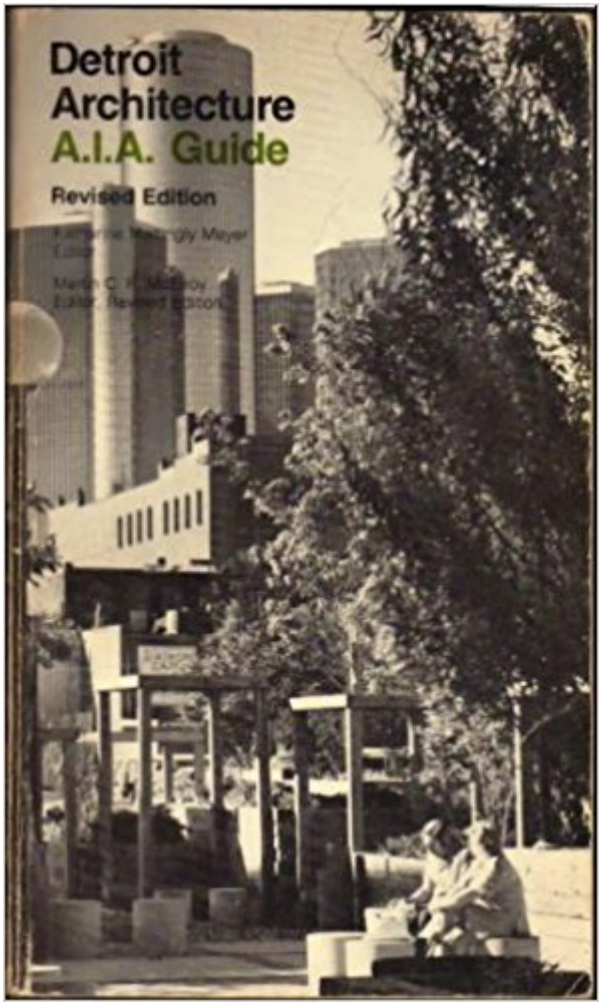
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Detroit Architecture : A.I.A Guide (American Institute Of Architects Guide Series)



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Synopsis

With its sleek look and easy-to-use layout, this completely new guide to Detroit architecture provides a fresh, in-depth look at the city of Detroit itself as well as a number of distinctive environments outside the city proper. Its 369 entries and more than 400 photographs-many by renowned architectural photographer Balthazar Korab, who served as principal photographer for the project--show off Detroit's significant architectural history. Like its predecessor, Detroit Architecture: AIA Guide, also published by Wayne State University Press (1971 and 1980), AIA Detroit is an authoritative yet highly readable account of a wide range of structures and urban spaces. It features a host of buildings-two-thirds of which are listed on local, state, and/or national registers of historical buildings-and also recognizes a handful of bridges, monuments, fountains, parks, cemeteries, neighborhoods, and specialty districts that are architecturally and stylistically notable. Organized as a series of walking (or driving) tours beginning with the Downtown area, the guide moves north, west, and east to explore the city's many districts and neighborhoods, and then takes a look at the special environments of the Grosse Pointe Lakeshore, the Cranbrook educational community, the GM Technical Center, and Ford's Dearborn. Photographs of each site and numerous useful maps throughout help readers visualize the locales. AIA Detroit serves as a much-needed tool in uncovering and navigating the city's rich architectural heritage for citizens, tourists, and architecture students alike.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A beautifully designed resource that takes readers on a tour of greater Detroit's many architectural

wonders and special landmarks.

Eric J. Hill, a Detroit-based architect, is Director of Urban Design and Planning with Albert Kahn Associates and adjunct Professor of Architecture at the University Of Michigan. John Gallagher is a staff writer for the Detroit Free Press. He has also written for Architectural Record, Inland Architect, and many other publications.

This was the standard architecture guide for Detroit from the time it was first published in 1971 until it was eventually replaced with a new AIA publication (by Hill and Gallagher) in 2003.Both are AIA-sponsored, and organized in standard AIA format. Each entry includes a small monochrome photograph and a brief descriptive essay. Even though the photographs are mostly stock and borrowed from other sources, many are good oblique shots that give you a good feeling for the featured structure.While the new book is more highly concentrated on the center city, this book has more breadth of coverage. It covers the entire city limits, suburbs and includes an excursion to Ann Arbor. Though the coverage is broad, it is not deep. Many HUGE regions of the city are represented by only a few sites, and more than a few of the structures included in this book are no longer standing.This book is the revised edition published in 1980, and the building selection certainly reflects what was considered in vogue during that time. The authors exhibit a definite tendency to heap praise on any (and all) forms of modernism while dismissing traditional forms. Just to prove how fickle these "movements" can be, the new AIA guide (from 2003) includes almost NONE of the "space-age" modernism featured so prominently here. If you like modernism, you'll like this little book.This is a good companion volume to the 2003 AIA Guide, as there isn't too much overlap.

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