# THE BACK / BOOKS

## BOOKS OF INTEREST



### A BENT FOR NATIVITY IS AS OLD AS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE ITSELF.

#### THE NATIVE LANDSCAPE READER

EDITED BY ROBERT E. GRESE, ASLA; AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS: UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS PRESS IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE LIBRARY OF AMERICAN LANDSCAPE HISTORY, 2011; 336 PAGES, \$29.95.

The drive for native and naturalistic planting predates the modern environmental movement. As early as 1851, Andrew Jackson Downing was scolding American gardeners for neglecting their native trees and flowers. You can read Downing's words for yourself in The Native Landscape Reader, assembled by Robert Grese, ASLA, of the University of Michigan. The book is an eclectic mix of 19th and early 20th century essays on native plants, nature-based landscape design, and conservation. It includes 44 pieces, written by a variety of influential landscape architects, horticulturists, and conservationists, including Jens Jensen, Frank Waugh, Ossian Cole Simonds, and Warren Manning.



#### THE SHAPE OF GREEN: AESTHETICS, ECOLOGY, AND DESIGN

BY LANCE HOSEY; WASHINGTON, D.C.: ISLAND PRESS, 2012; 216 PAGES, \$30.

When sustainability is a primary concern for a project, some professionals think that means artful design is often sacrificed along the way. The architect Lance Hosey doesn't believe the two are mutually exclusive and in fact thinks taking both into consideration can enhance the final result. Hosey outlines three principles—conservation, attraction, and connection—to support his contention that aesthetic beauty is a critical component of an ecological design.



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#### AUSTRALIAN PLANTING DESIGN, SECOND EDITION

BY PAUL THOMPSON; COLLINGWOOD, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA: CSIRO PUBLISHING, 2012; 240 PAGES, \$44.95.

Designers who have the opportunity to work Down Under will have to deal with some exciting strangers—native Australian plants. The landscape architect Paul Thompson guides nonprofessionals through the process of planning a garden, and while the process will be familiar to fellow professionals, the idiosyncrasies of planting in Australia make this a useful read for them as well.