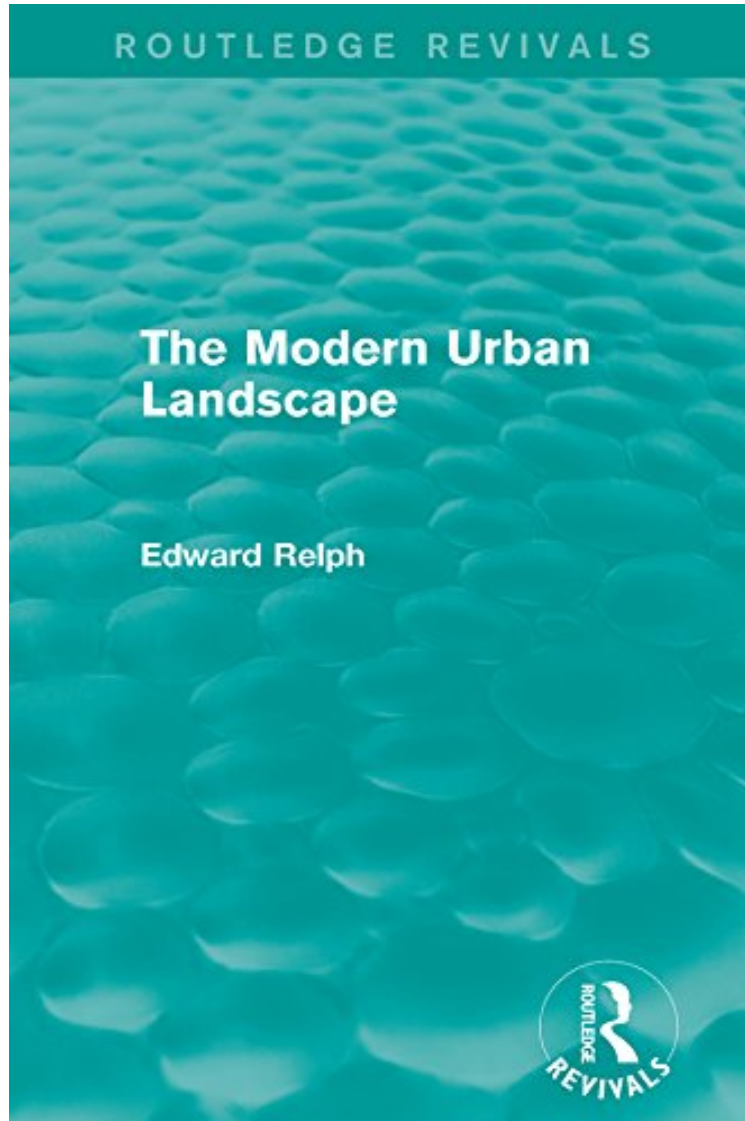


[Mobile book] The Modern Urban Landscape (Routledge Revivals)

The Modern Urban Landscape (Routledge Revivals)

Edward Relph

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Edward Relph : The Modern Urban Landscape (Routledge Revivals) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Modern Urban Landscape (Routledge Revivals):

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First published in 1987, this book provides a wide-ranging account of how modern cities have come to look as they do mdash; differing radically from their predecessors in their scale, style, details and meanings. It uses many illustrations and examples to explore the origins and development of specific landscape features. More generally it traces the

interconnected changes which have occurred in architecture and aesthetic fashions, in planning, in economic and social conditions, and which together have created the landscape that now prevails in most of the cities of the world. This book will be of interest to students of architecture, urban studies and geography.

"Brings together urban history, urban form, public planning history, the literature of utopianism, and the architecture of cities in an intelligent, coherent, lively, and controversial portrayal of the evolution of the physical characteristics of Anglo-American urban environments since 1880." -- Landscape Journal

From the Back Cover

For Edward Relph, the landscape of late twentieth-century cities must be envisioned as a total environment?not just streets and buildings but billboards and parking meters as well. The Modern Urban Landscape traces the developments since 1880 in architecture, technology, planning, and society that have formed the visual context of daily life. Each of these shaping influences is often viewed in isolation, but Relph surveys the ways in which they have operated independently to create what we see when we walk down a street, shop in a mall, or stare through a windshield on an expressway. Two sets of ideas and fashions, Relph argues, have had an especially important impact on urban landscapes in the twentieth century. An "internationalism" made possible by new building technologies and design ideologies has replaced regional style and custom as the dominant feature of city appearance, while a firm belief in the merits of self-consciousness has imposed logical analysis and technical manipulation on such commonplace objects as curbstones and park benches. "As a result," writes Relph, "the modern urban landscape is both rationalized and artificial, which is another way of saying that it is intensely human." This edition features a new preface in which the author identifies the major visible changes in urban landscapes over the past thirty years, including destination architecture, coffee shops, condominium towers, revitalized downtown streets, and the creation of edge cities. He also considers the less visible yet pervasive impacts associated with the emergence of electronic technologies and sustainable development.

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E. C. Relph is professor emeritus of geography at the University of Toronto. He is the author of *Place and Placelessness*, *Rational Landscapes and Humanistic Geography*, and *Toronto: Transformations in a City and Its Region*.

About the Author

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