

The parts

The purpose, content and structure of the seven morphological parts are briefly summarised here. Each section in the book begins with an introduction and a series of definitions of the landscape form explored in that part.

Landscape fabric

This part of the book provides an overview of the broader landscape and landscape processes as a context for design. It defines and describes a range of qualities that are considered desirable in landscapes such as robustness, mystery and diversity. It then illustrates – through a range of different kinds of designed landscapes – the holistic integration of spaces, paths, edges, foci and thresholds and the integration of landform, vegetation, structures and water to make places.

Spaces

The section on spaces explores the enclosure and definition of distinct areas of land for human activities. Spaces are considered the primary means by which landscapes are organised, understood, used and experienced. Design considerations in the creation of spaces are described. This section then illustrates diverse examples of how the landscape elements may be used to create spaces in landscapes.

Paths

The paths section explores the design of linear places of movement in the landscape. The emphasis here is on pedestrian environments. Like spaces, paths are also considered primary design forms that influence the use and experience of landscapes. Design considerations for

paths are defined, followed by a more detailed exploration of the design potential of landscape elements in the creation of paths.

Edges

This section explores transitional linear places where one space or landscape part becomes another. Often neglected in design, edges are considered primary structural components of landscapes because of their integrative and social functions. Design considerations are again identified, together with examples of the use of landscape elements in the design of edges.

Foci

'Foci' refers to differentiated, contrasting or isolated forms or places in the landscape that possess cultural, social, practical and orientation functions because of their visual distinction. Design functions and qualities of foci are considered and examples are given of the use of landscape elements as foci.

Thresholds

Thresholds are identified as distinct small spaces or forms in the landscape that, like edges, have transitional and integrative functions. Unlike edges, thresholds have 'focused' rather than linear spatial form and support distinct and wide-ranging social and cultural uses and experiences. Design considerations related to these uses are identified, followed by examples of thresholds created by landscape elements.

Detail

Detail explores the 'close-up' 'tactile' or 'immediate' scale of landscape, its experience and the design considerations for this scale. The section briefly explores the