UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT AS A TOOL FOR LANDSCAPE PLANNING

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Thesis submitted in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of **Masters of Science**

Faculty of Architecture, Planning and Surveying

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AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this thesis was carried out in accordance with the Regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the result of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any other degree or qualification.

I, hereby acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate, Universiti Teknologi MARA, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

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ABSTRACT

Landscape is an important national resource which includes outstanding natural and cultural heritage. Landscape widely appreciated through aesthetic beauty and its important contribution to regional identity and sense of place. Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) is a tool used to evaluate landscape character in many developed countries that started in England and Scotland. Landscape character assessment can make a valuable contribution to the formation of planning policies, to the allocation of land for development and to development control activities. By investigating two successful Landscape Character Assessment model, this study attempt to explore the applicability of Landscape Character Assessment framework in Malaysia influences the process of planning, designing and managing of the landscape for sustainable future. Geographical Information System (GIS) application is used extensively to support evidence base Landscape Character Assessment for identification and classification of landscape character types and character areas in the state of Selangor as case study. The process of desk study validated by field survey and stakeholders input to provide framework for a fundamental structure of classifying the landscape character. The findings of desk study is validated by field work (ground thruthing) to shed information on landscape character types and landscape character areas currently exist in the study area. The information on the phenomenon of landscape described by the descriptive feature and the landscape character strength is assessed by the subjective aesthetic valuation in the interpretive process to evaluate the quality of the landscape character. The final result is the proposed alternatives management in term of conservation, preservation, enhancement and rehabilitation of landscape character area which will contribute to the decision making process in planning, design and management of the landscape resources in Malaysia.

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I hope this thesis will lead to preserving, developing and managing of Landscape Character Assessment in Malaysia that will be to harmonize the sustainable development along with nature creation by our Creator. Insya Allah.

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