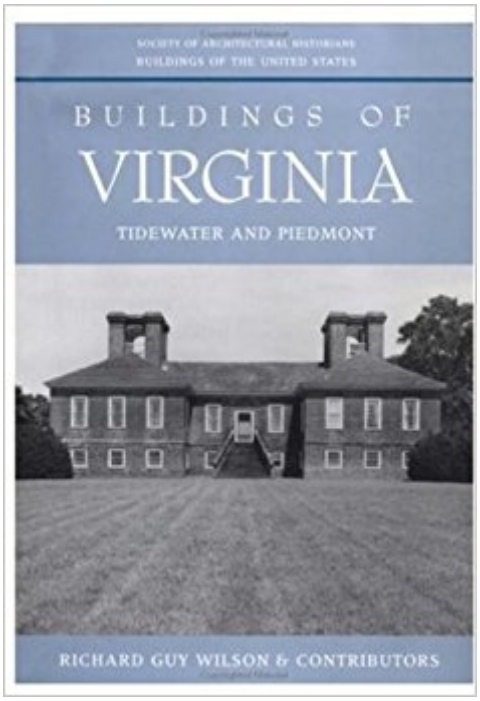
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Buildings Of Virginia: Tidewater And Piedmont (Buildings Of The United States) (Vol 1)



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Synopsis

Old Dominion’s built environment has grown and changed extensively since its beginnings and the Buildings of Virginia reflects those changes. The book chronicles Williamsburg, a restored eighteenth-century town with the Governor’s Palace and the Christopher Wren building. And journeys farther west to Richmond, the state capitol, designed by Thomas Jefferson. It then captures the many historical sites including the birthplaces of George Washington and Robert E. Lee in Westmoreland County. Along with this, the chapters delve into the agricultural history of the state, the expansion of the railroad, and construction of deepwater facilities. And, finally, to the times during and after World War II when manufacturing, military activities, and the growth of the federal establishment accelerated the trends toward industrialization and urbanization. Virginia’s influences are truly far reaching--virtually every American city shares some of its architectural style. Approximately 800 buildings and 450 photographs and maps are included in this volume’s discussion, truly exhibiting the range of architecture that make up this region. Written by the voice behind A&E’s America’s Castles, this book is an ideal source for research in architectural history and sociology. Travelers and general readers can also utilize the book as a companion to the many fascinating sites throughout eastern Virginia.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The latest volume in the award-winning Buildings of the United States series discusses approximately 800 buildings and has more than 450 photographs and maps. Previous volumes in

the series cover Alaska (1993), Colorado (1997), the District of Columbia (1993), Iowa (1993), Michigan (1993) and Nevada (2000). RBBCopyright Ã Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved

"Delves into not just the architectural history of the region but, along the way, examines how the architecture of a city reflects a changing social fabric."--Charlottesville Weekly"A masterful work....A model of its kind."--American Studies International

What you get here is the architecture of Virginia and the expertise (and lovely writing style) of Richard Guy Wilson. Really, what else could you ask for? The ensemble of structures covered here is diverse and distinguished. The critical skill of the author is unmatched. As far as architectural guides to historic structures go, this is about as good as they get. A truly outstanding ensemble of historic structures skillfully analyzed by THE authority in this particular field. I only wish he'd gone further west. Winchester! Lexington! Roanoke and Lynchburg! Abingdon! And of course, little Fincastle. There's so much left to be done!Note, added 12/17/13: The second volume of Buildings of Virginia is forthcoming from the University of Virginia Press.Three cheers for the comprehensive survey of Richmond, a gem of historic architecture. Really, this book offers the best survey of Richmond's incredible building stock than any book yet published. The sections for Norfolk and Portsmouth are also eye-openers. I never realized that Portsmouth has a beautifully restored old town until I discovered it while browsing this book.Anyone familiar with AIA format, or the format of other guides in this series knows that the book is arranged in chapters by county. Major cities get extensive treatment with many entries, but smaller towns are handled with a short narrative description rather than specific sites. The sites are selectively chosen, since it would be impossible to compile an entirely comprehensive survey of the area studied. While selective, the buildings are certainly representative, and the author has done an excellent job of including sites of particular historical or cultural significance. About half the entries include a small black & white photograph.I don't agree with the author's dismissal of Williamsburg as little more than a recreated theme park, and I wish he'd have covered Williamsburg more thoroughly.

This is yet one more excellent volume in the Buildings of America series. This volume is up to the high standards set in the other volumes of the series and provides a superb overview of the architecture of the eastern portion of Virginia.

Excellent overview of a wide variety of historic structures across Virginia with accompanying background on stylistic characteristics.

The jacket was a little more worn than I expected.

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