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Architecture: From Prehistory To Postmodernity (Second Edition)



Synopsis

This highly regarded, consistently well-selling and extremely well-written book brings to life architectural history and its canon of great buildings through a lively approach that is both insightful and accurate. This story of architecture moves back and forth between long views of historical trends and close-ups of major works and crucial architectural themes. The authors have successfully made the subject of architectural history - which due to its technical aspects can too often be off-putting to the lay reader - transparent, engaging, and easily mastered. All buildings are illustrated with effective images that are well reproduced and thoughtfully keyed to the text. In the second edition, the content of the book has been fine-tuned and polished. Sections in the Renaissance, Baroque, and Modern chapters were reworked to include recent scholarship and, in the case of the Baroque, expand coverage to Eastern Europe. The Introduction has been significantly updated in its slant and language, including a discussion of the newly introduced term "Postmodernity." The most significant and exciting change, however, is the addition of the new chapter, which covers architectural developments from approximately 1980 to 2000. The new chapter is a challenging yet comprehensible take on the exciting, diverse, and stunning buildings from the last twenty years. Most impressively, the author creates a cohesive story from these recent buildings that are, by their very nature, extremely complex, individualistic, and difficult to categorise.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

An update of an acclaimed survey of world architecture that is a much better read than its drab illustrations, dull layout and paucity of plans would suggest. Indeed, it's as hard to put down as

it is to left. The close analyses of Philip Johnson's AT&T tower in New York and Norman Foster's HSBC tower in Hong Kong are brilliant, and the authors have the audacity to suggest that the high tech look of the one is as dishonest as the faux antique masonry of the other. This is an example of how the authors illuminate architectural history with concrete examples rather than windy generalizations. (Michael Webb is the book reviewer for LA Architect magazine.)

a classic architectural history text, this book maintains the critical analysis necessary to be a comprehensive resource for the serious student. Not the pretty pictures and fancy diagrams of more contemporary textbooks, but does that really matter?

This book contains the most comprehensive amount of Architectural information I have ever seen. I had to purchase this book for class and I would recommend it if you can find it... Not only can it help with studies a must own for regular knowledge.

Excellent Transaction! Fast shipping service once order was placed and will do business Again. This product had everything I needed to know and understand for each and every one of my projects! Great Buy!

Good price, excellent value. There were only two pages that appeared to be 'damaged' due to possibly leaving a copied sheet of paper in the book, which left two overlapping layers of text. Other than that, the book itself was in very good condition, no other notes or markings throughout the book, and nothing torn.

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