



Assessing the Contribution of Adaptive Reuse of Heritage Buildings to the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage: EL Quseir Fort as a Case Study

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ARTICLE INFO	Abstract
<p>Keywords:</p> <p>Adaptive reuse; Quseir Fort; intangible cultural heritage; Heritage safeguarding</p> <p>(IJTHS), O6U</p> <p>Vol. 4, No. 1, January, 2023, pp. 212 – 229</p> <p>Received: 26/1/2023 Accepted: 23/2/2023 Published: 28/2/2023</p>	<p>The safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) has received less attention than the conservation and restoration of tangible heritage. One approach that focuses on the safeguarding of material heritage is adaptive reuse which is a process of repurposing a building or site for a new use while retaining its historic character. By the approval of the UNESCO 2003 Convention, the safeguarding of ICH has begun to receive more attention.</p> <p>Through a case study of El-Quseir Fort, this article aims to identify the criteria that must be taken into consideration when assessing the contribution of adaptively reused heritage buildings to the safeguarding of ICH. These criteria serve as a benchmark for evaluating the extent to which the adaptively reused El-Quseir Fort has managed to safeguard the ICH of El-Quseir city.</p> <p>To provide a comprehensive analysis of adaptive reuse of heritage buildings, this article draws on several existing studies in addition to conducting four semi-structured interviews with Egyptian experts in adaptive reuse and cultural heritage management.</p> <p>The article's findings identified a number of standards that can be used as a benchmark to assess the contribution of adaptively reused heritage buildings to the conservation and safeguarding of ICH, the study also reveals that El-Quseir Fort that went through an adaptive reuse project before the ratification of UNESCO 2003 Convention played a crucial role in safeguarding both the Fort and the intangible cultural heritage of El-Quseir city, However, the study also reveals that the adaptively reused Fort could have played an even more positive role if an effective operating plan had been put in place.</p>

Introduction

EL-Quseir city is located on the Red Sea. approximately 205 Kilometers south of Hurghada, 103 Kilometers north of Marsa Alam, and 204 Kilometers from the Nile Valley making it the closest city to the Nile Valley. El-Quseir has a deep-rooted history, it was constructed on the ruins of one of the most important Egyptian ports, known as Quseir el-Qadim or Old Quseir, which was located just 9 kilometers from the current city. This port was a major hub for commercial trade during the reign of the Pharaohs and Romans. Researchers such as Rashed and ElAttar (2004), Salama (1997), Al-jawhari (2021), and Abouaiana, A. & Ravagnan, C. (2020) have explored El-Quseir's deep-rooted history and its significance as a cultural heritage site.

EL-Quseir lost its importance for almost seven centuries before regaining its significance during the Mamluk period, when trade with India and south Asia resumed; it was also considered one of the most important pilgrimage ports. The old city was destroyed by the Portuguese fleet during their war against the Mamluks in the 1540s. The Ottomans then constructed the current city (Rashed, A.Y. & ElAttar, M.E. 2004; Abouaiana, A. & Ravagnan C. 2020; ARCE, n.d.).

Intangible Heritage

The Convention for the Safeguarding of ICH was ratified on October 17, 2003. The UNESCO has defined ICH as "the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills, as well as the instruments, objects, artifacts, and cultural spaces associated therewith, that communities, groups, and in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their Cultural Heritage". (UNESCO, 2003)

The convention urged all countries to take all necessary measures for the safeguarding of ICH, including identifying, documenting, researching, preserving, protecting, promoting, enhancing, transmitting, and revitalizing all aspects of ICH. (UNESCO, 2003)

El-Quseir Fort

El-Quseir Fort was built during the Ottoman era by Sultan Selim II at the request of the Ottoman governor of Egypt at the time "Sinan Pasha" who sent a letter to Sultan Selim II proposing the establishment of a fortified structure to protect the trade and pilgrim's route and the city's residents from the attacks of Arabian tribes and Portuguese who were a major trading force at the time. (Al-jawhari, T. 2021; Rashed, A.Y. & ElAttar, M.E. 2004)

During the French occupation, the Fort played a major role in the resistance movement and was a key site for the transfer of weapons from Hejaz to Upper Egypt. But eventually, the French army managed to take over El-Quseir. In 1799, and after realizing its strategic advantage, the French use it in their war against with the British who attacked the Fort with bombs in 1801, which resulted in the French withdrawal from Egypt and the abandonment of the fort. However, it was later put to use by Muhammad Ali Pasha and his successor Ibrahim Pasha as a center for their military campaigns against the Wahhabis in Saudi Arabia. The Fort remained in use by the Egyptian army

and coast guard until 1960. (Al-jawhari, 2021; Rashed & ElAttar, 2004; Abouaiana, A. & Ravagnan, C. 2020; ARCE, n.d.)

El-Quseir Fort gradually lost its significance and fell into a state of disrepair, to the extent that there were discussions of demolishing it to make way for a housing project (Rashed, A.Y. & ElAttar, M.E., 2004). However, the Supreme Council of Antiquities and the American Research Center in Egypt recognized the importance of preserving this historical site and so they decided to carry out conservation and adapted reuse project for the Fort between 1997 and 1999, with funding provided by the United States Agency for International Development. (ARCE, n.d.)

The project went through a number of important stages; the first stage involved documenting the Fort through the use of local knowledge and archaeological work in the site. The second stage focused on conserving the building. Finally, in the third stage, the Fort was adapted for reuse by transforming it into a visitor center with walkways, providing a new opportunity for people to experience the Fort and its rich history. (Abouaiana, A. & Ravagnan, C., 2020)

The project's primary goal was to conserve the Fort and transform it into a visitor's center that would showcase the unique character of the people who lived in the Eastern Desert and Red Sea region with a particular focus on the city and the Fort of El-Quseir. (Abouaiana, A. & Ravagnan, C. 2020)

The nature of the place and its isolation made the people who lived there have a very distinctive character and way of life, this can explain the selection of “people” as the main theme of the visitor center, as it is planned to showcase the life of individuals and populations that have dwelt, occupied and passed through the area. (Mallinson Architects, 1996)

According to Mallinson Architects (1996), the project had a unique objective and didn't aim to create a traditional museum like the ones found in Luxor, Cairo, and Hurgada, since the location and the Fort possessed distinctive features and potential that required a different approach.

Visitor Center Themes:

The visitor center document six main themes that are closely connected to El-Quseir city and the people who lived there. These themes are: (Mallinson Architects, 1996; Rashed, A.Y. and ElAttar, M.E. 2004)

1- River Nile trade route

The west Bastion of the Fort is dedicated to telling the story of the ancient trade routes to Egypt along the Nile road, which approaches the Fort at this location.

2- Ports of the red Sea

The southern Bastion of the Fort has been dedicated to telling the story of the ports and trade of red Sea, The display at this Bastion highlights the products that were traded in this

region during the Roman Era, as well as skills associated with the Sea ports, and the containers used for transport.

3- Desert people

The northern Bastion of the Fort is dedicated to showcasing the life of eastern desert tribes, commonly referred to as Bedouins. The display primarily uses photographs on plaques to illustrate the life and history of Ababda and Bisharia tribes.

4- Monks and Mines

In the middle of courtyard of the Fort, there is a cistern that serves as a unique attraction for visitors. The cistern has been repurposed to showcase the history of the monastic dwellers of the Eastern Desert and their relationship with the desert people.

5- Rreligious Pilgrimage

In the middle of the courtyard, there is a rounded watchtower that serves as a unique attraction for visitors. The watchtower has been repurposed to document the history of religious pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia.

6- Modern Quseir

In the courtyard of the Fort, a number of artifacts that relate the story of modern Quseir have been displayed including original Phosphate trucks sit on a piece of old railway line, a locally made Boat, and a number of Napoleonic Cannons that were used to defend the Fort during the British attack in 1799.

Methodology:

This article used a qualitative approach, which was carried out by conducting four semi-structured interviews with four Egyptian experts in adaptive reuse and cultural heritage; the first interview was conducted with a professor of architecture engineering and one of the experts who participated in the adaptive reuse project of El-Quseir Fort; the second interview was conducted with one of cultural heritage experts, the third interview was conducted with the director of the Heritage Preservation association of El-Quseir. Lastly, the fourth interview was conducted with one of the officials of Egyptian ministry of tourism and antiquities.

The interview questions were designed to identify the criteria that must be considered when evaluating the contribution of adaptively reused heritage buildings to the safeguarding of ICH. In light of the these identified criteria, the role played by the adaptively reused El-Quseir Fort in safeguarding the ICH of EL-Quseir city will be evaluated.

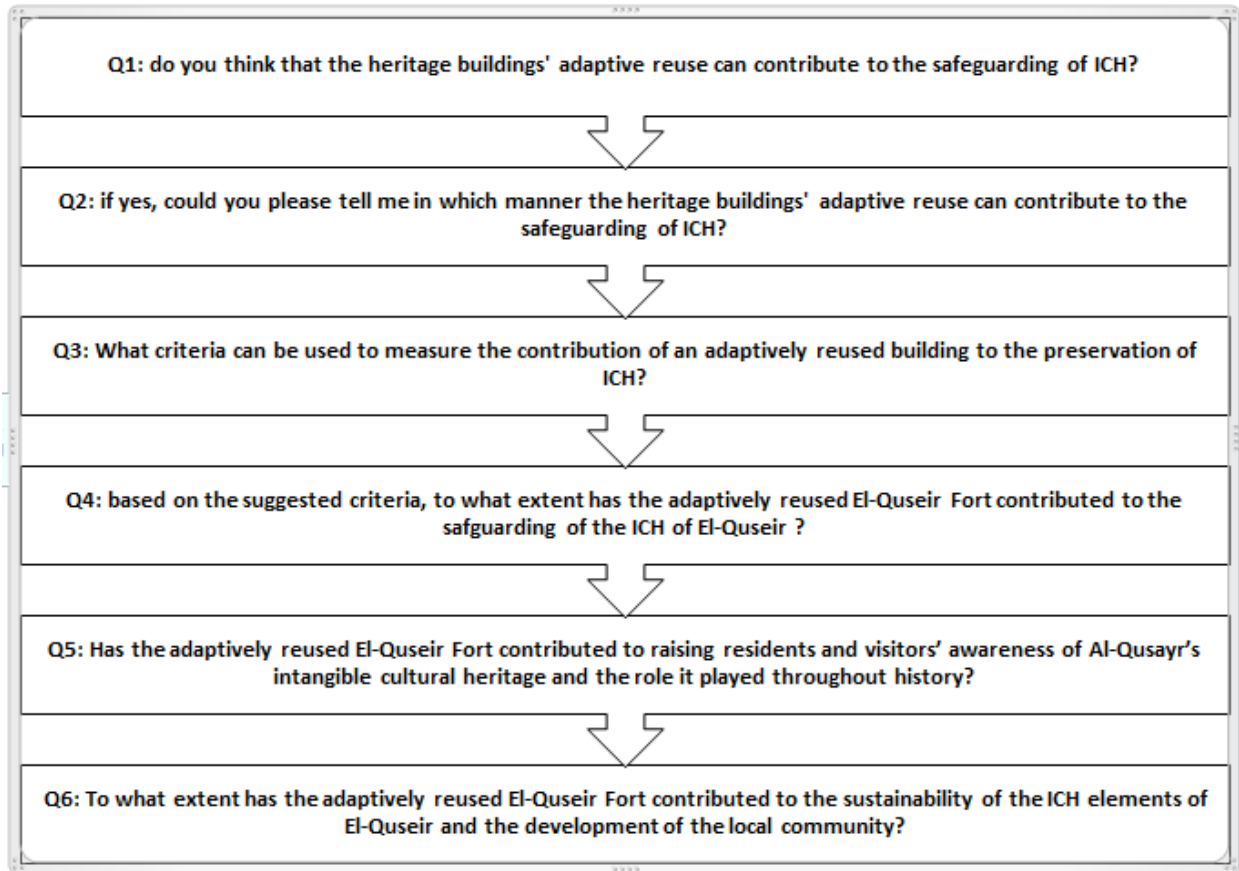


Figure 1: The Research Tool Used

In addition to the interviews, onsite observations and field notes were also used. Several site visits were carried out during 2020 – 2022 to document the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) themes and exhibits and analyze the method used in the interpretation of these exhibits.

The secondary data was collected through a detailed analysis of a number of published studies as well as reliable Internet sources to identify the best practices for the adaptive reuse of heritage buildings.

Literature Review

Adaptive reuse is defined as “The renovation and reuse of pre-existing structures such as warehouses for new purposes” (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/adaptive%20reuse>). Shehata et al. (2015, p.14) defined as “the conservation of unused or obsolete heritage buildings through their conversion for new uses and more appropriate functions”. Also it is defined as “a process that changes a disused or ineffective item into a new item that can be used for different purposes, sometimes, nothing changes but the item’s use”. (Transforming Old Buildings for New Uses, 2019).

Based on the above-mentioned definitions, adaptive reuse refers to the functional transformation of a building from its previous use into a new use that better meets the needs of the local community, as the original function no longer satisfies those needs. This process involves preserving the existing structure of the building, although sometimes additional infrastructure or modifications is necessary to accommodate the new function. (Othman & Elsaay, 2018; Nawkaw, 2021; Dell'Anna, 2022)

Although all the adaptive reuse definitions focus on the new function of the adaptively reused building, there is another approach that recommends the revival of the original function of the building as long as this function is still convenient from the economic and cultural point of view (Shehata et al., 2015). This approach prefers the original function of the building because it fits the architecture and capabilities of the building without the need for modification that is usually needed in case of introducing of a new function. (Amer, S. O. M. 2016)

There is a third approach that recommends what so called “integration reuse” which is a mix from the two above-mentioned approaches, as it tries to preserve the old function of the building while also adding a new one and adapting the building for this new function (Farrag & Abouhadid, 2018) . Such new function has to be determined according to different criteria including: ((Shehata et al., 2015)

- Its compatibility with the building.
- The basic environmental characteristics that may affect the activities of the individuals or groups in the adopted building including lightning, ventilation, water, pollution, noise, space, and visual effects.
- Accessibility: which include the physical accessibility to reach the site as well as the accessibility of visitors to the interpretive content of the site.
- Economic benefits: The revenue generated by the adapted building that will ensure its financial sustainability.
- Adaptation costs.

Importance of the Adaptive Reuse

Heritage buildings' adaptive reuse is important from the sustainability point of view as it creates a positive impact on cultural, economic, environmental and social aspects. (Mahran, R. & AL Nahas, O. 2022; Ragheb, G. & Naguib, I. 2021)

Cultural Importance:

Heritage buildings are considered one of the important elements of our tangible cultural heritage which have to be kept and maintained for future generations, as they constitute part of our legacy which was inherited from our previous generations. Adaptive reuse will contribute to the extension of the building's lifespan.

Environmental Importance:

Reusing heritage buildings can help to reduce energy consumption and carbon dioxide emissions that would result from demolishing the existing building and establishing a new one. Additionally, it can help in minimizing the pressure on natural resources, as it reduces the demand for new raw materials needed to establish new buildings.

Economic Importance:

Different economic benefits can be achieved through heritage buildings' adaptive reuse, including savings from avoiding the costs of demolishing the original building and establishing a new one. Also, adaptive reuse can generate financial returns through the commercially-oriented nature of the new function. Moreover, it can create job opportunities and a source of income for the local community through the functional revival of the building.

Social Importance:

Adaptive reuse of heritage buildings can create a number of positive social impacts; it helps to preserve the cultural heritage of the local community, which is regarded by them as a valuable asset. Additionally, adaptive reuse projects can improve the well-being of local community by creating more job opportunities and sources of income, which can improve their lifestyle and make them happier.

In many cases, adaptive reuse of heritage buildings can attract tourists who are interested in visiting these unique and culturally significant buildings. As a result, local authorities and developers may need to establish additional facilities and infrastructure to enhance the accessibility and experience of visitors, this can create a positive impact on the local communities by getting more facilities such as roads and sanitation and different other facilities that would improve their life.

Adaptive Reuse of Heritage Buildings in Egypt

Egypt has a great number of valuable Architectural Heritage buildings that date back to different eras, such Architectural Heritage needs to be restored and preserved as it is considered part of the tangible cultural heritage of the community (Mahran, R. & ALNahas, O. 2022). Adaptive reuse is considered a crucial strategy for the preservation of these Heritage buildings making full use of them in generating revenue that can be used for their maintenance and management. (Saeed Abady, S. 2022; Ragheb, G. & Naguib, I. 2021)

For these reasons, many of Egypt's heritage buildings have been adaptively reused, with some converted into Hotels, Museums, cultural centres, Public Schools, venues for performing arts (music, singing, traditional dance), presidential palaces, venues for traditional Handicrafts, exhibition centers, and libraries...etc. (Saeed Abady, S. 2022)

Despite this fact, many of the adaptively reused heritage buildings in Egypt failed to achieve their intended objectives. This often due to the narrow scope of adaptive reuse projects instead of considering a comprehensive one. As adaptive reuse projects are interdisciplinary in nature and require a holistic approach to address all aspects ((Shehata et al., 2015; Farrag & Abouhadid, 2018).

Adaptive Reuse Projects and ICH:

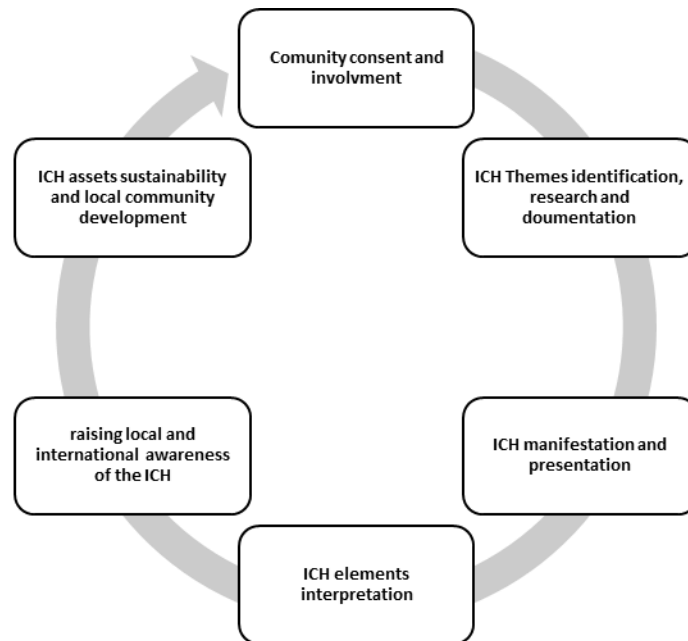
Authenticity conservation should be a major objective of adaptive reuse projects, not only by the preservation of the material heritage / buildings but also through the safeguarding of ICH, as the term authenticity is defined as a concept by which the total tangible and intangible values of heritage are manifested (Eshrati, P. & Bahramjerdi, S. & Eftekhari, S. & Azad, M. 2017). Therefore, to ensure the success of an adaptively reused building, it is crucial to consider the building's contribution to the safeguarding of ICH. Furthermore it has to be one of the key standards according to which the project success should be evaluated. (Shehata et al., 2015)

It is believed that adaptive reuse projects that focus on preservation and revival of tangible as well as intangible heritage of a community are considered the best examples in achieving comprehensive sustainability and urban regeneration, resulting in greater social, cultural and economic impact. (Engelhardt, 2009; Ragheb, G. & Naguib, I. 2021)

Despite above-mentioned fact, most adaptive reuse projects tend to focus solely on reviving the physical authenticity of the structures, which often comes at the expense of the ICH that truly imbues a place with its distinctive character (Engelhardt, 2009). Moreover, neither research nor international Charters provide specific standards for evaluating the contribution of adaptively reused buildings to ICH safeguarding. (Shehata et al., 2015)

Results and Discussions

Through the analysis of four semi-structured interviews with cultural heritage and adaptive reuse experts, the UNESCO 2003 convention for safeguarding of ICH, the UNESCO (2017) guidance note for inventorying ICH, and relevant literature, six main domains were identified as the key areas that should be considered when evaluating the contribution of adaptive reuse projects to the safeguarding of ICH. These domains include:



These main domains are distributed over the three main phases of any adaptive reuse project which are:



Community Consent and Involvement:

The local community is a key player in safeguarding ICH, seeking the community's consent and involving its members in all stages of the project, from planning to implementation and operation, is an essential matter. UNESCO (2017) guidance notes stress the importance of fully informing and involving local communities in the adaptive reuse process.

ICH Themes Identification, Research and Documentation:

The adaptive reuse projects have to identify the ICH elements with the participation of the local communities, and relevant non-governmental entities to ensure accuracy and prevent misrepresentation. (UNESCO, 2017)

It might be necessary after the identification process to focus on specific ICH elements with the help of the local community members, as According to the UNESCO (2003) Convention ICH elements have to be recognized and approved by the local communities as part of their own

Cultural Heritage. Also in adaptive reuse projects, it is necessary to select those themes which are compatible with the specific characteristics and capabilities of the building being repurposed.

Once the ICH themes have been identified, the next phase involves research and data collection on the agreed-upon themes. Substantial information should be gathered about these themes in order to create a detailed description. After this, the documentation phase can take various forms, including notes, transcriptions, video and audio recordings, photographs, and manuscripts. (UNESCO, 2017)

ICH Manifestation and Presentation:

It is worth noting that ICH assets shouldn't be regarded as constant or static, as they should be constantly seen in their normal form to reflect human activity (Sowińska-Heim, J. 2020). However, sometimes the ICH elements must be transferred from their oral form or manifestation into some manifestation of materiality in order to be preserved, documented, exhibited, and safeguarded (Museum International, 2004). Especially since the definition of intangible heritage developed by the UNESCO (2003) convention highlights the close relationship between material and immaterial cultural heritage.

As part of an adaptive reuse project, local community and project team must decide whether to present the identified ICH elements in their original intangible form or as a tangible manifestation that is compatible with the adapted building.

ICH Interpretation:

Adaptive reuse projects shouldn't only focus on protecting and documenting ICH, but also make efforts towards interpreting such valuable heritage. Through interpretation, community members and international visitors can appreciate the authenticity and significance of cultural heritage assets, which explain why interpretation is considered a fundamental process for both tangible and intangible heritage resources (Tsai, S., 2014). Heritage interpretation reveals the meanings and relationships of material and immaterial cultural heritage, rather than merely conveying factual information. (Tilden, F. 1957)

There are several tools for interpreting heritage resources, which can be divided into personal and non-personal; Personal interpretation include tour guides, museum curators, and rangers; while non-personal interpretation includes interpretive panels; audio guides, printed guidebooks, and internet websites (Tilden, F. 1957; SCNI, 2022). The team responsible for the adaptive reuse project, after consulting the local community, should carefully choose interpretation tools that are suitable for the heritage resources and appropriate for international visitors, and Locals.

Raising Local and International Awareness of the ICH

According to article number one of UNESCO (2003) Convention, it is crucial to increase knowledge and recognition of the significance of intangible cultural heritage at both local and international levels to ensure its appreciation and value.

Adaptive reuse can play an important role in promoting awareness and appreciation of intangible cultural heritage, as it can help preserve the intangible heritage associated with the adaptively reused buildings, such as traditional building techniques, cultural practices, and social memories. These projects can also provide opportunities to showcase and celebrate this heritage. In this case the project will be regarded by both international visitors and residents as keeper of both tangible and ICH. (Su et al., 2022)

ICH Sustainability and Local Community Development:

According to UNESCO (2003) convention, it is imperative to maintain the continuity of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) assets. While identification and documentation play significant roles in this process, they alone are insufficient in achieving this objective. Therefore, it is essential to take further steps beyond identification and documentation to ensure the continuity of ICH assets.

Adaptive reuse projects can play a crucial role in the continuity of ICH by encouraging local community members to produce, recreate, pass down and maintain their cultural traditions (Abu Bakar, k. et al., 2014). Adaptively reused building can provide traditional artisans and cultural practitioners with spaces to create their cultural products, showcase their heritage, and pass down their knowledge and skills to the younger generations.

In addition, adaptively reused building can also serve as a unique attraction for tourists seeking an authentic cultural experience. By visiting these buildings, tourists will appreciate the cultural value of the place and provide traditional artisans and cultural practitioners with a source of income. This will not only motivate them to transmit their skills to younger generations, but also demonstrates the extent to which their cultural heritage is appreciated and valued by visitors.

The assessment of EL-Quseir Fort Based on the Suggested Criteria

1- Community Consent and Involvement

Before the beginning of El-Quseir Fort adaptive reuse project, the involvement of local community has been seriously taken into consideration. To facilitate this, an Egyptian expert was hired to serve as a coordinator responsible for establishing communication and facilitating cooperation between the project and local community throughout its different stages. (Mallinson Architects, 1996)

The expert organized meetings and consultations with local residents, sought input and feedback on the project's design and goals, and worked to ensure that local community's needs and concerns were taken into consideration. Additionally, the coordinator collected information about the customs and traditions of El-Quseir local community and identified the main local stakeholders of the project. (Mallinson Architects, 1996; Rashed, A.Y. and ElAttar, M.E., 2004)

The community's involvement continued during the implementation phase of the project, as the conservation work was primarily carried out by local people members under the supervision of international conservators. In addition, one of the local community residents who possessed the skill for building diving Boats constructed one for the project to be exhibited in the open courtyard of the Fort. (Mallinson Architects, 1996; Rashed, A.Y. and ElAttar, M.E. 2004)



Figure 2: The Locally Made Boat while being painted by one of EL-Quseir Residents. Source: (ARCE, 2023)

2- ICH Themes Identification, Research and Documentation

As stated before, six main themes were selected to be displayed in the adaptively reused Fort; these themes were chosen in cooperation with the local community representatives. They cover the most important roles played by El-Quseir throughout the history from ancient to modern times.

A number of experts, in collaboration with local community representatives, were responsible for conducting research, collecting data, and documenting information on the selected themes. (Rashed, A.Y. & ElAttar, M.E. 2004)

3- ICH Manifestation and Presentation

The selected themes were manifested using more than one approach, the first approach was carried out by showcasing large artifacts in the open courtyard of the Fort, including phosphate trucks, a locally manufactured Boat, a number of Napoleonic cannons that protected the Fort during the British attack in 1799, and a carriage from the era of Khedive Abbas Helmy II (recently transferred to Royal Chariots Museum). The second approach was carried out by using photograph on plaques to depict the themes which are displayed in the three remaining Bastions. While the third approach was carried out through showcasing some small Archaeological objects discovered within El-Quseir Fort.



Figure 3: Archaeological objects discovered within Quseir Fort exhibited in glass case. Source: (ARCE, 2023)



Figure 4: Pictures that showcase Ababda tribe. Source: <https://www.safarwav.com/property/al-qusair-castle>



Figure 5: Phosphate truck. Source: Author



Figure 6: Locally made Boat. Source: <https://www.safarwav.com/property/al-qusair-castle#gallery>



Picture 7: French Cannons. Source: <https://www.almasryalyoum.com/news/details/1335031>



Figure 8: carriage from the reign of Abbas khedive Helmy II. Source: <https://www.mogaznews.com/Akhbar-Msr/897648.html>

As depicted in the accompanying pictures, the project opted to present the agreed-upon themes in their most appropriate tangible form. This decision may have been influenced by the nature of these themes and the challenge of effectively presenting them in an intangible form. Consequently, the project team decided to exhibit tangible displays that are best suited to the structure of the Fort.

Interpretation of ICH Elements:

Due to the limitations of technology available at the time, the interpretation of the exhibits was carried out through traditional tools, such as interpretative panels and models which are constructed from locally sourced and easily maintained materials. (Mallinson Architects, 1996) The content of the interpretive panels includes photographs, drawings, and documentary information about the selected themes.

The main challenge with using this kind of static interpretation which has been used in the adaptively reused El-Quseir Fort, is that it contains fixed information in terms of quantity and quality that may not be effective or suitable for the diverse range of the visitors and residents, it also doesn't enhance visitors' interest in learning, which creates a need for diverse forms of heritage interpretation to engage a wider scope of visitors and meet their expectations (Su et al., 2022), as it is advisable to use different interpretive techniques to accommodate the diverse abilities and expectations of various visitor segments. (Seccombe, P. & Lehnies, P. 2005)



Figure 9: Heritage Interpretation at El-Quseir Fort. Source: (ARCE, 2023)

Raising Local and International Awareness of the ICH of the Place

The adaptively reused El-Quseir Fort has been playing an essential role in documenting the most important ICH elements / themes of El-Quseir city, and updating residents and visitors about the city's significance and history. It serves as a unique cultural attraction that has successfully drawn tourists out of their hotels to visit the Fort to learn about the area's story. Moreover, the Fort has become a primary destination for school trips, allowing students to gain a better understanding of their city's cultural heritage.

It is obvious that the adaptively reused El-Quseir Fort has played a significant role in raising awareness of the city's ICH both locally and internationally.

Sustainability of ICH and Local Community Development

While the adaptively reused Fort is regarded as a significant tourism attraction that motivates visitors to leave their accommodations to experience the city's cultural heritage, it is challenging to assess its impact on enhancing the sustainability of ICH elements and contributing to community development.

It can be observed that the new function of the Fort does not provide the local community with a venue or a space to exhibit their living ICH elements such as handicrafts, performing arts, social practices, oral traditions and expressions, or conduct training workshops for the younger generation to learn about different ICH elements. Furthermore, the ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, which operates the building, does not organize any activities within the adaptively reused Fort that would showcase the diversity of El-Quseir ICH and enhance its sustainability. Although it is widely accepted that to optimize the role of adaptive reuse projects in community development, it is essential to identify the appropriate combination of uses that can be accommodated through the new function of the adaptive reuse building. (Shehata et al., 2015)

The tourism itineraries offered to visitors to experience the Fort are quite conventional, providing an opportunity to visit several monuments without establishing a connection between these tangible attractions and the living heritage of El-Quseir City. There is a need to develop more comprehensive itineraries that bridge the gap between the material and immaterial heritage of the residents to enhance the visitors' experience, increase the benefit to the local community, and motivate them to preserve their ICH.

Conclusions

This article identified several standards that should be used to assess the contribution of adaptively reused heritage buildings to the safeguarding of ICH. These standards include: Community consent and involvement, ICH themes identification, research and documentation, ICH manifestation and presentation, ICH interpretation, raising local and international awareness of the ICH, ICH assets' sustainability and local community development. These standards can help guide future efforts to safeguard and promote ICH through adaptive reuse projects.

Based on these standards, the adaptively reused El-Quseir Fort played a significant role in the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage of El-Quseir city, as the project successfully identified, researched, documented, interpreted, and promoted a number of important themes that highlight the key roles played by El-Quseir from ancient to modern times. Despite this fact, the adaptively reused Fort could have played a more effective role if a well-defined operating plan was put in place.

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ملخص اللغة العربية

تقييم مدى مساهمة إعادة الاستخدام المتكيف للمباني التراثية في الحفاظ على التراث الثقافي غير المادي
- قلعة القصير نموذجاً -

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يحظى صون التراث الثقافي غير المادي باهتمام أقل من الحفاظ على التراث المادي، ويتغير إعادة الاستخدام المتكيف أحد الأساليب التي تركز على حماية التراث المادي. إلا أنه منذ التصديق على اتفاقية اليونسكو لعام 2003 لحماية التراث الثقافي غير المادي، بدأ يحظى التراث غير المادي بمزيد من الاهتمام. يحاول هذا البحث تحديد المعايير التي يجب أخذها في الاعتبار لتقييم مدى مساهمة المباني التراثية المُعاد استخدامها بشكل تكيفي في صون التراث الثقافي غير المادي. وفي ضوء هذه المعايير تم تقييم مدى مساهمة قلعة القصير التي أعيد استخدامها بشكل تكيفي في حماية التراث الثقافي غير المادي لمدينة القصير. اعتمدت الدراسة على تحليل مفصل لعدد من الدراسات حول إعادة الاستخدام المتكيف للمباني التراثية، بالإضافة إلى إجراء عدد أربع مقابلات مع أربعة خبراء مصريين في مجال إعادة الاستخدام المتكيف وإدارة التراث الثقافي. خرجت الدراسة بعددًا من المعايير التي يمكن استخدامها لتقييم مساهمة المباني التراثية المُعاد استخدامها بشكل تكيفي في الحفاظ على التراث الثقافي غير المادي، وأوضحت النتائج إلى أن قلعة القصير التي خضعت لعملية إعادة استخدام المتكيف خلال الفترة من 1997 إلى 1999 - أي قبل التصديق على اتفاقية اليونسكو لعام 2003 - قد لعبت دورًا رئيسيًا في صون مبنى القلعة بالإضافة إلى نجاح المشروع في الحفاظ وتوثيق التراث غير المادي لمدينة القصير.