

In this unit, you will learn:

• Subject-related knowledge: The mission of a landscape architect

The conceptual definition of landscape architecture

Academic skill: Searching for information

• Reading strategy: Dealing with unknown words (Part I)

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Section A

Pre-reading

- 1 The following are pictures of some landscape architecture. Match the words and expressions below with the pictures.
 - 1. streetscape 2. waterfront
 - 4. wetland
 - 3. arboretum

 - 5. wildlife refuge
 - 6. residential neighborhood



- 2 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.
 - 1. According to the knowledge you have learned, what do landscape architects design and plan?
 - 2. How do landscape architects do their projects?

- 1 Landscape architecture encompasses the analysis, planning, design, management, and stewardship of the natural and built environments. Landscape architecture includes both iconic and neighborhood places, such as local parks, residential communities, commercial developments, downtown streetscapes, and more.
- ² Landscape architects have advanced education and professional training. They plan and design traditional places such as parks, residential developments, campuses, therapeutic gardens, arboreta, wildlife refuges, cemeteries, commercial centers, resorts, transportation corridors, corporate and institutional centers, and waterfront developments. They are also becoming involved with environmental remediation. For example, they plan and design the preservation and restoration of natural places disturbed by humans, such as wetlands, stream corridors, and forested land, as well as the reclamation of degraded land, such as mines or landfills. Historic landscape preservation and restoration is another important area where landscape architects are playing an increasingly important role.
- ³ Working with architects, city planners, civil engineers, and other professionals, landscape architects play an important

Landscape architects

Text A

role in environmental protection by designing and implementing projects that respect the needs both of people and of our environment. Professionals who can meet human needs by making wise use of our environmental resources are in demand today and will continue to be so in the future.

- ⁴ A wide range of opportunities are open to landscape architects today. They may work in regional planning and resource management; feasibility, environmental impact, and cost studies; or site construction. Some may work on a variety of projects, while some specialize in a particular area.
- from real estate development firms starting new projects to municipalities constructing airports or parks and they often are involved with the development of a site from its conception. Working with architects, surveyors, and engineers, landscape architects help determine the best arrangement of roads and buildings. They also collaborate with environmental scientists, foresters, and other professionals to find the best way to conserve or restore natural resources. Once these decisions are made, landscape architects create detailed plans indicating new topography, vegetation, walkways, and other landscaping details, such as fountains and other decorative features.
- In planning a site, landscape architects first consider the nature and purpose of the project and the funds available. They analyze the natural elements of the site, such as the climate, soil, slope of the land, and vegetation; observe where sunlight falls on the site at different times of the day and examine the site from various angles; and assess the effect of existing buildings, roads, walkways, drainage, and other utilities in the project.
- Landscape architects prepare a preliminary design after studying and analyzing the site, and taking into account the local, state or federal regulations, such

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as those providing barrier-free accessibility and those protecting wetlands or historic resources. To accommodate the needs of the client and other stakeholders in the project, as well as the changing conditions at the site, the design frequently evolves based on input gathered at meetings held during the design development phase. These modifications to the preliminary design contribute to the approval of the final design.

- 8 In preparing designs, computer-aided design (CAD) has become an essential tool for most landscape architects. Many landscape architects also use video simulation to help clients envision the proposed ideas and plans. For larger-scale site planning, landscape architects also use the geographic information system (GIS) technology, a computer mapping system.
- Throughout all phases of the planning and design, landscape architects consult with other professionals involved in the project. Once the design is complete, they prepare a proposal for the client. They produce detailed plans of the site, including written reports, sketches, models, photographs, land-use studies, and cost estimates, and submit them for approval by the client and regulatory agencies. When the plans are approved, landscape architects prepare working drawings showing all existing and proposed features. They also outline in detail the methods of construction, itemize construction details, and draw up a list of necessary materials, including the written technical specifications for the project. Finally, during the construction implementation phase of the project, the landscape architects are often called upon, by the client, to monitor the installation of their design.
- of Landscape Architects (ASLA) over these years, before the 2008 Crash, landscape architecture firms are growing in size; billing rates are increasing dramatically; and the client base for the profession continues to expand, most significantly in the public sector. The severe economic conditions, however, has made negative impacts on landscape architecture profession: There are modest decreases in work and increases in hiring after 2008. In recent years, although the economic outlook still remains mixed for landscape architecture firms, a steadier future hiring picture has emerged for the this profession with firm

leaders reporting higher levels of billable hours, hiring and especially inquiries for new work – suggesting that the spring thaw could also apply to an industry hit hard by the lack of new design and construction projects over the past years.

Based on the projections by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of landscape architects is expected to grow 5% from 2014 to 2024, about as fast as the average for all occupations. New construction is increasingly dependent upon compliance with environmental regulations, land-use zoning, and water restrictions, spurring demand for landscape architects to help plan sites and integrate manmade structures with the natural environment in the least disruptive way. Landscape architects are also becoming increasingly involved in preserving and restoring wetlands and other environmentally sensitive sites. Due to growth and geographic shifts in population, the expertise of landscape architects will be highly sought after in the planning and development of new residential, commercial, and other types of construction. For the general public, their most important issues and concerns impacting their daily lives and routines have a close relationship to a landscape architects' area of practice and responsibility. Thus, the work of landscape architects will play an increasingly important role in shaping the world's future by making a positive impact on health, economic, social, and environmental issues.



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New words and expressions

encompass /In'kAmpəs/ vt. to include or comprise sth. 包含

stewardship /'stjuədʃɪp/ n.

the way in which sb. organizes and looks after sth. 管理方式

therapeutic / θerə pjuttk/ adj.

helping to treat or cure illness 有助治疗的;有疗效的

arboretum /ˌɑːbəˈriːtəm/ n. (pl. arboreta) a place where trees are grown so that they can be studied (供研究用的) 植物园

corporate /'kɔːpərət/ adj.

belonging or relating to a corporation 公司的

institutional / instit jux [ənəl/ adj.

from or within a large organization 大机构的;大集团的

remediation /rɪˌmiːdɪˈeɪʃən/ n.

the process of improving a situation or correcting a problem 补救;纠正

reclamation / reklə mei sən/ n.

the process of making an area of land suitable for cultivation, e.g. by draining or irrigating it 开垦;开拓

degrade /di'greid/ vt.

to make a situation or the condition of sth. worse 使(局面或情况)恶化

landfill /'lændfil/ n.

a place where waste is buried under the ground 废弃物填埋场

municipality /mjuːˌnɪsɪ'pælətɪ/ n.

town, city or district with its own local government 市政当局;自治区 surveyor /sə'veɪə(r)/ n.

a person who measures land in order to find borders or to decide where buildings will go (测定地界或为建筑物选址的) 检测员

forester /'fpristə(r)/ n.

a person who works in a forest taking care of, planting, and cutting down trees 林务员; 林务官

topography /təˈpɒgrəfɪ/ n.

the shape of an area of land, including its hills, valleys, etc. 地形;地貌

vegetation / ved3i'tei $\int an/n$.

plants in genera, esp. in one particular area (尤指某一地区的)植物,草木(总称)

drainage /ˈdreɪnɪdʒ/ n.

a system of pipes and passages that take away water or waste liquid from an area 排水系统;排水管道

preliminary /pri'liminəri/ adj.

happening before sth. that is more important, often in order to prepare for it 初步的;预备的

stakeholder /'steik,həuldə(r)/ n.

a person who has an interest in the success of a plan, system, or organization, for example a worker in a company or the parent of a child at a school 利益相 关者

envision /In'vI3ən/ vt.

to imagine, conceive of, see in one's mind 想象; 展望 sketch /sketʃ/ n.

a rough quickly-made drawing, without many details 草图; 速写

itemize /'aɪtəmaɪz/ vt.

to give or write every item of sth. 逐项记载;详细登载;详细列举

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specification /ˌspesɪfɪ'keɪʃən/ n.
an exact measurement or detailed plan about how sth. is to be made 规格;详细计划书
thaw /θɔː/ ν.

if ice or snow thaws or sth. thaws it, it becomes warmer and changes into liquid (使)融化; (使)解冻

disruptive /dɪs'rʌptɪv/ adj.
causing difficulties that interrupt sth, or prevent
it from continuing 扰乱的;制造混乱的

expertise /ˌekspɜː'tiːz/ n.
expert knowledge or skill, esp. in a particular
field 技能;专业知识

landscape architecture 风景园林;景观设计 therapeutic garden 康体治疗花园 transportation corridor 交通通道 stream corridor 河流廊道 wildlife refuge 野生动植物保护区 design development phase 技术设计阶段 barrier-free accessibility 无障碍通行 computer-aided design (CAD) 计算机辅助设计 geographic information system (GIS) 地理信息系统

construction details 施工详图 technical specification 技术规范

regulatory agency 管理机构

site construction 场地施工

land-use zoning 土地用途分区规划

Reading comprehension

The following table presents you with an overview of Text A. Complete the table based on the information from the text.

Part	Section	Para. and main idea
I	Introduction	1
	What do landscape architects do?	Landscape architects play an important role in environmental protection.
II	How do they fulfill their duties?	567 Prepare a preliminary design.89
III	Conclusion	10 The current trend in landscape architecture profession in the U.S.

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Language focus

1 Specialized vocabulary consists of the words and phrases used regularly in a given subject area. Match the specialized words in Column A with their definitions in Column B.

Column A	Column B
1. arboretum	A. a place where a lot of people spend their holidays
2. vegetation	B. a large deep hole in which very large amounts of rubbish are buried
3. topography	C. a system or process by which water or other liquids are drained from a place
4. architecture	D. an art of planning, designing, and constructing buildings
5. drainage	E. an urban district having its own local government
6. resort	F. a person whose job is to look after a forest, and to cut down and plant trees
7. landfill	G. a facility where trees and shrubs are cultivated for scientific study
8. municipality	H. an ornamental feature in a pool or lake which consists of a long narrow stream of water that is forced up into the air by a pump
9. forester	I. the total mass of plant life that occupies a given area
10. fountain	J. the features of a particular area of land

2	Fil	l in the blanks with the words given above. Change the form if necessary
	1.	To follow the new trend of thought, these designers are striving to turn the into an outdoor eco-lab.
	2.	Chilly outside, tourists found it amazing that the inn had a garden of semi-tropical
	3.	Experts can combine pictures taken from airplanes and satellites with data.
	4.	Today's complex artificial landscape requires close teamwork between the and the designers.
	5.	The system here, including a water-closet, is of the most complete and modern kind.

	6.	The town was a seaside in the North-east of England, which has been over-exploited these years.
	7.	Environmentalists protested against the current plan because they say there is a high risk of pollution from the site.
	8.	As response to the public, the new authorities have kept the landscape up well.
	9.	Dutch design always seems to be one step ahead of convention, setting new directions in design and
	10.	Urban designers made the streets an amazing maze, opening up into surprising, sunny squares.
3	Rep	place the underlined words and expressions with the words in Text A.
		Conservationists are concerned over the effect of commercial exploitation of forests.
		Side-slope greening is an important measure to guarantee ecological improvement and soil erosion prevention for artificial side-slope.
		An obvious effect can be achieved during a short period in restoring the <u>degenerated</u> land and in regenerating the ecology affected by artificial factors.
		Farmland expanding and vegetation <u>renovation</u> were two major trends of land use pattern change
		Functional principles provide guidance on creating landscape designs that fulfill the need of the <u>customer</u> .
		A qualified landscape proposal must encompass a detailed description of design criteria.
4	Tra	nslate the following paragraph into English.
		最园林设计是对户外公共区域、地标和建筑进行的设计。在设计中要对景观中现 的社会、生态和土壤条件等进行系统调查并实行一些干预措施,以实现环境、社

会行为(social-behavioral)及审美的融合,并确保所有的设计计划符合所在国家及地方的建筑规范(building codes)和条例(ordinances)。该领域包括景观设计、场地规划、雨水管理、环境恢复、公园和游憩区域规划、视觉资源管理、绿色基础设施的规划和提供、私人住宅和住宅景观总体规划和设计等。风景园林行业的

从业者被称为风景园林设计师。

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Critical thinking

1 Please summarize the working procedure of landscape architects according to Text A.



2 During the procedure, as a future landscape architect, what qualities should you have to make you a qualified one? Share your ideas with your partner.

Professional qualities:

Social abilities:

Research task

Academic skill: Searching for information

Information can come from virtually anywhere - media, blogs, personal experiences, books, journal and magazine articles, expert opinions, encyclopedias, and web pages, etc.

1. Types of information

Туре	Use			
Magazine	 To find information or opinions about popular culture. To find up-to-date information about current events. To find non-scholarly articles about topics of interest within the subject of the magazine. 			
Academic journal	 To get help for your scholarly research. To find out what has been studied on your topic. To find bibliographies that point to other relevant research. 			
Database	 To find articles on specific topics. To find online journals or news articles.			
Newspaper	 To find editorials, commentaries, expert or popular opinions. To find current local, national or world news. 			
Library catalog	 To find virtually any topic. To find hard copies of current or back issue of journals, books, newspapers or magazines. 			
Website	 To find information from all levels of government – central to local. To find expert or popular opinions. To find information of various types of media, e.g. illustrations, audio and video information. 			

2. Searching for information

Author / Title search

Searching by author and / or title obviously assumes that you are searching for a particular author, book or article, probably in either a database or a library catalog. Here are some tips:

When searching by author, put the author's last name first, e.g. "Kotler,
Philip", not "Philip Kotler", if he is from an English-speaking country. Search
the author's full name in Chinese order if he is a Chinese. Sometimes, the

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author could be an organization, so give the full name of the organization as it commonly appears, e.g. "World Bank".

When searching by title, it helps if you enter the title as correctly as possible.

Keyword search

It is basically a way of searching through subject or topic. Most library catalogs and databases will include an option to search by keyword as an alternative to author and title. The first step of keyword search is to decide the key word(s) or phrase(s). Normally, the word(s) or phrase(s) which can cover the topic you search can be selected as keyword(s). A good research topic usually contains two or three concepts. For example, you need to write a paper on "The Impact of Cognitive Styles on Design Students' Spatial Knowledge". We can break the topic into concepts, like "cognitive styles" and "spatial knowledge", which can be used as keywords. Then type them in a search bar in a database, EBSCOhost for instance. In a database, there are usually two ways of search, i.e., basic search and advanced search.

Basic search (see Fig. 1) generates a large number of sources for you to differentiate, which is an exhausting task. But advanced search (see Fig. 2), which provides more choices for further conditioning, can make the work lighter. There are many variables that can be chosen to refine the search. And you can define the relationship between the keywords by choosing "and", "or" or "not" based on the results you intend to obtain.



As "cognitive styles" is a broader topic and "spatial knowledge" is more specific, they can be typed in the upper and middle search bars respectively. More relevant results will appear. You can then refine the search by selecting a specific variable. In



Fig. 3

Snowball search

It is a good way if your topic has a key work or author. You can trace the citations of that author using a specialized citation database, such as the Social Science Citation Index to obtain other key works or authors. You will follow the stream of research up to the near present and see the way in which the work or the author has influenced the subsequent studies.

3. Evaluating information

Once you have found information that satisfies the requirements of your research, you should evaluate it. Evaluating information encourages you to think critically about the reliability, validity, accuracy, authority, timeliness, point of view or bias of information.

When evaluating information, you can use the five criteria AAOCC, namely, Authority, Accuracy, Objectivity, Currency and Coverage. They can be applied to check all information.

- 1) Authority of information
 - Who published it?
 - What institution published it?
 - Does the publisher list his or her qualifications?
- 2) Accuracy of information
 - Who provided it, and can you contact him or her?
 - Does it provide enough details?
 - Has it been cited correctly?

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- 3) Objectivity of information
 - What is the purpose of it, or why was it published?
 - Is it biased?
 - What opinions (if any) are expressed by the author?
- 4) Currency of information
 - When was it published?
 - When was it updated?
 - How up-to-date is it?
- 5) Coverage of information
 - Do citations in it complement the research?
 - Is it all text or a balance of text and image?
 - Is it free or is there a fee to obtain it?

Task

Now you know what landscape architecture is and what a landscape architect does. Please work in groups and search for information on some classic cases of landscape architecture according to the three missions of a landscape architect. You can refer to the following table and write down what you have found and where you found the information.

	Classic case	Where did you		
The mission of a landscape architect	Architect	Date	Feature	find the information?
They plan and design traditional places such as parks, residential developments, campuses, gardens, etc.				
They plan and design the preservation and restoration of natural places disturbed by humans, such as wetlands, stream corridors, and forested land.				
They are playing an increasingly important role in historic landscape preservation and restoration.				

Section B

Reading strategies

Dealing with unknown words (Part I)

The ability to deal with unknown words is a key reading skill in the reading process. It is a vital skill because you are almost certain to find unknown or unfamiliar words in any text. The skill is not necessarily to "know" the words, but to guess the meaning of them so that you can read and understand the whole text. Here are several different ways that can help you guess the meaning of an unknown word.

Guessing by example

Sometimes you may find an example which often follows the signal words "for example" "such as", etc. around the unfamiliar word. The example often provides more details that can help you infer the meaning of the unfamiliar word. For example:

They are also becoming involved with environmental <u>remediation</u>. For example, they plan and design the preservation and restoration of natural places disturbed by humans, ...

Here you should understand that "remediation" is an act of correcting an error or a fault or an evil by reading the following "For example ..." sentence, which explains the meaning of the word by a real case.

Guessing by synonyms and antonyms

This is a very useful skill to learn. What you should do here is look at other words which

relate to that word and work out what it may mean. These words may be either synonyms (words with a similar meaning) or antonyms (words with an opposite meaning). For example:

... they plan and design the preservation and <u>restoration</u> of natural places disturbed by humans, such as wetlands, stream corridors, and forested land, as well as the reclamation of degraded land, such as mines or landfills.

Here you can work out the meaning of "restoration" by its synonym "preservation". All you need to do is to read the rest part of the sentence and think of the meaning of it.

Sometimes, when you come across an unknown word, besides guessing it, you can also ignore the word, especially when the word starts with a capital letter or is in italics, which means that it is in all probability a proper name or a loanword. In this case, you should waste no time in trying to understand the exact meaning of the word. For example:

Based on the projections by the U.S. <u>Bureau</u> of Labor Statistics, employment of landscape architects is expected to grow 5% from 2014 to 2024, about as fast as the average for all occupations.

Here the word "bureau" is a word that you should learn to ignore because it starts with a capital letter and is therefore a word may not influence the overall meaning of the sentence.

Task

Read Text B and apply the skills above to deal with the underlined words.

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Text B

The conceptual definition of landscape architecture

- To bring us closer to a meaningful definition of landscape architecture for today, let us look briefly at some earlier concepts. The Hubbards refer to landscape architecture as primarily a fine art whose most important function is to create and preserve beauty in the surroundings of human habitations and in the broader natural scenery of the country; but it is also concerned with promoting the comfort, convenience and health of urban populations, which have scanty access to rural scenery, and urgently need to have their hurrying, workday lives refreshed and calmed by the beautiful and reposeful sights and sounds which nature, aided by the landscape art, can abundantly provide. This definition reflects Frederick Law Olmsted's belief that the contact with natural landscape was essential for human morality, health, and happiness.
- ² Garrett Eckbo defines landscape architecture as covering that portion of the landscape which is developed or shaped by man, beyond buildings, roads, or utilities and up to wild nature, designed primarily as space for human living (not including agriculture or forestry). It is the establishment of relations between building, surfacing, and other outdoor construction, earth, rock forms, bodies of water, plants and open space, and the general form and character of the landscape; but the primary emphasis is on the human content, the relationship between people and landscape, between human beings and three-dimensional outdoor space quantitatively and qualitatively.
- ³ This definition is essentially concerned with site planning and the relations between people and the design in that context. Thus it is more limited in scope than that of the Hubbards.
- ⁴ Eckbo's definition is related to the concept expressed by others that landscape architecture is an extension of architecture by other means. They are regarded as the same job. It is argued that until about the end of the 18th century no architect would

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have considered himself incapable of designing the space between buildings or the space around buildings, that is, gardens and landscape. The people we think of as the great landscapists of the 18th century thought of themselves as architects as much as gardeners; for example, in England, Lancelot Brown, called Capability Brown, renowned for his landscape gardens, also designed houses, although the quality of the houses is not thought to be too high. Conversely, some of the people we think of as great architects of 18th-century England, like William Kent, were also great landscape architects, and Kent saw no incompatibility between the two pursuits. Chiswick House and Gardens, which Kent designed, illustrate his skill at both. According to this theory, the differences between architecture and landscape architecture occur in the means, techniques, and materials, not in the basic objectives.

- ⁵ Herein lies a parallel with Urban Design. As an architect, Brown had a greater control over the setting, and form of buildings in his landscapes. The urban designer is concerned with the space between buildings in an urban context and also needs to know about both architecture and landscape.
- More recently Elizabeth Kassler points out that the ancient gardens of China and Japan were expensive pieces of real estates but they were also consciously constructed and aesthetically perceived artefacts; whereas in the West, landscape design has frequently been considered as a form of architecture. Kassler challenges the concept that landscape is a form of architecture and suggests that landscape architecture would do better to draw its determinants of form from scientific knowledge and research in ecology and behavioral studies as well as from painting, sculpture, and architecture. She thus identifies broader responsibilities for the landscape architect to see beyond the boundaries of his design project and to become involved with and understand the larger region in which his project lies, where the impact of numerous projects and developments represents another level of concern for him.
- It can be seen that the definition of the profession has varied over the years in an attempt to match its goals with the problems and needs of society. Recently the American Society of Landscape Architects amended its official definition to include "the stewardship of the land" as one of its commitments.



- The point becomes clear, however, that no one philosophical position is appropriate for a profession whose work occurs in both the countryside and the city. Neither art, ecology, sociology, architecture, nor horticulture alone can provide an adequate basis for a responsible landscape design. The relevance that each might have in any situation depends on the nature of the project and the context.
- Professionals frequently find it frustrating that their role in society has been consistently misunderstood. Landscape gardening is the usual interpretation, but the terms "site planning", "urban design", and "environmental planning" are frequently added to the names of landscape architectural firms as a means of expressing their broader concerns and capabilities.
- Frederick Law Olmsted, designer of New York City's Central Park with Calvert Vaux, coined the term "landscape architect" in 1858. Olmsted was a prolific man and in addition to city parks he also planned complete urban open space systems, city and traffic patterns, subdivisions, university campuses, and private estates. In addition, he was active in the conservation movement and in 1865 was largely responsible for the first area of scenic landscape, Yosemite Valley in California, being set aside for public

use and enjoyment. All this he called "landscape architecture", so it is not surprising that there has been some confusion about what landscape architects do. Olmsted had no training in the profession which he established at the age of 40, but his ability in writing and management, and his romantic disposition fitted him for the role he adopted. The American Society of Landscape Architects was founded in 1899 by 11 practitioners, most of whom were associated with Olmsted. Others, such as Horace Cleveland and Charles Eliot, followed in his footsteps and in 1901 the first complete program in landscape architecture was established at Harvard University.

- After these auspicious beginnings the prestige of the profession waxed and waned.

 Landscape architects found themselves in competition with other environmentalists of the 19th century: engineers, surveyors, foresters, park <u>superintendents</u>, and city planners. In fact, the city planning profession emerged out of landscape architecture in 1907 in America.
- Thus from being responsible for some very large and important works in the 19th century, the landscape profession entered a somewhat less ambitious phase in the early 1900s with greater emphasis on large estates, gardens, and small scale site planning. However, during the depression years of the 1930s, landscape architects became involved again in larger scale projects, playing a significant role in the various public works programs, particularly those of the U.S. National Parks Service. Since World War II, the work of landscape architects, often operated by members of a team, has changed to include the restoration of derelict land, regional landscape analysis and planning, urban design and site planning for housing, schools, and large scale industrial plants. These now form a major portion of the landscape architecture carried on in public agencies and private practice.
- It should also be remembered that landscape work, unlike architecture, does not always have an immediately <u>perceptible</u> impact and the effectiveness of planting and land-use decisions or policies may not be appreciable for 20 to 30 years. For example, the landscape of the first new towns in England is just beginning to achieve the effect and visual qualities that were in the minds of the designers 25 years ago, and the housing built during wartime in the United States has often been demolished, leaving mature trees for a replacement projects. This fourth dimension, time, is an important aspect of landscape architecture.

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