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La biographie d'un paysage. Etude sur les transformations de longue durée du paysage culturel de la région de Fort-Liberté, Haïti

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Propositions

1. The concept of “complex palimpsest” is fundamental to highlight social and historical multilayers of landscape and the way that individuals and communities engage with the material past in the present.
2. An Amerindian village must not be considered only as a single settlement, but also as an agglomeration of sites.
3. Complex social organization of indigenous groups cannot be related to a single cultural affiliation (eg., Chicoid) but it should be based on social relations between different cultural groups in the environment that create a social space.
4. In the context of *post-colonization*, landscape transformation studies must deconstruct the dichotomy of precolonial/colonial as two separated manifestations, but also should focus on their interrelation to understand the landscape’s dynamics in the *longue durée*.
5. Historical documents are mainly used to write the history of Saint-Domingue, Haiti. However, colonial objects are neglected in the writing process of this history. Intensive and extensive archaeological research can play a key role to apprehend the complexity of the colonial landscape of Saint-Domingue.
6. In spite of focusing on only the material of the past, ethnographic data associated with archaeological records can give a voice to the people and their descendants affected by the long process of the colonization.
7. Destruction of archaeological sites in Haiti are the result of an absence of strategies for the protection of heritage in general. An inclusive and participative approach of communities in the process of identifying and managing heritage is crucial for the archaeological sites’ protection.
8. The religious activities performed by practitioners on the archaeological ruins constitute the elements of values for their management and preservation.
9. School excursions to specific archaeological sites like colonial forts are a relevant tool for raising awareness among the youngest groups of students for future sustainability of archaeological heritage.
10. There are a lack of Haitian archaeologists. It is important for the Haitian institutions to manifest more interest in promoting archaeological training in higher education level, which is one way to ensure a new generation of archaeological researchers.