

FUNCTIONLESS BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES

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NOTE

This Guide focuses on intentionally functionless buildings and large structures from grottoes to land art. The term *folly* refers to buildings "characterized by a certain excess in terms of eccentricity, cost or conspicuous inutility" (*The Oxford Companion to Gardens*) and is usually associated with 18th century European examples. But many cultures have traditions of conspicuously inutile structures being built for reasons of art, commemoration, decoration, garden design or literary conceit, and researchers will need to explore the relevant aspects of monuments, memorials, literature, sculpture, and--especially--gardening and landscape design.

KEYWORDS

Art in situ, Castellated structures, Cave architecture, Caves, Earthworks (sculpture), Ecological art, Environmental art, Eye-catchers, Fabriques, Fantastic architecture, Fantasy environments, Follies, Folly bridges, Folly castles, Folly houses, Folly pagodas, Folly temples, Folly tombs, Folly towers, Fountains, Garden follies, Garden houses, Garden mazes, Garden towers, Grottoes, Grottos, Hermitage follies, Labyrinths, Land art, Mazes, Nymphaea, Obelisks, Observation towers, Ornamental buildings, Sham ruins, Shell grottos, Viewing platforms

TOOLS TO GET STARTED

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LABYRINTHS & MAZES

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