

- **12655 | Regarding Landscape. Le Corbusier's formative years**  
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Despite the vast research on the work and life of Le Corbusier, only in recent years has his relationship to landscape yielded particular attention. Undeniably, the landscape plays a decisive role to a broader comprehension of Le Corbusier's diverse body of work. Its transversal presence in projects, writings and even paintings and sculptures suggests the primordial quality of the theme. The present paper aims to discuss how the landscape, understood as a main condition of Le Corbusier's design process, can be linked to his formative years - delimited by the Voyage d'Orient.

In order to revisit this period, we will explore mainly primary sources – letters to his family and his masters L'Eplattenier and William Ritter, his sketchbooks and his articles regarding the Voyage d'Orient. Supported by these sources, we will be able to outline three evolutionary moments in a plural reflection process regarding the understanding of landscape and the notion of nature: Le Corbusier's childhood, which can be characterized by the latent assimilation of the qualities of nature; the academic years at the La Chaux-de-Fonds' École d'Art – where the approximation towards nature is essentially made through the ornament; and a series of voyages and internships in Europe, a period of critical review and affirmation of the landscape as a primary condition of the architectural design process.

This study is part of an ongoing master thesis on Master's Degree in Architecture, at FAUP, 2016/17, under the supervision of Helder Casal Ribeiro. It is our objective to contribute to the growing body of research on the relationship between Le Corbusier's work and landscape.