



## Walls and walled gardens

As impermeable space dividers, walls play important roles in providing privacy and seclusion. As landscape structures they can be used in design to link architecture and landscape or to 'connect' a site to its underlying geology, thereby creating regionally distinct space. Walls provide sculptural and textural design opportunities. They strongly affect microclimate by absorbing sun and radiating warmth or providing shade and dampness. Walls can be homes for vegetation. They have diverse social and cultural uses in cities, in particular as surfaces for communication. Walls can be conceived of as

backdrops onto which images may be projected, words written or dramas and games played out. Walls can also obscure, intimidate, obstruct and threaten, especially if too high or used unnecessarily in design.

The walled garden is an enduring landscape archetype with many manifestations in history. The popularity of this form lies in its potential for food production and horticulture, and in its associated aesthetic and recreational uses, including ornament with vegetation, seclusion and privacy and warmth or shade.