscape positively, as does FP-group. T-group, on the other hand, experiences a higher polarity of opinions than in photograph 11 and in more dimensions of the landscape. A third of the tourists perceive the place as unsafe, and a slightly higher percentage consider it dead.

Concerning the pairs of adjectives used to evaluate the dimensions of the collative properties of the environments, the distribution of negative values within the uncomfortable-comfortable pair is more present in the evaluation of the landscapes by the T-group, in contrast to the rest of the groups. The perception of comfort in landscapes by locals may be due to the inhabitants' habit of living in a certain way with their environment. The assessment of discomfort value as a negative aspect is also present in FP-group, although in lower scores and landscapes than the tourists. The landscapes in which the slopes of the streets of Ayna and the traditional dry-stone material appear are the most uncomfortable landscapes for groups FP and T.

The pair boring-interesting also receives negative evaluations in the FP and T groups, but in fewer landscapes and with more favorable evaluations than in the previous pair. Both groups coincide, indicating images 05, 06, and 08 as the most boring. In all three photos, a path appears intentionally to corroborate with data that this pair is complemented by the simple-exploration pair, related to the level of arousal (Berlyne 1960). The data corroborate that these landscapes have high ratings in the adjective explorable.

This exploration of the environment, already integrated into the local group's being, may explain why this group doesn't perceive these places as boring and the possibility of resorting to reflexive fantasy (Rowles 1983) when perceiving these spaces as lived.

Finally, the deviation in the primary-Richly layered pair is higher in the T-group, although closely followed by the FP-group.

These data are surprising, as one would expect that, experiencing the landscape as a novelty, the T-group would score the landscapes towards the positive aspects of the complexity dimension. Although this variation repeats in landscapes 05, 06, and 08, it is worth highlighting landscape 05, where the diversity of landscapes from an objective point of view is evident, and yet one-third of the tourists perceive it homogeneously.

If we consider the results on attachment and identity described above, where the general tendency of the T-group isn't to feel any kind of identity with the landscapes of Ayna, we can see a lack of a deep sense of these landscapes, despite the importance of Ayna in the personal history of the people surveyed.

Those facts explain why *Los Picarzos* (13), the most representative and identifying natural element of Ayna, despite not being mentioned in the interviews, is the landscape perceived as the most beautiful by locals and floating people. However, the river (21) responds to a more global and innate human preference for water landscapes (Vigil 2012). The lack of identity and attachment of T-group could explain this preference compared to other landscapes, as well as the low score, compared to the other two groups of *Los Picarzos'* landscape (13).

6. CONCLUSIONS

It can be concluded that rural landscapes related to their landscaping history and their relationship with the environment (way of life and working the land) are highly valued by the local and floating population as opposed to tourists. On the other hand, the preference for natural landscapes but of a different character (mountain-river) between groups shows that, when planning projects on a territorial and urban scale, it is possible to separate itineraries aimed at the enjoyment of the perceptions of each group.

This would avoid, for example, the museumization of areas of high sentimental value with a view to tourism that doesn't integrate this value in its person, in favor of carrying out actions that preserve their inappetence for this group, but satisfy the needs of the local group. This helps people not to be uncomfortable where they live, avoiding local people rejecting their own places or roots because of touristification.

This type of landscape interventions could be carried out with the help of the data collected in the third section of the survey, in which the elements that argue the decision for landscape preference are selected.

Regarding the three most voted photographs, we conclude that the elements arguing for the preference decision by tourists show the current consumption of landscapes as an object of consumption. In the case of *Los Picarzos* (mountain that can be observed from a distance), the reasons lack elements that have to do with dimensions that require some exploration or time to be perceived in their entirety, such as the cleanliness, materials or conservation of this landscape, which are present in the assessment of locals and floating population. However, these are among those chosen as arguments in the remaining landscapes, requiring a closer approach to the territory to access them. The use of these elements, to a greater or lesser extent, could help preserve certain landscapes or intangible, but real and felt, for one or another group.

The translation of a landscape project methodology according to the results of this type of analysis is the part that offers more open paths. A theoretical and practical production agreed upon by the scientific community about how humans live or consume their spaces is the first step to carrying on more sustainable and resilient looks and ways to be.

The future work on the investigation line that has on purpose a new way to relate with the spaces between landscape projects could

be another way to attract the population to this rural village, settling the edge of knowledge of that investigation in those areas.

It's necessary to develop this kind of holistic methodologies in landscape analysis. Society needs a new look that questions our perceptions and makes us rethink whether this relationship with our rural environments is respectful and landscaping and whether we are truly imbued with the deeper meaning of our landscapes. This depends on whether future generations will have villages and countryside nature to visit.

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