

Peer Review

Review of: "Ancient Houses in Ben Tre City: A Multifaceted Approach to Preserve Artistic Architectural Heritage and Boost Local Tourism"

Karla Silva Poblete^{1,2}

1. Universidad Catolica de Temuco, Chile; 2. Universidad del País Vasco, Spain

The article addresses in a timely and relevant manner the issue of conserving the ancient houses of Ben Tre City, highlighting their historical, architectural, cultural, and tourism value within the context of sustainable urban development. The research successfully articulates the relationship between built heritage, local identity, and tourism potential, while also contributing technical proposals focused on structural stability and soil improvement, which constitute a notable strength of the work.

Nevertheless, one aspect that could be significantly strengthened is the graphical and technical support of the study. Although the text provides detailed descriptions of the architectural, constructive, and pathological characteristics of the buildings, the incorporation of high-precision architectural surveys would allow these descriptions to be supported by objective and verifiable data, thereby increasing the scientific rigor of the article and its usefulness for future conservation and restoration processes.

In this regard, it is recommended to integrate point clouds obtained through terrestrial or aerial LiDAR technology, as well as photogrammetric surveys using drones, to generate orthophotos, 3D models, and accurate sections of the historic houses. These tools would not only facilitate a detailed geometric record of façades, roofs, structures, and deformations, but would also enable the documentation of differential settlements, construction pathologies, and spatial relationships with the immediate urban environment.

The incorporation of this type of survey would provide a high-precision technical basis, which is essential for planning interventions, monitoring deformations over time, and making informed decisions in the field of heritage conservation. Furthermore, these digital products could be integrated

into GIS systems or heritage-oriented BIM platforms, strengthening the management of built heritage and its articulation with urban and tourism policies.

In terms of dissemination and heritage enhancement, three-dimensional models and high-resolution orthophotos would also contribute to improving the communication of heritage assets to non-specialist audiences, supporting strategies for cultural tourism, heritage education, and community participation.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.