



Environmental Gerontology: Making Meaningful Places in Old Age

Graham D. Rowles PhD

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"[This book] addresses issues on both sides of the Atlantic; examines the theoretical underpinnings of environmental gerontology...; and provides useful practical applications and guiding principles....Recommended."--**Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries**

The environments in which people live out their later lives have a strong impact on their identity and provide opportunities for nourishing social interactions. This volume translates the insights derived from contemporary research on residential environments and public spaces that enhance well-being into practical recommendations for the design of such beneficial community environments.

The text is grounded in the conceptual and theoretical underpinnings of current research on place attachment, environmental meaning, and community living in later life. Emphasis is placed on how to design residential spaces that facilitate the development of a sense of place or home, and investigation is made into the kinds of lifestyles such spaces foster and support. A major theme pervading the text is the juxtaposition of private and public space. The book also addresses such themes as the transformation of spaces into places of personal identification and attachment, the need for shared intergenerational spaces, and consideration of diverse populations when designing public spaces. The book also considers how emerging public policy agendas affect the development and management of environments for the elderly. *Environmental Gerontology* includes the contributions of scholars in anthropology, architecture, economics, education, geography, gerontology, planning, psychology, sociology, and numerous health sciences, who hail from North America, Europe, and Asia. With its strong interdisciplinary focus, this text offers innovative and judicious recommendations for the creation of community environments that are truly beneficial for older adults.

Key Features:

- Provides an up-to-date synthesis of the latest research on the meaning of place to older people and its relationship to well-being
- Offers fresh insight and critical perspectives on community planning and environmental design
- Considers private residences, retirement communities, long-term care facilities, and public and private community spaces
- Includes guiding principles for environmental design and practice relevant to the documented needs of older people
- Synthesizes contributions from international scholars in many disciplines

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