

Evaluation of Road Landscapes in Tibet Cultural Tourism and Creative Park Based on POE and AHP

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Abstract The internal road landscapes of Tibet Cultural Tourism and Creative Park at an altitude of 3,650 m were taken as the research object, and focusing on the restrictive effect of the high-altitude extreme environment on the road landscapes, data were collected through data crawling and survey questionnaires. Post occupancy evaluation (POE) was used to establish an evaluation system containing five dimensions and 24 indicators (including five high-altitude specific indicators), and statistical analysis was conducted by using multiple methods such as the analytic hierarchy process (AHP), SD semantic difference method, and IPA image analysis method. The results show that the respondents are generally satisfied with the overall evaluation of road landscapes in Tibet Cultural Tourism and Creative Park. However, the performance of high-altitude associated indicators is worrying. That is, anti-glare safety requirements are not met, and the survival rate of plateau plants is lower than the requirements of landscape effect; the integration of cultural landscapes fails to reflect regional culture. Based on this, high-altitude adaptive design strategies of three-dimensional synergy of “culture, ecology and security” were proposed to provide a certain paradigm reference for the evaluation and design of road landscapes in high-altitude areas.

Keywords High altitude, Road landscape, Landscape assessment, POE, AHP

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Road landscape, an important public space in a city, integrates multiple values of production, life and ecology, and plays a key role in improving urban environment, enhancing travel experience and enriching urban landscape^[1]. The post occupancy evaluation (POE) method spans multiple fields, providing strong support for the development of road and landscape design theories^[2]. Liao Rui^[3], Yu Bing et al.^[4] and Zhao Yipeng^[5] adopted the analytic hierarchy process (AHP) to establish the evaluation system of functions of green space landscape along urban roads and roads in a scenic area, and put forward suggestions for diversity optimization. Yang Lijia^[6] and Xin Lei et al.^[7] used the SD (semantic differential) method to analyze and evaluate the current situation of road traffic and urban road greening, and put forward corresponding suggestions for road landscape. Chai Mingyang^[8] conducted a difference analysis on the satisfaction and importance of farmland landscapes using the importance-performance analysis (IPA) method.

Existing research indicates that the diversity, complexity and regional differences of road landscapes have led to the fact that no unified consensus has been reached on evaluation criteria and paradigms. Current studies mostly focus on the low-altitude areas in the central and eastern regions. There is still a gap in the evaluation system for the special environments at

high altitudes (such as low temperature and low oxygen, strong ultraviolet rays, and ecological fragility) and unique cultures. In this study, taking Tibet Cultural Tourism and Creative Park as an example, the “high-altitude adaptability evaluation framework” was innovatively proposed, and the risk of ultraviolet glare, the integration degree of cultural landscapes in Tibet, and the growth survival rate of high-altitude plants were incorporated into the quantitative system for the first time to fill the methodological gap in this field.

1 Study area and current situation

Tibet Cultural Tourism and Creative Industry Park (built in 2012) is located in the southeast of Lhasa, facing the Potala Palace across the river. It is a representative of high-altitude cultural and creative industrial parks in China. The park covers an area of 8.14 km², and the total length of roads is 10.75 km. Due to the high-altitude special environment, the road landscapes are significantly different from that in the inland areas.

In this study, 18 typical road sections (including main and secondary roads and sidewalks) within the park were selected, and an evaluation system was constructed; the design rules of road landscapes at high altitudes were explored to

provide support for the planning, maintenance and cultural inheritance of the park.

2 Data sources and research methods

2.1 Data sources

18 sections within the park were selected for on-site exploration and questionnaire distribution in August 2023 and February 2024. Data was crawled using the Scrappy framework, and text sentiment analysis was conducted using TextBlob (Fig.1).

Following the principle that the ratio of the object to sample size is 1 : 5, a questionnaire containing 21 indicators was designed and distributed to three groups: tourists, personnel



Fig.1 Emotional analysis of road landscapes in Tibet Cultural Tourism and Creative Park

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from greening departments, and local drivers. A total of 147 valid questionnaires were collected (with an effective rate of 98%). The reliability of the questionnaires was analyzed by SPSS (Cronbach's Alpha=0.92), indicating that the design was reasonable and reliable^[9].

2.2 Research methods

2.2.1 Establishing an evaluation system based on POE. This POE evaluation aims to

systematically collect feedback on the use of road landscapes in the park, assess its effectiveness, and provide data support for optimization^[10-14]. The evaluation adheres to the principles of science, comprehensiveness, operability and user orientation.

In view of the significant differences in production, life and ecology between Lhasa area and inland low-altitude areas (Table 1), the

evaluation indicator system has been adaptively adjusted. Five indicators in the criteria layer and 24 indicators in the indicator layer were finally determined (Table 2), including multiple high-altitude characteristic indicators such as anti-glare, regional characteristic display, and plant growth status.

2.2.2 Determine the weight of AHP indicators. Based on the evaluation indicator system, a

Table 1 Differences between Lhasa area and inland low-altitude areas

| Type | Regional difference | Lhasa area | Inland low-altitude area |
|------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| Production | Transportation mode | Highways | Highways, railways, waterways, etc. |
| | House construction | Most of them are thick-walled and low-rise buildings | Well-ventilated high-rise buildings |
| | Road traffic volume | The land is vast and sparsely populated, with a low density | High urbanization and high density |
| | Seasonal flow | Fluctuating with the peak tourist season | Relatively stable |
| | Road landscape material | Cold-resistant and sun-resistant special material | Diverse materials |
| | Energy | Photovoltaic, wind power, hydropower, etc. | Fossil energy |
| Life | Use of road space | It is relatively limited and is mostly used for gathering and distributing, providing shade, etc. | It is relatively extensive and is mainly used for chatting, enjoying the cool, square dancing, etc. |
| | Driving habit | Road conditions are complex, so drivers should be more cautious | Drivers are relatively relaxed because road conditions are usually good |
| | Pedestrian traffic awareness | Rather weak | Rather profound |
| | Road traffic volume | The land is vast and sparsely populated, with a low density | High urbanization and high density |
| | Pace of life | Slower | Faster |
| | Diversity of road users | Agricultural vehicles, livestock crossing streets, etc. | Motor vehicles |
| | Exercise habit | Oxygen is thin and the intensity of exercise is low | Sufficient oxygen and high intensity of exercise |
| | Time of outdoor activities | Relatively less | Relatively more |
| | Landscape style | Nature, and culture | Diversification |
| | Road anti-glare | Daytime | Night car lights |
| Ecology | Road scenery | Natural scenery | Urban scenery |
| | Ecological sensitivity | Higher | Lower |
| | Plant varieties selected | Plateau characteristic plant | More |
| | Plant growth condition | Poor | Better |
| | Plant characteristic | Cold-resistant and sun-resistant | Diversity |
| | Plant shading | Relatively low shading rate | Relatively high shading rate |

Table 2 Road landscape indicator system and their weight in Tibet Cultural Tourism and Creative Park

| Target layer | Criterion layer | Weight | Indicator layer | Weight | CR |
|---|--------------------------------------|----------|--|----------|----------|
| Evaluation of the municipal road landscapes in Tibet Cultural Tourism and Creative Park (A) | Safety characteristic (B1) | 0.275 51 | Visual obstruction (C1) | 0.394 86 | 0.040 00 |
| | | | Anti-glare (C2) | 0.177 03 | |
| | | | Plant color (C3) | 0.141 04 | |
| | | | Intersection flow rate (C4) | 0.072 96 | |
| | | | Lighting (C5) | 0.214 12 | |
| | Cultural characteristic (B2) | 0.258 84 | Display of regional characteristics (C6) | 0.311 90 | 0.052 00 |
| | | | Degree of integration between landscape and culture (C7) | 0.490 48 | |
| | | | Utilization of native plants (C8) | 0.197 62 | |
| | Landscape visual characteristic (B3) | 0.137 75 | Harmony of roadside plants (C9) | 0.350 71 | 0.004 00 |
| | | | Landscape space (C10) | 0.109 33 | |
| | | | Viewing duration and seasonal changes (C11) | 0.189 25 | |
| | | | Aesthetic sense (C12) | 0.350 71 | |
| | Ecological characteristic (B4) | 0.242 17 | Plant growth condition (C13) | 0.257 38 | 0.034 00 |
| | | | Vegetation coverage and diversity (C14) | 0.248 47 | |
| | | | Sustainable design (C15) | 0.153 57 | |
| | | | Plant shading (C16) | 0.101 25 | |
| | | | Microclimate regulation (C17) | 0.123 59 | |
| | | | Air purification (C18) | 0.104 69 | |
| | | | Soil and water conservation (C19) | 0.080 07 | |
| | | | Lighting facility (C20) | 0.426 13 | 0.004 00 |
| | Service characteristic (B5) | 0.085 72 | Sanitation facility (C21) | 0.101 67 | |
| | | | Identification system (C22) | 0.274 25 | |
| | | | Transportation facility (C23) | 0.162 06 | |
| | | | Road space (C24) | 0.244 24 | |

model was constructed by using the analytic hierarchy process (AHP)^[15-18], and road landscapes in the park (A) were quantitatively analyzed by using the 1–9 scale, covering five core elements. The consistency index (CI) and consistency ratio (CR) of the constructed judgment matrix are both less than 0.1, meeting the consistency inspection standards.

Experts in the fields of urban planning, landscaping and road landscape design were invited to score and evaluate the indicators, and the weight of each indicator was obtained through a judgment matrix. In view of the regional characteristics of sparse permanent residents and fluctuating tourism in Tibet, the weight of safety in the evaluation system was appropriately reduced, and the weight of ecology and culture was increased.

2.3 SD semantic and IPA quadrant analysis

In this study, the SD method was adopted to quantify public landscape perception to objectively reflect the actual quality of the landscapes^[19-22].

Based on the results of quantitative analysis, the advantages and disadvantages of the road landscapes were identified, and then targeted optimization suggestions were put forward. 24 pairs of semantically opposite adjectives were set, and 147 respondents scored 24 indicators of road landscapes of the park. The scoring

criteria are based on the degree of consistency between the evaluation content and the on-site landscapes (Table 3), and a 5-level scale was used (–2–2 points). Among them, an average score of 0–2 means a positive factor, and an average score from –2 to 0 stands for a negative factor. Satisfaction can be classified into four levels according to the score.

In addition, the IPA quadrant analysis method was used to identify the “high importance–low performance” elements and optimize the allocation of resources for improvement^[23].

3 Results and analysis

3.1 Weight of AHP indicators

Through the weight analysis of the indicator system, it is found that the weight ranking of the criterion layer is: B1 > B2 > B4 > B3 > B5. The top three indicators in terms of weight ranking are C1, C7 and C9, reflecting the differences in the importance of various indicators in the landscape evaluation system.

3.2 Results of SD semantic and IPA quadrant analysis

The results of SD semantic evaluation (Table 4) show that the criterion layer contains 1 negative factor and 4 positive factors, while the indicator layer includes 9 negative factors and 15 positive factors. In the satisfaction evaluation, there are 5 “very satisfied” items, 10 “relatively satisfied” items, and 9 negative factors.

Based on the results of SD semantic analysis (Fig.2 and Fig.3), the IPA four-quadrant analysis method was further adopted to determine the improvement priority. The results reveal that in the criterion layer, B2 and B4 are restoration areas, and B1 is an advantage zone, while B3 and B5 are maintenance areas. In the indicator layer, 4 items such as C7 are restoration areas, and four items such as C2 are opportunity areas; 9 items including C23 are maintenance areas), and 4 items including C12 are advantageous areas.

3.3 Analysis of evaluation results

Based on the above research methods, the analysis of the evaluation results covers the following five aspects.

(1) The expression of regional culture is insufficient. The cultural features of some sections have a low degree of integration with road landscapes. High-altitude culture relies more on architectural carriers, which is significantly different from low-altitude culture.

(2) Greening structure is monotonous. In some sections, plant layers are monotonous, and the application of native species is insufficient. High-altitude environments restrict the variety and growth of plants, exacerbating the limitations.

(3) There are safety performance hazards. Some plants along the main roads have no anti-glare function, and their colors are monotonous. The strong sunlight in Lhasa leads to severe light pollution (such as dizziness caused by building

Table 3 SD semantic evaluation of road landscapes in Tibet Cultural Tourism and Creative Park

| Criterion layer | Indicator layer | Content | SD semantic evaluation |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Safety characteristic (B1) | Visual obstruction (C1) | Degree of visual obstruction | Strong – weak |
| | Anti-glare (C2) | Anti-glare degree | Strong – weak |
| | Plant color (C3) | Influence of plant color | Strong – weak |
| | Intersection flow rate (C4) | Degree of intersection flow | High – low |
| | Lighting (C5) | Impact of lighting on safety | Strong – weak |
| Cultural characteristic (B2) | Display of regional characteristics (C6) | Display degree of regional characteristics | Rich – single |
| | Degree of integration between landscape and culture (C7) | Degree of integration between landscape and culture | Harmonious – general |
| | Utilization of native plants (C8) | Number of native plants | More – less |
| Landscape visual characteristic (B3) | Harmony of roadside plants (C9) | Harmony between roadside plants and the environment | Harmonious – general |
| | Landscape space (C10) | Aesthetic appeal of landscape space | Aesthetically pleasing – average |
| | Viewing duration and seasonal changes (C11) | Viewing duration and richness of seasonal changes | Rich – single |
| | Aesthetic sense (C12) | Overall aesthetic sense | Aesthetically pleasing – average |
| Ecological characteristic (B4) | Plant growth condition (C13) | Degree of plant growth condition | Good – average |
| | Vegetation coverage and diversity (C14) | Degree of vegetation coverage and diversity | Rich – single |
| | Sustainable design (C15) | Effect of sustainable design | Good – average |
| | Plant shading (C16) | Plant shading rate | High – low |
| | Microclimate regulation (C17) | Microclimate regulation capacity | Strong – weak |
| | Air purification (C18) | Air purification capacity | Strong – weak |
| | Soil and water conservation (C19) | Soil and water conservation capacity | Strong – weak |
| | Lighting facility (C20) | Whether lighting facilities are complete | Complete – missing |
| Service characteristic (B5) | Sanitation facility (C21) | Whether sanitation facilities are complete | Complete – missing |
| | Identification system (C22) | Whether identification system is complete | Complete – missing |
| | Transportation facility (C23) | Whether transportation facilities are complete | Complete – missing |
| | Road space (C24) | Degree of utilization of road space | More – less |

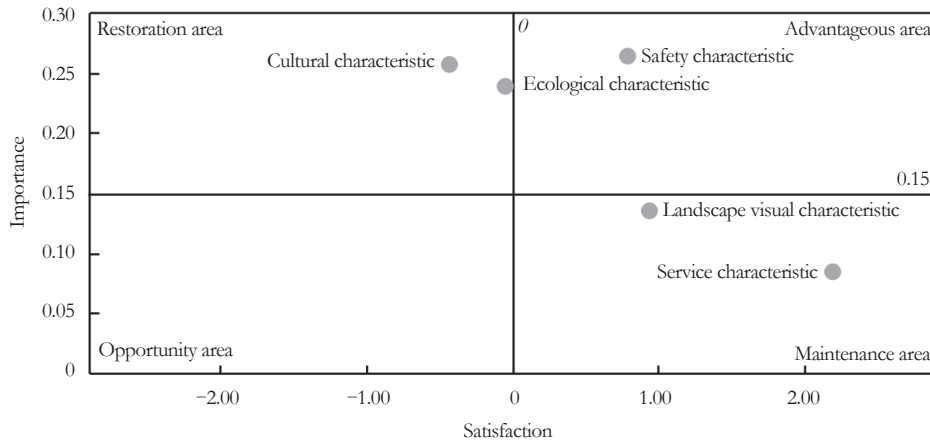


Fig.2 IPA quadrant chart of satisfaction and importance of the criterion layer for road landscapes in Tibet Cultural Tourism and Creative Park

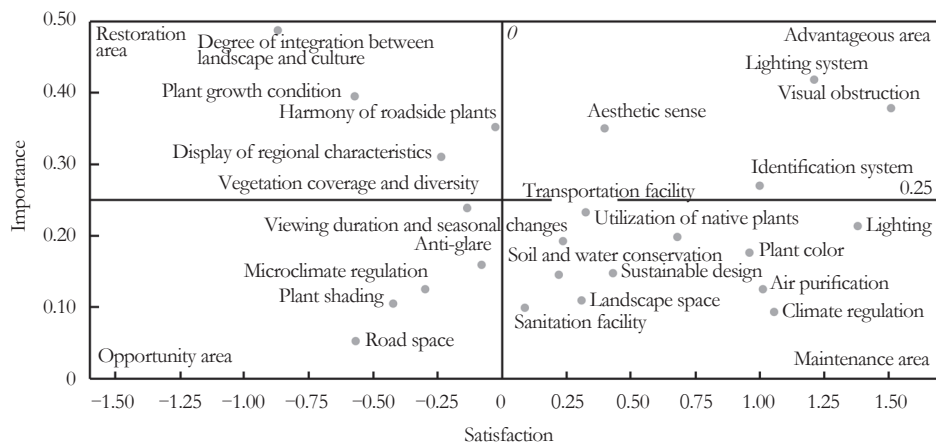


Fig.3 IPA quadrant chart of satisfaction and importance of the indicator layer for road landscapes in Tibet Cultural Tourism and Creative Park



Fig.4 Effects before and after the creation of three-dimensional landscapes

reflection glare), and the demand for anti-glare is higher than that in inland areas.

(4) There is a lack of ecological adaptability. The absence of design specifically for the ecological sensitivity, resource scarcity and long daylight hours at high altitudes leads to inefficient water resource utilization and microclimate imbalance (such as sudden midday heating).

(5) The functions of road space are mismatched. The demand for crowd gathering and dispersion in road space is high (characteristic of

“sunshine cities”), and landscape guidance and barrier-free facilities are insufficient.

4 Plans and strategies

Based on the existing problems, optimization paths are proposed.

(1) Weather resistance design of cultural carriers: anti-ultraviolet aging Tibet-style sculptures, cultural walls and other symbols are implanted on the main and secondary roads, and cold-resistant native plants such as *Salix*

zangica N. Chao are configured to form cultural identification corridors, with a survival rate of over 90%.

(2) Creation of three-dimensional landscapes: a four-level structure of “trees-sub-trees-shrubs-ground cover” (such as *Prunus sibirica* L., *Prunus persica* ‘Duplex’, *Salix alba* ‘Tristis’, *Juniperus procumbens* Sargent, etc.) is constructed to enhance the layers (Fig.4).

(3) Coordination of safety functions: sub-standard seedlings are replaced, and their regular maintenance is carried out. The vegetation along the glare sections is replaced with dark-leaf evergreen shrubs, with a leaf surface reflectivity of no more than 15%. A seasonal pruning system is established to ensure that the anti-glare height is 1.8–2.2 m. Plants with rich leaf colors are selected to enhance the anti-fatigue function.

(4) Enhancement of ecological resilience: native plants are utilized, and 11 sponge facilities are set up to achieve water circulation and microclimate regulation, an annual water collection volume of $\geq 800 \text{ m}^3$, and a decrease of 6°C in surface temperature (at noon).

(5) Integration of humanized service functions: trees with wide crowns are selected to enhance shading rate, and solar self-luminous guiding signs and barrier-free facilities on gentle slopes are added.

5 Conclusions

Road landscapes, as the spatial carriers of urban green space systems, possess multi-dimensional values in shaping urban images, enhancing perceptual experiences, inheriting regional cultures, and building collective memories. In this study, based on the high-altitude regional characteristics of Lhasa, the main conclusions are as follows.

(1) An evaluation system for road landscapes in Tibet Cultural Tourism and Creative Park covering 5 dimensions and 24 indicators was constructed. The index system was built based on the post occupancy evaluation (POE), and the weight was determined with the help of analytic hierarchy process (AHP); the SD semantic difference method was coupled with the IPA analysis method to form guiding conclusions.

(2) High-altitude specific indicators such as anti-glare, plant growth/shading, microclimate regulation, and road space are innovatively introduced to form an altitude adaptive landscape evaluation paradigm.

(3) The research has filled the theoretical gap in the evaluation method system of high-altitude road landscapes, and proposed a collaborative

Table 4 SD Semantic Evaluation Results of Road Landscapes in Tibet Cultural Tourism and Creative Park

| Criterion layer (score) | Indicator layer | Number of evaluated subjects | | | | | | Total score | Average score |
|---|---|------------------------------|------------|---------|----------------|-------------------|-------|-------------|---------------|
| | | Very consistent | Consistent | General | Not consistent | Very inconsistent | Order | | |
| Safety characteristic (0.846 24) | Visual obstruction | 112 | 24 | 8 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 45 | 1.666 66 |
| | Anti-glare | 19 | 32 | 42 | 28 | 26 | 17 | -10 | -0.068 02 |
| | Plant color | 51 | 55 | 32 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 142 | 0.965 98 |
| | Intersection flow rate | 34 | 22 | 56 | 22 | 13 | 11 | 42 | 0.285 71 |
| | Lighting | 86 | 41 | 12 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 203 | 1.380 95 |
| Cultural characteristic (-0.428 57) | Display of regional characteristics | 13 | 26 | 36 | 57 | 15 | 19 | -35 | -0.238 09 |
| | Degree of integration between landscape and culture | 8 | 16 | 37 | 12 | 74 | 24 | -128 | -0.870 74 |
| | Utilization of native plants | 63 | 16 | 29 | 36 | 3 | 7 | 100 | 0.680 27 |
| Landscape visual characteristic (0.925 17) | Harmony of roadside plants | 17 | 36 | 21 | 57 | 16 | 16 | -3 | -0.020 40 |
| | Landscape space | 26 | 28 | 63 | 25 | 5 | 10 | 45 | 0.306 12 |
| | Viewing duration and seasonal changes | 33 | 28 | 48 | 17 | 21 | 12 | 35 | 0.238 09 |
| | Aesthetic sense | 34 | 21 | 70 | 13 | 10 | 8 | 59 | 0.401 36 |
| Ecological characteristic (-0.013 48) | Plant growth condition | 23 | 16 | 22 | 25 | 61 | 22 | -85 | -0.578 23 |
| | Vegetation coverage and diversity | 13 | 29 | 46 | 43 | 16 | 18 | -20 | -0.136 05 |
| | Sustainable design | 26 | 43 | 12 | 43 | 14 | 14 | 25 | 0.130 06 |
| | Plant shading | 17 | 28 | 14 | 48 | 40 | 21 | -66 | -0.448 97 |
| | Microclimate regulation | 20 | 27 | 25 | 39 | 36 | 20 | -44 | -0.299 31 |
| | Air purification | 76 | 23 | 27 | 16 | 5 | 4 | 149 | 1.013 60 |
| | Soil and water conservation | 26 | 43 | 42 | 10 | 26 | 13 | 33 | 0.224 48 |
| Service characteristic (2.183 23) | Lighting facility | 87 | 46 | 9 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 215 | 1.465 58 |
| | Sanitation facility | 32 | 23 | 34 | 42 | 16 | 15 | 13 | 0.088 43 |
| | Identification system | 59 | 47 | 29 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 148 | 1.006 80 |
| | Transportation facility | 57 | 43 | 24 | 16 | 7 | 9 | 47 | 0.319 72 |
| | Road space | 12 | 11 | 29 | 68 | 27 | 23 | -87 | -0.591 83 |

design strategy of “safety-ecological-culture”. The results have been applied to the practice of park renovation.

(4) The limited number and scope of the research samples may affect the comprehensiveness of the evaluation. In the follow-up research, it is suggested to expand comparative studies on different altitude gradients, expand the construction of high-altitude landscape ecological models, and develop a multi-source data fusion analysis platform to enhance the reliability and spatial applicability of research results.

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facility density. Secondly, it achieves a 3-layered optimization of “ecology - function - perception” by linking green patches through non-motorized transportation system and integrating aromatic gardens. Thirdly, it introduces a point-based incentive system to encourage resident participation in plant maintenance, which helps to address the traditional governance dilemma of “government-led initiatives with resident disengagement”.

The Green-Healthy City concept is not only a new direction for urban development, but also a new goal for community construction. This study contribute empirical evidence to promote community habitat improvement, so as to accelerate the adoption of this paradigm, thereby contributing to the realization of harmonious coexistence between cities and nature.

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