

Landscape Design

3 PRINCIPELS OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN

**Prof. Zeinab Feisal
Spring 2022**

- BALANCE
- PROPORTION
- SIMPLICITY
- FOCAL POINT
- UNITY
- RHYTHM



BALANCE

PROPORTION

SIMPLICITY

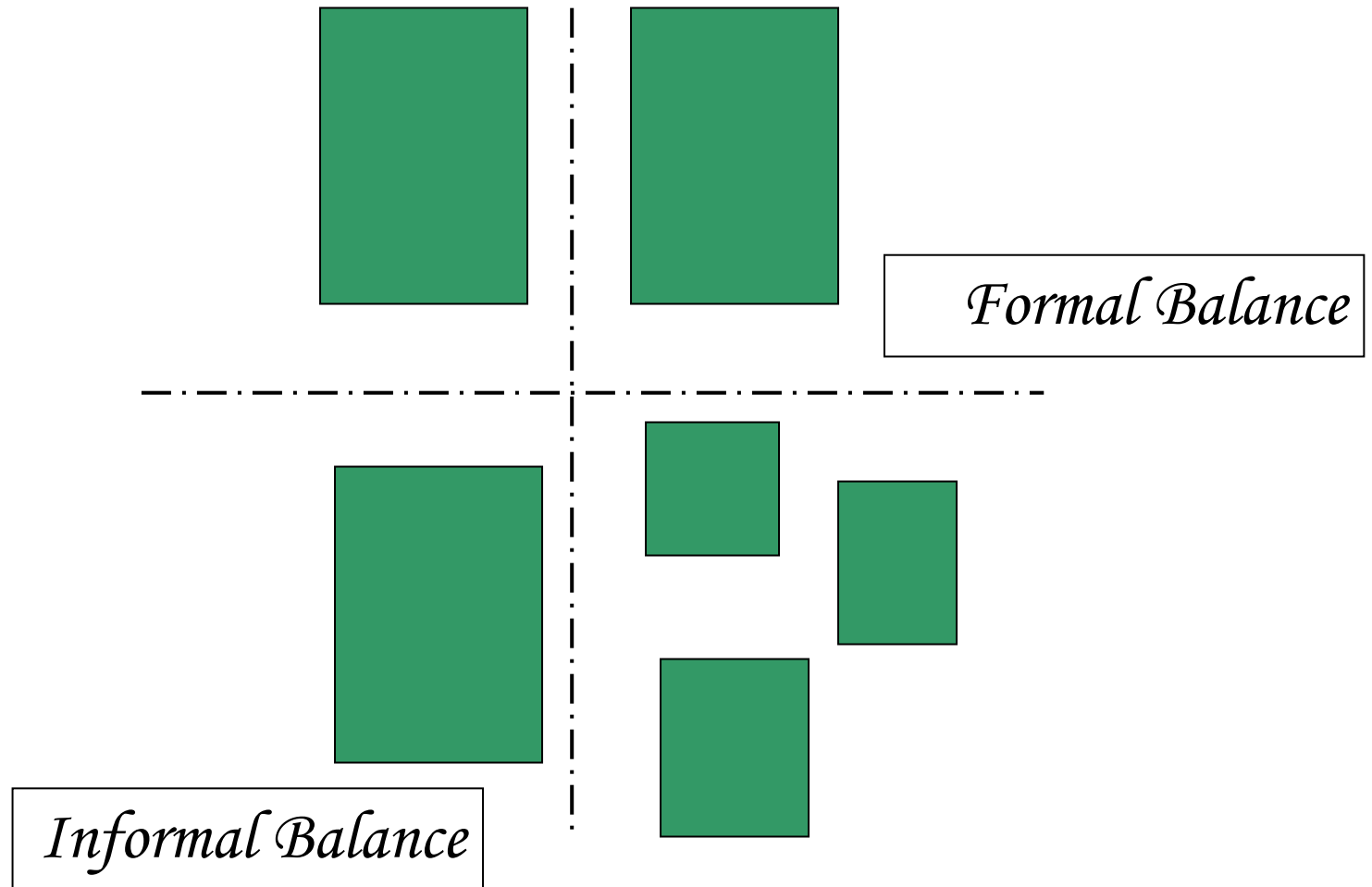
FOCAL POINT

UNITY

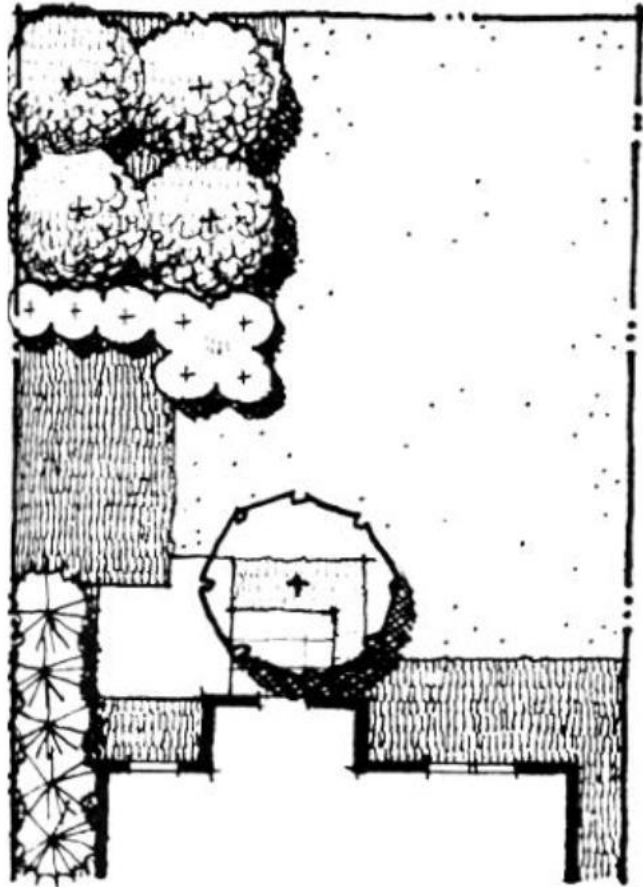
RHYTHM



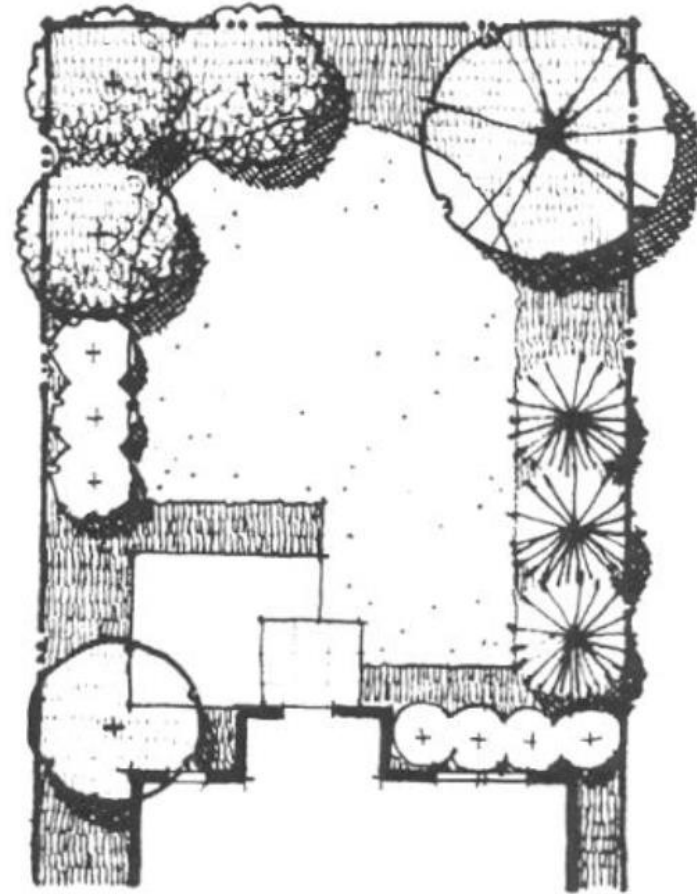
- **Visual balance:**
Equal weight on all parts
of the space
- **Formal/symmetrical**
Both sides are the same,
mirror image
- **Informal/
asymmetrical**
Sides are different but
visual weight is still equal



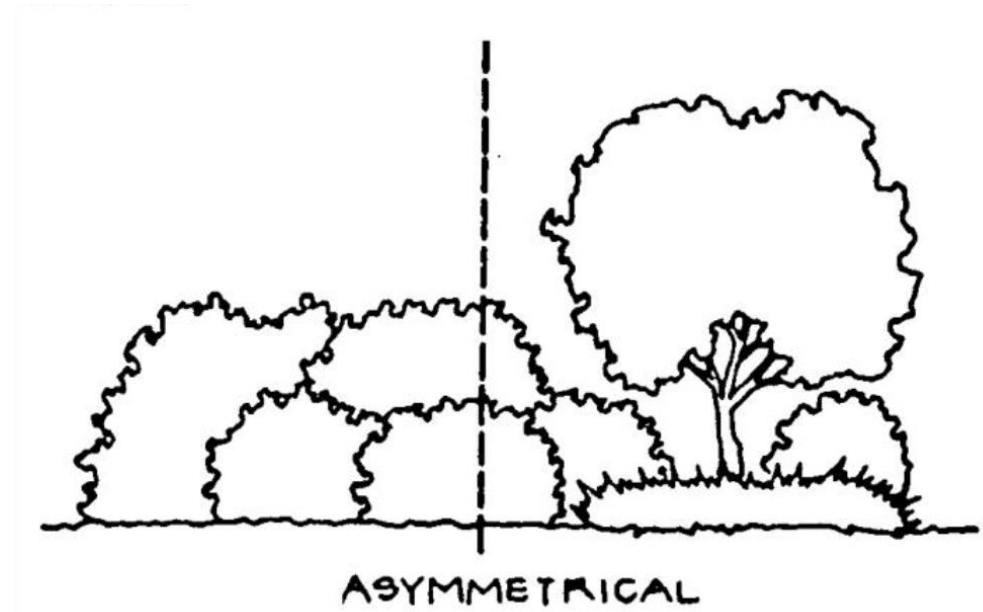
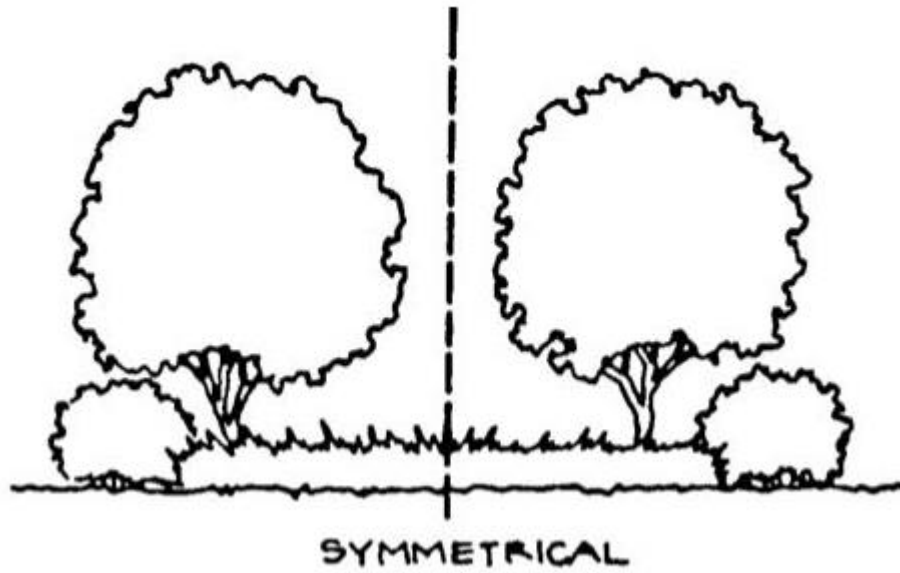
BALANCE



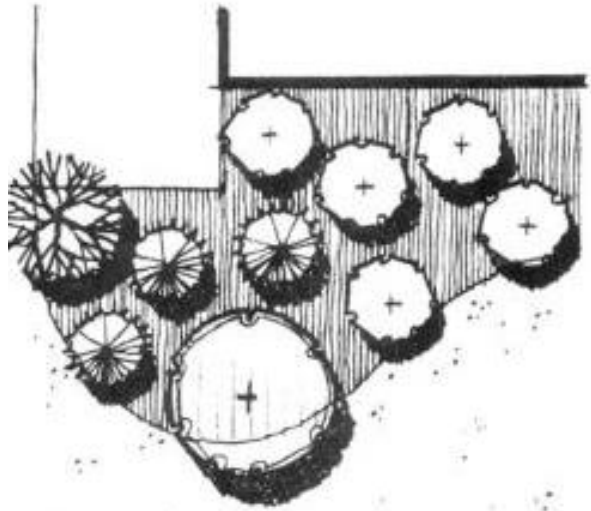
Unbalanced



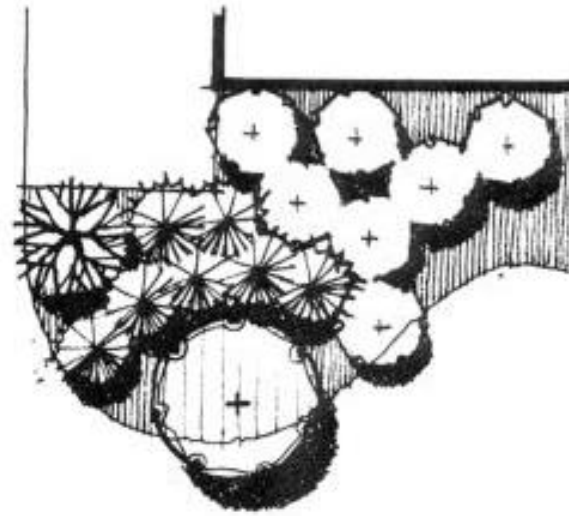
Balanced



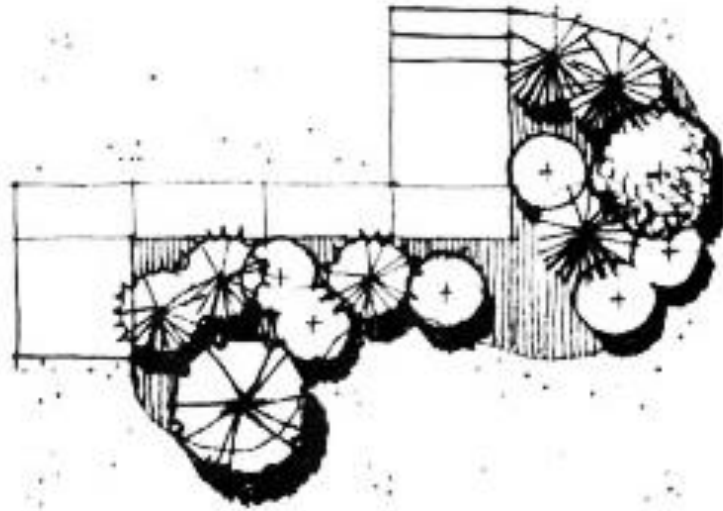




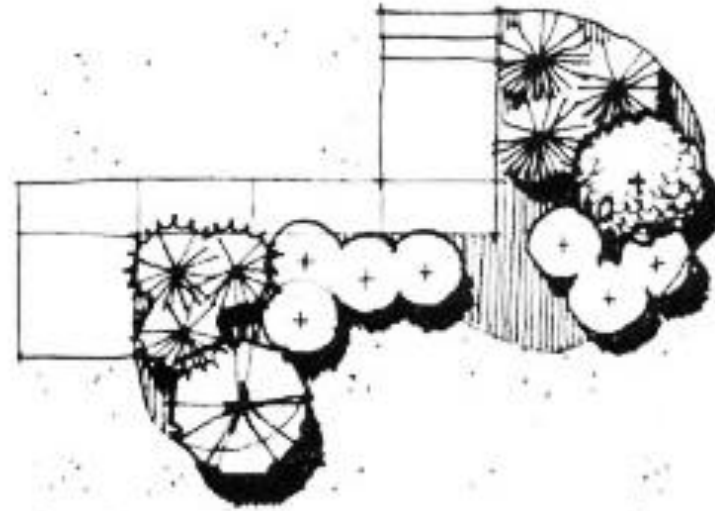
No! Plants are separated and scattered



Yes! Plants are grouped together in masses



Similar plants are separated
within the masses ... less
order.



Similar plants are grouped
together within the masses
... more order.

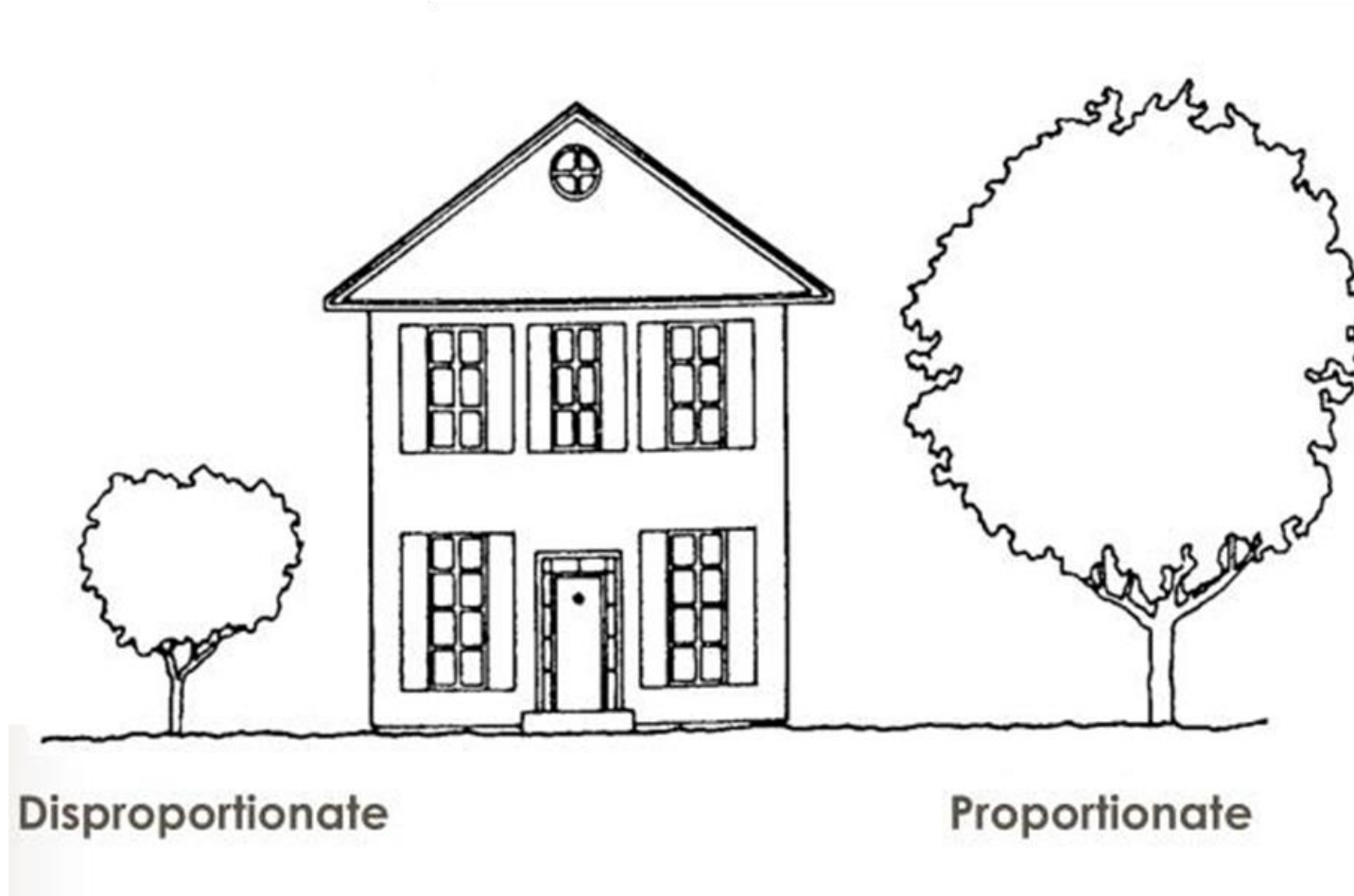
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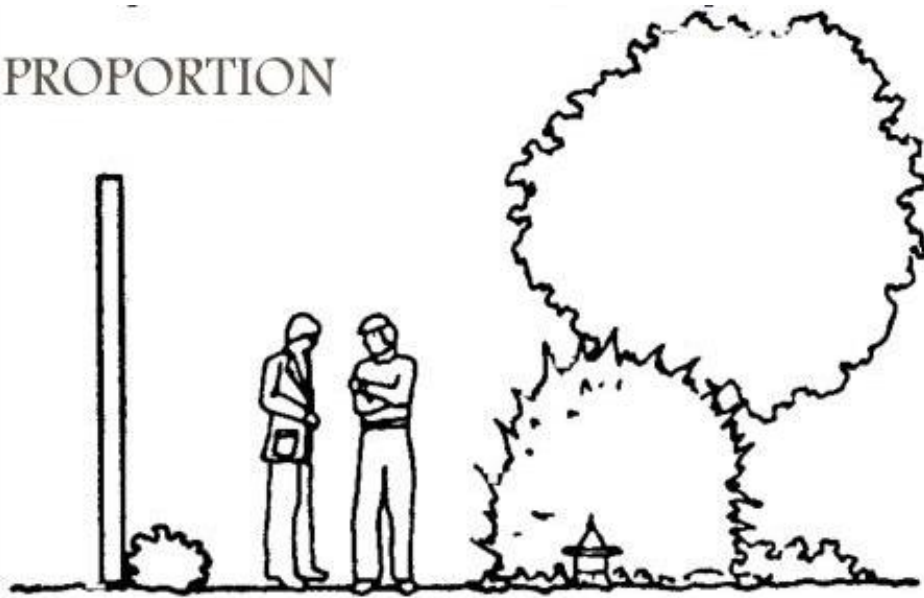
PROPORTION (or scale): the way things relate to each other with respect to size (big-medium-little).

- When it is obvious it's clear when something is disproportionate.
- In residential design we want elements that are in proportion to each other.
- Much difference in size creates dissonance...unable to reconcile one element with another.

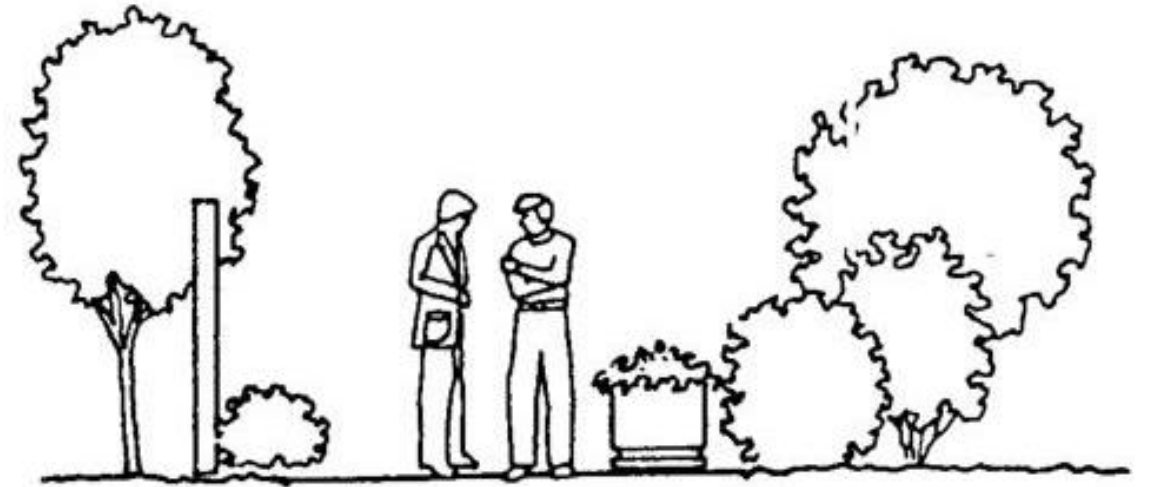
- If you have huge elements and small elements you will need something in the intermediate range to bring them together.
- Very large is intimidating. We generally don't want that in residential design. You want to make people feel welcome. Bring things down to human scale.



PROPORTION



- Proportionate or disproportionate
- Disproportionate



- Proportionate or disproportionate
- Proportionate

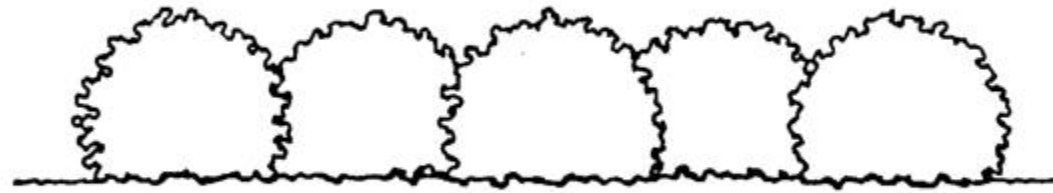
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SIMPLICITY: limiting change or variation...
Achieved by repetition of ideas.

- If we start saying yes to too many things in the landscape we will have problems.
- One of the most common errors in landscapes is that we try to do too much. Too many different kinds of plants.
- Best to reduce the number of themes. The viewer needs to experience the landscape as one thing at a time.
- However too much simplicity = Monotony

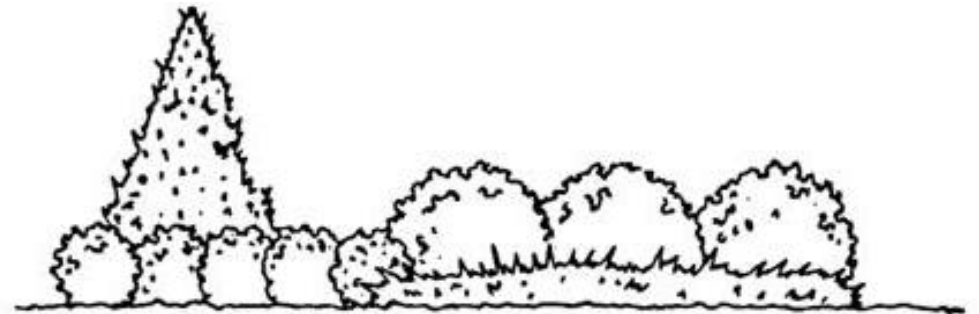




Monotype planting



Simple but monotonous



Simple but not monotonous

SIMPLICITY

PRINCIPLES OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN



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Focalization of interest

- The eye only wants to see one feature
- Focal point, all other elements compliment this point of interest but do not compete with it
- Usually done with **specimen plants** or fountains, pools, flower masses
- Once created all bed lines and plant arrangements should lead eye to the focal point





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UNITY: Tying the landscape together. Provides a good blend of simplicity and variety. Take some feature of the garden and treat it differently to match the theme.

- Cut stone/natural shapes: same color.
- For example, brick patio pavers and in another area make a brick post or wall. Ties it together. Same material-different treatment.
- Topography can be used for unity. Berms, hills - unity can be built in a landscape by using exactly the same thing in a different way.

UNITY: Tying the landscape together.

- Curves can be a unifying theme.
- Similar backgrounds for all of the foregrounds.
- Same color/different plant.
- Strong elements to unify the landscape: COLOR, CURVES, LINES, CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, TEXTURES.
- Tools and materials are the elements of design

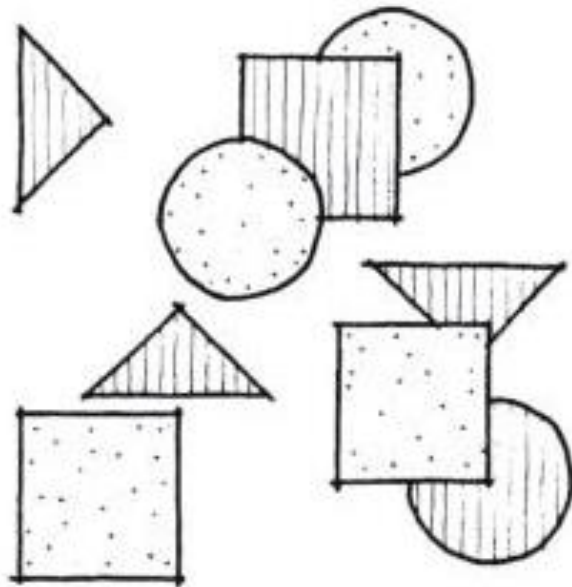


UNITY: Tying the landscape together.

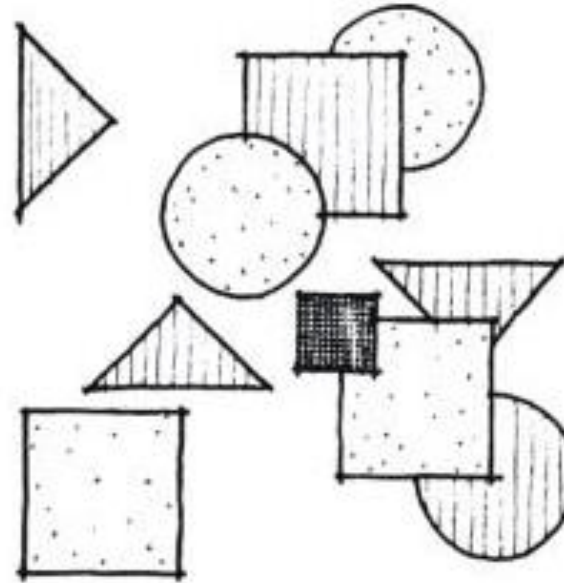
- Unity can be established by the following:
 - Dominance
 - Repetition
 - Interconnection
 - Unity of three

UNITY: Tying the landscape together.

Dominance: An accent or focal point



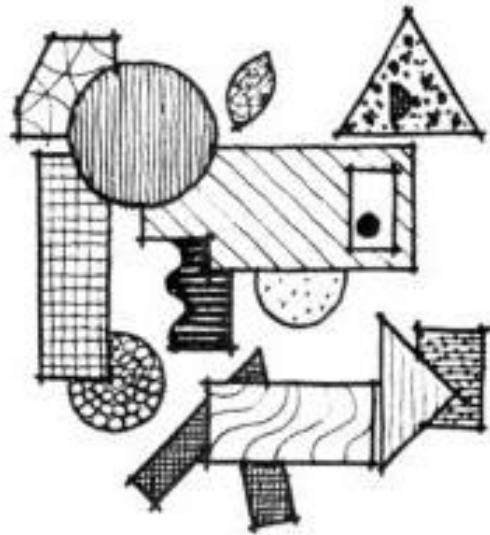
Composition lacks a dominant element.



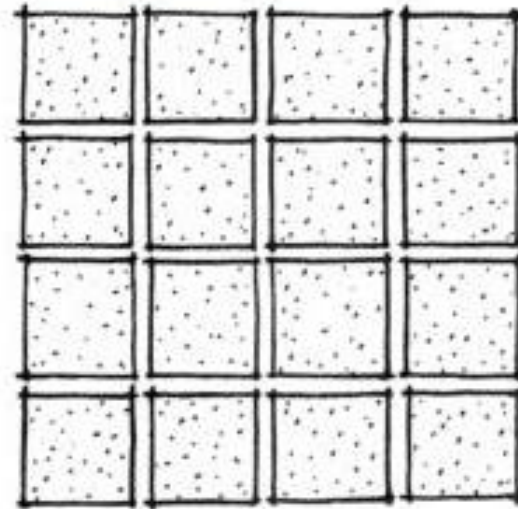
Dominant element attracts attention and functions as a focal point.

UNITY: Tying the landscape together.

Repetition: Selected plant material should be repeated throughout the landscape.



All elements of composition are different... lacks unity.



All elements of composition are similar... creates unity.

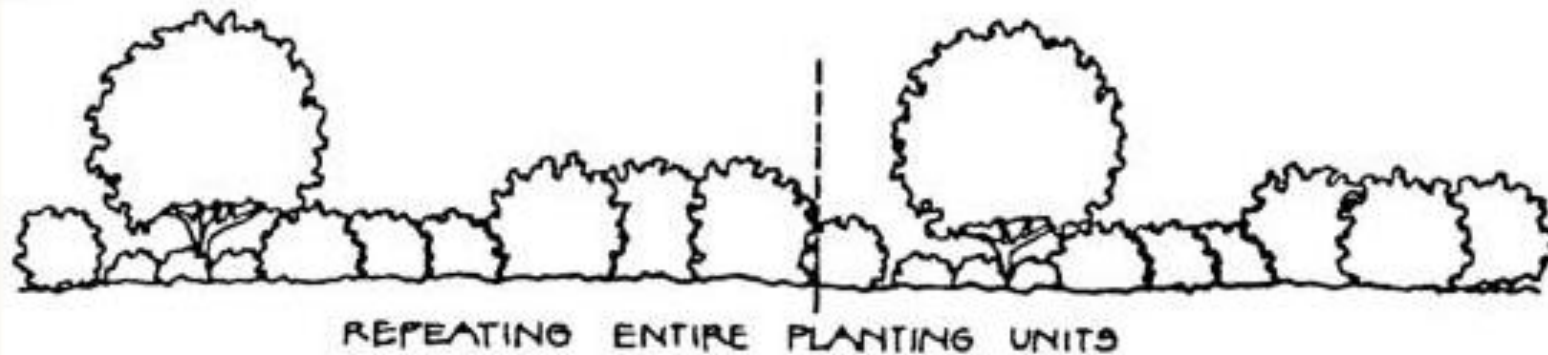


Repetition – The goal of repetition is to form familiar patterns and sequences in the landscape. To achieve this, you can repeat specific features or design elements throughout the yard.



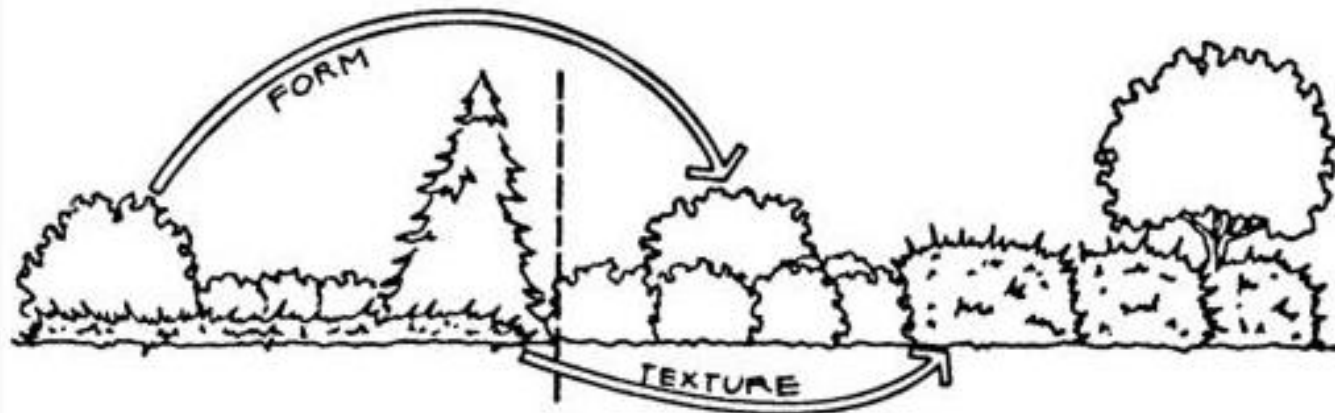
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Repetition: Selected plant material should be repeated throughout the landscape.



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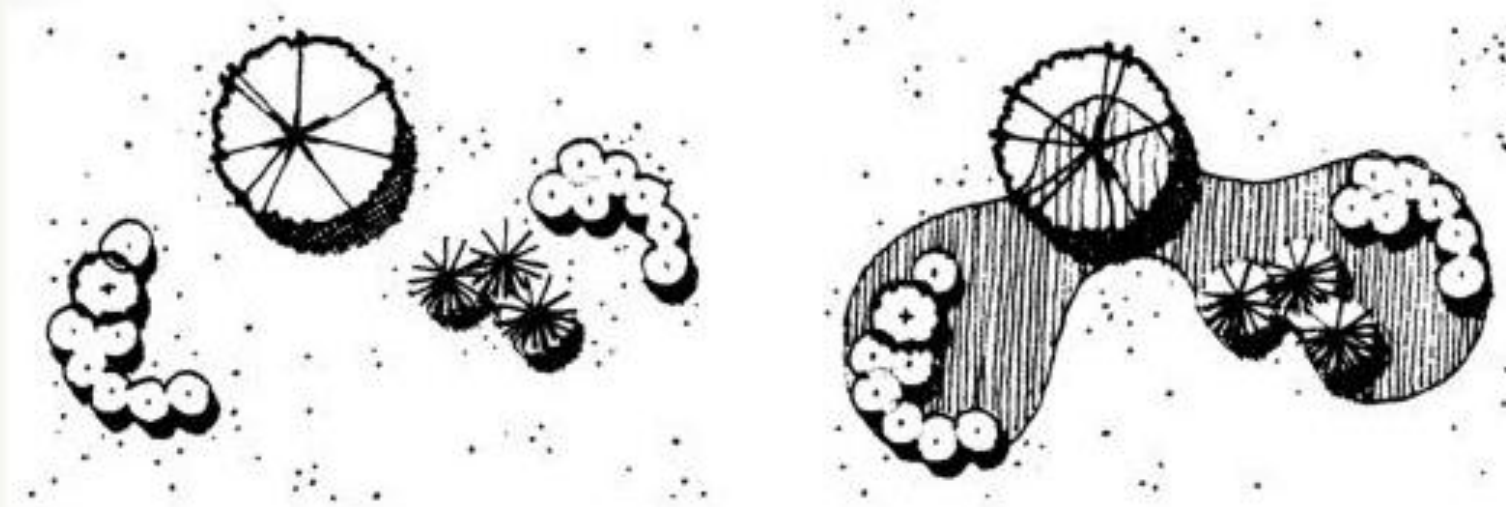
Repetition: Selected plant material should be repeated throughout the landscape.



OR, JUST THE REPETITION OF FAMILIAR
FORMS, COLORS, AND TEXTURES IN
DISSIMILAR PLANTING UNITS.

UNITY: Tying the landscape together.

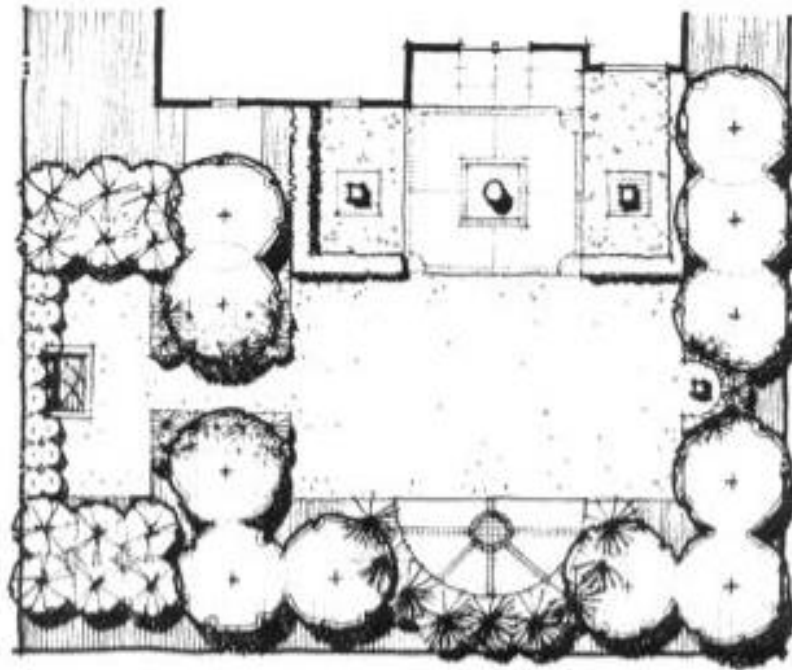
Interconnection: When interconnection is utilized the eye can move smoothly from one element to another.



UNITY: Tying the
landscape together.

Unity of three:

Whenever three
elements of the same
kind are grouped
together you get a
strong sense of unity.



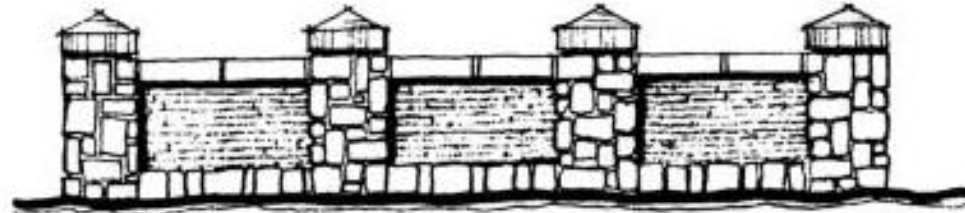
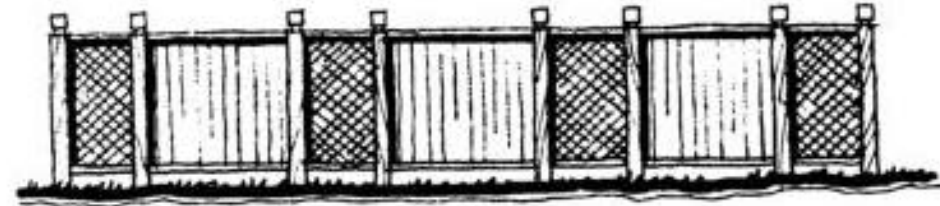
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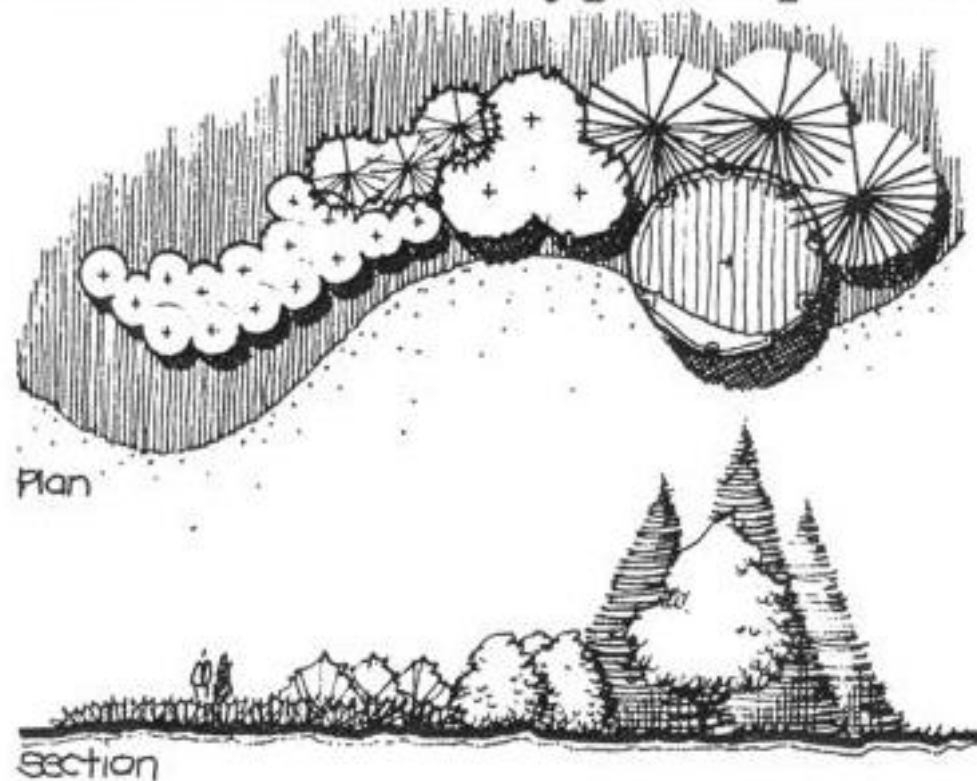
RHYTHM/LINE: An orderly progression.

- From horizontal to rounded to vertical - from low spreading plants to vertical plants.
- Here to there. Near to far. Turf~shrubs~trees.
- Sequence can help the eye move from one area to another.

RHYTHM/LINE: can be achieved through repetition and alternation



RHYTHM/LINE: can be achieved through the graduation in size and type of plants used.



Gradual change in color, texture, height



Rhythm and Line

- Also contributes to the unity of the design
- Rhythm/ line is responsible for continuity of design (connects areas of yard)
 - Ex: extending beds that start in the front of the house around to the back
 - Repeat shapes angles or lines
 - Lines that curve to move the eye and connect

The background features a series of concentric, semi-transparent circles in shades of gray, centered on the left side. A solid orange horizontal bar spans across the middle of the image, starting from the left edge and ending with a slight gap on the right side.

THANK YOU

FOR ANY QUESTIONS

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