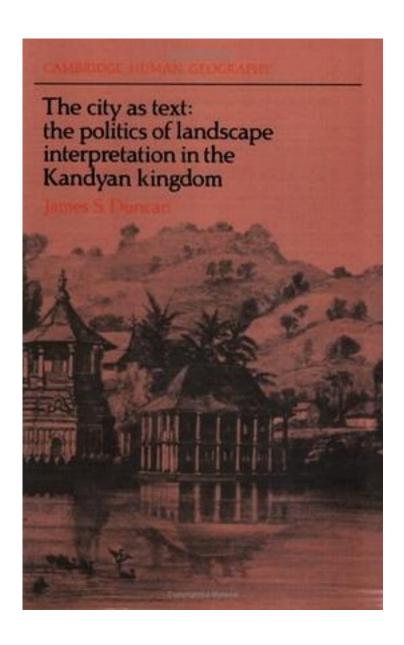
The City as Text



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In this book James Duncan convincingly argues that landscapes are not only culturally produced, but that they also influence governing ideas of political and religious life. He analyzes this dialectic relationship between landscape and the pursuit of power in the royal capital of Kandy in the central highlands of Sri Lanka during the early years of the nineteenth century and demonstrates how the Kandyan landscape was consciously produced to further the perceived interests of the Kandyan kings. Using extensive archival sources, architectural analysis and mapping, the author reveals how the landscape was designed to foster a certain hegemonic reading that spoke of the power, benevolence and legitimacy of the kings in their capital.

作者介绍:

James Duncan convincingly argues that landscapes are not only culturally produced, but that they also influence governing ideas of political and religious life. Using extensive archival sources, architectural analysis and mapping, the author reveals how the Kandyan landscape was designed to foster a certain hegemonic reading that spoke of the power, benevolence and legitimacy of the kings in their capital.

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评论

邓肯的这本书一版的时间不是2005年,好像是90年代初期——我是那个时候读到的。在文化热的浪潮下,加之文本分析的时髦,地理学家也开始向人类学学习。邓肯对于斯里兰卡历史地貌的政治文化解读,既有实地生活与考察,又有文献阅读和分析。当然在城市研究的领域里,颇为流行过一段时间。

"地景"解释,格尔茨带出的风气……于城市研究也是一个milestone吧……

Duncan的这本书可谓在景观研究中开话语分析之先河。将城市(它的发展历史、布局、活动等)看成"文本",话语分析的来源丰富且多元。Duncan详细说明了历史文本资料在构建斯里兰卡Kingship的重要性,对我目前的写作Justification十分有用。

------当阅读训练...

這本書寫于1990年,正是地理學界于20世紀70年代末學科內人文地理學與學科外人文主義發生大辯論之后不久,作者反對傳統的人文地理學只注重對某一地區的"客觀"描述,而二分地把理論與事實分隔開來,因此Duncan結合景觀學的分析方法和文學、社會學理論,通過閱讀Kandyan城反復被毀與修建的景觀變化,理出不同的政治話語是如何作用于景觀的,似乎是為大辯論尋找到了一條中間道路。

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书评

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