Place/Landscape Website Resource Kit (version 1.0)

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Introduction

This document was produced as a resource about websites on place and landscape and their related issues for both researchers and interested members of the public. It may be freely distributed without permission. The database is by no means exhaustive and is intended to be an ongoing project. Website owners are invited to submit their own web addresses to be included in the list as well as any general feedback or suggestions they may have for improvement.

In order to create a general evaluation of websites, a simple rating system was devised. A quick survey of current sites showed that whilst some sites may be informative, aspects such as aesthetic qualities mattered a great deal also. On the other hand, whilst some organisations may not have the resources to create a visually stunning and comprehensive website, their written content and access to research information make them invaluable. Furthermore, those sites that aim to include everyone in their audience, to make their information accessible and meaningful not just to researchers but also to the general public, were given consideration as well. The rating key, therefore, is as follows:

a) User-friendliness
b) Aesthetics
c) Text-content and accuracy
d) ‘Wow factor’ (for those truly stunning websites)
e) Resource-value of the site.

Each website was given a mark of between zero and two on each of the five criteria, with resulting scores falling between zero and ten. Sixteen websites were evaluated. It is acknowledged that any kind of rating system such as this is, at best, highly subjective and that other viewers may come to different decisions as to the value of various sites. Limited language options and translations also affect the evaluation process. Furthermore, webpages by nature are rarely static, are subject to constant changes and improvements which may outdate their ratings.

Place and human interaction with landscapes are broad concepts that entail multiple meanings for different academic disciplines. For this reason, websites on these subjects are more abundant than can be accounted for in such a list. Therefore, a search of some of the key terms used within such studies is suggested in order to yield more results: terms such as ethnobiology, ethnoecology, cultural ecology, as well as the fields of the ecological humanities, social ecology and environmental anthropology which all address the political contexts of such areas of study.
**Database**

**Anthropology and the Environment (American Anthropological Association)**  
<http://www.eanth.org/>  
Site is home to the excellent Eanth-L Listserv on environmental anthropology including topics such as land use, place, identity and belonging and the field of environmental movements.  
Rating: a) 2 b) 1 c) 2 d) 2 e) 2 = 9/10

**Association for the Study of Literature, Environment and Culture**  
<http://www.aslec-anz.asn.au/>  
An excellent site devoted to the study of people and places with members from writers, artists, cinematographers, and musicians, environmental historians, anthropologists and philosophers. Contains news and information on events as well as resource lists for further inquiry.  
Rating: a) 1 b) 2 c) 2 d) 1 e) 2 = 9/10

**Centre for Art and the Environment**  
<http://www.nevadaart.org/ae/center>  
Site contains information on this centre in the US devoted to the relation of people and the environment, particularly through art. The centre houses a gallery, museum and research library all of which can be viewed online.  
Rating: a) 2 b) 2 c) 2 d) 0 e) 2 =8/10

**Cultural Landscapes, American Memory Project, Library of Congress (USA)**  
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/setlhome.html>  
This site contains an impressive collection of old maps of North America that show some of the patterns of land use by colonisers, Native Americans and First Nations peoples over time.  
Rating: a) 2 b) 1 c) 2 d) 1 e) 2 = 8/10

**Ecological Humanities**  
<http://www.ecologicalhumanities.org/>  
This site contains information on a network of people interested in and carrying out research into people’s relationship with place and landscapes. Includes an online journal and information on events run by the group.  
Rating: a) 2 b) 2 c) 2 d) 2 e) 2 = 10/10

**Environmental and Architectural Phenomenology Newsletter**  
<http://www.arch.ksu.edu/seamon/EAP.html>  
This site is home to the newsletter published three times a year and contains a good overview of research into the phenomenology of place on the “review” page.  
Rating: a) 2 b) 1 c) 2 d) 0 e) 2 = 7/10

**Human Evolution Ecology Group**  
<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/heeg/>  
Located in the Department of Anthropology at University College London, this website provides information on research and study opportunities.  
Rating: 2 b) 1 c) 2 d) 0 e) 1 = 6/10
Landscape Europe
<http://www.landscape-europe.net/>
Site contains information on research into place and landscape within Europe.
Rating: a) 2 b) 1 c) 2 d) 0 e) 2 = 7/10

The Monadnock Institute (Franklin Pierce University, USA)
<http://www.franklinpierce.edu/institutes/monadnockinst/index.htm>
This website contains information on some of the fabulous projects currently being undertaken at the institute such as oral histories of place and public scholarship projects. Also contains a newsletter and information on conferences.
Rating: a) 2 b) 2 c) 2 d) 1 e) 2 = 9/10

The Permanent European Conference for the Study of the Rural Landscape
<http://www.pecsrl.org/>
This site contains information on the conference held biannually, the research currently being undertaken, and latest news. An excellent portal to research into place.
Rating: a) 2 b) 1 c) 2 d) 1 e) 2 = 8/10

PLaCE: place, location, context and environment
<http://www.uwe.ac.uk/sca/research/place/>
A multidisciplinary centre located in the University of the West of England, Bristol, UK with this excellent website containing an extensive bibliography, list of publications, news on regular events and seminars as well as related projects and networks.
Rating: a) 2 b) 2 c) 2 d) 2 e) 2 = 10/10

Place Pedagogies Research (Monash University, Australia)
Site contains information on research carried out at the centre.
Rating: a) 2 b) 0 c) 2 d) 0 e) 1 = 5/10

Place Research Network (PRN)
<http://www.utas.edu.au/placenet/>
Hosted by the University of Tasmania, this website approaches the topic of place from a variety of disciplines such as architecture, sociology, literary theory, design, computing, geography, and philosophy. Registering as a participant will give you access to the discussions on the list-server, and the database and bibliographies are currently under construction.
Rating: a) 2 b) 2 c) 2 d) 1 e) 2 = 9/10

Research on Place and Space
<http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/%7ejanzb/place/>
This site run by Bruce B Janz Associate Professor of Humanities, University of Central Florida, provides extensive bibliographies on place that may be searched via topic or discipline such a anthropology, archaeology, or art history, for example.
Rating: a) 2 b) 1 c) 2 d) 0 e) 2 = 7/10

Studying Human Use of Materials, Land & Art (SHUMLA)
<http://shumla.org/>
Well-designed site with lots of resources on cross-disciplinary rock-art research, educational resources for children and young adults. 
Rating: a) 2  b) 2  c) 2  d) 0  e) 2 = 8/10

This is the Place – Ko Tenei Te Wahi
<http://thisistheplace.org.nz/>
A wonderful site that gathers together stories of place, in this case a particular place the region of Northland in New Zealand.
Rating: a) 2  b) 2  c) 2  d)2  e) 2 = 10/10