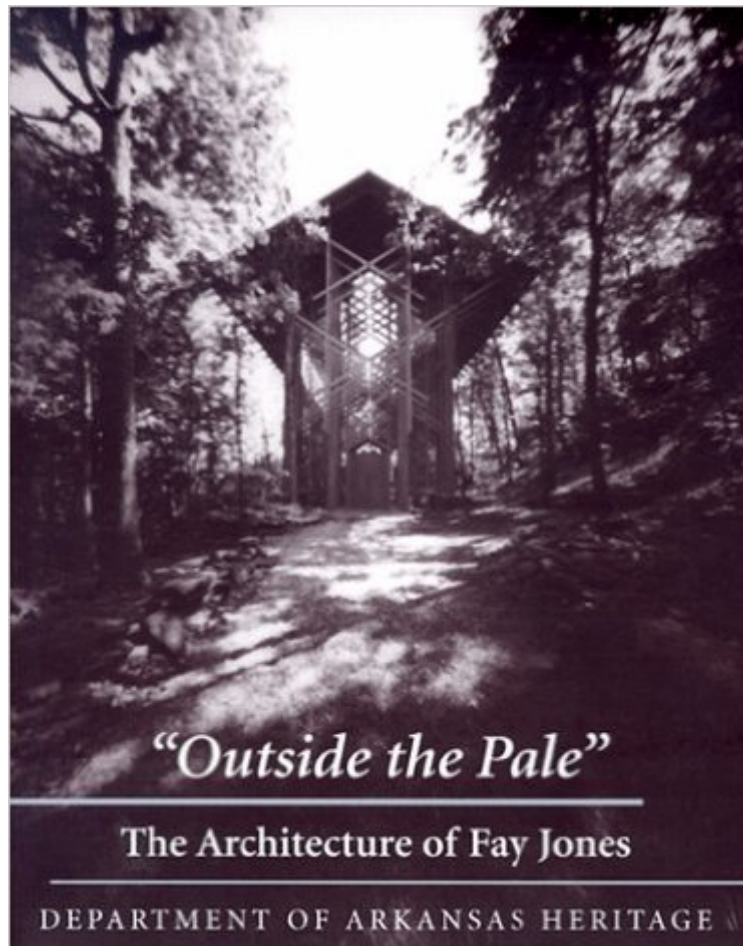


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Outside The Pale: The Architecture Of Fay Jones



Synopsis

Honored with the 1990 American Institute of Architects Gold Medal for a lifetime of outstanding achievement, Fay Jones is an Arkansas original. In receiving the medal from Prince Charles of Great Britain, Jones was hailed as a powerful and special genius who embodies nearly all the qualities we admire in an architect • and as an artist who used his vision to craft mysterious and magical places • not only in Arkansas but all over the world. This book accompanied a special museum exhibit of Jones's life and work at the Old State House in Little Rock. It traces Jones's development from his early years as a student of Frank Lloyd Wright and Bruce Goff, to the culmination of his ability in such arresting structures as Pinecote Pavilion in Picayune, Mississippi; Thorncrown Chapel in Eureka Springs, Arkansas; and Chapman University Chapel in Orange, California. Through the black-and-white photographs of the homes, chapels, and other buildings that Jones has created and the accompanying captions and interviews of the architect, the reader is allowed a view into this man's remarkable talent. Designing structures that fuse architecture and landscape, the organic and the man-made, Jones has created special places which touch their viewers with the power and subtlety of poetry. Herein we learn why. From the Foreword by Robert Adams Ivy Jr.: "Fay Jones's architecture begins in order and ends in mystery. . . . His role can perhaps best be understood as mediator, a human consciousness that has arisen from the Arkansas soil and scoured the cosmos, then spoken through the voices of stone and wood, steel and glass. Art, philosophy, craft, and human aspiration coalesce in his masterworks, transformed from acts of will into harmonies: Jones lets space sing."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a small book on master architect Fey Jones. There is a short intro by Robert Ivy (author of the 1992 Jones Monograph), a short bio on Jones that contains many quotes by the architect. Two chapters complete the book with the architect's own words on his design process and organic architecture. The book contains plans, sections, photos and some detail drawings of some of Jones more noted projects and furniture pieces. It is small book of only 94 pages. It is light reading and not a retrospective of his work. However, it is a beautiful little book for a great value and would make a nice gift for an architect or architecture enthusiast.

Until I visited Northwest Arkansas in 2006, I had never heard of E. Fay Jones, even though I've been an avid fan and collector of all things Frank Lloyd Wright for more than thirty years. In addition to being the chair of the architecture program at the University of Arkansas and a student and friend of Frank Lloyd Wright, his clients included Sam Walton, billionaire founder of Wal-Mart, and many successful business people of the region. After visiting a number of his buildings in Northwest Arkansas and reading his book, and experiencing the influence of Frank Lloyd Wright on his work, I wonder what recognition he might have achieved if he chose to live in a larger metropolis or had a better publicist. Even in the region, few people outside architecture have heard about this man and his work. Not the best paperback book by an architect I've read, and certainly not coffee-table worthy in most homes, given its flimsy production value. But, it is one of the few books I've found on this interesting architect. It was written and illustrated by the architect himself. If you are visiting Northwest Arkansas and want to see his work and learn more about E. Fay Jones, I definitely recommend this small paperback book.

I became fascinated by the architecture of Fay Jones following my wedding in the Mildred B. Cooper Chapel in Bella Vista, Arkansas. Later, I learned of the Thorncrown Chapel near Eureka Springs, Arkansas, and many other projects of Jones's. This book is a fascinating collection of pictures and drawings from not just the chapels above, but other buildings, both public and private, which were created by Fay Jones. There is also a fair amount of history behind Jones and how he got started in architecture. Overall, it was a light, fun read with lots of pictures, which makes it sound like a children's book :) But in reality, it shows the creativity and genius Jones has displayed through many of his creations. I'm not sure people fully appreciate the works he has created. Rating: 5 stars (out of

5)

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