



Cultural heritage and sustainability

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The spirit of the cities, the idea..

- Can places (cities, villages) produce a sense of uniqueness, of a certain clear political or cultural identity?
- There are many theories that cities are growing and that the city is a form of living in the future
- ... but less thought is given to what makes cities special and different and how they differ in relation to each other
- How do cities present themselves and profile themselves locally/nationally/globally?
- Local characteristics – "cosmopolitanism" as a shared experience (features that unite cities)
- What gives rise to the idea that Helsinki, Turku, Loviisa, Joensuu is unique?

Slogans are important

- The Most Functional City in the World – Helsinki (the Daughter of the Baltic/My Helsinki)
- Sibelius and the City of Culture – Järvenpää
- Innovative Espoo
- Captured by Vantaa (Valloitu Vantaasta!)
- City of Good Life – Kerava



The role of cultural heritage and the power of history

- Creates a story, sets expectations and builds the future
- Enormous power of history cf. Rome, Paris, London, Stockholm, Vienna, Berlin...
- An excellent pedagogical tool because...
-it helps to understand the layers of urban space
- The city's ethical and social order
- Urban traditions and the "soul" of the city
- Landmarks, public buildings, and areas are characters in history and the city
- ... it helps to perceive:
- Built, designed environment
- The narrative of urbanization and urban (sub)cultures
- A place for one's own cultural heritage in a regional, national and supranational network



...Does cultural heritage matter?

#myhelsinki

Kurkista miltä Helsinki näyttää Instagram-käyttäjien silmin



- Citizens want to be proud of their hometown/village and commit to the values it represents...
- ... it enables future-oriented work in the city's "spirit" and strengthens the experience of inclusion
- Local and cultural heritage values are important "tacit knowledge"
- Are central in tourism and as an attraction factor – keyword: how to develop (change or nurture?)
- = preserving, developing and utilizing tangible and intangible cultural heritage as a local resource

... Does history matter?

- **Jerusalem** and struggle of religious identities
- **Montreal** and the linguistic identities
- **New York** and **Toronto** multiculturalism /diversity/ individualism
- **Beijing** and centralist political power
- **Paris**: the city of romance
- **Berlin**: the city of tolerance
- **Rome**: the city of European history



History's "drivers" = promoting the local/place identity? Case Helsinki

- Capital city status and the state
- Industrialization and social mobilization
- The capital of independent Finland
- 1945 - Capital city and central role of the nation-state
- The capital city of the welfare state
- 1989 – European Capital
- 2022 – What role? Who promotes?



What to do when cultural heritage is associated with "false history" or represents the "dark sides" of history?



- Wars, civil wars, rebellions, revolutions...
- The "wrong" kind of class society...
- Other difficult hierarchies, wrong ethnic/religious groups & elites...
- Autocrats, dictators, representatives of a "foreign power"
- Occupations, prison and concentration camps, etc.
- Communism – and other "Eastern" features...
- It is important to open and dismantle all dimensions of the history of cultural heritage!!

Material Image Resources



Use your
imagination!



Kaija Kumpukallio uudelleentwiittasi



Laukon kartano @laukonkartano · 24. huhtik.



Hurjaa ajatella, että tästä laituri paikasta on palattu kotiin Laukkoon jo viikinkiajalla. Samasta rannasta ylhäisten Kurkien kirkkoveeneet kiisivät keskiajalta Vesilahden kirkolle. Kirkolle matkattiin samaa reittiä, kun Lönnrot viimeisteli Kalevalaa kartanolla. Elävää historiaa.



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Universal features of cities...

- Several common factors in stories
- Lots of landmarks and urban symbols = shared meanings, but I'm interested in the special = what's unique?
- Visualizing history, i.e. the city as an imagined community = what is important?
- The past & layers talk about both local and national and European history
- Using history and envisioning the future



Indicators for Assessing the Sustainability of Built Heritage Attractions: An Anglo-Chinese Study

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Toim. Mari Vaattovaara, Jussi Jännes & Mikko Posti

KOHTI KESTÄVÄMPIÄ ASUINALUEITA

Kaupunginosien ja kortteleiden kestävyysindikaattoreita



A photograph of a residential street with colorful houses and trees. The street is lined with houses in various colors like brown, white, blue, and red. There are green trees and bushes along the sidewalks. A few cars are parked or driving on the street. The scene is bright and sunny.

Indicators of the built cultural environment

Economic dimension

- a. Effects on local employment
- b. Profitability of economic activities
- c. Amount of external support for the preservation of the built heritage (other than income from tourists)

Environmental dimension

- a. Environmentally efficient equipment and equipment (green technology to help)
- b. Littering and the level of cleanliness
- c. Energy consumption and carbon footprint
- d. Preservation and protection of the built and cultural heritage

Social dimension

Residents' understanding and local support for the built heritage site

Engaging locals in the site's conservation and nurturing work

Experiencing inclusion among both owners and residents

Perceived impacts of traffic and mobility

Governance dimension

Experiencing the comprehensive involvement of key actors

Integrating the sustainability aspect into the management of built heritage sites

Urban planning methods should support both the preservation of the built heritage and the development of tourism

The strength of the legal basis for building protection



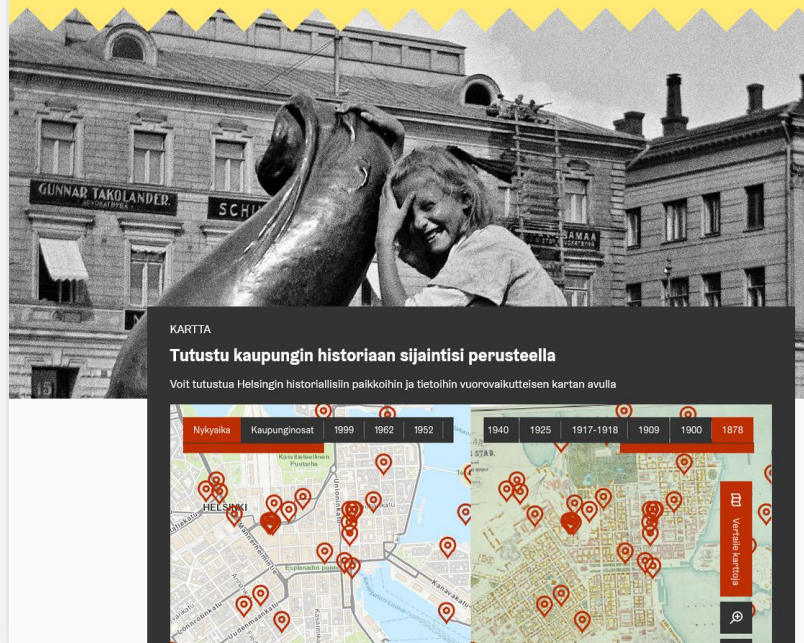


Good news....!!

Digital history of
Helsinki

<https://historia.hel.fi/fi>

Historia Helsinki kertoo Helsingin tarinan

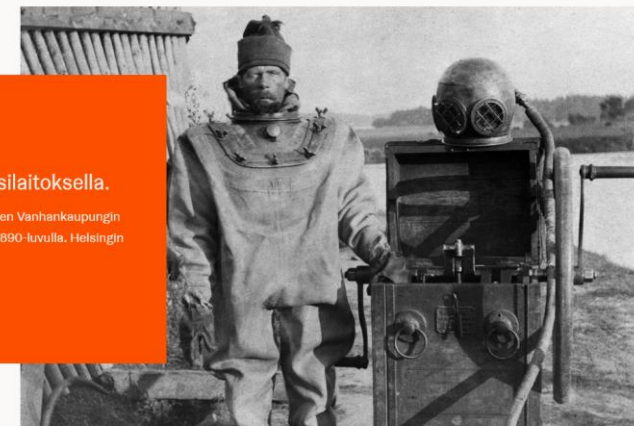


Sukella Helsingin historiaan!

Helsingin historiaa on tehty paljon laadukasta tutkimusta ja tietoa on saatavilla helposti myös verkossa. Tämä aineisto on kuitenkin pirstaloitunut lukuisin eri lähteisiin ja on vaikeasti hahmotettavissa kokonaisuutena. Sivustolla pääkaupungin historia on kiinnostavassa ja helposti ymmärrettävässä muodossa yhdessä paikassa. [Lue lisää Historia Helsinki -hankkeesta.](#)

Sukeltaja Vesilaitoksella.

Sukeltaja vesilaitoksen Vanhankaupungin rakennustyömaalla 1890-luvulla. Helsingin kaupungin museo.



UUTTA SISÄLTÖÄ

Tutustu uuteen sisältöön





History does not end,
because time around us
is changing and new
answers from the past
are desired....
Cultural heritage helps
to provide answers.