Workshop 1

Tutor’s response
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**Forest design principles**

**Scale**

We have already looked at how the scale of the landscape influences its character.

We have considered how the scale of the landscape can be assessed relative to a feature or ourselves.

Scale describes the relative size between the elements seen and experienced by the viewer.

Generally, the scale of a forest or landscape, and the shapes within it, should reflect landscape scale.
Forest design principles

Scale
Forest design principles

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Forest design principles

Scale and proportion

To respect existing character, the scale of the woodland should relate to the scale reflected in the existing landscape - whether it is landform or enclosure pattern that dominates.

Landscape scale reduces lower down a hillside.

The amount of open space left when a hillside is planted should also be in scale with the landscape.

This is one example of designing with proportion.
No discussion of proportion would be complete without looking at the ‘Rule of Thirds’

Where does ‘the Rule of Thirds’ come from?
The ‘Rule of Thirds’ is a simplified way of applying the ‘Golden Ratio’ which can be found like this.

Make a sequence of numbers where the next number is the sum of the previous two numbers.

Start with a ‘0’ and a ‘1’.

0, 1,
The ‘Rule of Thirds’ is a simplified way of applying the ‘Golden Ratio’ which can be found like this

Make a sequence of numbers where the next number is the sum of the previous two numbers

Start with a ‘0’ and a ‘1’

0, 1, 1,
Forest design principles

Proportion

The ‘Rule of Thirds’ is a simplified way of applying the ‘Golden Ratio’ which can be found like this.

Make a sequence of numbers where the next number is the sum of the previous two numbers.

Start with a ‘0’ and a ‘1’

0, 1, 1, 2,
Forest design principles

Proportion

The ‘Rule of Thirds’ is a simplified way of applying the ‘Golden Ratio’ which can be found like this:

Make a sequence of numbers where the next number is the sum of the previous two numbers:

Start with a ‘0’ and a ‘1’

0, 1, 1, 2, 3,
The ‘Rule of Thirds’ is a simplified way of applying the ‘Golden Ratio’ which can be found like this:

Make a sequence of numbers where the next number is the sum of the previous two numbers.

Start with a ‘0’ and a ‘1’

0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5,
Forest design principles

Proportion

The ‘Rule of Thirds’ is a simplified way of applying the ‘Golden Ratio’ which can be found like this:

Make a sequence of numbers where the next number is the sum of the previous two numbers:

Start with a ‘0’ and a ‘1’:

0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8,
The ‘Rule of Thirds’ is a simplified way of applying the ‘Golden Ratio’ which can be found like this.

Make a sequence of numbers where the next number is the sum of the previous two numbers.

Start with a ‘0’ and a ‘1’

0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13,
The ‘Rule of Thirds’ is a simplified way of applying the ‘Golden Ratio’ which can be found like this:

Make a sequence of numbers where the next number is the sum of the previous two numbers:

Start with a ‘0’ and a ‘1’:

0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21...
Proportion

This simple series of figures is known as the Fibonacci sequence

Shown diagrammatically, with squares, this is the result...
Proportion
Forest design principles

Proportion

1
Forest design principles

Proportion

1

[Diagram with a square labeled '1']
Forest design principles

Proportion

2
Forest design principles

Proportion
Forest design principles

Proportion

5
Forest design principles

Proportion
Forest design principles

Proportion

13
Proportion
Then...
Forest design principles

Proportion
Forest design principles

Proportion
Forest design principles

Proportion
Proportion
Forest design principles

Proportion
Forest design principles

Proportion
Forest design principles

Proportion
Forest design principles

Proportion
Forest design principles

Proportion

[Diagram of a logarithmic spiral]
Forest design principles

Proportion

Fibonacci sequence;

0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144, 233

Dividing each term by the previous term tends towards 1.618

Dividing each term by the next term tends towards 0.618

These ratios are known as the Golden Ratio.
The Golden Ratio

The Golden Ratio is regarded as being the ideal way to divide something into two perfectly proportioned parts.
Forest design principles

The Golden Ratio

The Golden Ratio is everywhere you look in nature; the ratio (0.618) is very close to the ‘rule of thirds’ (0.666), but is mathematically much more elegant.
Forest design principles

Scale and proportion
Forest design principles

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Forest design principles

Scale and point of view

[Diagram showing woodland in plan and open ground]
Forest design principles

Scale and point of view
Forest design principles

Scale and point of view
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Forest design principles

Scale and point of view
Forest design principles

Scale and point of view
As we have seen, visual perspective, or point of view, can adjust your perception of shape, scale and diversity in a forest.

Point of view can create ‘foreshortening’

Point of view can also create ‘coalescence’.
Coalescence
Forest design principles

Coalescence
Scale - Summary

Wide, sweeping expansive landscapes, and high hills are often large scale

Small drumlins, and enclosed glens are smaller scale

Enclosure pattern reduces scale

Scale is larger higher up slopes than lower down

Forests should be designed to reflect scale in terms of their overall size and in terms of the species pattern within them...
The balance between forest and open space, and the species pattern within the forest should aim to be in proportion.

The shapes and detail of the design also need to reflect the scale of the landscape.

Woodland design needs to take into account how scale changes in relation to viewpoint.
Scale

Using the principles of scale, design your upper margin to create a well-scaled and well-shaped open space at the top of the hill.
Workshop 2

Tutor’s response
Scale continued

Identify opportunities to reduce the scale of the proposed new planting along the lower slope of the hillside.
Workshop 2A

Tutor’s response