

are confined to the academic world and are not well understood by the social groups which surround the sites and possess the objects. Rather, the value systems within these groups are inspired by social issues and the right of access to their exploitation in different ways, including tourism, agriculture, real estate, housing, and commerce. Most people who look after archaeological resources see them as an opportunity to exploit and ensure a better livelihood. Nevertheless, some archaeological heritage has intangible and religious aspects.

Archaeological heritage constitutes a part of the living traditions of indigenous peoples and, for such sites and monuments, the participation of local cultural groups is essential for their long-term protection and preservation (Matero, 2008).

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