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# Nature's Lack of Design

An essay that traces the history of humanity to better understand the relationship between the built environment and the ground on which it sits. It includes a timeline of pivotal moments in which humankind constructed, embraced and retreated to its own environment over the last millennia.

143–1365

# Building Bound to the Ground

Six strategies for reconnecting architecture and landscape, merging building and ground.

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## Bury

The building sits below the earth's crust, allowing for an uninterrupted landscape above.

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## Embed

Building and landscape share an equal position within the earth's crust. The building is embedded in the landscape and the landscape is manipulated to accommodate the building.

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## Absorb

The building sits atop the earth's crust, receiving information from the land below. Externally, the building alters the landscape, but within the interior, landscape dictates.

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## **Spiral**

The spiral twists the ground upwards or downwards, multiplying the building's surface area without breaking it into discrete floors. The fluidity of movement and continuity of surface offer a way of unifying building, infrastructure and landscape.

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## **Carve**

Space is carved out of the centre of the building to form a new interior landscape. Natural elements of air and light are invited inside and enclosed.

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## **Mimic**

The building learns from the landscape. It mimics and simulates natural features and systems, terracing, branching and growing. Building and landscape have begun to merge.

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**Credits and acknowledgements**