



CENTRE OF STUDIES FOR LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  
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REVIVING RURAL RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AT PULAU PENAREK,  
MUAR

This academic project is submitted in partial fulfilment of the  
requirement for the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (Hons.)

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## **ABSTRACT**

Today, serious degradation of the rural - heritage has lead by technological development, economic and population growth and social changes in most parts of the world. These occurrences have encouraged many researchers and nature-lovers to a greater appreciation of this fragile natural environment and have resulted in numerous and vary studies conducted in order to conserve it. Two methodologies had been used in this project, (i) Ian McHarg's Ecological Inventory Method and (ii) Design development for proposed strategies. This study showed that several key success factors for sustainable conservation which includes the level of the stakeholders' awareness, participation and appreciation towards heritage values and its economic potential and enforcement of legislation or policy will bring toward the successful of the rural - recreational. Indirectly, the strong genius loci and successful ecosystem can be implemented. Having shown the importance of these rural landscapes, the last sections of the study show how the present practice of environmental designers preclude the generation of ideas towards successful rural recreational activities in Pulau Penarek, Muar.

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## **CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Introduction**

Today, serious degradation of the rural has led by technological development, economic and population growth and social changes in most parts of the world. These occurrences have encouraged many researchers and nature-lovers to a greater appreciation of this fragile natural environment and have resulted in numerous and vary studies conducted in order to conserve it. Usually, nature conservation is related to the protection of biodiversity as the most at risk element of the natural environment. But it is quite clear that conservation of both abiotic and biotic nature should get much responsiveness. The rural landscape may result in a wide range of impacts, depending on the site and its location. Potential damage and degradation of landforms and the impacts of some tourism consumers on visitor experience are the main issues that rural landscape faced.

Hence, the landscape of cultural - spatial need to be designed and created with the intention of improving the capacity of rural - site to generate benefits for local people and thus contribute to the rural - heritage conservation efforts for the community. Design by nature can be achieved by bringing together the science of design with the creativity of natural surroundings. The strategies of living systems can provide a conceptual linkage between natural and human design, as humans and environment that must evolve together towards a design interdependence (Galha & Bártolo, 2002).

Actually, the loss of identity and distinctiveness character of precious rural sites contributed by an uncontrolled development plan that had created a rapid growth of modern design. Absolutely, the new design and ideas will create a good visual quality of the rural landscape, but sometimes it may not consider in preserving the rural - heritage value that is important as the witness of the history of the early development around any certain area. Our future generation will lose their appreciation towards rural landscape and their chance to recognize the distinctive character of their value due to this phenomenon. Even the idea of spirit of place is less tangible, but it still evokes the sense of rural landscape uniqueness that derived from natural and cultural features. It has become our concern to raise the rural - conservation as a symbol of nationwide excellence.