

CUSTOM CONTENT

## What is Landscape Architecture?



Farmer + The Seahorse at The Alexandria

Walk outside and look around you. How does it make you feel? Relaxed, anxious, excited, comfortable? Chances are the environment you have just stepped into is the vision of a landscape architect. From the built environment to the natural world, landscape architects influence our communities on many levels which we may not have thought of.

It's ironic how a discipline devoted to designing places that protect and improve the public health, safety, and welfare can be so misunderstood. There is a tendency to hear the word "landscape" and disregard the "architect", resulting in a common misconception that this is a profession of gardeners, landscapers, or horticultural experts. While some enjoy gardening in their free time, getting their hands dirty in the yard, and having their favorite plants for that certain situation, a landscape architect's work is often not limited to planting design and very few actually construct or install their work. Instead, a landscape architect is hired as a creative professional with the education, training, and certifications to solve real problems facing the environment and community in whole.



The Crack Shack Encinitas

Landscape architects work as stewards to the natural world as well as the artificial one that is being built around us every day. At the National Parks Service, landscape architects are planning ways to protect our most valuable natural resources while also designing and managing experiences and ways for people to interact within them. Think of the last camping experience you had or that last unforgettable encounter while hiking.. Landscape architects also work with city officials and private developers to satisfy economic goals and maximize return on investment through housing developments, urban parks, resorts, entertainment venues, corporate campuses and outdoor shopping experiences.

Landscape architects are constantly analyzing, studying, and planning how to manage the outdoor environments, whether it's built or natural. Thinking of the best ways to serve clients, understand their goals, and pushing the envelope. Landscape architects are artists using an evidence-based approach to big ideas that can change the world and shape the land of which inhabitants reside.



McCullough

landscape architecture | environmental planning | urban design

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