

The Sustainable Sensed Principles of Islamic Landscape Architecture

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Abstract

The sensed quality of a place is an interaction between its form and its perceiver. It is irrelevant in a sewer layout or in an automated warehouse. But wherever people are, it is a cultural quality. Sensuous requirements may coincide or conflict with other demands but cannot be separated from them in judging a place. They are not “empirical”, or merely decorative, or even nobler than other concerns. Landscape design reflects a particular relationship between man and nature. The biological and physiological aspects of man could be said to form part of the natural universe, but on the other hand, technological achievements may sometimes encourage a feeling of being above and beyond nature, with power to reorder it. When man and nature are in contact, harmony may prevail; on other occasions, there seems to be conflict. The aim of this paper is while analyzing the genesis of cultural identities and the significance of historic landscape, we will try to obtain a sustainable methodology to capture the sensed principles of Islamic landscape architecture from within, i.e., by reverting to the inner forces that are able to nature a living culture and re-establish a sense of presence, integrity and continuity.

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