The objective of this dissertation was to identify the planning requirements for sustainable conservation of landscape features in Qingdao Historical and Cultural Protected Area from considering the existing Liyuan blocks. Qingdao City lies in the south of Shandong Peninsula on the Jiaozhou Bay, Coast of the Yellow Sea, China. Qingdao City has begun to be built and developed under the German and Japanese rule in the early 20th century. The unique landscape of Qingdao City featured buildings accumulated by the time on the natural topography.

However, the recent urban development is affecting the unique landscape of Qingdao City and rapidly undergoing a complete change of its features. The study about the landscape conservation of Qingdao Historical and Cultural Protected Area has been hard to carry out because the difficulty to collect documentation and references. With this in mind, this dissertation intended to identify the planning requirements to conserve landscape characteristics in the Qingdao Historical and Cultural Protected Area from the view of existing features of Liyuan buildings and Liyuan blocks, which reflect the historical process and natural changes of Qingdao City.

This dissertation consisted of seven chapters as follow.

Chapter 1
First at all, historical reference materials about the old city area, the Historical and cultural Protected Area, and Liyuan blocks were collected and investigated. Followed, four main objectives were established as shown below:

(1) To identify the requirements that demand the city fixed framework for the Qingdao Historical and Cultural Protected Area, the target landscape elements, the contents of the city redevelopment plans and the changes of city areas with Liyuan blocks.

(2) To identify the characteristics features of Liyuan blocks and Liyuan buildings, for example, the courtyard of the existing Liyuan architecture in Liyuan blocks, neighborhood ways, streets surrounding neighborhoods,
characteristics of linking spaces to the city and the existing uses in the Qingdao Historical and Cultural Protected Area.

(3) To identify the requirements that could support the recognition of Liyuan block characteristics by inhabitants and the aspects that may encourage inhabitants to live there.

(4) To identify the requirements to conserve the visual qualities of places from where people can recognize the Old City area and Liyuan blocks in the Qingdao Historical and Cultural Protected Area.

Chapter 2
The study shows the document analysis, field work and the questionnaire survey for Liyuan block’s inhabitants in correspondence with the objectives mentioned in chapter 1.

Chapter 3
The characteristics of the preservation system for the Qingdao Historical and Cultural Protected Area were recognized. In addition, the study investigated the existing, changing and disappearing situations of Liyuan blocks, and the subjects to be considered in the preservation and utilization of the Old City in the Qingdao Historical and Cultural Protected Area.

Chapter 4
The requirements to conserve the landscape characteristics of Liyuan buildings and blocks that are disappearing by urban redevelopment projects were investigated through the analysis of topographical maps, an aerial photo and reference documents. Furthermore, field surveys were utilized to investigate the peoples’ activities in Liyuan blocks, characteristics of neighborhoods, as perceived from courtyards and minor streets in Liyuan blocks, and the sites of new Liyuan buildings.

Chapter 5
With base in the results from chapters three and four, questionnaire surveys for inhabitants living in the Liyuan buildings and blocks were carried out. It was also analyzed the inhabitant’s perceptions on amenities, and the inhabitant’s willingness for visiting the Liyuan buildings and blocks. The needs and requirements that may encourage people to keep living in Liyuan buildings and blocks were recognized.

Chapter 6
First at all, some viewpoints to observe the Qingdao Historical and Cultural Protected Area were set based on the geographical features of Qingdao City. The viewpoints from where people usually observe Liyuan buildings and blocks were identified through the analysis of field surveys and panoramic photographs. Finally, the conditions in which a view could be obstructed were recognized.

Chapter 7
The planning requirements for sustainable conservation of the landscape
features in the Qingdao Historical and Cultural Protected Area were identified considering the third, fourth and fifth chapters’ results. The possibilities for conservation and development of Liyuan buildings and blocks were also investigated.

Conclusion

In order to develop a planning approach for the sustainable conservation of landscape features in the Qingdao Historical and Cultural Protected Area from considering the existing Liyuan blocks, some planning requirements were identified, for instance, an intentional management program of maintenance activities implemented by inhabitants in order to keep the good landscape features of Liyuan buildings and blocks, succeeding the characteristics of the Liyuan buildings and block’s design and decoration, saving landscape setting in middle range distance from the viewpoints to Liyuan buildings and blocks, as well as controlling the vegetation growth around viewpoints.