- *Implementing Urban Design* consisting of four chapters – the development process, the control process, the communication process and holistic urban design.

To allow easy cross-referencing between the two volumes, a simplified version of the same structure has been adopted here. This allows those readers of *Public Places Urban Spaces* seeking additional in-depth source material on a particular writer to find that material here. Similarly, readers of the present volume wishing to examine the broader context within which the ideas of a particular writer fit can turn to *Public Places Urban Spaces*.

This reader might also be viewed as a companion volume to Alexander Cuthbert's *Designing Cities, Critical Reading in Urban Design* (2003, Blackwell Publishing, Oxford). One of the first urban design readers, the selection of papers contained in *Designing Cities* was chosen to emphasise a particular paradigm – namely that urban design is best viewed as a branch of spatial political economy – and purposefully omitted many of the 'classic' urban design contributions that many scholars might expect to see. *Designing Cities* instead chose papers that are largely from outside the traditional urban design canon – Cuthbert's intention being to select articles that would help create a 'theory-of' urban design. By contrast, the present volume focuses on 'theory-in' urban design and, although emanating from the 'Making Places' tradition, is largely 'paradigm neutral'.

As well as being a companion volume to *Public Places Urban Spaces*, *Urban Design Reader* is a self-contained text in its own right, with its own internal logic and coherence. The main part of the book comprises original papers organised into eight sections. Each of the six 'dimensions' chapters from *Urban Spaces Public Places* is the subject of a section. These follow an initial group of papers dealing with definitions and understandings of urban design, and are followed by a final section dealing with implementing urban design. Each section begins with a brief introduction to the dimension and the contributions that the constituent papers make to it. The introduction contextualises the material and establishes links between constituent papers in each selection and between selections.

The papers are necessarily abridged. Shortening a paper or book chapter conceived as a whole inevitably involves tough choices. The approach taken has been to preserve the essence of the articles – that is, the substantive contribution they make to the field of knowledge. Inevitably the papers chosen attempt to contextualise their argument against other work in the same publication or elsewhere, or alternatively elucidate the argument through illustration and/or the use of case studies and examples. Where this is not key to the understanding of the central arguments in the papers, it has been omitted.

The individual papers must also be seen as contributions to a new whole – that is, to produce a coherent and reasonably comprehensive coverage of the field of urban design. It is, nonetheless, inevitable that when removed from their context the papers lose some of their meaning. It has also been necessary to select a balanced range of papers. Given the breadth of the urban design field, however, there are inevitably omissions and areas that we can only cover in passing. These include such areas as sustainability, telecommunications and other technological developments, the cultural dimensions of urbanism, gender dimensions of urban design, spatial and social segregation, and many others. Indeed, these areas could be the focus of readers in their own right. Equally others may select an entirely different group of papers to represent the place-making canon in urban design. In the final analysis, this is a personal selection and we make no claims for it beyond the fact that these are the papers which we have found most useful and stimulating in our own work. We can only hope that others will agree.

Matthew Carmona and Steve Tiesdell

Note:
References and Notes at chapter ends have been reproduced from the original sources. Some reference lists therefore include publications not cited in the present text and some reproduce discrepancies in publication dates that were evident in the original sources.