

David Watson

Landscape Architect
Senior Lecturer

Personal Details

Full Name	David Watson BSc(Hons) DipLA CMLI
Date of Birth	5th March 1962
Nationality	British
Location	North Hampshire, UK

Qualifications

1993 Landscape Institute Part IV (now referred to as "Chartership")
1991 Dip L.A. Birmingham Polytechnic (part-time)
1984 B.Sc. (Hons) Geography, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth

Experience

I have a wide range of experience in landscape professional practice, higher education, and web design/development. I am a Chartered Landscape Architect, specialising in visual impact assessment. I am a lecturer in landscape architecture and web design at undergraduate and post graduate levels. I design and develop standards-compliant websites and have developed and manage the internationally successful CADTutor website and community.

1995 to Present - Senior Lecturer at the University of Greenwich

I have been responsible for the development and delivery of landscape digital design teaching within the BA(Hons), MA, Diploma and Certificate Landscape Architecture programmes since 1995. During that time I have introduced many innovative teaching/learning techniques, including "paperless" teaching/learning and 3D iterative design methods.

For a number of years I developed and presented CPD summer schools for landscape professionals in the use of Computer Aided Design, raising revenue for the school.

Since 2007 I have also been programme leader for the MA Web Design and Content Planning programme. Since taking over that role, I have guided the programme to its current success, with registered students rising from just 4 when I took over as programme leader to 45 in 2011/12 and pioneering the online promotion of a university programme. In 2011 I successfully guided the programme through its quinquennial review.

I am currently course co-ordinator for 10 courses across a range of subject areas and teach on a further 2. I also co-ordinate various induction events and additional student learning opportunities such as the annual Talk Web Design student conference.

In addition to my duties at the University of Greenwich, I currently act as external examiner for a suite of undergraduate programmes at Manchester Metropolitan University.

1995 to Present - Freelance Chartered Landscape Architect

My freelance landscape work initially began as general Computer Aided Design (CAD) consultancy and training for landscape practices. It has now become very specialised and is predominantly to do with the production of technical materials for Visual Impact Assessment (VIA), including the production of Verified Photomontage and Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) Analysis for planning and public inquiry. I have acted as specialist consultant to many landscape practices on a range of high-profile projects. I have also designed and delivered CPD courses in digital design.

1996 to Present - Website Design and Administration

I began experimenting with websites in early 1996 and my university lecture notes first went online in February of that year. Since then I have designed and developed many websites both commercially and to support my teaching. I have developed a portfolio of website properties, of which CADTutor.net is the most successful. CADTutor receives over half a million visits per month from over 200 countries. It is now a world-wide brand and is the most popular site on the web for Computer Aided Design. It supports a vibrant community and provides an opportunity for anyone to learn technical CAD and digital design skills for free.

1999 to 2001 - Senior Lecturer at Kingston University (part time)

Development and delivery of landscape digital design teaching on the BA(Hons) and Diploma Landscape Architecture programmes including 3D methods of design and use of the Web.

1994 to 1995 - Senior Landscape Architect & CAD Manager at RPS Clouston

Co-ordination of practice CAD strategies. Implementation of computer techniques on a number of major environmental impact projects. Staff training.

1990 to 1994 - Landscape Architect & CAD Manager at Derek Lovejoy Partnership

Co-ordination and management of numerous landscape planning and design projects using computer aided design tools, most notably for Disneyland, Paris. Development of in-house software for creation and automatic scheduling of softworks contract drawings. Formulation of computer strategies. Staff training.

1985 to 1990 - Landscape Technician at Travers Morgan Landscape

Initially taken on because of my expertise in photogrammetry and air-photo interpretation, I subsequently became involved with a wide range of landscape planning and design projects, many with an information technology bias. During this period, I also worked with a team of software developers and produced some of the first computer generated visualisations and ZTV studies made in the UK for visual impact assessment.

Professional Duties

I served for 3 years on the Library and Information Services Committee at the Landscape Institute and advised on the development of the Institute's website and other technical matters.

LI CPD Seminars Given

Landscape Institute CPD Seminars advocating the use of email as a convenient and efficient method of communication and reviewing available software for use by landscape architects.

Landscape Institute Technology Conference, Blenheim Palace - July 1998

Landscape Institute Technology Conference, Bristol - April 1996

Professional Journal Articles

Going soft - Landscape Design (LD 211) - June 1992

Digital Cinderella - Landscape Design Extra No.75 - March 1997

Is cheap software any good? - Landscape Design (LD 256) - December/January 1996/97

CAD case study: customisation of AutoCAD - Landscape Design (LD 232) - July/August 1994

Academic Papers and Lectures

Are landscape programmes meeting the challenge of educating the second generation of digital landscape architects? Digital Landscape Architecture 2009, Malta - May 2009

Dead masterplans and digital creativity, Digital Creativity Symposium, Greenwich - January 2000 (with Tom Turner)

The practice of Computer Aided Design, ATCL Conference, Greenwich - May 1994

The practice of Computer Aided Design, ATCL Symposium, Geneva - December 1993

Book Reviews

Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (2nd Ed.) for Urban Design International, Volume 8, Number 1/2 (June 2003)

Memberships

Chartered Member of the Landscape Institute
W3C Web Education Community Group