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# Building: 3,000 Years Of Design, Engineering And Construction

3000 Years of Design Engineering and Construction Bill Addis



# **Synopsis**

From Egypt and Classical Greece and Rome through the building booms of the Gothic era and the Renaissance, and from the Industrial Revolution to the present era of digital modeling, Building charts centuries of innovations in engineering and building construction. This comprehensive and heavily illustrated volume, aimed at students and young professionals as well as general readers, explores the materials, classic texts, instruments, and theories that have propelled modern engineering, and the famous and not-so-famous buildings designed through the ages. The book concentrates on developments since the industrial and scientific revolutions of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Also included are extensive reference materials: appendices, a glossary, bibliography, and index.

### **Book Information**

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#### Customer Reviews

After reviewing this fantastic and ambitious book, I had a renewed appreciation for the evolving mentality of the architectural engineer throughout history, distinct from that of the architect. This was very valuable for me, and I would recommend the book on the force of this experience alone. But this book has much more to offer; beautiful and exhaustive illustration, excellent historic overview, and keen observation and understanding from an aerospace engineer. Architect OR Engineer--you will be inspired.

I'm giving this book its third five star rating, and for lots of very good reasons. I have been looking

for a book that bridges that gap between architecture and structural engineering, one that is easy to read, usable, artistic, scientific, comprehensive, and nicely bound. And here it is...Bill notes from the onset that this book is about building engineering, which is a term not commonly used and a term that does not differentiate between engineer and architect. They are two sides of the same coin, and books that treat them as completely different fields miss this point. Consequently we often find books on structures that are devoid of expressive forms and books on architecture that are devoid of the technicalities that allow form to exist. What I wanted was a book that skipped over the overly opinionated theories and exceedingly dry differential equations, a book that balanced beautiful photos and artwork with prose that is clear, concise, and free from pomp and artifice. Geoff Manaugh's blog gave me hope and, via his book, I became acquainted with this book by Bill Addis. I would say this was a serendipitous event as I was on the verge of piecing together all the elements that compose this book on my own. I owe you a debt of gratitude, Bill, for saving me thirty-plus years of research and allowing me to turn to one highly readable yet mind-blowingly vast tome for everything I hoped for and then some. I have coupled this with books such as Form and Forces and Structure Systems for a full range of information that is both enlightening and creativity-inducing. I would recommend this book to anyone who wants to learn exactly how we as a race managed to get where we are in terms of what we live, work, and play in.

The author deserves a ton of credit for the huge amount of work that must have gone into compiling all of the information and images in this book, and putting them into an enjoyable and readable text.I was hoping (in something as sweeping as this) to come across some sort of exposition about what brought about various developments in design engineering and construction - what was behind a shift from one mode to the next. The book touches lightly on this subject occasionally, but that's about it. And there was no false advertising there, just wishful thinking on my part - no fault to the author or the book.I suppose it is up to the reader to reflect, which is a gift in itself!

Comprehensive, readable, enjoyable. Recommended to me by a professor of architectural history. A great read! Recommended for anyone interested in a long term review of architecture, technology and design tools.

A ton of great information and history! Perfect for a student interested in architectural design or even a history enthusiast.

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