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Chicago Architecture And Design





Synopsis

Chicago is world famous for an architectural tradition that has influenced building around the globe. It is the birthplace of the skyscraper and the cradle of modern architecture; it gave rise to the urban office building as we know it, and to the flowing, open floor plans of today's homes. This book chronicles Chicago's architectural tradition from the nineteenth through the early twenty-first century, examining its evolution in the context of broader historical, social, technological, and artistic currents. It explores Chicago architects' quest for a quintessentially American style, and the century of innovation that pushed buildings ever higher, opened them to space and light, and increasingly dissolved the boundaries between indoors and out. It looks at world-renowned structures from the inside out, giving special attention to the interiors that were and remain so important to Chicago's architects. Chicago School commercial building, to the low-slung Prairie School house, the streamlined Art Deco skyscraper, and the minimalist Miesian tower of glass and steel, all the way through to the strikingly original, diverse designs of the present day's so-called second modern movement. This eminently readable text vividly discusses both the life and work of such towering figures as Daniel Burnham, John Wellborn Root, Louis H. Sullivan, Frank Lloyd Wright, and Mies van der Rohe - as well as that of the many lesser-known architects who have made outstanding contributions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lasron and Pridmore have put together a wonderful slice of Chicago history through its architecture. An excellent introduction to architecture in Chicago, I would reccomend it to anyone with even a casual interest in the subject. The focus of the book has great historical depth.

I first saw this title on a trip to Chicago, and thought it would be ideal. But looking through it in the bookstore, I was totally underwhelmed by the quality of the photographs, so I put it back on the shelf. A year later, in the Bobst library at NYU, I found what I thought was a different book - the photos were outstanding. It turned out to be the original 1993 publication, but something was strange. So I went to B&N to see a copy of the 2005 version. It turns out the 93 was printed in Japan, the 05 was printed in China. If you're interested in architecture, the visual details are important. So I went looking for a 2nd hand 93 version, found one for cheap, and am thrilled. The text is fantastic - the authors have selected a great mix of buildings and convey a good level of information. I'm in NY, but have made 4 trips to Chicago in the past year to look at the buildings - it's an incredibly rich city.I know the 2005 is expanded, but the two versions are worlds apart in visual impact. 3 stars out of 3 for the text, 0 out of 2 for the photos.

This book described many of the significant architects in Chicago history. I found it to be informative and very readable. It is the best book I have found which summarizes Chicago Architecture. The color photograghs are excellent

This book provides an excellent introduction to Chicago's numerous schools of architecture over the years. It also provides a photographic tour of the city's important buildings, from the late 1800s to the present day. The photography is great! Highly recommended for fans of Chicago or architecture buffs in general.

I thought this book was very interesting it has great pictures of the buildings in Chicago. It has alot of information about the beginning of when Architects wanted to build something modern but unque at the same time. Get inspired by the great exterior and interior of these amazing buildings.

This book has beautifull photographs. The book is much deeper than other Chicago architecture books because it has a well thought out historical review of the progression of Chicago architecture. Interesting even for the lay person like me.

I have taken many self-guided walking tours of Chicago's architecture, and I totally enjoy seeing the photos of the buildings in this book, as well as the incredible details of the interiors. The

photographs in this, the 1993 edition, are stunning. The text, which starts with a chapter on the origins of modern architecture, is very informative. Recommended.

After going on the Architecture Foundation's boat tour, I wanted to give a guest a book on it. I've certainly seen others that are better or more up to date but this was an interesting read for that purpose and quality binding/photos.

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