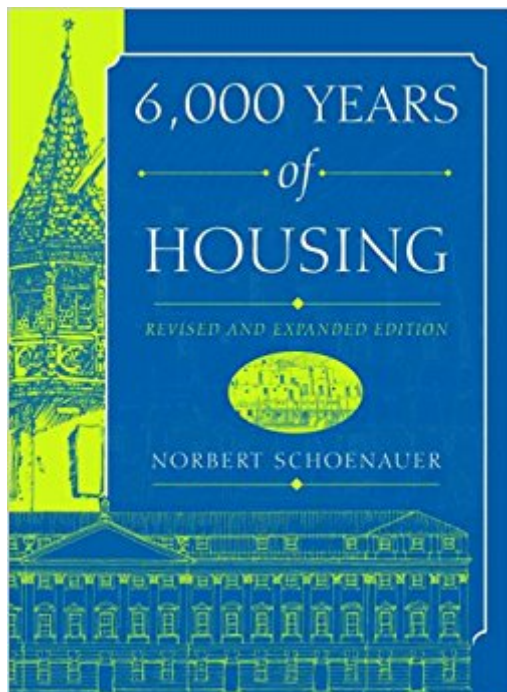


The book was found

6,000 Years Of Housing



Synopsis

Part architecture, part history, and part anthropology, this encyclopedic book examines the history of housing: pre-urban dwellings of nomadic, semi-nomadic, and sedentary agricultural societies; urban houses of ancient civilizations, classical Greece and Rome; and the domestic architectures of the Western world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Accessible not only to the architectural community . . . but to anyone with a passion for housing . . . issues are expressed clearly, and details serve a larger context.” - Elizabeth MacKenzie, MAIBC, APT Bulletin: The Journal of Preservation Technology --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Norbert Schoenauer is Macdonald Emeritus Professor of Architecture at McGill University. He lives in Montreal.

Huge amount of information and visual detail. Great floor plans. Some unfortunate language about non-Western, non-modern cultures. And this is not a picture book--the text is very informative but also mandatory because the drawings are labeled in the original language for types of room and the terms are only defined in the text.

Comprehensive timeline of housing evolution. Illustrations throughout to help one visualize the

concepts. Lightweight for a larger book and the pages turn easily.

Special design, perfect quality, nice appearance. I couldn't deny such a good product. Shipping was fast and easy and i had it in less time than was estimated.and works great.Wil buy it again.I'm so happy with it. I would recommend to my friend. Works great, no problems so far They worked and are beautiful!!! My daughter will love it! Very nicely packaged.Bought a lot of things are very satisfied.Very good seller! really solid product

You don't need a lot of background in architecture to appreciate this wonderful book. Professor Schoenauer, who was emeritus professor of architecture at McGill University until his death in 2001, takes us on a guided tour of a huge number of different housing styles over a great expanse of time and in highly varied cultural contexts. He really makes you feel as if he has personally inspected all of the places he describes (though it hardly seems possible that anyone could have) and he does this without overburdening his reader with too many technical terms or requiring us to have a very profound understanding of why houses stand up. Perhaps what really makes the book alive is the author's own drawings--something like more than 500 line drawings of floor plans, cross-sections, elevation views, city plans, etc, etc, etc.The book is divided into three major sections: The Pre-Urban House, the Oriental Urban House, and the Occidental Urban House. The first section divides housing into types by socio-economic/cultural organization which the author suggests is more or less evolutionary (though these types may be found simultaneously though distributed in space). The second section examines a very long span of time (but including in some cases the present) with detailed discussions of typical house designs in various periods in Egypt, Greece, Rome, India, China, and Islamic cultures. The final section is an historical treatment of developments in the West: the Dark Ages, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the 19th century, and the 20th century are all treated in turn.Now something about the style of the book. At first, I was a bit distracted by Professor Shoenauer's digressions on culture, anthropology, historical sidelights, etc., but after a bit I started looking forward to these as much as learning about the buildings themselves. Admittedly, he doesn't always use the most recent or varied sources for his historical treatments (for instance, his sections on the dissolution of the Roman Empire could, in my opinion, be improved). And yet, by buying this book you are obviously reading someone's life work--and life passion--someone who is really overflowing with ideas, committment, scholarship, and who has an incredibly detailed and varied knowledge of his subject.

This fascinating book presents the history of housing from huts to neo-traditional buildings of the 1990's. Though the architectural point of view dominates, there are ample references to anthropology, sociology and general history. The author's passion and intimate knowledge of the topic transpire throughout. The work is generously illustrated, entirely with the author's own sketches. In particular, it is chock-full with floor plans of the buildings discussed, what makes it even more interesting. Though often more descriptive than analytical, this book is highly recommended to anyone interested in the evolution of our built environment.

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