AONB #0002

A walk into Blackness (2012/3)

Photographs taken along a section of the boundary of the Cotswold AONB, from SO Grid Reference 87777 02360 to 87961 02333, the hillside marked on OS Maps as Blackness.

Camera: Nikon FE2; Rolleicord V.

Operator: Rupert Howe.

More information at tonk.org/AONB.













The eighteenth-century, neoclassical formal garden evokes a romantic version of the Greek myth of Arcadia. The modern park within the city represents the domestication of the countryside and the triumph of bourgeois order over the rule of the aristocratic nobility (landed class). It also rationalizes the contradictions between the city and the natural environment it exploits, and obscures the city's true historical relation to the cultivation of the countryside. The picturesque was a means of internalizing the old aristocratic order. The countryside, for the rationalists of the new order, was also the only point from which to criticize the degeneration of urban society.

Dan Graham, Architecture, 1997



