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History Of Architectural Theory

A History of
Architectural
Theory
from Vitruvius
to the Present

Hanno-Walter Kruft



Synopsis

As the first comprehensive encyclopedic survey of Western architectural theory from Vitruvius to the present, this book is an essential resource for architects, students, teachers, historians, and theorists. Using only original sources, Kruft has undertaken the monumental task of researching, organizing, and analyzing the significant statements put forth by architectural theorists over the last two thousand years. The result is a text that is authoritative and complete, easy to read without being reductive.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am as astonished to find this book written, so great was the scholarship and labor involved, as I am to find it previously unwritten, so great is the need for it. Its scale and scope is unique. Philip Tabor, Architectural Review

Text: English (translation) Original Language: German --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

An excellent book. A work of a living! As the name says we have here an historical approach of theory, not just a sequence of what has happened first but how were they thinking about architecture in a specific period of history.

This was one of the hardest text books to get through. The sections are verbose and miss some critical events and key concepts that are signatures of the architects described.

great book for architectural theory lovers!1. Clear concept explanation.2. Long and extensive reading3. ideal for architecture students

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Though outdated in significant ways -- with the entire second half essentially eclipsed by Harry Mallgrave's stunningly comprehensive history of modern architectural theory (Cambridge, 2005) -- this is still worth owning and reading for the material from Vitruvius to Perrault. The enormous bibliography is, due to its cumbersome organization, rather daunting and not nearly as useful as it should be. Maddening as it is, it is still an essential volume for anyone even remotely interested in the rationale behind the stylistic appearances of our built environment.

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