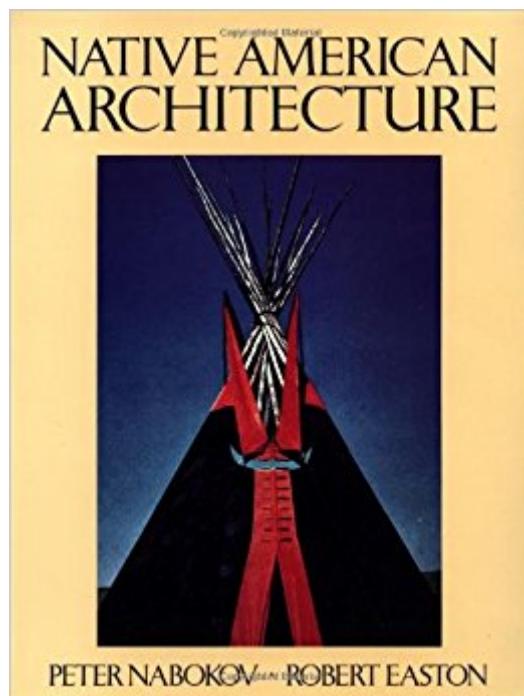


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# Native American Architecture



## Synopsis

For many people, Native American architecture calls to mind the wigwam, tipi, iglu, and pueblo. Yet the richly diverse building traditions of Native Americans encompass much more, including specific structures for sleeping, working, worshipping, meditating, playing, dancing, lounging, giving birth, decision-making, cleansing, storing and preparing food, caring for animals, and honoring the dead. In effect, the architecture covers all facets of Indian life. The collaboration between an architect and an anthropologist, Native American Architecture presents the first book-length, fully illustrated exploration of North American Indian architecture to appear in over a century. Peter Nabokov and Robert Easton together examine the building traditions of the major tribes in nine regional areas of the continent from the huge plank-house villages of the Northwest Coast to the moundbuilder towns and temples of the Southeast, to the Navajo hogans and adobe pueblos of the Southwest. Going beyond a traditional survey of buildings, the book offers a broad, clear view into the Native American world, revealing a new perspective on the interaction between their buildings and culture. Looking at Native American architecture as more than buildings, villages, and camps, Nabokov and Easton also focus on their use of space, their environment, their social mores, and their religious beliefs. Each chapter concludes with an account of traditional Indian building practices undergoing a revival or in danger today. The volume also includes a wealth of historical photographs and drawings (including sixteen pages of color illustrations), architectural renderings, and specially prepared interpretive diagrams which decode the sacred cosmology of the principal house types.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"I am delighted to have this outstanding book available in paperback for course use! The lavish illustrations, authoritative text, clear organization, and useful maps and diagrams make this an ideal introduction to Native American modes of dwelling on the earth." --Pauline Strong, University of Texas at Austin"...the authors have combined historical, archeological, and ethnographic data with their own extensive field experience to present an enlightening narrative." --Religious Studies Review"A very sensitive contribution to worldwide ethnic architecture. A great book." --Michael Reinschmidt, Ph.D., California State University"Excellent resource material and quite interesting....A beautiful book as well." --Kathryn Stewart-Kalboch, Montana State University"A unique book, very well down....An interesting book around which to develop a course on North American Indians....A real bargain."--Jonathan E. Reyman, Illinois State University"Briskly analytical and objective....Impressive in its scope, covering everything from the wigwams and longhouses of North Eastern North America to the pueblos and kivas of the Southwest....There is enough detail for the specialist and enough explanation for the general reader. It is a beautiful book and a bargain for the price." --American Studies International"Nabokov and Easton's book is a feast....It would be worth buying for the illustrations alone, well presented and printed....The writing is clear and readable, giving a good indication of the flavor of the numerous sources."--The Architectural Review"Native American building types and village planning are throughtly documented and analyzed within the context of ritual, religion, and culture."--Progressive Architecture"A thoroughly researched and extensively illustrated guide to the varied histories of native building, urban planning, engineering and iconography."--Ottawa Citizen"Excellent in every way....Already the standard general reference on the subject, and will surely be the encyclopedia to which everyone refers in the future. The contents are presented with remarkable verbal clarity and with such excellent illustrations that both mature academics and intelligent school children can profit from the book."--Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians"A fascinating presentation and discussion of Native American architectural styles, materials, cultural impacts, and diversities. Native American Architecture will prove to be a work of continuing significance for Native American studies and for students of architecture alike."--Wisconsin Bookwatch"Definitive....This is...a book about ritual, religion, and family life as much as it is a book about buildings....The authors' knowing observations on this subject have much to tell students of all kinds of architecture, far beyond the wigwam and the pueblo."--Paul Goldberger, The New York Times Book Review

Peter Nabokov, an anthropologist, has taught in the Department of Architecture at the University of California at Berkeley and is the author of *Two Leggings: The Making of a Crow Warrier* and *The*

Architecture of the American Pueblo among other books. Robert Easton, a noted California architect, has taught at the University of California at Los Angeles and is co-editor of the acclaimed Shelter and Domebook.

This is the best book I've found providing practical information on the construction of various shelters. We are preparing to build a village using all indigenous shelters and the book provides outstanding information on a wide variety of shelters, regions and materials. It's incredibly well researched and includes information on the cultural significance of each shelter, the materials used and the people's relationship to the harvesting and use of the material. Plenty of photos and diagrams of actual construction are provided so you can understand all the principles needed to build each shelter and there is some information on how different villages were laid out. It is well written and an interesting read whether you hope to build a shelter or not.

Fantastic book about the wide variety of structures built by native Americans - an absolute must read for anyone interested in pre-European architecture of the US and Canada. Or really anyone interested in architecture. This book covers the full range from the Northeast to the Southwest. Fabulously researched and illustrated. The book includes details about construction methods and usage while also putting the structures in a social context. 8 pages of color photographs in the center of the book. Beautiful images with medium quality reproduction. My only criticism of this book is that the photographs appear to be low quality reproductions - like that of a good quality Xerox machine. They are clear enough to read but with such rich text and line drawings, I expected higher quality images. But don't let that deter you from buying this book - I've not seen anything which compares to it.

I had to buy this book for my multi cultural architectural history class. The book was very informative with lot of pictures illustrating the building techniques and styles. Although, most pictures are in black and white. It was easy to read and understand, without being dry like most text books. The book also helps illustrate the cultures of Native American peoples. I would recommend this book for anyone who is interested in architecture from a non western view point, and in Native American culture.

I love architecture and this book really is enlightening with great sketches and descriptions. Generally we non-natives know so little about the rich past that has become so hidden.

book to use at the university

Where I live in Texas I can build what ever I like! I am building several different types of structures on my land already and this us full of ideas!

Very well written about Native history.

Great book. Lots of details and pictures. Good for research or leisure. Very informative, I would definitely recommend this book.

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