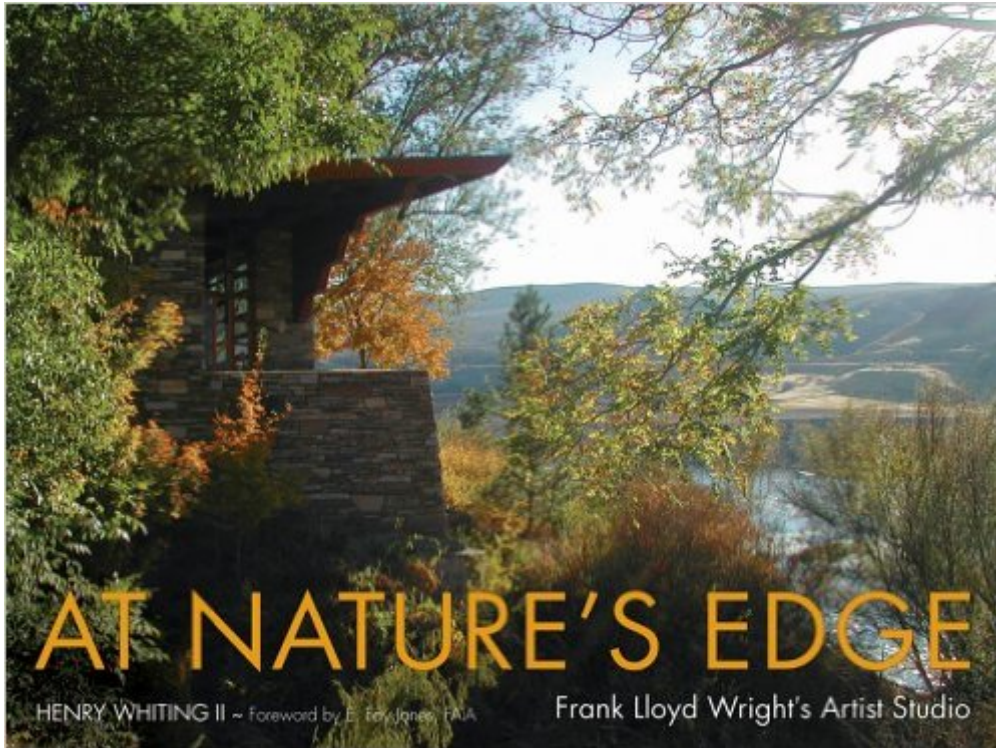


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# At Nature's Edge: Frank Lloyd Wright's Artist Studio



## Synopsis

Perched high on a cliff above the Snake River in a remote area of Idaho, Frank Lloyd Wright's artist studio is a testament to the architect's total mastery of his craft. The simple, one-room studio Wright designed for Idaho landscape painter Archie Boyd Teater and Patricia Teater in 1952 is a sophisticated, complex work of art. As Wright's only artist studio (other than his own), the structure was intended to foster the creative life. Located on one of the most spectacular natural sites Wright ever worked with, the studio at Teater's Knoll is a premier example of organic architecture at its best, where the fundamental integration with nature blurs the meeting of building and nature. *Nature's Edge* chronicles the design and history of the studio and the restorations that were necessary to preserve it after years of neglect. Written for all readers who are inspired by nature and architecture, the book is vividly illustrated with contemporary color photographs, historical black and white images, and Frank Lloyd Wright's original drawings.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 136 pages

Publisher: University of Utah Press; 1st Edition edition (February 20, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0874808774

ISBN-13: 978-0874808773

Product Dimensions: 12.2 x 0.5 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (9 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

In this fine book Henry Whiting, the second owner of Wright's Teater studio, gives us the history of this diminutive gem sited in desert terrain high above Idaho's Snake River. The background of noted landscape artist, Archie Boyd Teater, is given along with the the desire of his wife to have Wright design their studio. The difficulties of realizing the dream in this remote locale are given an in depth look. However, after years of parttime use the studio, at the end of the Teaters' lives, lay virtually abandoned and in dire need of a savior. Enter Henry Whiting. The how and why of the restoration

and sensitive remodeling of the studio into a full time residence are presented. Wright purists may find some of the alterations made heresy, but the respect with which they were considered and the fine results should ameliorate the concerns of most. Well illustrated with original plans, presentation drawings and photos we also are given contemporary color photos and plans of the various revised areas. My only, albeit minor, quibble is the lack of side-by-side plans of the original and remodeled layout. All in all, a must have for the Wright enthusiast.

What an interesting book, and with great text and photos. I am originally from Idaho, and now live in Arizona. I serve on the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation Board of Stewards, and this book has been on my wish list for a long time. I finally decided to purchase it and was not disappointed. Whiting is a sensitive and talented writer. The building itself is fascinating, and the back story of Whiting's history with it, and the history of the Teaters, the original owners, was most interesting. I'm very pleased to have this in my library and to know Wright has at least one design in my home state.

In this book, Henry Whiting explores how Frank Lloyd Wright designed homes for the site and the clients and connected the design to the land, views and the cycles of the sun by using the example of his own well-loved home, a simple artist studio on a cliff overlooking the Snake River in Idaho. The journey leads you to better understand and appreciate Frank Lloyd Wright's architecture in a way that is perfect as a first introduction or to complete an enthusiast's library. The publisher's design and presentation stands up to the author's thoughtful text.

The format of this book makes it difficult to read outside the house. The photography is superb; some satellite photos would be a nice addition. I do not agree with the rave reviews of Mr Whiting's writing, but it is very good. A little more proofreading might make it perfect.

I was hoping for an image-filled story of a lesser-known Wright building but what I got was a rambling personal narrative with very few illustrations. It was an easy read but it raised more questions about the building and its redesign than it answered.

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