

Bowls and craters

Artificial and natural depressions in topography can act as foci, attracting people to sheltered or hidden ground. Bowls or craters provide distinctive microclimate and form in contrast to surrounding land. Natural topographic depressions may be modified for focal cultural

functions such as theatre or the siting of sculpture. Artificially created bowls in public places often need clear purposes and gentle sides to avoid 'pit-like' characteristics. See also Spaces/Bowls and hollows (p. 57) and Foci/ Hidden foci (p. 151).