

Foreword

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What is outstanding and what is ordinary? In this issue of *Landscape Review*, we showcase research–practice partnerships with papers that examine landscape performance through post-occupancy evaluations of built projects.

Katherine Melcher from the University of Georgia in the United States begins by exploring how knowledge is integrated into a project and frames procedural knowledge processes. This is the second part of her work on building collective know-how in landscape architecture; *Landscape Review* published part 1 in November 2023.

Megan Barnes from the Landscape Architecture Foundation in Washington, DC provides insights from the United States into how to evaluate and quantify the benefits of built landscapes, along with the implications of doing so, using a landscape performance approach set up by the Landscape Architecture Foundation.

Linda Corkery from the Landscape Foundation of Australia in Sydney introduces a new research–practice landscape performance model that the Landscape Foundation of Australia developed from the American model. She explains how the Australian Landscape Performance Case Studies Program differs from the US-based Case Study Investigation Program and how feedback will be collected after its first year of operation.

Bridget Keane from the University of Melbourne, Peter Grant from Tract Consultants and Claire Martin from OCULUS in Melbourne explain their approach in evaluating the performance of the Bendigo Hospital project. They present a structured reflection that incorporates the perspectives of the researcher–student–practitioner team in the project.

Sidh Sintusingha from the University of Melbourne and Emma Stevens from Tract Consultants in Melbourne explain their approach and lessons learnt in evaluating the performance of the Phillip Island Nature Park project. They present reflections on the value of the process and learnings for landscape architecture academia (the ‘research fellow’ and ‘research assistant’) and practitioners (the ‘firm liaison’).

Guanyu (Hanley) Chen, Jacky Bowring and Shannon Davis from Lincoln University in Canterbury, Aotearoa New Zealand argue for landscape performance studies that will help to avoid a ‘market’ saturated with low-investment projects based on low-value landscape architectural work – projects described as ‘lemons’. The analogy serves to provide a new perspective on the landscape architecture ‘market’ and highlights the potential of landscape performance evaluation to enhance disciplinary rigour.

Ken Taylor from the Australian National University in Canberra reviews *Community Green: Rediscovering the Enclosed Spaces of the Garden Suburb Tradition* by David Nicols and Robert Freestone. He sees this publication as timely while densification is increasing in our towns and cities worldwide. The book is a plea to politicians and planners to recognise the critical importance of green spaces in combatting urban sprawl in our landscapes.

Martin Bryant from the University of Technology Sydney reviews *Landscape Fieldwork: How engaging the World Can Change Design* by Gareth Doherty. He posits parallels between the pronghorn-hunter’s fieldwork in the film *No Country for Old Men* and that of Doherty, a landscape architect who has just published a warm, rich and gripping memoir of his landscape fieldwork undertaken in Ireland, Netherlands, Bahrain, the Bahamas and Brazil.

My thanks again to our authors and international reviewers. We hope that these papers, like those in previous issues, will inspire other authors to have their say.

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