



Cartographic Grounds: Projecting the Landscape Imaginary

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Mapping has been one of the most fertile areas of exploration for architecture and landscape in the past few decades. While documenting this shift in representation from the material and physical description toward the depiction of the unseen and often immaterial, *Cartographic Grounds* takes a critical view toward the current use of data mapping and visualization and calls for a return to traditional cartographic techniques to reimagine the manifestation and manipulation of the ground itself.

Each of the ten chapters focuses on a single cartographic technique—sounding/spot elevation, isobath/contour, hachure/hatch, shaded relief, land classification, figure-ground, stratigraphic column, cross-section, line symbol, conventional sign—and illustrates it through beautiful maps and plans from notable designers and cartographers throughout history, from Leonardo da Vinci to James Corner Field Operations. Mohsen Mostafavi, dean of the Harvard Graduate School of Design, introduces the book.

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Editorial Review

Review

"...a technically advanced book that lay users will find breathtakingly beautiful and mind-expanding, as it sweeps from historical examples to data visualization." - Harvard Magazine

"The elegantly designed "Cartographic Grounds" looks in depth at 10 map-making strategies from a scholarly perspective and tracks their evolution through the centuries." - Chicago Tribune, Printers Row

"Succinct, well-written notes on mapping basics, and the gorgeous examples employed, make this a must for academic geography, cartography, and design collections." - Library Journal

"A compendium of centuries-old hand-drawn and page-long satellite maps, Cartographic Grounds plots the transformation of the ancient art form of mapmaking into a type of modern graphic design." - Metropolis

"...one of the most visually stunning books I have had the pleasure of reading this year." - Land8

"...a wonderful compendium of maps that explore the potential of cartographic practices and tools across a variety of disciplines." - Spacing

About the Author

Charles Waldheim is the principal of Urban Agency in Cambridge, MA, and the John E. Irving professor of landscape architecture at Harvard University Graduate School of Design. He is the author of PAPress's Landscape Urbanism Reader.

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