



The Reflection of Art Movements to the Landscape Architecture*

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ABSTRACT

Landscape architecture progressed as garden art in historical time. While gardens had formed formal, symmetrical approaches until these times, formal approach changed with naturalistic art movement which was dominated especially Europe after 18th century and started to formed by the effect of other art movements. Modernism was pioneer movement for becoming artistic and cultural trend with modern idea from the mid 19th century. Cubism movement was accepted as the birth of modernism and found a place prominently in many field such as architecture, literature. Biomorphism that focused on the power of natural life and closeness to the organic forms came up at the beginning of 20th century and was adopted by some part of art nouveau designers. Modernism movement was started to be queried as the retrospective re-evaluation effort from the mid 20th century and postmodern movement showed itself as change effort. Art movements from 18th century to today have been effective in landscape architecture as in many areas. In this study, the effect of art movements on landscape architecture was examined and briefed knowledge about today's contemporary landscape design approach.

Keywords: art movement, garden art, landscape, architecture

1. INTRODUCTION

Landscape architecture developed as a garden art in the historical process especially in the period until the 18th century. The origin of the word "garden" is Persian and it means "small vineyard". It is also described as a plot of land with a certain visual quality on which herbaceous and woody ornamental plants, fruits, vegetables and healing herbs are grown, and of which the beauty of nature, the features full of green and the restfulness are controlled by people (Demiröz, 2002, pp. 5).

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The first garden ideas in the history were developed in the light of religious philosophy and mythology. Since the garden art had a characteristic of the measurement of civilization level in ancient times, they were used to create environments for kings and aristocrats. Afterwards, it made progress for people and the society and gained a universal characteristic (Yerli and Kaya, 2015, pp. 408).

The concept of garden containing esthetical values and the expression of people's instinct to interfere in nature has developed for ages under the influence of the concept of the "garden of Eden". The humanity was attracted by the image of Eden described as a fascinatingly beautiful garden in sacred books and always had a desire to have a little paradise on the earth. The diagram on which two water channels, which are the foresight of four rivers in the heaven on the earth and which cross each other, divide the area into four parts, has created the master plan of many gardens for ages (Kaşif, 2010, pp. 2). These gardens clearly presenting the living conditions, the culture of a society and the climatic and soil characteristics of each country in a certain period of the historical process form the basis of modern-day gardens (Yayım Yener, 2011, pp. 163).

Within the context of this study, the art movements which started with the naturalistic movement developed in Europe in the 18th century and which enabled the development of the contemporary landscape design concept were analyzed. In accordance with these movements, the changes in landscape designs over time were explained with examples.

2. ART MOVEMENTS IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Art movements related to landscaping start with the development of urbanization awareness with the beginning of humanity and first settlements and continue with the emergence of the need for open spaces in cities getting crowded with the industrial revolution. Gardens began to gain the characteristic of urban open space by taking form with the effect of art movements over time (Özgüç Erdönmez and Aydoğdu Ünlü, 2010, pp. 34). The formation of urban open spaces both occurred and occurs not only with the effect of social, ideological, political opinions in that period but also with the effect of fashionable styles and artistic approaches. (Özgüç Erdönmez and Aydoğdu Ünlü, 2009, pp. 33).

2.1. Naturalistic Movement

Naturalism is an art movement which emerged in France and developed with the adaptation of the principles and methods of the concept of nature to the literature and fine arts. It believes in the importance of the physical truths of nature and accepts nature

as a source of the values(cited Lumpkin, 1990, by Ađaođlu and Boyacı, 2013, pp. 3).

While gardens experienced the most popular period for kings and aristocracy until the 18th century, the folks started to be disturbed by this situation and began to search for simplicity. Naturalism movement which spread as a result of this situation and the natural park arrangements started to be realized (cited Pamay, 1978, by Yıldız, 2007, pp. 23). The gardens developed by the naturalistic movement in this period appeared as a reaction to the gardens including right-angled ways, sculptures, and trees with unnatural shapes (Korkut, ŐıŐman and Őzyavuz, 2010, pp. 68). Naturalism removed aristocratic geometry from Europe and had a significant place in European cities in the 19th century. This movement appeared in the 19th century in two forms as "romantic nature" in parks and "specific planting" in gardens (Őzgüner, 2003, pp. 45). Grass areas, the group of trees and natural pools were brought instead of parterres (Figure 1). Ditches were created instead of fences and walls (Yerli and Kaya, 2015, pp. 413).



Figure 1. Naturalist England garden

Source: <http://shadeoftheiviedwall.blogspot.com.tr/2015/09/the-english-landscape-garden-and-rise.html>

2.2. Modern Movement

Modernism was put forward regarding the fact that the modern idea became a trend in the artistic and cultural domain from the midst of the 19th century (Yıldızcı and Aytađ, 2016, pp. 77). The main idea is that the time of traditional arts, literature, social institutions and daily life is up and therefore they should be put away and a new culture should be created. Modernism argues that everything from commerce to philosophy should be questioned. Thus, the elements of culture can be replaced with the new and better ones (URL1, 2016).

The most significant modern art movements and styles are impressionism, symbolism,

art nouveau (new art), fauvism, cubism, purism, futurism, expressionism, dadaism, de stijl (the style, neoplasticism), constructivism, surrealism, biomorphism, abstract art and social reality movements (Taşdemir, 2011, pp. 7). Cubism and biomorphism are the most effective modern movements on landscape architecture.

2.2.1. Cubism and landscape architecture

The movement accepted as the origin of modernism in art is cubism and it takes a certain place in many fields such as architecture and literature (Yıldızci and Aytaç, 2016, pp. 78).

Cubism described as a revolution in the development of art was developed against the traditional perspective, the use of light-shade and the theories accepting art as the imitation of nature; it created a new reality by bringing shattered objects together in a perceivable way from various aspects instead of imitating forms, textures, colors and spaces in nature (MEB, 2007). According to Yıldızci and Aytaç (2016)"it appears as the search and picturing of the 3rd dimension in landscape pictures with interlocked volumes" (pp. 78).

Cubists demonstrate objects upon the same image by looking at them from a few perspectives as they are walking around them, from the front, sides, top and bottom (URL2, 2016) (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Cubist design, Villa noailles

Source: <http://www.caoi.ir/en/projects/item/31-the-cubist-garden-of-villa-noailles>

2.2.2. Biomorphism and landscape architecture

Biomorphism is an art movement that began in the 20th century. This concept was first used in 1936 by Alfred H. Barr, an art historian. Biomorphic art focuses on the power of

the natural life and uses organic forms, formlessness and especially the curved shapes of biology (URL3, 2016).

Biomorphic movements affected the design both conceptually and in the context of structure and form. Charles Jencks suggested that the concept of biomorphy would be effective under the effect of biological engineering at the end of the 20th century while discussing the architectural concepts in his book "Architecture 2000 Predictions and Methods" published in 1971 (Uç Zeytün, 2014, pp. 10).

The organic forms and shapes which started to be observed with the microscopic discoveries of biomorphic, in other words, biological science were used in landscape architecture. In the context of contemporary landscape architecture, Isamu Noguchi and Burle Marx made landscape designs on the basis of surreal and biomorphic forms (Figure 3a,b). The "Unesco Garden" project (1950) of Noguchi including various designs and biomorphic forms, which are the mixture of landscape and sculpture, and the "Roof Garden of the Ministry of Education and Health" project (1936) of Burle Marx consisting of biomorphic forms harmonious with the natural structure and other designs similar to these are the examples in this context (cited Yiğit, 2004, by Taşdemir, 2011, pp. 69).

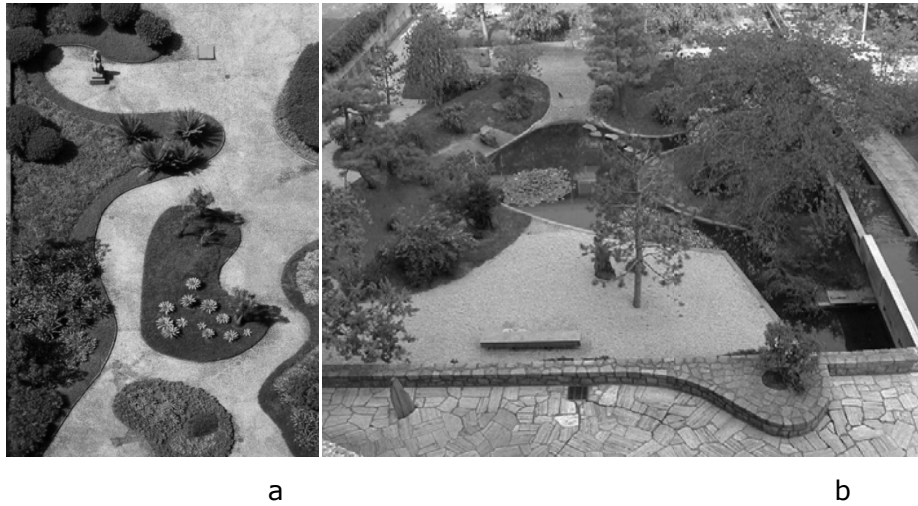


Figure 3a. Ministry of Health and Education roof garden, Rio de Janeiro - Burle Marx, Source: <https://tr.pinterest.com/pin/163748136424746407/> b. Unesco Japanese Garden, Paris//Isamu Noguchi Source: <https://tr.pinterest.com/pin/343329171573714896/>

2.3. Postmodern Movement

Postmodernism is a concept regarding which many theorists and philosophers have presented definitions and approaches, incompatible with each other most of the time, in terms of its use in various domains and disciplines (cited Dursun, 2003, by Kaypak, 2013,



pp. 86). According to some academicians, postmodernism expresses an explicit break off from modernism. It is suggested that there are significant differences between postmodernism and modernism and postmodernism rejects modernism. On the other hand, some academicians accept that there is not a difference but continuity between modernism and postmodernism (Karakurt, 2006, pp. 9).

Postmodernists look at the environment from a different aspect when compared to the modernist approach. While modernists regard the environment as a place to be shaped for social purposes, for postmodernists the environment is an independent and autonomous place to be shaped in accordance with esthetical purposes and principals which do not have an obligatory connection with social purposes (Kutay Karaçor, Yerli, Girti Gültekin, and Özdede, 2010).

While modernists turn their back to the tradition which they describe as reactionary, postmodernists adopt world culture and local culture by re-building bridges to the past (Büyükkol, 2011, pp. 171).

In postmodernism, creating artworks without adhering to aesthetical principles is regarded as a basis. The fact that postmodernism does not abide certain rules enabled it to stand out in various areas. Postmodernism which initially affected architecture, one of the plastic arts, and then had an impact on painting, sculpture, graphic designs and landscape architecture. Postmodernism in landscape architecture is not just a trend but a movement including various styles such as deconstructivism and land art. It does not have certain stylistic features since it includes various styles. However, new materials and geometries were used in postmodern landscape designs, unconventional materials and plants and products for daily use were involved in them (Taşdemir, 2011, pp. 73).

2.3.1. Deconstructivism and landscape architecture

Deconstructivism is based on methods such as fragmentation of the integrity of architectural elements forming the structure, details on the surfaces, denting and shifting architectural elements such as facade with the corners which are not right-angled. The buildings in the deconstructivist style give the impression of uncertainty and confusion to those who look at them (URL4, 2016) (Figure 4a,b).

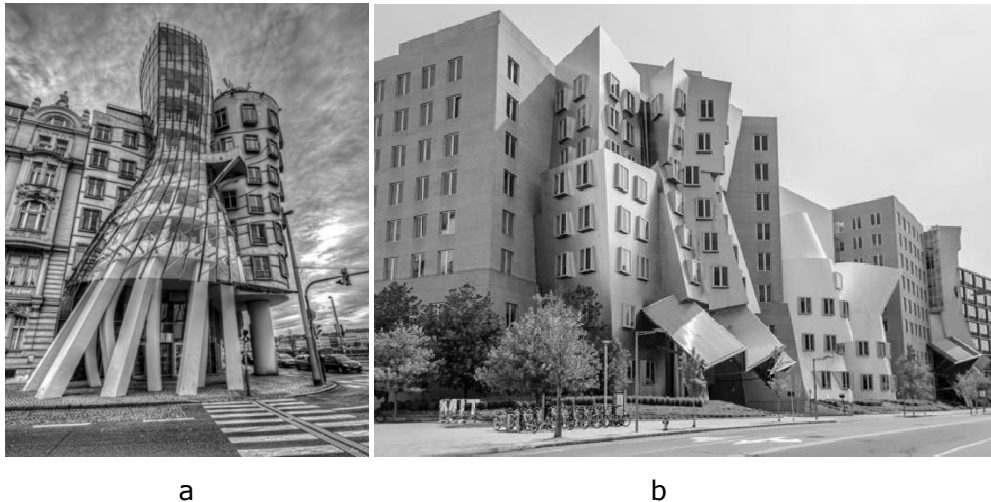


Figure 4a. Dancing building, Frank Gehry,Source: <http://www.art-days.com/dancing-house-prague/>
b. Massachusetts Institute of TechnologySource: <http://www.spacefad.com/top-5-best-college-campuses-world/>

The most explicit example of it in landscape architecture is Parc de la Villette designed by Bernard Tschumi.

The award-winning project aimed not to associate the park with nature but to create a culture park. The project encourages conflict instead of synthesis, fragmentation instead of integrity, madness, and game instead of careful management (URL5, 2016).

The park was considered as an architectonic design study not yet completed by Bernard Tschumi. Because this park was designed as living, breathing and reflecting its users, shatterable, changeable and reorganisable model on which significant changes could be made (URL6, 2016) (Figure 5).



Figure 5. Deconstructivist landscape design - Parc de la Villette, Bernard TschumiSource: <https://archpaper.com/2013/02/>

Red objects which are the most symbolic pieces in the park bear the traces of deconstructivist architecture. 35 red objects (folie) were placed with the grid system (Figure 6).

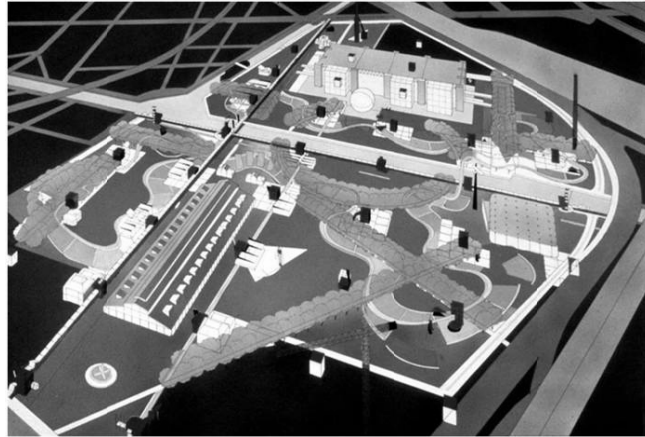


Figure 6. Grid system in the parkSource: <http://www.tschumi.com/projects/3/>

Architecturally, these objects are the points which will help visitors to find their directions in the park and to reach other places. Some of these are in the structure of wheel and are the parts of an old factory building. Some of these objects were converted into restaurants, information centers, and units that would meet other needs in the park.

2.3.2. Land art

Land art is an avant-garde art style which emerged at the end of the 1960s in the USA and affected all European countries in the 1970s. This movement can be considered as human interference in wide areas of nature. In this art practiced with stone, soil, and many natural materials, there are lots of various application styles such as ditching in nature, burying a certain object in the soil, etc. (URL7, 2016).

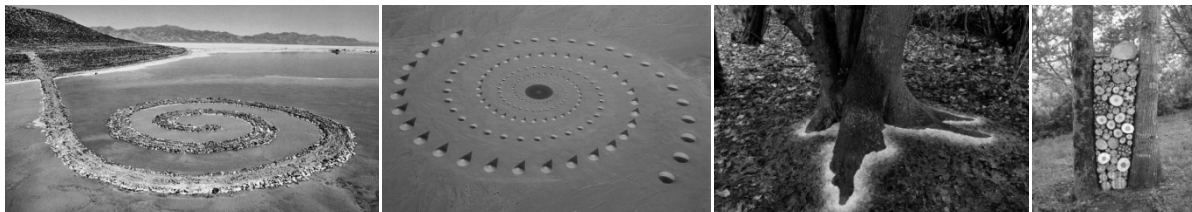


Figure 6. Land art design samples Sources: <http://alpsartacademy.ch/en/land-art/>,
<http://www.boredpanda.com/land-art-andy-goldsworthy/>, <http://merelinc.com/art-and-design/land-art-creations>

In land art, the process of creating a work of art is more important than its finished form. The distinctive characteristic of land art from other movements is that it is performed in nature and wide areas considering the features of the environment (Yaman, Ekim,



Sungur and Özer, 2012, pp. 151).

3. CONCLUSION AND ASSESSMENT

The understandings of design accepted as a garden art until the 18th century gave their place to new design styles with the industrial revolution. In this period, the understanding of design which was effective through the end of the 18th century is an English landscape design theory called "picturesque" (cited Yiğit, 2004, by Taşdemir, 2011, pp. 1). This design approach moved from rural areas to urban areas by becoming widespread with Olmsted and naturalistic designs presenting natural landscapes in the city were applied in public domains and city parks (Taşdemir, 2011, pp. 1).

The understanding of the naturalist style which was effective in landscape design began to change with the fact that the modern idea became a trend in the artistic and cultural area from the midst of the 19th century and modernism became the pioneer movement put forward. While art movements such as impressionism, expressionism, fauvism, cubism, futurism, dadaism, surrealism, and biomorphism (MEB, 2007) were prominent movements in the modern process, the most effective movements in landscape design were cubism and biomorphism.

Since the midst of the 20th century, modernism movement began to be examined as an attempt to reassess retrospectively and postmodern movement stood out as a search for a change. Postmodernism is a movement favoring uncertainty, fragmentation, difference, ethnicity, subcultures, cultural pluralism, pluralistic approach towards information, local information, locality, originality, and freedom. While this concept originates from literature, it is also used in plastic arts and architecture (Okat Özdem and Geçit, 2013, pp. 154). In this context, deconstructivism trend and land art concept took their place in postmodern landscape architecture design studies and contributed to the formation of contemporary landscape designs.

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