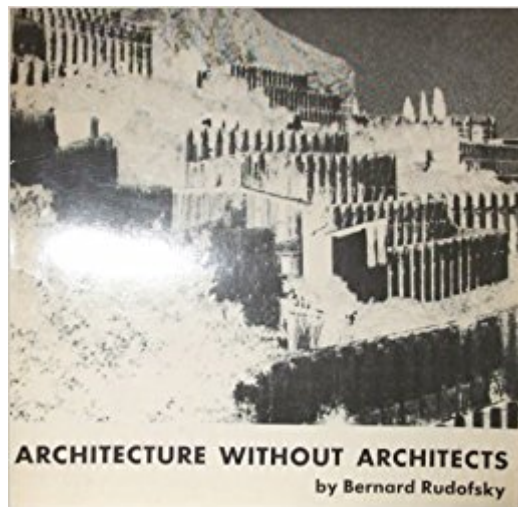


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Architecture Without Architects: A Short Introduction To Non-Pedigreed Architecture



Synopsis

In this book, Bernard Rudofsky steps outside the narrowly defined discipline that has governed our sense of architectural history and discusses the art of building as a universal phenomenon. He introduces the reader to communal architecture--architecture produced not by specialists but by the spontaneous and continuing activity of a whole people with a common heritage, acting within a community experience. A prehistoric theater district for a hundred thousand spectators on the American continent and underground towns and villages (complete with schools, offices, and factories) inhabited by millions of people are among the unexpected phenomena he brings to light. The beauty of "primitive" architecture has often been dismissed as accidental, but today we recognize in it an art form that has resulted from human intelligence applied to uniquely human modes of life. Indeed, Rudofsky sees the philosophy and practical knowledge of the untutored builders as untapped sources of inspiration for industrial man trapped in his chaotic cities. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A unique examination of building and culture. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

In this book, out of print since 1980, Bernard Rudofsky steps outside the narrowly defined discipline that has governed our sense of architectural history and discusses the art of building as a universal phenomenon. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I've owned several copies of this book. I used to give them away because I thought the content should be known and appreciated by everyone. But the book got too expensive to give away, so now I have this copy to keep. I am an architect - learned more from this book than any other source. Given current understanding of climate change, we need now more than ever to learn from these models of using indigenous landforms, weather patterns, and materials to build intelligent and comfortable buildings.

A profoundly important book, written with great intellectual integrity and wit. I recommend this book to everyone I have occasion to speak about the built environment. It was reading for me in architecture school at UCB 40 years ago. I ran across it again in 2013 reread it, renewing its significance. A cherished read and visual journey.

Still a great intro to the subject.

This book is a classic, and I would consider it a 'must read', not just for anyone interested in architecture, design, anthropology, culture, sociology, or environmental engineering, but really for anyone who lives in a house, cave, or tree. It's a quick read with lots of illustrations, and I've been through it time and time again.

A seminal work that architects and architecture students must read at least once in her/his lifetime ...

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