

●■× landscapes, operative

[MG] See 'land-arch', 'land links' and 'land(s) in lands'.

Landscapes operationalised for use, function and architecture that simultaneously demonstrate natural and artificial conditions.

[MG] "There is an attempt to codify the contemporary situation according to different methods: voids, containers and flows, bigness, cityscapes and cityscopes, the Grosstadt, the hyperville, zenithal arrogance...

There is nothing objectionable about these useful efforts of reason to reveal the thread of action. But there is nothing more specific in this present time than its open character; nothing more fruitful, and difficult, than the impossibility of fixing it.

The landscape, as we wish to see it here, bears no relationship with scale, and is not necessarily the architecture of large, empty, open or "green" spaces, nor the scientific control of the possible damage that large constructions can cause. At one time, it could have been roughly defined in that way, but of late it has crystallised into architecture. An architecture that is characterised by:

– attending to what is between things as much as to the things themselves: public space – a sitting room, a square, a terrace – is often, therefore, its target.

– confirming variability, change – learnt, it is true, from large-scale experiences but which can be extrapolated to many others – as a constituent of architecture. More emphasis on the final design of objects than on the configuration of definitive bibelots.

– the action of the project as an inter-scalar compromise. The awareness that the project is defined and has influence on a multitude of spheres beyond those which it can call its own, for reasons of mere physical contiguity. Consideration of the work of the planner as capacity for inter-scalar passage, movement.

– we are now capable of simultaneously understanding and feeling different scales and spheres of perception and action. But the obstacles that I avoid, the paths that I choose, continue to be those which my body and my senses allow.

– to act upon that which is close, immediate, tactile, and to understand at the same time many other receptacles and dimensions that I also modify with my action, is a good work programme for the coming years."

(BRU, Eduard, "La mirada larga", in Nuevos paisajes, nuevos territorios, Barcelona: Actar/MACBA, 1997)

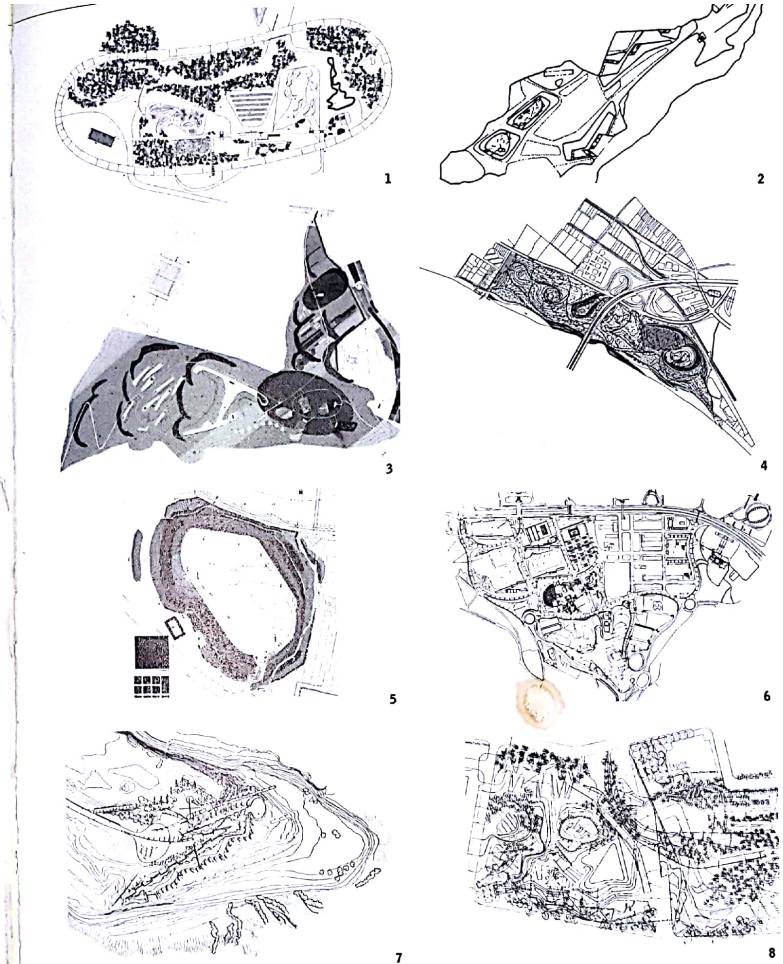
[JM] Architecture and context. Establishing these terms would be like talking about another duality, a type of mounting of architecture and context, of overlap, of the inevitable sum of superimposed contaminations. It is about a singular ecology, in which architecture and what already exists becomes known. Architecture is incorporated as a landscape; it is landscape and not an object.

[VG] If the city is a landscape, buildings are mountains.

→ 'agriculture', 'arches of development', 'artificial', 'carpets', 'countermarks: craters and basins', 'cross-crossing', 'cuts', 'ecology, active', 'geography', 'land links', 'land(s) in lands', 'landstrategy', 'leisure', 'mats', 'naturartificial', 'nature', 'places', 'plats', 'rurban life', 'terraces', 'tourism'



LEWIS, POTIN & LEWIS, Landscaping project for water abstraction plant, Joué-les-Tours (France), 2000.



1. ACTAR ARQUITECTURA, Intervention in the old circuit, Sitges (Barcelona), 1998. 2. Cristina DÍAZ MORENO, Efrén GARCÍA GRINDA, Competition for the landscaping rehabilitation Santa Bárbara quarry, Hernani (Guipúzcoa, Spain), 1996. 3. ÁBALOS & HERREROS, Rubbish chute landscaping recuperation, Valdemingómez (Madrid), 1997. 4. ÁBALOS & HERREROS, Architekturforum, Bonn, 1997. 5. LEWIS, POTIN & LEWIS, Landscaping project for water abstraction plant, Joué-les-Tours (France), 2000. 6. Eduard BRU, Vall d'Hebron Park, Barcelona, 1992. 7. Enric MIRALLES, Carme PINÓS, Cemetery park, Igualada (Barcelona), 1991. 8. Enric MIRALLES, Benedetta TAGLIABUE, Colours park, Mollet del Vallès (Barcelona), 2001.