

WALKING AS INQUIRY

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1 ABSTRACT

Walking intensifies people-environment relationships, where traversing landscape elicits a deepening of connections between walker and landscape. This paper examines the role of walking in exploring in what is seen and how it is seen, and tests alternative ways of knowing (and coming to know) landscape through the use of various observational tools and assessment. Walking is the primary mode of acquisition, with design operations (sketching/diagramming/critique) the key tools for interpretation and exploration. Iterative walking and diagramming combine with temporal and experiential mapping to provide new translations of known spaces. The research finds that while objective methods of looking at landscape inform what is made known, design exercises enable new and enriched ways of understanding spaces, and of finding diverse materials, processes and meanings within landscape.

1.1 Keywords

Walking as experiencing, landscape perceptions, interrogation through walking and design.