

The garden can be defined as 'an area of land used for the cultivation of ornamental plants, herbs, fruit, vegetables, trees etc; an area of land that is open to the public, sometimes part of a park; a fertile and beautiful region

In Colin Hutchinson's well known book 'The Art of Gardening' (1991), written for a New Zealand audience, his section titles demonstrate the generally accepted premise that gardening itself is an artform, in which planning and design, the use of colour, the selection of plants, seasonal planting, and the art of cultivation are all brought to bear.

There are also historical and social contexts to different garden aesthetics and traditions, including those of the cottage garden, the formal garden, the woodland garden, the Japanese garden, the tropical garden and the town garden.

Many of these principles and histories could be applied to art-making. There is a long and rich tradition of the complex relationship between gardens and art, with gardens of all types as the subject or setting, the backdrop or the inspiration for art over the centuries.