



# Cultural Heritage Preservation in West Africa: A Digital Age Perspective in Rwanda

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## Abstract

Cultural heritage preservation in West Africa is an evolving field that integrates traditional conservation practices with contemporary digital technologies. The research methodology employed qualitative interviews and document analysis among stakeholders including local communities, government officials, and cultural heritage experts in Rwanda. A key finding is that digital platforms are increasingly being used to enhance community engagement with cultural sites, particularly through interactive mobile applications. Rwanda's approach demonstrates a promising integration of traditional preservation techniques with modern digital tools, highlighting the potential for innovative solutions in heritage management. Further research should investigate broader regional applications and evaluate long-term impacts of these digital interventions on cultural identity and community participation.

**Keywords:** *African geography, Heritage studies, Digital preservation, Ethnography, Oral history, GIS, Community engagement*

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