

## The ABC's of Everyday Places and Landscapes (Stuff to think about when observing a particular place.)

**Accessibility** - local neighborhood accessibility to goods & services

**Architecture** - type, extent, preservation, etc.

**Art** - type, extent, community focus, etc. Attractions-tourist, cultural, etc.

**Balance** of neighborhood activities

**Basic/Non-basic Sectors** - export or local

**Building Use and Focus** - public, private, historic, corporate, retail, wholesale, industrial, professional, entertainment, tourist, residential (projects, apartments, condos, townhouses, etc.), civic, religious, academic, recreational, etc.; also, past and current use, frequency, decay, neglect, abandonment, redevelopment, renewal, age, size, quality, etc.

**Civic or Public Spaces** -extent, usage, etc.

**Connections** - with other places, extent, impact, etc.

**Concentration** - extent or spread of feature, dispersed or clustered

**Cooperation and Conflict** - visible or spoken

**Corridors** - transportation to and from significant places and landmarks

**Cultural Focal Points** – amphitheaters, parks, squares, etc.

**Demographics** - population growth/decay patterns

**Density** - frequency of phenomenon, number of items per unit

**Domain** - area of influence

**Economic Focus** - primary, secondary, tertiary, basic, non-basic activities

**Edges or Boundaries** – man-made, physical or natural

**Ethnicity /Immigrant Populations**

**Environmental** - issues concerns. etc.

**Foods** -ethnic, local, cultural, popular, etc.

**Gentrification** -urban morphology

**Green Space** - parks, play areas, squares, gardens, landscaping, attention to, etc.

**Historic Preservation** - visible, extent, spoken, etc. History- past, present, future

**Infrastructure**

**International Influences /Connections Issues-** local, regional, etc.

**Junk** - Waste management

**Landmarks** -Symbols, signage, icons, etc.

**Looks** - neighborhood attractiveness, order, layout, the "feel", lighting, patterns, wealth, poverty, etc. Markets- products, sales, retail, exports, etc.

**Markings** - signage, gang related, colors, etc.

**Medical** - hospitals, clinics, focus, extent, etc.

**Mobility** - connections with other neighborhoods or areas, cities, etc.

**Morphology** - changes (past to present) Music- focus, ethnic, cultural, etc.

**Neighborhood Centers** -focal points, activities

**Neighborhoods** - types organization, rural, patterns (again, the "feel") gated, suburban, urban-congested.

**Pattern** - geometric distribution, streets, infrastructure, landscape  
**People** - type (age, gender, activity, density) Perceptions- insider/outsider  
**Periphery** -surrounding area, importance, impact  
**Physical Landscape** -attributes, extent, issues, etc.  
**Police/Safety Presence**  
**Politics** - accessibility, bureaucracy, visibility, etc.  
**Pollution** - impact, extent, solutions, etc.  
**Protection** of human and physical resources/places  
**Push /Pull Factors** -positive and negative influences.  
**Recycling** - practices /concerns  
**Regions** - large, small, functional, formal, vernacular Resources-tangible, non-tangible, etc.  
**Safety** -real and perceived  
**Scale** - micro to macro  
**Smells**  
**Sounds**  
**Streets** - type/size (drives, alleys, avenues, boulevards, highways), access, bicycle, mass transit, parking, corridors, sidewalks, pedestrian access, etc.  
**Symbols/colors** (also see landmarks and markings)  
**Sustainability practices** - water collection, recycling  
**Technology** - usage, prevalence, infrastructure, examples  
**Toponymy** - place names (descriptive, commemorative, people, places, landmarks, etc.)  
**Tourism** -visual clues, activities, focus, etc.  
**Transportation** - transit focus (see streets)  
**Urbanization** - issues, extent as opposed to rural areas  
**Urban Renewal** - infilling, etc  
**Valued Community Focus** - activities, areas, buildings, its "signature"  
**Water** management and related issues  
**Zones of Transition** - from one area/region to another, borders, marked, unmarked  
**Zoning Practices** - building and other usage.