

The Landscape of Man: Shaping the Environment from Prehistory to the Present Day. Geoffrey and Susan Jellicoe. New York: Viking, 1975. 383 pp. \$35 (\$31.50 for AIA members from the Institute's Department of Publications Marketing).

When authors gather up pictures, generally well-known, and annotate them with text, generally common knowledge, the result is often described in terms of the piece of furniture on which the book sits, the coffee table. *The Landscape of Man* is not a coffee table book. In it, the Jellicoes have assembled an array of unusual photographs to illustrate their provocative comments. The result is a remarkable journey through time and space and a valuable work of reference.

The book traces landscape design from its beginnings to today. Covering the entire history of the world is a huge task, especially when landscape is defined in the broadest possible terms. At first it seems no different from so many other volumes, but the Jellicoes have been both extremely selective and thorough. What sets their work apart from others is the way in which they relate buildings to people, people to ideas and ideas to history and environment.

Aerial photographs, distant views, simple site plans and maps reveal new relationships. It is one thing to see a view of columns or stairs among the ruins at Persepolis and another to see Persepolis as a city. Here we see the whole city from above and then from a distance, its built-up plateau extending out from the mountains, 60 feet above the plain. Unlike photographs which merely document buildings as art objects, these convey a sense of setting, a you-are-there perspective. They are all in black and white and many were photographed by Susan Jellicoe.

The text is concise, yet filled with facts. Students may wish for a clearer arrangement of captions and dates with the illustrations, but this layout no doubt permits more entries.

At Gizeh, with a familiar view of the pyramids, the Jellicoes include a surprising air view showing the three pyramids, the Sphinx and the overflowing Nile.



Somehow the pyramids always seemed before to be in the middle of the desert; at last their true location is seen—by the river. With the temples on the east bank and tombs on the west, the Nile is the key to Egyptian art and history; it is a welcome change to find these monuments explored in their landscape context. From the New Summer Palace near Peking to New York City's Central Park, from the Ziggurat of Ur to Dulles International Airport, there is much to explore. The Jellicoes provide the itinerary for a first-rate design adventure. *Jane Canter Loeffler, Consultant in Planning and Design, Washington, D.C.*

Designing Schools and Schooling for the Handicapped. Jack W. Birch and B. Kenneth Johnstone, FAIA. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas, 1975. 229 pp. \$14.50.

This work is not the greatly needed drafting table manual on designing barrier-free schools. Nor is it quite able to make up its mind as to whether its focus is the special school that successfully educates children whom the authors insist upon calling "exceptional," that is to say, handicapped, or whether its focus is the basic public school fit to handle educational programs for the mentally or physically handicapped.

Still, one should not quibble. The book is clearly aimed not so much at providing pat architectural answers as at helping educators and designers think through the problem. It will clearly help the reader who can wade through the rather prolix, platitudinous style (the school "should be a product of today's cultures and, at the same time, a friendly and helpful beacon for children on their way into their own futures. . .") come up with a sound, workmanlike educational and architectural program.

And that, in an age that jumps to solutions without properly defining the problem, is no mean feat. *Stephen A. Kliment, AIA*

The Dream Deferred: People, Politics and Planning. Samuel Kaplan. New York: Seabury Press, 1976. 242 pp. \$9.75.

If you are interested in the faults of local government, particularly in metropolitan areas, this book exposes it all. It is an autobiographical study of Kaplan as he discovers the perils of local suburban government. He focuses his attention on his own community of Port Washington on Long Island in New York State, a suburb of New York City. All the usual problems are there: Balkanized self-serving local government, political corruption, pollution, growing crime, lack of low- and moderate-income housing and deteriorating schools—but, compared to New York City, a decent place to live for a married author with two children and a dog.

The book is yet another excellent anal-