Abstract: As a result of evolution in natural environments, humans are aesthetically attracted to natural contents, and to particular landscape configurations. Importantly, these features are also found to have positive effects on human functioning and can reduce stress. However, opportunities for contact with these elements are reduced in modern urban life. It is argued how this evolution can have subtle, but nontrivial adverse effects on psychological and physiological wellbeing. The central hypothesis of this doctoral dissertation is that these effects can be countered by integrating key-features of natural contents and structural landscape features in the built environment. Several practical proposals are discussed, ranging from literal imitations of natural objects, to the use of natural form primitives (e.g. curvature, fractal geometry) in an architectural context (i.e. biomorphic and fractal architecture).

Publications and presentations

Refereed papers (Science Citation Index)


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