

Discovering The Vernacular Landscape

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ALEX DICKERSON

Landscape and Images McGill Queens Univ

John Stilgoe is just looking around. This is more difficult than it sounds, particularly in our mediated age, when advances in both theory and technology too often seek to replace the visual evidence before our own eyes rather than complement it. We are surrounded by landscapes charged with our past, and yet from our earliest schooldays we are instructed not to stare out the window. Someone who stops to look isn't only a rarity; he or she is suspect. Landscape and Images records a lifetime spent observing America's constructed landscapes. Stilgoe's essays follow the eclectic trains of thought that have resulted from his observation, from the postcard preference for sunsets over sunrises to the concept of "teen geography" to the unwillingness of Americans to walk up and down stairs. In Stilgoe's hands, the subject of jack o' lanterns becomes an occasion to explore centuries-old concepts of boundaries and trespassing, and to examine why this originally pagan

symbol has persisted into our own age. Even something as mundane as putting the cat out before going to bed is traced back to fears of unwatched animals and an unintended frontier fireplace. Stilgoe ponders the forgotten connections between politics and painted landscapes and asks why a country whose vast majority lives less than a hundred miles from a coast nonetheless looks to the rural Midwest for the classic image of itself. At times breathtaking in their erudition, the essays collected here are as meticulously researched as they are elegantly written. Stilgoe's observations speak to specialists—whether they be artists, historians, or environmental designers—as well as to the common reader. Our landscapes constitute a fascinating history of accident and intent. The proof, says Stilgoe, is all around us.

Mediterranean Landscape Design University of Pennsylvania Press
 This book is an introduction to landscape architecture for students. Landscape architecture is a visual subject so the book is illustrated with the author's own drawings.

Preserving Cultural Landscapes in America University of Pennsylvania Press
 In this book, O'Gorman treats both the people and the sheds with the respect and admiration their

precarious presence requires."--BOOK JACKET.

Landscapes of the Secular Yale University Press

Jackson discussed the evolution of the development, use, and perception of landscape--the space around us in the most general sense. The title chapter examines the proliferation of historic parks and monuments and argues that American culture demands a three-step formulation of history.

Landscapes University of Chicago Press

"Presents work from throughout the region, whether a lushly layered property in the Tuscan countryside or a Zen-inspired plot on the French island of Corsica." —Architectural Digest Human beings have been transforming Mediterranean landscapes into art for at least 30,000 years. Today, artists, sculptors, designers, architects, and gardeners explore age-old materials, skills, and sites to produce extraordinary landscape art that celebrates life in this multifaceted region. Each work here, whether in France, Greece, Italy, Morocco, or Spain, observes the logic of place as determined by climate, geology, flora and fauna, architecture, and land use. Creative talents from many contexts meet in these pages, such as Gilles Clément and Andy Goldsworthy, Nicole de

Vésian and Ian Hamilton Finlay, Arnaud Maurieres and Eric Ossart, Mary Keen, herman de vries, and Paolo Pejrone. Illustrated with hundreds of photos by award-winning photographer Clive Nichols, and drawing on thirty years of exploration by Louisa Jones, this book offers an inspiring vision of the Mediterranean, linking cultural diversity and natural balance as discovered in its gardens, landscape design, literature, art, and architecture.

Front Yard America Amherst : University of Massachusetts Press

A small masterpiece, Pea's lyrical autobiographical novel paints a fiery and intimate portrait of an old man through the bold brushstrokes of his grandson. The passions and tensions between the old eccentric and his brothers play themselves out in mythical sketches before a vivid backdrop of the hills of Lunigiana. Moscardino, the first novella of his tetralogy, Il romanzo di Moscardino, is anarchic and haunting. Pound conducts Pea's vernacular song, allowing images to flow from the land, the flesh, and beyond.

Understanding Ordinary Landscapes Yale University Press

"New Vernacular Architecture considers the synthesis of modernity and tradition in contemporary architecture. Focusing on 37 international examples of buildings of different types completed in the last decade, it examines architecture that reinterprets rather than revives traditional forms, materials and construction techniques. The projects covered range from better known works by renowned architects such as Michael Graves, Renzo Piano and David Chipperfield, to less familiar buildings in Hungary, Nepal, Latvia and elsewhere." "The fragmentation of nation states and the greater plurality of political and cultural identities that have occurred over recent years have led to a growing reaction in architecture against "global blanding" - the worldwide homogenization of images and designs. As a result, local context, materials and culture are becoming increasingly important concerns for many architects. Architecture has captured the public imagination as a means of lending form to evolving regional identity and as a way of reflecting difference. Each project features a thoroughly researched and detailed commentary, and is generously illustrated with photographs, sketches and plans."--BOOK JACKET.Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Invitation to Vernacular Architecture University of Toronto Press

"The publication examines the paintings and career of Levine Flexhaug, an artist who sold variations of a basic mountain landscape scene in locations across western Canada from the late 1930s through the 1960s. The publication includes colour reproductions of 108 of his paintings and a full chronology in addition to texts."--

Form and Fabric in Landscape Architecture Archipelago

This book offers the professional a rich source of ideas about the designed landscape, what these mean to us and how they acquired that significance. Key essays from landscape architects are presented with the authors' current reflections.

Landscape Architecture in Canada Popular Press

From deserts to ghost towns, from national forests to California bungalows, many of the features of the western American landscape are well known to residents and travelers alike. But in *How to Read the American West*, William Wyckoff introduces readers anew to these familiar landscapes. A geographer and an accomplished photographer, Wyckoff offers a fresh perspective on the natural and human history of the American West and encourages readers to discover that history has shaped the places where people live, work, and visit. This innovative field guide includes stories, photographs, maps, and diagrams on a hundred landscape features across the American West. Features are grouped according to type, such as natural landscapes, farms and ranches, places of special cultural identity, and cities and suburbs. Unlike the geographic organization of a traditional guidebook, Wyckoff's field guide draws attention to the connections and the differences between and among places. Emphasizing features that recur from one part of the region to another, the guide takes readers on an exploration of the eleven western states with trips into their natural and cultural character. *How to Read the American West* is an ideal traveling companion on the main roads and byways in the West, providing unexpected insights into the landscapes you see out your car window. It is also a wonderful source for armchair travelers and people who live in the West who want to learn more about the modern West, how it came to be, and how it may change in the

years to come. Showcasing the everyday alongside the exceptional, Wyckoff demonstrates how asking new questions about the landscapes of the West can let us see our surroundings more clearly, helping us make informed and thoughtful decisions about their stewardship in the twenty-first century. Watch the trailer: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYSmp5gZ4-I>

The Necessity for Ruins, and Other Topics University of Virginia Press

Essays examine the way we perceive landscape, the effect of gardens and cities of the past on the landscapes of the present, and the way American architecture has broken with tradition.

Discussion relates the importance of space to relativism throughout time.

Landscape in Sight Univ. of Tennessee Press

During a long and distinguished career, John Brinckerhoff Jackson (1909-1996) brought about a new understanding and appreciation of the American landscape. Hailed in 1995 by New York Times architectural critic Herbert Muschamp as 'America's greatest living writer on the forces that have shaped the land this nation occupies,' Jackson founded Landscape Magazine in 1951, taught at Harvard University and the University of California at Berkeley, and wrote nearly 200 essays and reviews. This appealing anthology of his most important writings on the American landscape, illustrated with his own sketches and photographs, brings together Jackson's most famous essays, significant but less well known writings, and articles that were originally published unsigned or under various pseudonyms. Jackson also completed a new essay for this volume, 'Places for Fun and Games,' a few months before his death. Focusing not on nature but on landscape - land shaped by human presence - Jackson insists in his writings that the workaday world gives form to the essential American landscape. In the everyday places of the countryside and city, he discerns texts capable of revealing important truths about society and culture, present and past. For this collection Helen Lefkowitz Horowitz provides an introduction that discusses the larger body of Jackson's writing and locates each of the selected essays within his oeuvre. She also includes a complete bibliography of Jackson's writings.

Lessons from Vernacular Architecture Univ of California Press

Much has been written on the traditions of elite gardens but little attention has been directed to the gardens of more humble and popular cultures that reflect regional, localized, ethnic, personal, or folk creations. These articles reflect growing interest in a range of cultural artifacts that demonstrate how culture influences surroundings.

New Vernacular Architecture JHU Press

Site, Sight, Insight presents twelve essays by John Dixon Hunt, the leading theorist and historian of landscape architecture. The collection's common theme is a focus on sites, how we see them and what we derive from that looking. Acknowledging that even the most modest landscape encounter has validity, Hunt contends that the more one knows about a site and one's own sight of it (an awareness of how one is seeing), the greater the insight. Employing the concepts, tropes, and rhetorical methods of literary analysis, he addresses the problem of how to discuss, understand, and appreciate places that are experienced through all the senses, over time and through space. Hunt questions our intellectual and aesthetic understanding of gardens and designed landscapes and asks how these sites affect us emotionally. Do gardens have meaning? When we visit a fine garden or designed landscape, we experience a unique work of great complexity in purpose, which has been executed over a number of years—a work that, occasionally, achieves beauty. While direct experience is fundamental, Hunt demonstrates how the ways in which gardens and landscapes are communicated in word and image can be equally important. He returns frequently to a cluster of key sites and writings on which he has based much of his thinking about garden-making and its role in landscape architecture: the gardens of Rousham in Oxfordshire; Thomas Whately's *Observations on Modern Gardening* (1770); William Gilpin's dialogues on Stowe (1747); Alexander Pope's meditation on genius loci; the Désert de Retz; Paolo Burgi's Cardada; and the designs by Bernard Lassus and Ian Hamilton Finlay.

Meaning in Landscape Architecture and Gardens Cambridge University Press

California Crazy & Beyond: Roadside Venacular Architecture is the most thorough documentation of this unusual architectural style, and a greatly enhanced, fully revised version of the classic book that first explored the movement."--BOOK JACKET.

Illustrated Handbook of Vernacular Architecture Cambridge University Press

J.B. Jackson, a pioneer in the field of landscape studies, here takes us on a tour of American landscapes past and present, showing how our surroundings reflect important changes in our culture. Because we live in urban and industrial environments that are constantly evolving, says Jackson, time and movement are increasingly important to us and place and permanence are less so. We no longer gain a feeling of community from where we live or where we assemble but from common work hours, habits, and customs. Jackson examines the new vernacular landscape of trailers, parking lots, trucks, loading docks, and suburban garages, which all reflect this emphasis on mobility and transience; he redefines roads as scenes of work and leisure and social intercourse--as places, rather than as means of getting to places; he argues that public parks are now primarily for children, older people, and nature lovers, while more mobile or gregarious people seek recreation in shopping malls, in the street, and in sports arenas; he traces the development of dwellings in New Mexico from prehistoric Pueblo villages to mobile homes; and he criticizes the tendency of some environmentalists to venerate nature instead of interacting with it and learning to share it with others in temporary ways. Written with his customary lucidity and elegance, this book reveals Jackson's passion for vernacular culture, his insights into a style of life that blurs the boundaries between work and leisure, between middle and working classes, and between public and private spaces.

The Vernacular of Landscape Taylor & Francis

The Vernacular of Landscape is a survey of contemporary landscape photography curated by Noah Waldeck. Showcasing images from 58 artists from around the world, this 60 page perfect bound books measures 8.5x5.5 and features a debossed recycled paper cover.

Postwestern Cultures University of Virginia Press

The slogan on Ontario's licence plates, 'Yours to Discover,' was designed to promote travel opportunities within the province. Every year, thousands of tourists drive along country roads, past farmyards and through hamlets, en route to popular vacation spots. In *Looking for Old Ontario*, Thomas McIlwraith shows that many destinations are closer at hand than one might imagine, and invites travellers to rediscover familiar countryside landmarks by 'reading' them as chapters in a rich historical narrative. Surveyors long ago scored Ontario's land, and generations have since inscribed it with residences, businesses, and institutions. This book, the result of thirty years of field work and archival research, is a reflection on and an interpretation of the ways in which the land and its inhabitants interrelate. *Looking for Old Ontario* guides readers through the vernacular landscape of the province, examining barns, fences, jails, post offices, inns, mills, canals, railways, roadsides, cemeteries, and much more. McIlwraith emphasizes ordinary features of the cultural landscape which communicate social meaning to the observant eye. The landscape tells us that Ontario has been inhabited by thrifty people; this we can conclude by looking at the economical use and reuse of construction materials. Yet the landscape also tells us that Ontario's residents have been inclined to show off: consider the province's unusually large number of elegant brick dwellings. To read a landscape is to think about such connections, and McIlwraith's contemplative style differentiates his work from manuals or handbooks. Since landscape interpretation is a highly visual subject, *Looking for Old Ontario* is extensively illustrated with photographs, drawings, and maps. It will be useful to general readers interested in recognizing the broader meanings of their communities' heritage, as well as to students of geography, history, and planning.

A People's Guide to Los Angeles Yale University Press

'No one who cares deeply about landscape issues can overlook the scores of brilliant insights and challenges to the mind, eye and conscience contained in *Discovering the Vernacular Landscape*. It is a book to be deeply cherished and to be read and pondered many times.' -Wilbur Zelinsky, Landscape

The Spectacular of Vernacular JHU Press

How does knowledge of everyday environments foster deeper understanding of both past and present cultural life? Traditional studies in this field have been of rural life. Here, contributors explore aspects of the emergent field of urban cultural landscape studies--with the challenging issues of class, race, ethnicity, and subculture--to demonstrate the value of investigating the many meanings of ordinary settings. 67 illustrations.

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