



Landscapes, Identities and Development

By Paul Claval

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Bringing together theoretical and empirical research from 22 countries in Europe, North America, Australia, South America and Japan, this book offers a state-of-the-art survey of conceptual and methodological research and planning issues relating to landscape, heritage, [and] development. It has 30 chapters grouped in four main thematic sections: landscapes as a constitutive dimension of territorial identities; landscape history and landscape heritage; landscapes as development assets and resources; and landscape research and development planning. The contributors are scholars from a wide range of cultural and professional backgrounds, experienced in fundamental and applied research, planning and policy design. They were invited by the co-editors to write chapters for this book on the basis of the theoretical frameworks, case-study research findings and related policy concerns they presented at the 23rd Session of PECSRL - The Permanent European Conference for the Study of the Rural Landscape, organized by TERCUD - Territory, Culture and Development Research Centre, Universidade Lusófona, in Lisbon and Alentejo, Portugal, 1 - 5 September 2008. With such broad inter-disciplinary relevance and international scope, this book provides a valuable overview, highlighting recent findings and interpretations on historical, current and prospective linkages between changing landscapes and natural, economic, cultural and other identity features of places and regions; landscape-related identities as local and regional development assets and resources in the era of globalized economy and culture; the role of landscape history and heritage as platforms of landscape research and management in European contexts, including the implementation of The European Landscape Convention; and, the strengthening of the landscape perspective as a constitutive element of sustainable development.

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Editorial Review

Review

'Since a conference asked in 1982 whether "landscape has died", we know that it is not eternal. As early as the 9th century Li Shangyin talked about "landscape-killing" (shafengjing). We have here the evidence that landscape is always on the move, sometimes toward death, but mainly toward living, ever changing forms.' Augustin Berque, Ecole des hautes etudes en sciences sociales, Paris, France 'This delightfully wide-ranging collection is a timely exploration of the nexus of landscape, identity and development which successfully combines theory and practice. Highlighting the trans-disciplinary nature of landscape research and planning today, this unique volume underscores the importance of social and economic forces in shaping what are often unequal, and sometimes unsustainable, landscapes.' Diana Davis, University of California Davis, USA 'This edited volume addresses the relationship of landscape to development as a constructive tension in the face of globalization. ... a thoughtful, useful survey of conceptual and methodological research on landscape as a constitutive element for developing policies for sustainable development... Recommended.' Choice 'One might say, yet another tome full of international and inter-disciplinary papers about the theory and philosophy of landscape. But this is one for which room must be made, because of the breadth of its view, the range of new approaches it encapsulates and the large body of researchers whose voices and ideas it offers. National narratives, disciplinary positions and personal agendas all contribute to a rich tapestry of landscape diversity.' Landscapes

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