



The archaeology of ancient Sri Lanka
gardens and related water systems

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Sri Lanka and Dumbur

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and the specific landscape created by the hydraulic
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and Polonnaruwa and their related hydraulic systems.

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Sri Lanka has at least three rich sources of material data on architectural planning and gardening. These are (1) city and palace complexes (2) monastic gardens of the Early and Middle Historical periods and (3) village monastery, country house and courtyard gardens of the 18th and 19th century. To these we may add both ancient and modern agricultural landscapes and the specific landscapes created by the hydraulic systems. What I am going to talk about specifically today are (1) the royal gardens at Sigiriya, Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa, (2) the monastic gardens at Anuradhapura and Mihintale and (3) their related hydraulic systems.