

# FIELDWORK HYBRIDS: LEARNING FROM OTHER DISCIPLINES HOW TO READ, RECORD AND REVEAL THE LANDSCAPE

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## 1 **ABSTRACT**

*Various disciplines use the fieldwork heuristic ranging from biology, through the observation of certain animal species in their natural setting, to anthropology, through observation of social settings or cultural groups. The practice requires more than simply being out in the field, however. Fieldwork requires immersion in a particular setting, observation of the subject matter, and recording of observations in a systematic manner. The purpose of this study is to learn from other discipline's fieldwork methodologies in order to derive new techniques for researching and interpreting the landscape. This paper reports on the development and use of fieldwork hybrids as an analytical methodology to understand, document and visualize the landscape. The presentation discusses three examples of fieldwork hybrids, two academic exercises and one professional development project. Drawing from the environmental and social sciences fieldwork methodologies, the hybrids include problem definition, site immersion, observation and recording, findings analysis and presentations of results/findings. In looking at fieldwork methodology used by other disciplines, landscape architecture has the potential to build on existing analytical and visualization techniques and expand into new territories of reading, recording and revealing the landscape.*

### 1.1 **Keywords**

Fieldwork, Hybrid Methods, Landscape Analysis, Site Representation