

## Landscape Architecture, a slightly untouched territory

- Arch. Sonali Gupta



*Landscape Architecture - a beautiful connector between a built environment and the mother nature.*

Now what is Landscape, and how it goes hand in hand with architecture?

Landscape Architecture consists of two major parts : Softscape (Planted) & Hardscape (Built), and they are associated with Architecture, botany, horticulture, the fine arts, industrial design, soil sciences, environmental psychology, geography, ecology, civil engineering and lot more.



*A Proposed Japanese Zen Garden Model on a rooftop in Kolkata*

In today's polluted environment & global warming conservation of ecology is a challenge, but this ecological balance can be sustained through landscape.

The prospects and the scope in this field are wide. Because of a good landscaped region can earn much more brownie points than just a well-designed building. For example, just a simple MIG building can be listed as a luxury apartment with the facilities of landscape offers, like a well-designed gateway and a boundary wall, a well-defined driveway & pathway, a well-maintained lawn and a parking or a small niche amidst nature to have leisure.

This is just an example of the landscape associated in Public Residence; there are more aspects if you go deeper into the design sector which can uplift the experience of living.

*If it is so much important in the construction & Design Industry then why this subject or rather territory is so less talked about in our region?*

The answer is not so easy, may be lack of knowledge or may be the economical condition of this region. But this is fortunate that the scenario is changing. As few decades ago, a mason used to be a better consultant than a qualified Engineer / Architect, still a gardener is the person who is more likely the in charge of the beatification (well most of us think landscape or rather softscape is just to beautify the ambience of our houses than having some actual functional benefits!!) of our houses. But these days thankfully the Large Corporate Construction Companies of our region and the local governing bodies like K.M.C. (Kolkata Municipal Corporation) or N.K.D.A. (Newtown Kolkata Development Authorities) are paying attention to do landscape to have a healthy environment through the cityscape.

Landscape Architecture is not just something fancy and sophisticated field it is as scientific as a frame-structure calculation.

Hence, I would love to see more and more Landscape Architects from my college (None other than North Calcutta Polytechnic) contributing in our society.

Few Information Regarding Further Studies in Landscape Architecture:

After Completing Diploma in Architecture one can pursue B.La (Bachelor in Landscape Architecture through N.A.T.A. score from CSIIT, Hyd  
Or a Bachelors in Architecture then M.La/ M.Sc. in L.D. (Masters in Landscape Architecture or Landscape Design) from the elite Universities of the country.



*Orbit Sky View, Central Court, Off to B.T. Road, Kolkata*

..... thanks & keep dreaming

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Diploma in Architecture from NCP (2002-2005)

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Associated with Landscape Architecture Since 2011, Have worked with (Maya Landscape, Kolkata, Design Accord Consultants, Delhi, Dhruva Associates, Bengaluru, Design Milieu, Bengaluru, Design Simplified, Kolkata)