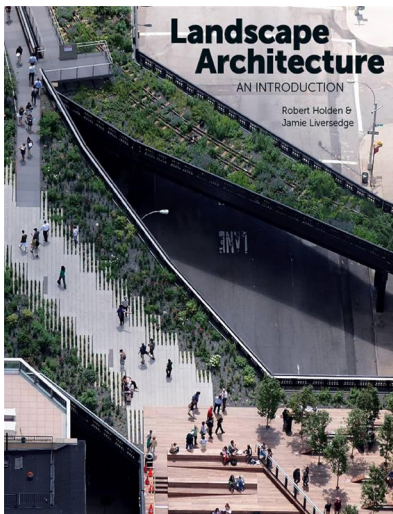


Landscape Architecture

An Introduction

Authors: Robert Holden and Jamie Liversedge

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Have you ever wondered how urban environments are created and how they influence our way of life? Then this book is for you. The 208-page guide, written by Robert Holden, a British landscape architect and educator who taught at the University of Greenwich with practicing landscape architect Jamie Liversedge, this book offers a clear and practical introduction to landscape architecture.

This book is divided into seven chapters, covering the history, theory, design processes, sustainability and practice. Authors highlight the field's depth in addressing global challenges like climate changes, urbanization and biodiversity loss. They use concepts like human scale, unity, harmony, hierarchy, asymmetry, form, color and texture to elaborate the design process. By giving historical context and current examples from global projects like Garden by the Bay in Singapore and New York's High Line, the authors explain how landscape architecture combines art and science. The book also combines the knowledge of materials, technical principles, life cycle considerations and weathering issues. Analytical hand drawings, images of classic and modern elements, and sequential photographs illustrate each stage of the construction process, showing how design brought to life. The authors stress that it is the landscape architect's duty to consider the unique features of each site, ecological systems and long-term changes. Also examines the representation of design through digital methods like CAD and GIS, modeling and drawing. Lastly, the author emphasize the future of the profession in the light of sustainability and climate change. The book contains much wisdom and sets a new standard in the field of landscape architecture.

The book content is logically organised and based on genuine experience. Main topics are supported by a wide variety of examples from around the world. Clear illustrations, maps, and a carefully chosen bibliography enhance the educational value and promote additional study rather than research. However, a more thorough analysis of recent technical developments and current environmental issues should be highlighted. The book also lacks step-by-step technical guidance on construction, procurement, tendering, and detailed project implementation. A more diverse range of perspectives, particularly from underrepresented regions, would enrich the discussion and highlight unique design strategies. Including case studies on resilience, advanced materials, and participatory design would strengthen its relevance for future landscape designers.

The book is a well-crafted and visually engaging resource that effectively bridges theory and practice. It serves as a foundation to understand the complexities of landscape architecture. It isn't trying to be a highly theoretical book, yet it is successful in its mission to offer a firm base. Therefore it is a knowledgeable read for architects, landscape architects, and especially future designers.

Review by Maryam Aqsa (12.09.2025)