

URBAN LANDSCAPE CHARACTERS IN TERMS OF DESIGN COMPONENTS: ANTALYA, MURATPAŞA CASE

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Abstract. Urban landscapes can be defined as an area with high building and population density and functions where a very significant part of the world's population lives. The character of urban landscapes is the combination of the features that differentiate a city both from its surroundings and others. Therefore, the concept of urban landscapes is critical to appreciation of their characters in the era of globalisation. The aim of this study was to evaluate the relationships between urban landscape characters and design components in Muratpaşa quarter of Antalya. We followed a holistic approach for the methodology, where urban land use patterns were classified and divided into subclasses and mapped, landscape characters and design components for each class were analysed simultaneously using Antalya Urban Development Plan, topographic maps, Google Earth Images, GIS data and site analysis. Study results showed that either ordinary or remarkable, urban landscape characters inextricably correspond design components. Although the city is concealed by buildings, the natural and biophysical features revealed "distinct" attributes in urban landscape characters. Muratpaşa has had inherent geographical properties such as Falez sea cliffs, Düden waterfall, Konyaaltı and Lara beaches, Lara sand dunes that simply emerge as remarkable landscape characters. According to spatial interpretation of key characteristics, coastline with escalating landforms has happened a genuine linear design component. Landscape character zone along the coastline with significant geographical qualities that unique to Muratpaşa, reflects unique sense of the region. This also corresponds to the fact that the city by the sea is more than urban proliferation but exceptional entity of natural evolution of earth's surfaces that conveys unique characters. Addressing the discourse which characters urban land uses bring, how those characters reconcile design components and effect the urban environment and how their spatial interpretation is significant is helpful to recognise urban design priorities and to protect distinct geographical and regional characteristics. **Keywords:** urban landscape, landscape character, design components, Muratpaşa, Antalya

Introduction

Landscape is a composition of natural and cultural features in the environment. European Council [7] ascertains that as perceived by people, landscape is an area whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors, while Antrop [2] agrees that landscape is the sum of historical, cultural, and visual elements, as well as natural and physical features. Akdoğan [1] stated that landscape as the sum of lands, houses, hills, forests, lakes, production areas in an area; roads, agricultural areas, recreation areas and residential areas.

Owing to those interactions one landscape differentiates from others in terms of pattern, forms, characteristics where basic differences can be made as natural and cultural. Here, due to human nature interaction 'cultural' is explained of relating to culture [15].

Cultural landscapes are the multiple evidence of the evolution of human society over time, under the influence of social, economic, and cultural forces within a natural environment. [16; 20; 24]. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) indicated that cultural landscapes are "geographic areas containing cultural and natural resources and, in this context, wildlife and domestic animals, associated with a historical event or activity, or exhibiting various cultural and aesthetic values".

Cultural landscapes reveal societies, their pasts, lifestyles, cultures and their current relationships with the natural environment. The harmony of elements created by nature and humans, their historical and aesthetic value, their representation of the dominant natural elements particularly in cities in question. They offer diverse examples of human intervention over natural environment and can cover a range of elements from a single building up to a whole city.

Urban is regarded as a residential area where most of the population is engaged in trade, industry, services or administrative work [21]. Urban landscapes can be defined as an area with high building and population density and function as place for shelter, education, mobility, tourism and all kinds of services.

Partonomy of man is most evident over urban landscapes. Settings, economic activity and geography often shape the characters of a city. For instance cities located by sea or lake are called coastal cities, where dominance of touristic activity drives tourist cities. These cases can be multiples such as industrial cities, mining cities or port cities.

Design is a creative process and relates to many fields. Urban design deals with the function, form and composition of the cities regardless of being coastal, industrial etc. and often defines the aspects of buildings, spaces in between and overall characteristics of a city. Nevertheless, there are broader but often overlooked aesthetic associations in urban landscapes.

Urban design aims at improving quality of life by addressing a complete set of related issues such as planning residential areas and transportation policy, architectural design, economics, landscape architecture, and engineering, while urban landscapes are the results of design processes of different layers that are complex, evocative but deserve to be attractive.

Urban environment and natural environment rely on each other and promote each other, but also can promote the harmonious development of human settlements [25]. Here, good design is regarded as a fundamental element for sustainable environments that are aesthetic, desirable, safe and healthy for inhabitants. These features are most crucial in cities which eventually became the characteristics

of urban landscapes. Forms, lines, colors, textures are the key components in determining landscapes characters which already been defined by Swanwick [19], Turner [23], Heritage Council [11] as a set of distinct, recognizable, and persistent characteristics in the landscape. Mixed building forms, type of building blocks as well as street networks are the fundamentals of urban landscape characters where open green spaces, urban forests and parks are the dynamic interfaces in urban environments.

Urban landscapes are living spaces with a high density of people and buildings and stands out with its multiple functions. Whether exquisite or not, urban landscapes are our living spaces. However, the relationships between built environment and their surroundings determine the link between urban aesthetics and landscape characters.

Urban landscape character is the combination of the features that differentiate a city both from its surroundings and other cities. The diversity of urban land uses, especially natural and semi-natural areas, urban green open spaces, building masses, transportation networks are the main elements that define the character of a city. However, in previous studies, terms urban landscape characters and landscapes features are often confounded [30].

Urban morphology that deals with the character of urban spaces, is a substantial part of urban landscape characters [28]. Wang and Bochun [26] emphasized that the natural and semi-natural characteristics of the rural and agricultural areas around the city are among the most important characters of urban landscapes that need practical solutions. Zaleskiené and Vileniské [29] stated that although urban landscapes are very important in terms of aesthetic characters, but they do not receive enough attention. Land use models especially built areas, transportation networks, natural and semi-natural areas, and land patterns create urban landscape characters as well as giving a sense of space specific to the city [13].

On the other hand, as Hough [12] expressed that in the absence of discrete architectural styles, the landscape has become an expression of the regional character of that place. In a similar content, Zhang et al. [30] pointed that it is not yet clear whether the aesthetic characteristics of urban landscapes are related to people's aesthetic preferences and landscape practices. Therefore, decipherment urban landscape characters is important to see what are the distinct features of a city and to what extend they are related to design elements. Landscape has all features containing patterns of shape, structure, material, formation and function [17]. Urban landscapes are the compositions of large buildings, roads and infrastructure, open green public spaces, natural areas and all these urban land uses become the features that define the urban landscape characters. Either being a product through the processes of planning and design or not, each character of urban environment reflects the design components. Therefore, interpretation of urban landscapes and their spatial organisation would be helpful to understand what the characters are and to what extend they overlap and/or distinguish from the design components.

A shift from predominantly built urban environments into the wider landscape is needed because the scale is much bigger and man-made processes are complicated [6]. In this vein, landscape characters help us to understand our relations particularly with urban environment. We aim to comply with the research gap on spatial interpretation of the relation between urban elements, landscape character and design components. Accordingly, this study aims to analyse landscape characters in Muratpaşa of the Mediterranean city of Antalya and to understand what the characteristics of the

different forms in urban landscapes are and to what extend they are related to design components. In this respect, Muratpaşa provides an ideal setting for validating our approach on urban landscape characters as way of design components through key questions:

- What are the discourses between urban land uses and characters?
- Where and how geographic properties emerge on urban landscape characters?
- Which landforms have become core design components in the city?
- How a holistic approach can emerge from the spatial interpretation of urban landscape characters?

Material and Method

Muratpaşa quarter in Antalya has chosen for study site due to its diverse characteristics of urban landscapes. Located on the south-west of Turkey, Antalya is a coastal city on the Mediterranean with hot and dry summers and mild winters. Owing to its location and access to the sea (Figure 1), Antalya has been fastest growing city with population numbers in the county which play a pivotal role in the planning and development of the urban landscapes.

Muratpaşa quarter is the heart of the city, representing a gradual process of urban growth since the foundation of the city which goes back to Pergamons by the given order of the King Atallus II in around 200 BC for the most beautiful place to settle. Due to its vantage position, natural harbor, rich natural resources and being on the trade roads have brought privilege to the city. However, it was tourism that given rise to the urban development by 1980's that increasing migration for work brought high demand for housing.

Muratpaşa covers main typologies of urban landscapes and main cultural and natural characteristic that unique to city morphology. Besides high-rise buildings blocks and historic town centre, terraced coastline of Falez sea cliffs and beaches, Düden waterfall are amongst conspicuous landmarks in Muratpaşa.

Within the scope of this study, as the variables, we evaluated land use patterns (settlements, tourism sites, ...), landscape characters (topography, settlement type, ...) and design components (point, line, form, ...) simultaneously. Here we use Antalya Urban Development Plan, topographic maps, Google Earth Images, GIS data and site analysis. Urban land use classes were delineated in ArcGIS Programme, where, urban settlements were analysed more in detail and divided into subclasses, in order to see if settlement densities and building height differentiate the landscape characters. Then land use map was checked for the accuracy with

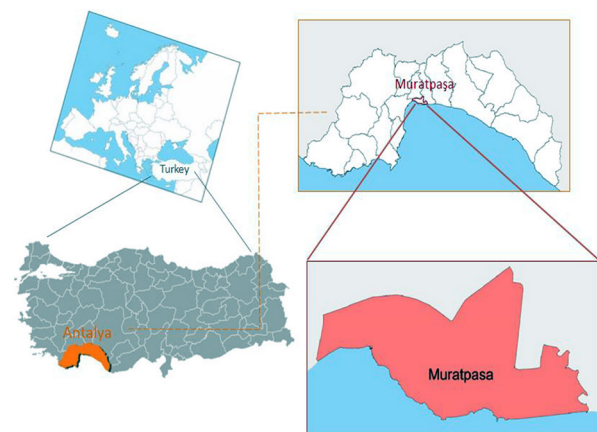


Fig. 1. Location of the study site [created by the authors]

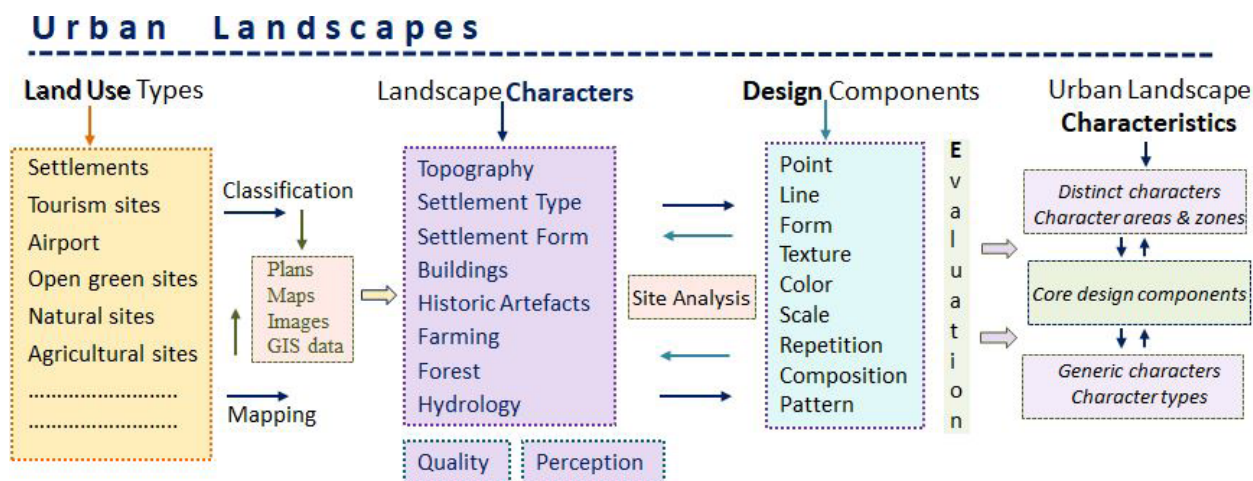


Fig. 2. Flow of the study [created by the authors]

Antalya Urban Development Plan. Site surveys for each land use patterns were carried out to understand their characters and design components according to Swanwick [19], Heritage Council [11], Tudor [22], Wascher [27], Turner [23], Kim and Pauleit [14], Atik and Ortaçesme [3], Atik et al. [4] and Bell [6]. Overall evaluations abled us to elucidate landscape character areas, zones and distinct characters besides generic characters and character types and their intact relations with core design components (Figure 2).

Hereby, referring to some of the landscape characters, form dealt with the shape of elements in the landscape which inextricably related to urban morphology. Texture is related to aesthetic feeling of the urban surface that often being linked to either natural or built elements. Pattern refers to the model or the arrangement of forms in the landscape. The size of the landscape refers 'scale' while 'security' as perceived aspect is being free from the risk from land use activities. Associated with the rarely found, 'rarity' explains seldom number of landscape elements [4].

Design components proclaim compositions of either natural or cultural elements in the landscape which involve into aesthetic features. According to Bell [6] and Atik et al. [5] point is marking position in space, line is the connecting element between two points, A configuration of the elements in the landscape emerges the composition, where colour is the

reflection and sensation of the light over landscape elements, while interval of equal or variable elements communicates the repetition. A set of objects and an arrangement of forms becomes the pattern (Figure 2).

Results

Urban landscapes in Muratpaşa

Muratpaşa is the very first quarter that Antalya was established around 400 BC by the Pergamon King of Attalos at Kaleiçi. Coastal cliffs of Falazes on both sides provided a hidden shelter for Kaleiçi harbour. Güçlü [9] stated, Antalya, which was a small town until 1940, gained an urban appearance with the opening of streets and the construction of transport networks. The city has witnessed different period through history, but it was after 1960's and 1980's urban development given rise around Kaleiçi.

Today, there are different land use patterns that form of urban landscapes characterised by high rise high density, high rise low density, low rise low density but extended public parks and urban green areas. However, tourism settlements in and around the Muratpaşa are result of huge demand for tourism. Since 1980's Antalya has become tourism capital of Turkey with number of hotels, bed capacities and visitor numbers. Antalya Airport that located in Muratpaşa serves as a hub for tourist destinations along east and west coasts of Antalya region.

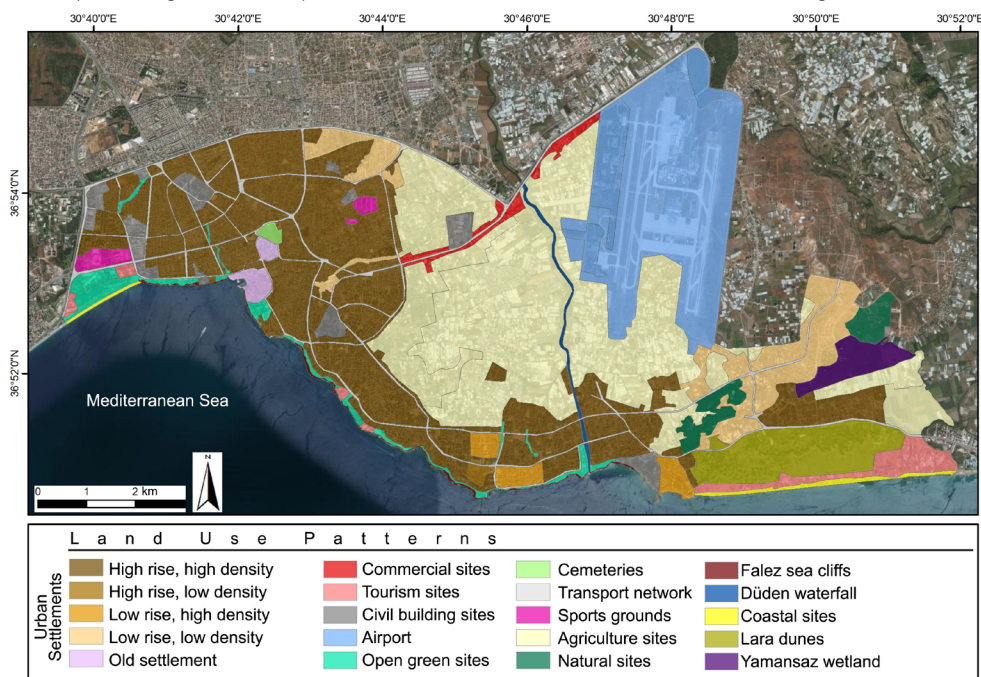


Fig. 3. Land use patterns, Muratpaşa [created by the authors]



Fig. 4. Landscape characters and design components of historic settlement, Kaleiçi [created by the authors]

Fortunately, some of natural landscapes, over which urban texture has flourished, are still exist in the city peripheries. Lara dunes and dune forest, Yamansaz wetland system, Falez sea cliffs, Konyaaltı beach are remnants of natural features in Muratpaşa. Owing to the fact that urbanisation took place either on natural areas and/or agricultural lands, Kircami is an exceptional case where agriculture and farming have been carried out even before the urbanisation. Urban open green sites and public parks are the pillars of the green network in the city (Figure 3).

Kaleiçi historic settlement

The name of Kaleiçi is derived from inner wall refers to its location where the city has grown within enclosed city walls. The historic town is located on a small harbour where the City was first established characterised by two-storey traditional and especially tiled gable roofed houses. The Mediterranean Sea, as a natural border forms the continuous "coast" line for Kaleiçi together with traditional houses originate an organic settlement form that is a rare example for Antalya (Figure 4) thus makes Kaleiçi historic and memorable and most visited site in overall region.

Kaleiçi was protected by two horseshoe-shaped walls, one by the sea and one by the land. Today, only a certain part of these walls, which have succumbed to urbanization and construction, still exist, and some landmarks in Kaleiçi such as Hadrian's Gate, Clock Tower, Hidirlik Tower and some wall ruins still exist as the surrounding elements of the historic quarter.

Landscape characteristics of Kaleiçi is based on slightly sloping topography, organic settlement which fitted into the natural harbour, traditional old buildings. With regard to design components sheltering frame of coastal morphology on a slightly sloping topography gives a rounding form a

strong pattern. Composition is quite diverse with settlement pattern and round forms fitted into a sinous coastline and harbor. Intact settlement form and historic character bring Kaleiçi historic and memorable qualities.

High rise-high dense settlement

High-rise buildings have been the sign of a heavily urbanized landscape and critically dissenting impact on the image and natural characteristics of the cities. Spatial composition of the urban landscapes often defined by high-rise buildings structured along the main transport network. One of the most densely populated section of Muratpaşa is 100.Yıl Street which is a strong linear feature within grid-formed settlement texture, which covers residential and commercial buildings. 100.Yıl with high rise-high dense settlement displays the urbanization character of Muratpaşa and Antalya after the 1980s, has a course textured urban structure with an average density of 10-storey concrete buildings.

Set on a flat topography with ordinary quality, 100 Yıl have the composition with residential buildings and plots in separate layouts that applied in full repetition (Figure 5). Linearity of the high-rise dense settlement comes from the straight street forms that create artificial corridors parallel to the coast like that brings grand scale and dominant pattern in a strictly geometric form.

Tourism sites

Tourism developments in Antalya has begun by 1970's and has become main economic activity for 50 years with both inner-city hotels and destinations on the urban peripheries. Ultimately, tourism infrastructure has been the main driving force particularly in the formation on the coastal zone taking the fact that setting on by the Mediterranean and shoreline has been for the priority for tourism investors.

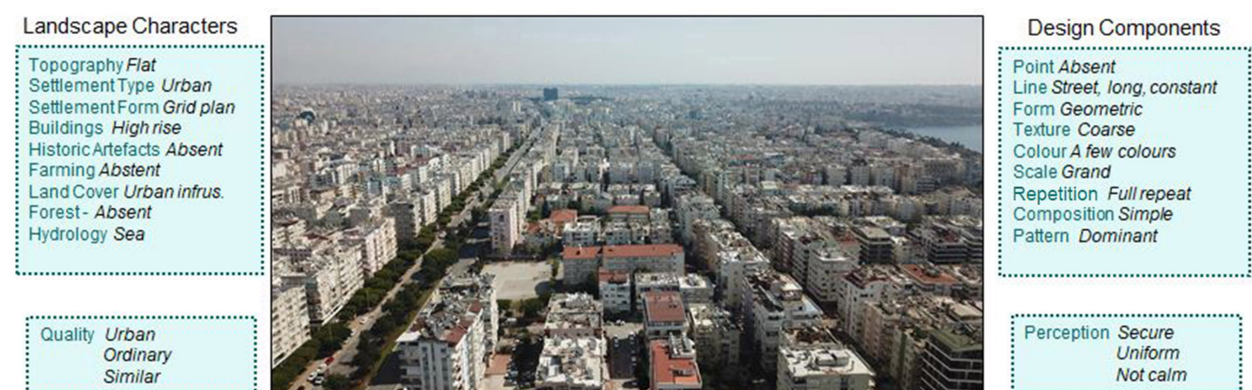


Fig. 5. Landscape characters and design components of high rise-high dense settlement [created by the authors]

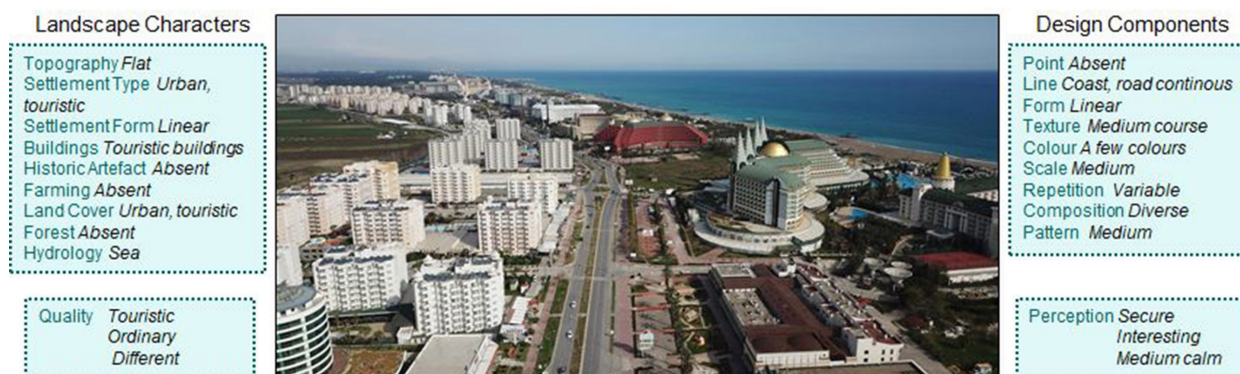


Fig. 6. Landscape characters and design components of tourism sites [created by the authors]

The urban tourism facilities, which started with the first examples of the Falez and Shreton inner-city hotels in the 1980s, and extended to further peri-urban areas, especially in the 1990s-2000s. Kundu, on the east corner of Muratpaşa dedicated as tourism destination by 2000's with high hotel capacities and huge tourism infrastructure just on the outskirts of the city, has become another city along the eastern shores. Kundu, is characterised by tourism facilities along the coast and multi-storey residential areas just behind the coast, exhibits a linear feature by the "coast" where the urban tourism area meets the Mediterranean and the main transport line. The line effect, which is natural on the coast and artificial on the highway, has brought about the formation of a linear settlement texture in the area in question (Figure 6). Except from some thematic hotel buildings high-rise structures typically define the urban and touristic with ordinary quality where design components meet diverse composition due to enclosing gardens and shoreline of the touristic accommodations.

Open green sites

Taking the fact urbanisation has shifted on the natural areas and farming lands after the 1980's, Muratpaşa has a diversity of open green site ranging from agricultural areas, streams and waterfalls, valley corridors, cemeteries, and public parks. Atatürk, Düden and Kararalıoğlu parks are the most important open green spaces in Muratpaşa, set by the Mediterranean (Figure 7). Falez Coastal Park provides connectivity between Düden and Karaalıoğlu parks as of natural border to the Mediterranean Sea. Except from Kaleiçi and some settlements by the coastline, Falez Park maintains opportunities for the

protection of both urban and coastal biodiversity as well as landscape diversity and urban aesthetics.

One of the most important and largest open green spaces in Muratpaşa and Antalya, is the Atatürk Cultural Park, is the outcome of landscape design project that implies on natural ground of Falezes which contains both cultural and native vegetation, makes a valuable contribution to the city in terms of species diversity, landscape diversity and habitat diversity. The park has been the most important social and cultural venue of the city with its congress, conference, exhibition halls and international film festival of Golden Orange. Atatürk Cultural Park, which has formal and geometric patterns in its design, has a diverse composition with its maquis and rock vegetation on cliffs.

Landscape characters simply diversify flat urban green space to steep coastal cliffs attached by many hardscape applications of ornamental pools, stages, large public activity grounds and single storey buildings. However, design components range from lines of central axes, geometric form of public grounds and small scale of structures and buildings to diverse composition (Figure 8).

Natural Landscape in Muratpaşa

Lara dunes

Sand dunes are rare coastal formations that require very long processes to form. Meaning 'a single sand grain' Lara coastal dunes and coastal forests are one of the most important natural areas left on the urban periphery of Antalya. During the urbanization process and especially after the 2000s, commercial business structures built for daily businesses on the coast and especially the promenades along the coast



Fig. 7. Open green sites; Atatürk Kültür (a), Düden (b), Karaalıoğlu (c) parks [created by the authors]



Fig. 8 Landscape characters and design components of open green sites [created by authors]



Fig. 9 Landscape characters and design components of Lara dunes [created by the authors]

have eliminated the ecological connectivity between the coastal dunes and offshore dune forest.

Even though blocked by the main road and public infrastructure, a natural coastline and dune system has been rare and pivotal coastal habitat for urban flora and fauna, witnessing Antalya's natural coastal land long before the urbanization. Referring to landscape characters, existence of dunes forest, mahhia and coastal dunes are unique geographical values, with a rare and memorable quality. Natural line of continuous coast together with artificial lines of roads and paths become a design component of linear form where scale is wide, composition is diverse and repetition is variable with natural elements (Figure 9).

Düden waterfall

The only waterfall in Antalya that has remained up to today and is still in exists within the city core, is the Düden Stream, which flows from the Taurus Mountains with numerous natural branches and flows into the Mediterranean Sea from a height of 40 meters. It is known that there were many waterfalls like Düden on the Falez sea cliffs up until the 1960-1970's but these water features disappeared under the shadow of urbanization.

Düden Park is set up where Düden stream exactly meets the Mediterranean Sea on the limestone cliffs and has been a landmark of the city. Owing to landscape characters Düden stream and its waterfall create a line effect both horizontally and vertically and geographically rare quality. Again Düden with strong pattern has linear form both horizontal and vertical dimensions in wide scale and diverse composition (Figure 10).

Falez sea cliffs

The coastal cliffs formed on limestone rocks represent a geological structure specific to the Antalya region.

In Muratpaşa city center, their height can reach up to 45 meters and create a platform overlooking to Taurus Mountains and Mediterranean Sea. Falez sea cliffs, continues for approximately 12 km between Lara dunes and Konyaaltı beaches, are also defined as high coastal tabletop landforms. The cliffs, which were formed as a result of the precipitation of calcium bicarbonate in the surface waters coming from the Taurus Mountains over thousands of years, are also considered a natural heritage. The vegetated sea cliffs along the Mediterranean limestone Falez also support unique plant communities. Thanks to their steep form reaching 90% slope Falez adds variety to Antalya's coastal landscapes with vertical sea, coast, cliff and platform-top terraces.

With regard to landscape characters steep topography, high-rise buildings and linear settlement form parallel to coastline create a curving linear form on a continuous line along the coast, strong pattern and protruding structure as of design components (Figure 11).

Konyaaltı beach

Konyaaltı beach has been one of the natural symbols of Antalya and one of the few beaches in the world that accessible for all in the heart of the city. Lying uninterruptedly on a 7 km long pebble coast, Konyaaltı beach can reach approximately 70 meters wide meets with open green areas, Calabrian pines forest (*Pinus brutia*), woodlands and preserved examples of native macchia vegetation.

Owing to landscape characters, Konyaaltı beach is rare and memorable in terms of its coastal structure and one of the most visited places by the people of the city and visitors.

Its inspiring and peaceful character resembles with design components of continuous and curving form, fine texture due to combination of sea, coastline, pebble beach and green vegetation with diverse composition and strong pattern (Figure 12).



Fig. 10. Landscape characters and design components of Düden waterfall [created by the authors]



Fig. 11. Landscape characters and design components of Falez sea cliffs [created by the authors]

Agricultural sites in Muratpaşa Kircami

Kircami is the largest agricultural region within the urban fabric in Muratpaşa. While traditional land use patterns and agricultural activities continue with greenhouse, fields and gardens and orchard production, it is also still possible to see glimpses of rural settlements of with semi-detached village houses in the heart the city. Typically covered by greenhouses, other farming practices are mixed but predominantly both arable irrigated patterns of small-scale fields bounded by irrigation and drainage channels and hedges of native vegetation.

While greenhouses, fields and gardens exhibit an intertwined structure with geometric patterns, a small number of natural plant patches and maquis islands provide significant benefits for both urban and agricultural biodiversity. Irrigation channels define the boundaries of large parcels and at the same time form the "lines" in the landscape. Kircami, which contains all examples of cultural, traditional, agricultural, rural and natural features.

Referring to landscape characteristics dispersed houses between farming lands create organic settlement form with village houses on a flat topography that have traditional and memorable quality as well as interesting and tranquil. Design components on the other hand are geometric form, fine texture with rich and diverse composition and strong pattern. Irrigation channels add linearity to the settlement dividing farming plots (Figure 13). Kircami maintains food security for urban population and acts as buffer zone against high-rise building urbanisation as well as open green spaces of the urban environment.

Discussion and Conclusion

The landscape associates people and place [17]. These associations have been most intact in urban landscapes which are the results of planning and design processes of

different layers that are complex, evocative but deserve to be attractive. Urban design, which aims to create livable human settlements by a proper and comprehensive organization of the multiple functions of cities, is generally outlined by the manifold nature of the urban landscape.

Since built areas in cities represent a large part of the urban landscape, they play an important role in landscape characters. Whitehand [28] emphasized the terms 'landscape' and 'character' stand out not only for their various uses, but also have their distinct and context-specific uses. Landscape analysis, on the other hand, as Güremen [10] suggested aims design-based solutions for complex cultural landscapes by understanding their aesthetic features and characteristic. Analysis of the lines, colors, textures and proportions that form the surfaces of spaces in urban environments are important in determining the state and identity of the urban environment.

Landscape provides a systematic basis for understanding the spatial patterns and process we see around [18]. Hereby, urban landscapes contain structures, history, knowledge and characters. Either ordinary or remarkable, urban landscape characters inextricably correspond design components in the city environment. In other words, any intervention that taken as a process of urbanisation generate a character either similar or completely different than the existing ones. As expressed by Whitehand [28], there is a need for comparative study of approaches and practical applications in explicating concepts that related to urban landscapes and their characteristics.

In the case of Muratpaşa District, the relationships between urban landscape characters and design components were evaluated. Overall settlement patterns in Muratpaşa are typically urban which were shaped mainly by residential and commercial buildings. Hereby, landscape characters are defined by the building height and density which have become the design components of geometric forms, course texture, full repetition, continuous lines. As they



Fig. 12. Landscape characters and design components of Konyaalti beach [created by the authors]



Fig. 13. Landscape characters and design components of agricultural sites, Kircami [created by the authors]

are unresponsive to underlying topography, vegetation or hydrology their characteristics are simply generic by repeated built elements around the city.

In spite of these broadly similar combinations of urban settlements, Kaleiçi historic quarter has distinct characteristics owing to its precinct, organic settlement form, traditional houses, its responsiveness to natural harbour and underlying topography. Concerning to design components, Kaleiçi distinguishes from other urban contexts with round forms, diverse composition, strong pattern and medium scale (Figure 14) that initiates a singular townscape in different size, density and spatial configuration that fitted into biophysical layout of the natural harbour and historic identity.

Although the city is concealed by buildings, the results have shown that natural and biophysical features revealed "distinct" attributes in urban landscape characters. Muratpaşa has had inherent geographical properties such as Falez sea cliffs, Düden waterfall, Konyaalti and Lara beaches, Lara sand dunes that simply emerge remarkable landscape characters. Falez sea cliffs as the part of geology which become a matter of topography by escalating platform rising up to 45 meters instantly from the sea level. Düden stream and waterfall linked with hydrology and geology, are the natural corridor born from the Taurus Mountains and fall into the Mediterranean ostentatiously from the Falez cliffs. Lara dunes, dune forest and beach have been vulnerable landforms of a long geological process since last glacial age. They are significant habitats interplaying between sea and the territory (Figure 14).

Types of open spaces greatly vary around the cities depending on the planning decisions, economic activities and presence of protected nature. Native and non-native vegetation as well their multiple compositions in open, green sites, small valleys are the most important and distinctive natural and biophysical features that distinguish unbuilt sites from the building masses.

In respect to landscape characteristic parks, urban green sites and remnants of natural areas along the coastline in Muratpaşa; enclosing beaches Konyaalti and Lara on both sites and elevated Falez coastal cliffs in between represent unique "coastal landscapes" with open sea views and strong connections with Mediterranean. Ultimately coastline from east–west delineates a landscape character zone' with distinct characteristics that unique to Muratpaşa, Antalya which have biophysical, natural, geological, historical and perceptual associations with Mediterranean Sea (Figure 14). Landscape character zone with significant geographical qualities that unique to Muratpaşa, reflects unique sense of the region. This also corresponds to the fact that the land by the sea is more than human interpretation but remarkable entity of natural evolution of earth's surfaces that shape and characterise the Muratpaşa urban landscapes.

The arable lands in the periphery of the cities are critical for food security of urban population. In this vein, natural, semi-natural and particularly agricultural areas within and around the city as of unique characters should be given special attention in the planning and design of the city [8]. Kircami sector in Muratpaşa where farming and agriculture activities have been carried out in the very close proximity of the city centre embodies a specific character area as a hub of food production. What makes Kircami unique is its position and individual rural characteristics as opposed to prevailing urban structure.

Referring to design elements lines, planes and volumes all have shapes [6]. As of the configuration of elements in the landscape, shape plays a key role in the demystification of characters [5]. Except from Kaleiçi historic settlement, forms in urban settlements are usually geometric, while the texture is coarse due to dense intervals of concrete buildings. On the other hand, the Mediterranean Sea shore in the form of a beach, dune or cliff, whether it is urban cultural, natural or natural, the "coast" has become the most important

	<i>Diverse, round</i>		<i>Geometric, simple</i>		<i>Coarse, dominant</i>
Historic settlement <i>Organic form, memorable</i>		High rise, high density urban <i>Grid plan, ordinary</i>		High rise, low density urban <i>Mixed used, ordinary</i>	
	<i>Complex, small</i>		<i>Complex, strong</i>		<i>Linear, variable/lev</i>
Low rise, high density urban <i>Flat, ordinary,</i>		Low rise, low density urban <i>Dispersed, ordinary</i>		Tourism sites <i>Urban, touristic, ordinary</i>	
	<i>Linear, wide</i>		<i>Wide, round</i>		<i>Linear, strong</i>
Antalya Airport <i>Infrastructure, flat</i>		Lara dunes <i>Isolated, important</i>		Düden stream and waterfall <i>Memorable, impressive</i>	
	<i>Continuous, wide</i>		<i>Curving, strong</i>		<i>Diverse, medium</i>
Lara Dunes Natural sites <i>Dune, dune forest, rare</i>		Falez sea cliffs <i>Steep, rare, inspiring</i>		Yamansaz wetland <i>Natural, interesting</i>	
	<i>Continuous, curving</i>		<i>Diverse, medium</i>		<i>Wide, fine texture</i>
Konyaalti Coastal sites, beaches <i>Flat, rare, inspiring</i>		Urban open green sites <i>Formal, cultural, tranquil</i>		Agriculture sites <i>Rural, organic, traditional</i>	

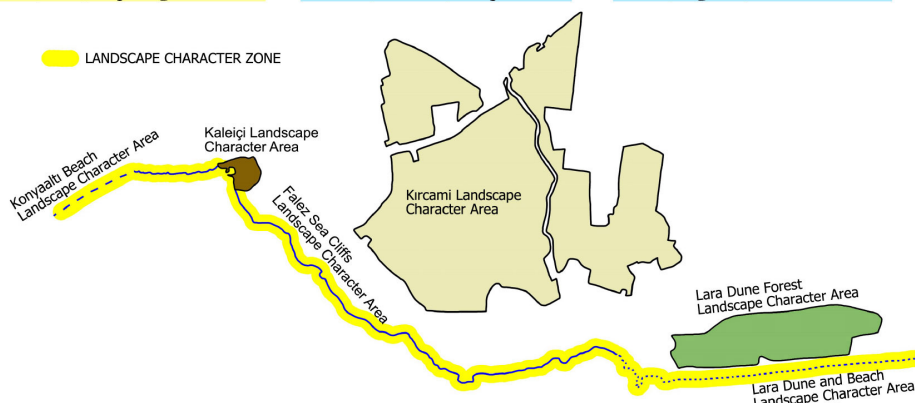


Fig. 14. Key characteristics of urban landscapes and character areas in Muratpaşa [created by the authors]

defining "line" element. According to spatial interpretation of key characteristics, coastline with different landforms has happened a genuine linear design component (Figure 14). Crop patterns, land uses, and seasonal features define the distinctive, prominent colors of fields, buildings, and other elements in the landscape [5]. However, because most urban elements are static, and colour has become the expression of complexity artificial surfaces in urban environment. As in the Muratpaşa example, whether simple or diverse, composition makes it possible to bring together and simply explain the parts of the whole urban form.

Scale is important in the understanding visual landscape quality and distinct characteristics. Even small-scale elements in urban landscape may play key role in elucidating different attributes. For example, although Kaleiçi has small in scale however, its site-specific identity deserves to be landscape character area that symbolises Antalya.

Arrangement of patterns in urban landscapes can be fabricated by different settlement densities, roads, electric lines, tourist accommodations or fences, parks and gardens (Figure 14) while streets and building blocks in residential areas often stand out with rough texture, dominant and complete repetition.

Urban areas are physical settings where a very significant part of the world's population lives. Therefore, the concept of urban landscapes are critical to appreciation of their characters in the era of globalisation. We applied a holistic approach to address the discourse which characters urban land uses bring, how those characters reconcile design components and how geographic properties effect the urban environment. Although urban proliferation is identical by ordinary city fabric, geographic attributes such as coastline, intact forests, dunes or waterfalls convey individual character and identity to urban landscapes.

Data availability

The data that has been used is confidential.

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Pilsētvides ainavu var definēt kā teritoriju ar augstu apbūves un iedzīvotāju blīvumu, kurā koncentrējas daudzveidīgas funkcijas un dzīvo ļoti ievērojama pasaules iedzīvotāju daļa. Pilsētvides ainavas raksturu veido pazīmju kopums, kas konkrēto pilsētu atšķir gan no tās apkārtnes teritorijām, gan no citām pilsētām. Tādēļ globalizācijas laikmetā pilsētvides ainavas jēdziens ir īpaši nozīmīgs, lai izprastu, novērtētu un saglabātu pilsētu individuālo raksturu un identitāti.

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