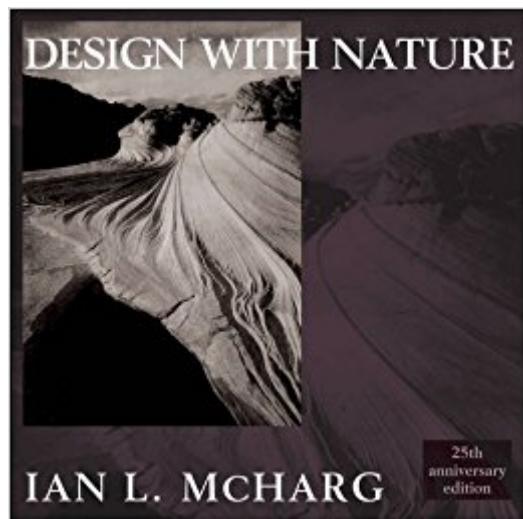


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# Design With Nature



## Synopsis

"In presenting us with a vision of organic exuberance and human delight, which ecology and ecological design promise to open up for us, McHarg revives the hope for a better world." --Lewis Mumford ". . . important to America and all the rest of the world in our struggle to design rational, wholesome, and productive landscapes." --Laurie Olin, Hanna Olin, Ltd. "This century's most influential landscape architecture book." --Landscape Architecture ". . . an enduring contribution to the technical literature of landscape planning and to that unfortunately small collection of writings which speak with emotional eloquence of the importance of ecological principles in regional planning." --Landscape and Urban Planning In the twenty-five years since it first took the academic world by storm, *Design With Nature* has done much to redefine the fields of landscape architecture, urban and regional planning, and ecological design. It has also left a permanent mark on the ongoing discussion of mankind's place in nature and nature's place in mankind within the physical sciences and humanities. Described by one enthusiastic reviewer as a "user's manual for our world," *Design With Nature* offers a practical blueprint for a new, healthier relationship between the built environment and nature. In so doing, it provides nothing less than the scientific, technical, and philosophical foundations for a mature civilization that will, as Lewis Mumford ecstatically put it in his Introduction to the 1969 edition, "replace the polluted, bulldozed, machine-dominated, dehumanized, explosion-threatened world that is even now disintegrating and disappearing before our eyes."

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## Customer Reviews

LJ's reviewer boldly contended that this "may well be one of the most important books of the century." Blending philosophy and science, McHarg shows how humans can copy nature's examples to design and build better structures. This 25th anniversary edition includes a new introduction and epilog. This remains "a pleasure to read" (LJ 10/1/69).Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"In presenting us with a vision of organic exuberance and human delight, which ecology and ecological design promise to open up for us, McHarg revives the hope for a better world." *•Lewis Mumford* ". . . important to America and all the rest of the world in our struggle to design rational, wholesome, and productive landscapes." *•Laurie Olin, Hanna Olin, Ltd.* "This century's most influential landscape architecture book." *•Landscape Architecture* ". . . an enduring contribution to the technical literature of landscape planning and to that unfortunately small collection of writings which speak with emotional eloquence of the importance of ecological principles in regional planning." *•Landscape and Urban Planning* In the twenty-five years since it first took the academic world by storm, *Design With Nature* has done much to redefine the fields of landscape architecture, urban and regional planning, and ecological design. It has also left a permanent mark on the ongoing discussion of mankind's place in nature and nature's place in mankind within the physical sciences and humanities. Described by one enthusiastic reviewer as a "user's manual for our world," *Design With Nature* offers a practical blueprint for a new, healthier relationship between the built environment and nature. In so doing, it provides nothing less than the scientific, technical, and philosophical foundations for a mature civilization that will, as Lewis Mumford ecstatically put it in his Introduction to the 1969 edition, "replace the polluted, bulldozed, machine-dominated, dehumanized, explosion-threatened world that is even now disintegrating and disappearing before our eyes."

I bought this on my Landscape Architect's suggestion, to help me understand his philosophy for steering nature rather than overriding nature. I was immediately drawn into the prose. It's quite a treatise, and deserves to be read attentively, not thumbed through. (Although it's admittedly fun to thumb through, owing to the interesting illustrations).

A "classic" in the field of Landscape Architecture and still well worth reading closely. We knew the Jersey Shore which got developed and then wiped clean by a hurricane in the 1960's. Ian's

graduate students and he worked with the State of New Jersey on code recommendations for Long Beach Island during the immediate aftermath. This book contains a lot of the key insights that emerged from the experience as well as a strong dose of observations and recommendations from a true Master.

A seminal text, worth considering today. McHarg examines the essential aspects of man's relationship with nature and the built environment's potential to better adapt to the natural world.

Ian McHarg's *Design with Nature* revolutionized landscape planning just at the time when the modern built environment was being recognized for its devastating effects on natural systems. McHarg devised techniques for planners to envision not just the finished product of human development, but its complex interaction with watersheds, wildlife habitat, viewscapes and anything else that could be represented as a layer on a map. Fast forward to today....Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are complex databases that organize information into the "layers" that McHarg proposed. GIS analysis has found its way into urban planning, oil spill response, wildfire management, epidemiology, endangered species management, socio-economic analysis and many other forms of spatial planning and design. Maps that are products of GIS analysis are digital versions of the tissue and mylar overlays of McHarg's vision and technique. This book is essential reading -- not because planners aren't using its ideas (almost universally, with GIS, they are) but because they don't understand GIS's debt to McHarg's pioneering thinking.

Ian L. McHarg is one of the original compete landscape designer thinkers. I takes more than one great person. You need everyone together to figure out how areas work effectively. I used this book when I was studying architect at my university. It was a great requirement because it forced us students to try to understand that all kinds of profession people are needed to do anything effectively. Today i live in one of these areas that Mc Harg team help to develop. You can see how the team got most of what is there today from discussions with allot of people, all over this massive track of land in Baltimore County, Maryland that is even more effective looking than it was some 50 years ago.brian

A classic must read

McHarg basically invented GIS overlays and this book is a fantastic study of some of this mans

prominent contributions to the land planning/design professions Not to mention, he was a pioneer in understanding ecological patterning as a means of landscape design process. What a classic. I am always surprised how few know of his work.

For the price it was worth it, even though the dust jacket was torn in more places than was expected, the inside of the book was almost like new, a good deal for \$7.50, especially for a hardback. It complements my urban planning and environmental book collection.

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