Cultural Landscapes

The physical space associated with a culture, people, or a nation. This includes more abstract notions like culture and more tangible reasons such as history.

This may also include sites such as graveyards, memorials, capitals, and cities. There are 4 main types of cultural landscapes:

Type 1: Designed Landscape

An area specifically designed to look a certain way.

Example: Gardens, town squares, the National Mall in Washington DC.

Type 2: Vernacular Landscape

A landscape that evolves over time by the social and cultural lives of the inhabitants (individual to communal). Land will always reflect the biology and culture of those who inhabit it.

Example: Pueblos of New Mexico, medieval castles, Farms- such as the Amish in Pennsylvania

Type 3: Historic Site

A site of historical importance for an event, a person, or an activity. Some places, like the White House, are functioning historical sites whereas others, such as Gettysburg are memorialized historic sites.

Example: Ford's
Theatre in Washington
DC, Lenin's Tomb,
Jamestown.

Type 4: Ethnographic Landscape

The people inhabiting the land associate it with their cultural and ethnic heritage.

Example: Mecca, and many other religious sites of major religions and indigenous peoples.