Technology has stood (today did stand?) in the way of progress yet again, and yet, like logs in the river it will only need three logs to be freed to release the flood. Yes I am talking Microsoft Publisher, not difficult... but one step too far under pressure to compile this issue and get to press.

It is bitterly cold today but no doubt balmy when you read this, daffodils nodding in the soft March breezes. Tra la!

LANDSCAPE RESEARCH EXTRA 36

March 2005



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Merrick Denton-Thompson
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Photos by Bud Young
Fairy story line drawings anon.

Farm subsidies for landscape?

We all appreciate that the UK landscape is a by-product of the way we have chosen to settle in and manage the countryside. *At the same time, we also appreciate that our countryside landscapes have a profound effect on the quality of our lives, and on the quality of our social, economic and environmental well-being.* So it is surprising that we have failed to articulate our ambitions for a multi-functional countryside that meets today s needs. We have also failed to produce a powerful business case for the public to invest in supporting the integration of land management objectives. These omissions are all the more worrying, because without a doubt the reforms to the administration of the countryside that came into effect at the start of the year will determine the future of the UK landscape.

On 1 January, the £1.7bn we currently invest in the farming community by way of subsidies is to be decoupled from rates of production and redistributed through a single payment scheme — result of the mid-term review of the Common Agricultural Policy by the European Union. From now until 2012, the subsidies paid to the farming community will be transferred from ten multiple payments based on historic payment levels to a single, flat-rate per hectare by 2012.

The new rate of payment is difficult to determine because it will depend on a number of variables, for example how land that has not previously attracted subsidies — such as land grazed by horses might register for payments, and how many funds should be shifted

The views and opinions in this publication are those of the authors and the senior editor individually and do not necessarily agree with those of the Group. It is prepared by Rosemary and Bud Young for the Landscape Research Group and distributed periodically to members worldwide as companion to its refereed main journal Landscape Research.

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out of the subsidy pot . The payment rate in lowland England might be about £213 per hectare or £86 per acre; however in Severely Disdavantaged Areas of the upland and moorland parts of the country, the payment levels will be considerable lower. Some farmers will lose and some will gain: extensive sheep, pig and vegetable producers will gain, beef and dairy farmers may lose out, while the arable sector might be able to break even.

Farmers are today digesting the latest booklets to drop through their door that set out the conditions attached to these single farm payments: the cross compliance regulations. At the core of cross compliance is the need to keep all farmland in good agricultural and environmental condition, with financial penalties — through reduction of subsidies — if these requirements are not met.

Perhaps the most significant new rule concerns the need to create a 2m permanent grass buffer-zone around hedges and water-courses on fields of more than 2ha. These buffer-zones cannot be cultivated, nor can they have fertilisers or pesticides applied to them. Other requirements include restrictions on the trimming of hedges between 1 March and 31 July to protect breeding birds, the protection of hedges and stone walls, the maintenance of rights of way, and new measures for protecting soil quality — in 2006, simple risk-based soil management plans will need to be drawn up by farmers.



Keeping the land in good agricultural condition centres on the ability to return to productive agriculture quickly and easily, with the main requirement the control of scrub invasion through mowing.

However, in its anxiety to keep a light touch on farming, Defra has emphasised that most farms meet the standards of keeping agricultural land in good condition, and should not therefore change their current practice. This is said at the end of the most devastating period of 50years, when wildlife habitats have been destroyed on an unprecedented scale; when distinctive variations in the character of the landscape have been severely eroded; when the historic environment has been largely destroyed; and when the quality of natural resources such as soil and water has reached an all-time low.

These devastating effects on our landscape are the result of the Common Agricultural Policy s historic emphasis on taking some of the risks out of agriculture by guaranteeing markets and prices. This stability has seen the widespread loss of mixed farms, with a corresponding huge investment in agricultural machinery and biotechnology. The ensuing degradation of our landscapes was compounded by the high level of subsidies encouraging institutional land purchases, which in turn forced up the value of the land. Today we are still seeing the loss of jobs and skills from the countryside.

But this month s reforms in countryside management should help to prevent further decline, with the introduction of environmental ground-rules as a condition of investment. Over the past three years, Defra has also been working with a range of organisations to take the best of the current Countryside Stewardship Scheme and the Scheme for Environmentally Sensitive Areas, and to replace these by the Entry Level Stewardship and the Higher Level Stewardship Schemes.

The Entry Level Scheme will be a five-year, whole-farm agreement designed to encourage a base level of environmental management. Applications will require a Farm Environmental Record, and the scheme will be targeted at every farm in the country. The Higher Level scheme is to be targeted at areas of high priority requiring intensive environmental management, and will require Farm Environmental Plans, the production of which will attract higher levels of Defra funding.

The Environmental Stewardship Schemes have been designed to support the conservation of wildlife; the maintenance, enhancement and protection of landscape quality and character; the preservation of the historic environment; the protection of natural resources, such as soil and water quality; and the promotion of new public access. Details of these exciting new schemes will be released in the spring.

For the first time, environmental management of the countryside will no longer be an optional extra, but central to the way the landscape is managed for the future. We must remain vigilant to ensure that society s aspirations for a multi-functional countryside are achieved through these radical and far-reaching changes. At the same time, Defra needs to make clear how the public benefits from these investments, and should perhaps move towards a more positive working relationship with farming community - one where regulations are seen as a backstop giving way to the empowerment and partnership needed to achieve our collective ambitions.

Merrick Denton-Thompson OBE MLI
Assistant Director of Environment Hampshire County Council

Editor's note It is salutary lesson (in science v political action) for the editor to read this account and particularly the paragraph emphasising the value of hedge grass buffer zones Perhaps the most significant new rule concerns ..for it is now nearly 20 years since he conducted an air photo study of the hedges of Hampshire. A part of that study was to examine nearly 400 hedge margins as a 10% sample of all hedges mapped in ten parishes. There we observed that only 20% were wide enough to be of biological importance . The person commissioning that report was Merrick Denton Thompson. We also commented on the great length of field margins adjoining woodlands and woodland belts, all of which would benefit from wildlife beneficial management regimes. I guess that MD-T spent many months of political effort during those twenty years working on the improved regimes he identified in 1985, and I admire that. Long distance runner.

DYSCADIA/ DYSTOPIA

These notes were more than half written when *Landscape Research Extra* no. 35 appeared. There on the front page was Nancy Stedman s introduction to the work of landscape painter Katharine Holmes and, in particular, to her contemporary take on the Picturesque . Previously unaware of Katherine s work, though she lives and works not so very far away, I was struck both by the power of the work reproduced in colour, and by the fact that here was *another* contemporary artist working with the picturesque landscape to comment on contemporary environmental issues. That makes four, and I m still counting. How many artists does it take to make a movement ?

The other three artists are John Goto, Ged Quinn, and Paul Scott. John Goto and Ged Quinn have each produced a body of work similar in content and with titles which echo each other. Goto s work, which I saw exhibited in Edinburgh a year or so ago, has been published in a book called *Ukadia* (1); one series of works is concerned with shopping arcades, but the book also reproduces another group of images called High Summer ; Goto also refers to it as Dyscadia . During a recent residency at Tate St Ives, Ged Quinn produced a series of works, a selection of which he exhibited under the overall title Utopia Dystopia . Goto s images are digitally created photomontages; as such they clearly owe something to Peter Kennard ~ remember his work for CND? Constable s haywain loaded with Cruise missiles? Quinn s works ~ which I have only seen in reproduction ~ are paintings. Using different techniques, both artists recreate landscapes in the style of Claude and Poussin and of English picturesque country house estates, complete with Classical temples and ruins. And both artists insert, more or less subtly, contemporary figures, groups, activities and artefacts. Look carefully at John Goto landscapes ~ instead of nymphs and shepherds, we find, *inter alia*, members of the green welly brigade, one of them taking aim at a deer; two drunken layabouts sprawled on a bench; two thugs beating their victim with a baseball bat; figures dressed in protective clothing, proofed against some invisible chemical or radioactive threat; soldiers in combat gear ~ and in the far distance, jet planes bombing a cornfield; golfers and pursuers of outdoor pursuits ~ a hang glider can just be made out in the distant sky. In one work, entitled Farmer , the body of a present day farmer who has hanged himself dangles from a branch of the obligatory picturesque tree. In another, a collection of the well-heeled in evening dress, if far fetched, nonetheless provokes thoughts of picknickers at Glyndebourne. Yet another depicts the partly submerged wreck of a car, and on the far horizon, faintly visible, the cooling towers of a power station. In much the same way, Ged Quinn places three television sets in the foreground of a Claudian landscapes and titles the painting *Cinema Paradiso*. (Quinn also takes liberties with other Old Master paintings).

Paul Scott, works principally in ceramics, recreating English blue and white transfer printed vessels of the 18th and 19th centuries of the kind which often carried images of picturesque landscapes. A willow pattern plate (willow pattern is of course an orientalised version of the picturesque) appears at first glance to be exactly that; look harder, and suddenly you see, with a *frisson* of shock, that a power station s cooling towers have been insinuated into the background. Some of Scott s works are less subtle. On a carving dish (note the irony of this) traditional blue and white colours are employed in a powerful, overall image of a burning pyre of dead cattle, victims of Foot and Mouth disease. (2)

Strictly speaking, Katherine Holmes *Gordale Scar* refers to James Ward s iconic work which is Sublime rather than Picturesque , fearful rather than tranquil. Rather than reproducing the original as faithfully as possible, she recreates it vigorously and fearlessly (with a hint of late Turner and later abstraction), but the inclusion of contemporary figures and faces, hikers and tourists, invites comparison with Goto in particular. It sounds as if the work in progress (perhaps now finished?), referring to the American super star Madonna s ownership of a British country estate, may evoke a picturesque landscape. It is noteworthy that, so far as I know entirely independently,

several contemporary artists should choose to manipulate, and to make ironic insertions into, picturesque landscapes. Although they may be asserting its ***unreality,*** they are nonetheless affirming the continuing potency of the picturesque idiom as a dream and an ideal.

(1) Goto, John. *Ukadia.* Djanogly Art Gallery, Nottingham, 2003. See also the artist s Web site: www.johngoto.org.uk
(2) Scott, Paul. *Paul Scott: Cumbrian blue(s).* Carlisle: Tullie House Museum & Art Gallery, 2003.

Philip Pacey
University of Central Lancashire

EMPTYING THE MIND

I am going to guess (Mori polls be stuffed) that more people go into the landscape to find solitude than for any other single reason. Or they may go sailing or fell walking or duck shooting of which the best part is the sense of aloneness in a vast landscape. And though the landscape may not care for them they feel that it is aware of them just as we will be aware of a single bumble bee on a warm soilbank or a winkle trailing its way across a muddy rock. At times like this we test ourselves (lying on mudflats like Peter Scott), our mind loses the conceit of the day as we contemplate an emptiness that we cannot manipulate: no people, no situations , no financial balances, no data. Emptiness, the wind, small short noises and perhaps God.

Bud Young
Photo from the Orwell Marshes, Suffolk



EUROPEAN LANDSCAPES: WHOSE AGENDA?

Landscape is often taken to be one of the classic examples of an interdisciplinary (or more correctly trans-disciplinary) area of endeavour, but the meetings of the Council of Europe concerning the implementation of the Florence Convention, perhaps indicate that in each part of Europe different disciplines sit around the table. Having been involved for a few years, I would suggest five main groups of interests, though I would recommend the work of Lionella Scazzosi for detailed investigation into the policies of different countries.

In the south of Europe, most notably Italy, the architects are very deeply engaged, and here too landscape architecture seems very closely aligned with mainstream architects. This may surprise nobody given that the landscapes, of Italy and Greece especially, are so obviously cultural, including the agricultural landscapes that are so heavily dependent on irrigation and other engineering interventions. Landscapes seem to be less central to the thinking the further away from habitation, especially ancient or aristocratic habitation. The most important landscapes are, therefore, the gardens attached to palaces, unless the townscapes themselves are included.

Things are quite different in the North notably in Germany and Scandinavia where landscape thinking has tended to emerge from the natural sciences, with German laws on landscape protection being phrased clearly in the language of nature protection. Further north the farmer is central to any thinking of landscape, and the views of long-established family farmers are frequently cited as the authentic voice of the land, taking the precious natural landscape and turning it to productive use, while still providing a cherished national farm idyll. The Dutch might, however, prove an exception to much northern thinking scarcely surprising in such a man-made environment. Centred at Wageningen their interests in multi-functional landscapes with practical planning at the core seems more within the British mode of thinking rather than the Scandinavian.

That British mode is also quite practical, though various ministries with their attendant disciplines have produced a plethora of designations that few other countries can match. Even the simplest acquaintance with British systems will need a dictionary of abbreviations and acronyms. But in the field of landscape as heritage one discipline now seems to be emerging as critical that of



archaeology. Perhaps because English Heritage (rather than English Nature) has been central to the development of the Convention, or because heritage has now been put within archaeology in the Research Assessment Exercise, suddenly Cultural Landscapes become Historic Landscapes and clearly within the archaeological discipline.

The representatives from the countries formerly behind the Iron Curtain are more likely to be Landscape Ecologists, and to be formidably good at detailed mapping and survey. Indeed one of the great strengths of the many Institutes is the continued production of excellent and highly detailed guides to landscape elements in their countries. Those of Czech Republic and Slovenia are outstanding. But these countries do also exhibit an emphasis on expertise. Indeed, at one recent conference, a suggestion that in a democratic country the choice of heritage landscapes for conservation should reside with the people, was greeted with many dropped jaws.

Finally there is the French mode. Although once heavily dependent on architectural input, the influence of the School at Versailles now means that Landscape Architecture is very central, although closely followed by philosophers. Given the French traditional attachment to matters culinary, one cannot be surprised that they are significantly ahead in incorporating food and drink, and many other activities within their planning. Vidal de la Blache is not forgotten.

Of course, there are other countries with very distinctive contributions as well. The Swiss concern for the landscapes of and from their roads is quite noteworthy. The Spanish, while they are often within the architectural camp of the south, are also showing the way with regionalisation so that the answers found in Aragon and those of Catalonia are by no means the same.

And there, of course, is the challenge. The European Landscape Convention is well armoured against its being subverted to create similar landscapes throughout the continent, but perhaps the different ways of thinking and the variety of legislation also are part of the rich diversity. But learning from each other is not only profitable: it is great fun.

Peter Howard

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Review of the Year.



And
GARTEN + LANDSCHAFT 12, 2004
as resume-ed by Peter Howard
Theme Issue - Landscape Architecture in China

Functional and Mixed Histories:- considering the various Chinese histories, with functional socialism overlying a tradition of large gardens, but now in a world of very crowded cities, albeit with deep traditions.

Place planning. Western landscape architects are adapting Chinese symbolism, including Feng Shui, for the 2008 Olympics. This is fast but destructive.

Planning with History. A 1.5 km long garden in Beijing along the city wall.

Local Style and Identity. The new Chinese identity as shown in a shipyard park in Gwangdong. e) Theory in Chinese Landscape Architecture. The profession is only twenty years old but is exploding, not least for the Shanghai Expo in 2010.

Learning from Each Other:- the explosive demand and its problems, including the Chinese interest in European formality.

Planning the Third Way. Trying to combine the demand for western ideas with a Chinese spirituality.

Learning to Dance: Three case studies in Shanghai.

Report of PhD course

LANDSCAPE AS HERITAGE

Swedish Agricultural University in Alnarp, Department of Landscape Planning.
5-8 october 2004.

Participants

Anna Jacobsson, *Department of Landscape Planning, Alnarp, Sweden.* ***Jan Lann r,*** *Department of Landscape Planning, Alnarp, Sweden.* ***Hannah Macpherson,*** *School of Architecture, Planning & Landscape, Newcastle.* ***Jenny Nord,*** *Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Lund, Sweden.* ***Priit-Kalev Parts,*** *Estonian Agricultural University, Department of Environmental Protection, Estonia.* ***Anna Petersson,*** *Department of Landscape Planning, Alnarp, Sweden.* ***Piret Pungas,*** *Department of Geography, Tartu, Estonia.* ***Jan Skalos,*** *Czech University of Agriculture, Faculty of Forestry, Prague, Czech Republic.* ***Ulrika kerlund,*** *Department of Landscape Planning, Alnarp, Sweden.*

PhD students from Sweden, Estonia, UK and Czech Republic together with five instructors (*David Lowenthal, Peter Howard, Kenneth Olwig, Jytte Ringtved, and Tomas Germundsson*) from Sweden, UK and Denmark gathered at the Swedish Agricultural University in Alnarp, southern Sweden, between 5-8th of October. Landscape as Heritage was an intensive course for PhD students that lasted four days, but we were all well prepared in advance through our papers as well as through reading relevant literature. The first day was used for an excursion into the surrounding landscapes of Scania, and this informal, interesting and very nice beginning made us get to know each other a bit before the heavier seminar days started.

We all came not only from different countries and Universities, but also from different disciplines, even so we were connected by a common interest in the topics: *Landscape and Heritage* and the *European Landscape Convention* and its possible future role. Our different backgrounds helped to create a lively and dynamic group, which at times just couldn t stop discussing things — which in fact was great!

The topic for the course Landscape as Heritage meant that we should use our different research topics - or areas - and to see them through the possibilities given by the *European Landscape Convention* that came into force in March 2004. The course had the form of seminars with discussions not only during daytime but also in the evenings which were used to explore the possibilities of the Regional Cultural Landscape, or at least some of its eatable and drinkable products.

The different research areas that were being discussed through the seminar days had a great variation; from different strategies to put the Landscape Convention in action to the use of Space and Landscapes in institutions like for example Spas, as well as political aspects of Landscapes and Landscape use, both in previous times as well as today. One of the many interesting topics that we dwelled on was the need to forget and erase certain traits in the landscape and of course the right to define and to value. Concepts like designation, scientification, commodification as well as gentrification of landscapes were being discussed at length. Further topics were the value of informal places, hidden places and the maze of life and death in never-ending labyrinths which is the material creating the constantly changing cultural landscape that we deal with. And very importantly — what are our future roles as landscape experts?

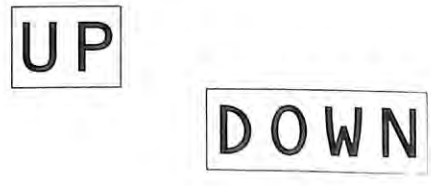
I can never make justice to all the papers and discussions here, but I think we all went home again with many new thoughts and a lot of new inspiration. Thanks all of you for some very inspirational days!

Anna Jacobsson



CRYPTIC HILLSIDE MARKINGS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

When traveling in Northern Ireland this summer we had a brief glimpse of a hill marking - you know the kind, I mean like the White Horse at Uffington and others. I do not know if the two words were cut into the turf, or if stones had been used to form the letters. They were reminiscent of some of Ian Hamilton Finlay's wit - the two words proclaimed the message:



Bud:
An end of column space filler for you in *IRL* - I wish I had been able to take a photograph.

Ros Codling.

SENTIENT LANDSCAPE
A SENSE OF WELL BEING OR SUFFERING

I think it makes a huge difference when you come out of your home in the morning, whether you believe on the one hand you re stepping into inert space, which is endless, or whether you re stepping into something that is animate and alive.

The speaker indeed believes the landscape is alive .

Danger! This is written by someone with only a little knowledge of what he is writing about. But Philip Pacey s invitation in *LRE* 35 to comment on sentient landscape came just as I was puzzling over this very notion, and once again he has stirred curious thoughts.... We can accept such things as Aboriginal stories of Dreamtime ancestors making a landscape that watches and cares for its inhabitants - because they are... well... only naive stories. But how could land[scape] watch anything - let alone have a sense of well-being or suffering, or any sort of consciousness?...

The thoughts were stirred last year when I accidentally heard a Radio 4 Sunday Service led by poet and sometime priest John O Donohue. He is very much of the Celtic tradition of Christianity. He is very straightforward. He believes the landscape is alive. In one of his addresses he asks:

How can we ever know the difference we make to the soul of earth? .... It never even occurs to us to wonder how the earth sees us. Is it not possible that a place could have huge affection for those who dwell there? Perhaps your place loves having you there. ... Could it be possible that a landscape might have a deep friendship with one? ... [1]

He stresses that the landscape s consciousness differs from ours... but does this make *any* sense - or is it only a poet s quaint use of words? I wonder, indeed, how much it makes even *poetic* sense. Any sense in it would be radically different from our commonsense - let alone a scientific - understanding of the world. Even without getting into a consideration of that, it begs such silly questions as: Does some other place hate having you there? Does your place also love someone else...? .

Yet: retreat a little from John s style of language.... How much more sense is there, for example, in Aldo Leopold s Land ethic ? What do belonging to a community, and love and respect for it *actually* mean? I think about it ... and I m not sure!...

On the same table in my study as *LRE* is my wife s copy of *Urthona*. This is the only issue of the magazine for Buddhism and the arts I ve seen, but it contains two items highly relevant to our theme. It serves also as a reminder [and *LRE* can be valuable as a vehicle for them] of just how limited, lop-sided, and West-facing, our discussion of that nebulosity we call landscape can be.

First, there is an extract from an essay by Gary Snyder a poet:

Although we say that mountains belong to the country, actually they belong to those who love them. When the mountains love their owners, the wise and virtuous inevitably enter the mountains. And when sages and wise men live in the mountains, because the mountains belong to them, trees and rocks flourish and abound, and the birds and beasts take on a supernatural excellence. This is because the sages and wise men have covered them with their virtue. We should realise that the mountains actually take delight in wise men, actually take delight in sages.

This is definitely invoking a capability of feeling.... And this sort of expression is widespread through time and cultures. For instance, the Prophet of Islam said of Mount Uhud near Medinah: *It is a mountain that loves us, and we love it.* , and when it was shaken by an earthquake, said: *Be calm, Uhud!* ; and Native Americans [traditional] reluctance to plough the soil or tear down forests, from not wanting to wound their mother, is well known.

In the same *Urthona*, David Payne advocates resurrecting dragons [3] *A dragon* , he explains,
is what I call Big Energy , resting and waiting in the depths of the mind. The [traditional] Japanese say that if dragons are not acknowledged they become upset and mischievous. [Traditional] Japanese are friendly and respectful towards dragons... [which] are apparently intelligent and wise beings, and it bodes well to be in good communication with them. In general, pre-modern cultures were completely [sic] vulnerable to the caprices of nature, so a good relationship with the elements must have been crucial to survival.

I guess social anthropologist Kay Milton recognises such concern. *Nature* , she says,
does not just do things, it does things to us. Given that we cannot avoid engaging with natural processes [which] impact on our survival..., it is not surprising that people in many societies perceive personhood in the earth, the wind, the sun, the rain, and nature as a whole [ergo treat them as

Editor: My mind immediately went to a bit of Bible; Man s relationship with the Earth seems to be part of many religions - look at the end lines:

Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly; thou settlest the furrows thereof; thou makest it soft with showers; thou blessest the springing thereof. Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness. They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side. The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing.

David: Psalm 65

persons - but important ones, e.g deities]. [4]

In several traditions some of the earth-energies are known as dragon currents . Because these energies are said to be, and are presumably experienced as, intelligent, a communication takes place between land and [*e.g.*] architect - which I think he means is an example of dragon-friendliness.

That — as They say - may be.... Maybe we are using the wrong words - at least if sentient means having senses *and* means being conscious, and if we forget to keep these distinct.... We have not yet abandoned the *belief* that only we have consciousness - though we can t pin down what it is. It is easy to point out objectively that We have grown out of believing in dragons and talking to mountains - except that not a few researchers are saying, with just this cool objectivity: Don t you believe it! In any case, many of what I am calling traditions, including parts of ours, have *ritual* relationships with other sentient beings, with dragons, and with their land. Even if there are no dragons - if you believe in them, for you there are dragons; and you will act *as if* there are dragons.



There would seem to be many ways of understanding, explaining, and *knowing*, the world. The story we call science is but one of them: all work, to some extent. Perhaps none works completely. Which perhaps explains why even hard scientists occasionally talk to the trees, and have inexplicable feelings about, in, and for, particular places....

O Donohue finds a huge difference . There would certainly seem to be different levels of regard. The usual moral feeling, in our unenchanted society, is that one takes greatest care of one s own kind , much greater care of sentient beings [especially cute animals] than non-sentient ones [though the position of the divide is hotly contended], and we have no moral responsibilities to anything non-sentient and non-living. Would it not make a huge difference to the moral regard due to land[scape] if we found it to be sentient? Yes say the growing few who *have*.

Martin Spray
Forest of Dean

Notes

1.Broadcast on 14 September 2003; text from www.bbc.co.uk. The lead quote is from the transcript of Belief broadcast on 9 April 2004 on Radio 3, *loc. cit.*.

2. Blue mountains constantly walking *Urthona* nr. 20: 8-11, extracted from the essay of the same title in his *The practice of the wild*. North Point Press, 1990. Inspired by Dogon Kigen s *Sansui kyo* - the *Mountains and waters sutra* - available at <www.stanford.edu/group/scbs/sztp3/translations/shobogenzo/translations/sansuikyo/sansuikyo.translation.html>.

3. David Payne [2004] Resurrecting dragons *Urthona* nr. 20: 43-44. I still think Spike Milligan gave good advice: Never laugh at live dragons .

4. Kay Milton [2002] *Loving Nature. Towards an ecology of emotion*, Routledge.

5. Warren Bauer, quoted in Isis Brook [1998] Goethean science as a way to read landscape *Landscape Research* 23[1]: 51-69 [a rare paper in *LR*]. In some senses we are individual : in others we are not. 10% of a human body, as dry weight, consists of bacteria, some of which, although they are not a congenital part of our bodies , we can t live without. Each cell in your body appears to be a micro-community. E.g. Lynn Margulis & Dorion Sagan [1987] *Microcosmos*, Allen & Unwin. Michael Andrews [1976] *The life that lives on man*, Faber & Faber, is an itchy look at our boundary natural history.

For origin of the illustration see last page. For relevance ask the editor.

Line drawing Meg Merrilie s artist unknown. This also featured on the front cover of LRE 12

Dear Mary
My esteemed contributor (MSp) always inserts these ineradicable lines in his manuscript. I can never remove them. Is he working in a different software? Should I speak to him and if so how? He is an editor in his own right and I am too shy to ask him direct.
Anxious
BY.

French conference report

DE LA CONNAISSANCE DES PAYSAGES A L ACTION PAYSAGERE or as officially translated .From knowledge of landscapes to landscaping action.

Bordeaux, France, December 2-4th 2004

This major international conference attracted more than 300 delegates from over 20 countries across Europe with contributions from Canada and the US. It was organised by the French Ministry for Ecology and Sustainable Development, CEMAGREF and the Regional Council of Aquitaine.

The conference was organised around 4 parallel themes namely:

- Public policies and landscapes
- The place of the landscape in environmental policies
- The place of the landscape in urban policies
- Civil society, participation in decision-making and governance

Without having the benefit of hearing all the papers running concurrently it is impossible to report on all themes equally. However, the diversity of papers and breadth of subject matter was impressive with great variation of source from government, agencies and academia at many different levels. I attended a number ncluding the plenary sessions containing the central premise for this conference. It was clear that the flavour of papers particularly from the French and Southern European countries such as Portugal, Italy and Spain, showed a heightened concern for how to bring policy, decision-making and practice together in a more coherent and sustainable way. They also indicated increased involvement of the public and local communities. Interestingly this is one of the central tenets of the European Landscape Convention. France has recently signed and ratified this, joining many other countries participating at this conference who have already done so. The UK government has yet to decide.

It was also notable but not unexpected, that one of the main recurring concerns especially in theme 2 was the impact of CAP Reform on landscape change through neglect, land abandonment and changing population demographics.

Another issue which repeatedly surfaced was the need for, and difficulties of, moving from **inter**disciplinary working on landscape concerns to one **trans**disciplinary working, and the realisation that the methods employed and the tools needed to achieve this are different. Related to this was the proposition that *applied research* ie that related to practical applications in landscape management and decision-making, is now more urgent than pure academic research. At the same time there were many discussions associated with papers from themes 3 and 4 which identified the need to develop an understanding of landscape perception, the ethical dimension, public aspirations and quality of life needs , especially in the urban residential environment.

CEMAFGREF issued a summary report that formed part of the conference delegate pack entitled Policies and Landscapes Research Programme — Analysis, Assessment, Comparisons which contains some interesting conclusions on A Necessary Ethical Reflection Process This summary report poses questions, probably significant for all engaged in this area:



- Social .. what is the role of society in the development/formulation of (these) policies?
- Economic .. how public policies that are implemented can ensure fair access to natural resources and consumer goods and can contribute to sustainable development?
- Ecological .. How to rise to the challenge of long term survival of natural resources and living organisms at the heart of the debate, in particular within the context of climate change.



The international roundtable discussion on the last day produced conclusions and these will be published in a full review. They explore 2 issues:

- From research to public action
- Which future for landscape research?

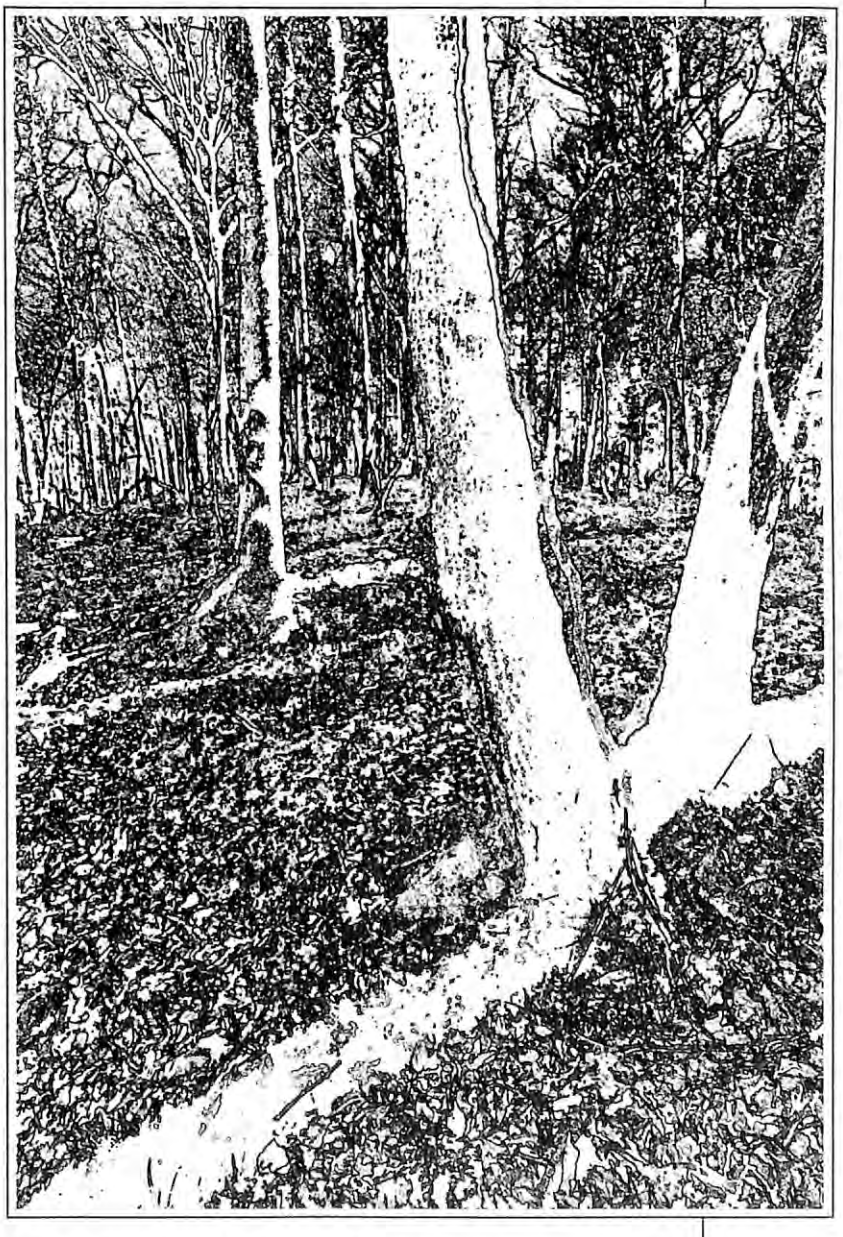
We wait with interest to see what directions are mapped out in this final paper of this very worthwhile conference.

Rebecca Hughes
Scottish Natural Heritage
Who traveled for and with assistance from LRG

Seminar Report:

ACCESSIBILITY OF WOODLANDS AND NATURAL SPACES: ADDRESSING CRIME AND SAFETY ISSUES.

This seminar on June 2nd 2004,
which was organised by Forest Research, with backing from English Nature, CABE Space and Lancashire Constabulary attracted a broad attendance, including planners, police, academics and environmental professionals. Improving the accessibility of woodlands and natural spaces is seen as a key issue for organisations



such as the Forestry Commission; the delivery of social and public benefits from woodlands and greenspace is crucially dependent on the quantity and quality of access. In this context accessibility is not just about well-managed paths, it includes psychological and cultural issues.

The seminar set out to address 5 themes:

- *Access and Risk Perception*. People, especially women, often state that they avoid being alone in woods. In contrast, crime statistics suggest that woodlands are relatively safe places.
- *Access and exclusionary behaviour*. Ranging from noisy sport to crime, land managers need advice on how to recognise and manage behaviour that tends to exclude others.
- *Access and liability*. Land managers may be reluctant to allow access for fear of liability claims.
- *Crime reduction and rehabilitation of offenders*. Outdoor activities that include disaffected young people or offenders can reduce the incidence of rural crime, and the likelihood of re-offending.
- *Location and design of accessible woodland*. Lived-in, well managed woodlands near to where people live can provide inclusive access and tend to attract less anti-social behaviour than unmanaged woodlands.

The atmosphere was highly constructive, with a shared belief in the positive possibilities that could be achieved by working together. The morning was taken up with a series of excellent talks, each exploring one of the themes with reference to research or personal experience.

Deborah Fox, Head of Standards and Best Practice at CABE Space traced the multiple media that affect our perception of natural space — from Hansel and Gretel toTolkein s Ents . The workshop emphasised the varying perceptions of different genders and age groups, and recommended better communication with these groups and specific provision of accessible space that feels safe for them. **Simon Bell**, Associate Director, Openspace research centre, asked if one person s use is another s abuse — using the example of dog-walking. **Chris Probert** of Forestry Commission England showed that the incidence of claims against owners is quite small, with one reportable accident per 416000 visits to Forestry Commission land and much fewer if cycling and children s play areas are excluded. However, even this low risk must be managed through risk assessment, access management, inspection, monitoring and recording. **William Cass**, Architectural Liaison Officer for Humberside Police, covered the police Secured by Design guidelines. More on this at www.securedbydesign.com

In summary, an optimistic conference that should open the door to new joint initiatives, particularly concerning the accessibility of woodlands.
Visit: www.forestresearch.gov.uk

Paul Tabbush
Social Research Unit, Forest Research

SHOULD YOU READ?

Gleanings from a provincial university library

Judith K Haschenburger & Catherine Souch **Contributions to the understanding of geomorphic landscapes in the Annals** Ann. of Ass. Am. Geo. 94/4200 pp771-793

Paul Aplin **Progress Report - Remote Sensing: land cover** Progress in Physical Geography 28/2 2004 pp283-293

RB King **Land cover mapping principles: a return to interpretation fundamentals** 2002 Int Jour of Remote Sensing (23) pp3525-46

James D Harrison & Derek J McGlasham **Scotlands Coast: Understanding past and present processes for sustainable management** Scott. Geog Journal 120 (1&2) pp99-116

Keith E Salt & David JA Evans **Superimposed subglacially streamlined land forms in SW Scotland** (journal notable for colour pictures)

A Ergin, E Karaesmen, A Micallef & AT Williams **A new methodology for evaluating coastal scenery: fuzzy logic systems** Area 36/4 Dec 2004 367-386

Adrian McDonald, Smart N Lane, Nick E Haycock & E A Chalk **Rivers of dream: on the gulf between theoretical and practical aspects of an upland river restoration.** In Trans Inst Brit. Geography 29/3 2004 pp257-283

Leonard D Baer & Wilbert M Gesler **Reconsidering the concept of therapeutic landscapes in JD Salinger s The Catcher in the Rye** 404-413

Kenneth R Olivig **Representation and alienation in the political land-*scape*** Cultural Geographies 12/1 2005 pp19-40

Jon Anderson **Talking whilst walking: a geographical archeology of knowledge** Area 2004 36/3 254-261

Derek J McGlashan, Robert W Duck & Colin T Reid **The foreshore: geographical implication of the three legal systems in Great Britain** Area 2004 36/4 338-347

Trevor A Croft **Conservation charity land ownership in Scotland** Scottish Geographical v120/parts1&2 pp71-82

Karien Dekker & Ronald van Kempen **Large housing estates in Europe: current situation and developments** Tijdscrift voor Economische en Sociale Geographie 2004 95/5 pp570-577



The Ferens Art Gallery, Hull, presents

PROSPECT AND REFUGE: A NEW WAY OF LOOKING AT LANDSCAPE

26 February to 10th March 2005 (!!)

Early in 2005, The Ferens Art Gallery will present a pioneering exhibition devoted to the innovative ideas of Professor Jay Appleton.

Now Emeritus Professor of Geography at the University of Hull, his theory of Prospect and Refuge was first published exactly thirty years ago, in a book called, *The Experience of Landscape.* The exhibition will include a varied display of landscape paintings, drawn from the Ferens Art Gallery s permanent collection. Both watercolours and oil paintings have been selected to illustrate the main ideas behind Professor Appleton s theories.

Prospect and Refuge as a theory, provides the visitor with a new way of enjoying and understanding landscape by offering a unique perspective. It may even help to explain why we like some landscapes better than others! Professor Appleton s theories are based on the principle that when we look at a landscape our most basic instincts come into play. Survival is key. He argues that we all subconsciously influenced by opportunities for, or threats to our survival. The elements within a landscape, be they hills, rivers or woods, and their arrangement communicate this vital information.

In addition to this display the gallery is working in close association with Professor Appleton to produce a gallery trail, looking at a variety of the most popular and historically significant landscape paintings at the Ferens. Children can also have fun exploring landscapes in art with a specially designed activity sheet.

Professor Appleton is a well-known local figure who lives and works in Cottingham, East Yorkshire. He will be giving a lunch time talk about his work, dates to be confirmed. For more information on the exhibition please contact: **Laura Turner, Assistant Keeper of Art [Collections] 01482 613902**

Editors note *Jay Appleton, delightful man as his twinkly face suggests, poet and academic was for several years Chair of the Landscape Research Group.*

SPORTS LANDSCAPES

A request for information

Dear Editor

I came across your Landscape Research website whilst researching for a sports studies MSC dissertation on the landscapes of golf. I am a mature student at Stirling University, part time, whilst my day job is lecturing in golf management at Elmwood College, Cupar Fife.



I wonder if any of the members have a research interest in sports landscapes. If so I would be very interested to start a dialogue with them on the subject.

Maybe you could forward this to your members and if there is any positive response we can take it forward from whatever develops. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.



Ed Apologies in advance Paul for my flippant sports landscapes but no one is allowed to forget the hunting issue this week. Thanks to ancient Punch for cartoons. Your captions welcome. Prizes !

Paul Miller PhD Stirling University Email address from LRG admin officer.

GUEST EDITOR SUMMARISES LANDSCAPE RESEARCH 29/4 OCTOBER 2004

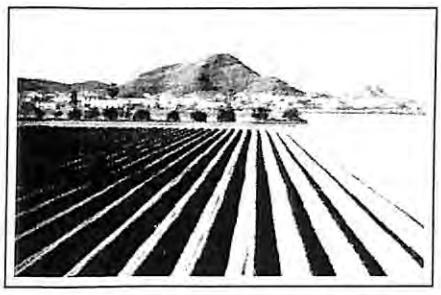
The European Landscape Convention is the primary motivator for many landscape activities at present, and this issue of Landscape Research consists of revised versions of papers first given at the Second Workshop of that convention in Strasbourg in November 2003. They have been chosen to highlight some of the major issues emerging from that convention, and some of the work being done. As always, there is considerable difficulty in taking papers originally intended as presentations, usually with Powerpoint at a conference, and turning them into written papers, and the fact that most of the authors have English as a second or third language does involve some greater probing to discover the precise intention. But I remain quite shocked at, and immensely thankful for, the articulacy of others in my language.

Lionella Scazzosi, from Italy, has edited some books on the variety of landscape planning systems in Europe, and these are reviewed in this issue also, so her article here makes a brave attempt to summarise three large volumes. This results in an article where the text, showing the differences between the various parts of Europe is expanded by a great many erudite notes for those whose knowledge of the detail of the Convention and various countries legal requirements is limited.

Most of the articles concern particular landscape management examples from which some general lessons can be extracted. Han L rzing shows how the long history of conservation of the Green Heart of Holland has indeed prevented the population there from increasing at the same rate as the country as a whole, but has also failed to prevent the area becoming a reserve for the wealthy. Gerhard Ermischer, from Aschaffenburg museums, makes a case for landscape diversity, for maintaining the fine detail of places, quoting examples from many parts of the continent, especially Wales. Rafael Mata Olmo and Santiago Fernandez Mu oz examine the Huerta of Murcia, and the importance of participation in the selection of conservation priorities. Ingrid Sarl v Herlin looks from a landscape architectural perspective and demonstrates the importance of a more integrated Europe-wide training. Francis Rosillon shows an example of the particularly successful management of a river valley, the Semois from the Ardennes.



The very range of articles, and the countries discussed, underlines the difficulties of instituting a Convention



common to the whole of Europe. But it also highlights the excitement of doing so, sometimes of looking at the whole landscape problem from a completely different perspective, sometimes just admiring a different legal or managerial system. Lessons can be learned from best practice, without slavish mimicry. My own article, bringing up the rear in this collection, looks at some of the difficulties in implementation, and reminds us that Fine words butter no parsnips .

Peter Howard
Guest Editor LR
[Illustrations linear settlement near Gouda (from paper by H Lorziing)
And horticultural detail Murcia (from paper by Mata Olmo and Fernando Munoz)]

TBILISI CONFERENCE May 3-10, 2005

Critical Areas in a Landscape: From Theory to Mapping and Management Tbilisi, Georgia —First Conference Announcement and Call for Papers

The Commission on Landscape Analysis of the International Geographical Union (IGU) is pleased to announce the first international conference *Critical Areas in a Landscape: From Theory to Mapping and Management* , to be held in Tbilisi, Georgia from May 3-7, 2005 (with an optional scientific excursion on May 8-10, 2005) and invites you to submit a topic of your possible presentation at the conference. The conference will take stock of the existing scientific knowledge on the delineation of critical landscape areas — and the applicable landscape and geographic analysis The focus would be on delineation, mapping, and management of the so-called high conservation value forests in a forest landscape and the different spatial scales of critical areas in different geographic conditions (e.g. boreal vs. tropical, lowlands vs. mountains, developed vs. pristine, etc.).

Conference Venue The first conference on this subject is being held in Tbilisi, Georgia (Caucasus) for the following reasons: (1) Georgia is a compact country with a uniquely high diversity of landscape types, ranging from glaciers and temperate forests to arid grasslands and humid subtropics, and is part of one of the globally significant ecoregions; (2) Tbilisi hosts internationally active research and teaching facilities with a strong focus on landscape analysis and GIS/mapping; and (3) Georgia is the site of several ongoing projects supported by the World Bank, WWF and Global Environment Facility (GEF) that provide practical development and testing of new landscape-ecological techniques for forest inventory, conservation and management.

If you are interested in participating in the conference and would like to contribute a paper or a poster presentation email for details from Professor Niko Beroutchachvili (nlberou@yahoo.com), not later than **Saturday, March 19, 2005** *[or contact this editor by email]*

The 2nd Conference Announcement and Conference Program will be circulated by email and web on April 4, 2005. Necessary invitation and visa support letters would be issued upon request before that date as well.

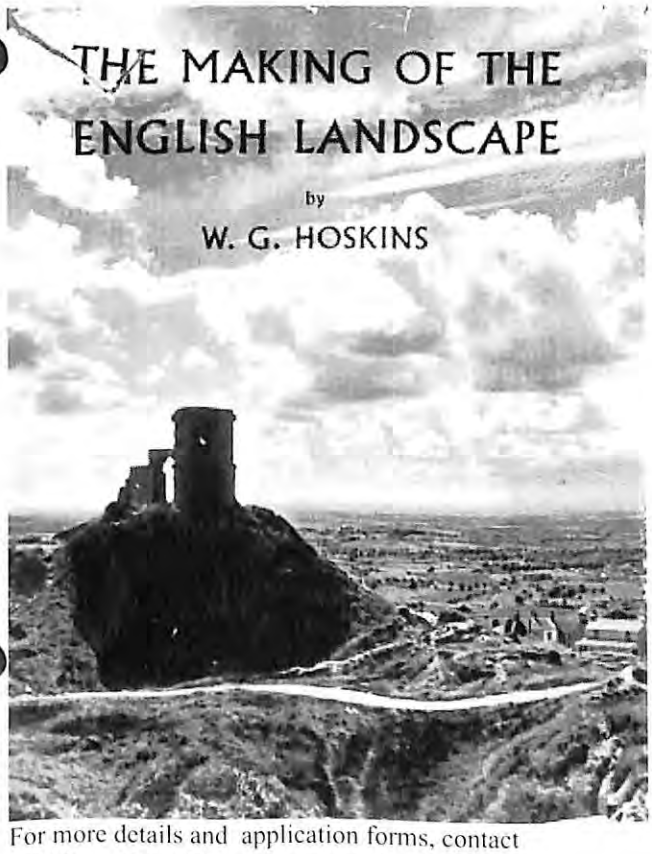
Prof. Niko L. Beroutchachvili
IGU Commission Chairman
Vice President of the Geographical Society of Georgia.

[Ed For those who momentarily forgot where Tbilisi is here is a map from 1946].



W.G.HOSKINS AND THE MAKING OF THE BRITISH LANDSCAPE July 7-10, 2005

This conference, which commemorates the 50th anniversary of the publication of the *Making of the English Landscape*, is being held at the University of Leicester on 7-10 July, 2005. It pursues 10 themes, some are those figured in Hoskins account of landscape history: rural settlement and industry and communications , and others such as designed landscapes and perceptions of landscape mark developments in the subject. The conference takes note of the work of W.G. Hoskins, but its focus is on recent developments and the future outlook. Sixty papers will be given, on all periods from the Neolithic to the 20th century, and there will be receptions and an excursion. *[Sounds irresistible Ed]*



For more details and application forms, contact

Christopher Dyer
Centre for English Local History
University of Leicester
Marc Fitch House
5 Salisbury Road
LEICESTER LE1 7QR
e-mail address, cd50@le.ac.uk

[Illustration the dust jacket of the editor s 1955 1st edition].

INTO BOSTON & OUT

We travel and we take a view. We report and what we say affects others who decide to travel and take a view. Never rely on other people s views. Do not rely on mine. William said that leaving Boston and travelling 100 miles north he did not recall seeing any farmland. Faulted recollection? Check it out. He was right.

To arrive in Boston Mass. (and no one completes this name for fear of spelling error), is to arrive in a pretty harbour with clapboard houses, boats called Boston Whalers and a sense of ocean connectedness. A pretty place, like Great Abaco Island in the northern Bahamas where I once worked. But Logan Airport is pretty big. Collect your baggage, queue for immigration and you are out of that magic door that leads to continental America and the City of Boston.

The fast city roads give the lie to this Capt.Ahab/Nantucket/seventeenth century image. They plunge you through half finished tunnels and across girder bridges, then they whirl you through exchange junctions, and fling you out along the river parkway as a stone from a sling. It was dark, one was tired (oh dear!), Edward my son was driving — no he s good.

Boston s suburbs seen over the next days, live up to the received image of neat white clapboard houses (and blue and grey and pink), and wonderfully coloured trees. But there are visual shocks, for there, beyond the film camera stereotype, sit four storey, 20 room versions of the neat clapboard cottages, the space density tightens up and is suddenly menacing. Lovely fall-tinted maples in favoured suburbs, dwindle to nothing in tight spaced ones, and one sees this urbanisation for what it is, a series of small plot boxes sub random, sub grid, aiming never to touch, set in one time woodland over rock and glacial till. The real estate trick is to retain woodland, so that each house is an island, a clearing in the forest, Thoreau s Walden.

I liked Boston. To venture north and north west as we did, is to travel for two hours or more along a six lane highway. The route crosses a ridged terrain of metagranite in which broad low ridges thin covered with hardwoods, (some conifers) give way rhythmically to narrow drowned swales with groves of drowned stumps. We travelled in a corridor of trees. How far these extended from the road we have no idea. The land got steeper, the woods more visibly extensive. Then we came to the Connecticut River and a spectacular high bridge and on into Vermont. It s hillier. Now I understand the little hunting cabin in Vermont. It is true, travel broadens the mind.

Bud Young

A GEHRY BUILDING AT MIT.

During a recent visit to Boston Mass I was taken around the Gehry building at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Though architecturally un- educated I delighted in the place and can only think that it was because the interior reminded me of a woodland, a series of caverns or a natural place out of doors. It was predictably in its shape and layouts - the difference between Marylebone High Street (an old London wriggling organic street) and the laid out rectangular blocks north and south of Oxford Street. There is an excitement in reading the internal slopes, shapes, cavities and see-throughs, visual gaps between irregular volumes. And the wall colours were exciting. The outsides are equally intriguing in a more understandably contrived way which I knowledgeably refer to as wonky I loved both and felt I had seen the kind of architecture I would wish to work in (if I were to work in a city centre office).



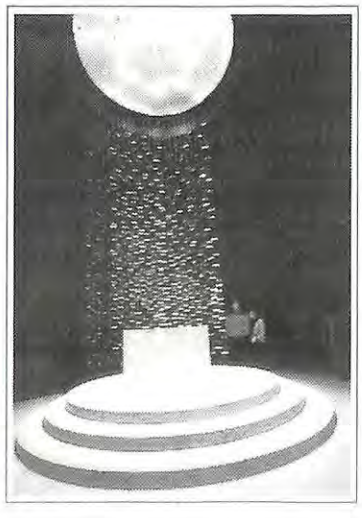


Closeby a second building, an all-faiths place of worship was also sensational, allowing sun light dappled and natural to reflect into the building from a ring of water in the fresh air of outside via an interrupted glass window. The altar , circular, conveyed the sense of a thousand prayers floating up to heaven caught in a descending light from a circular lantern in the roof.

Once again, (no architect I), it was wonderfully natural and had an amazing sense of harmony and introduced light and nature as symbolism that I might have identified coming from any religion. A great coming together of inside and outside, landscape and building, God and Man.

I think that we can call these notes on landscape ?

LANDSCAPE RESEARCH GROUP



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