



Paths, spaces and edges

A complex and vital aspect of landscape architecture is the spatial integration of paths and spaces. In surfaced spaces such as urban squares it is unnecessary to consider paths as separate landscape forms. However, in many vegetated and grassy landscapes, decisions must be made on how to locate paths in relation to spaces. Paths may often 'hug' the edge of places to preserve the

openness of spaces for activities. Paths are commonly experienced as edges and boundaries which define space. For example, a centrally located path 'splits' a space in two. The landscape architect does not consider the design of paths, spaces and edges separately but as integrated wholes (see the sections on Edges, p. 123 and Landscape fabric, pp. 26–9).