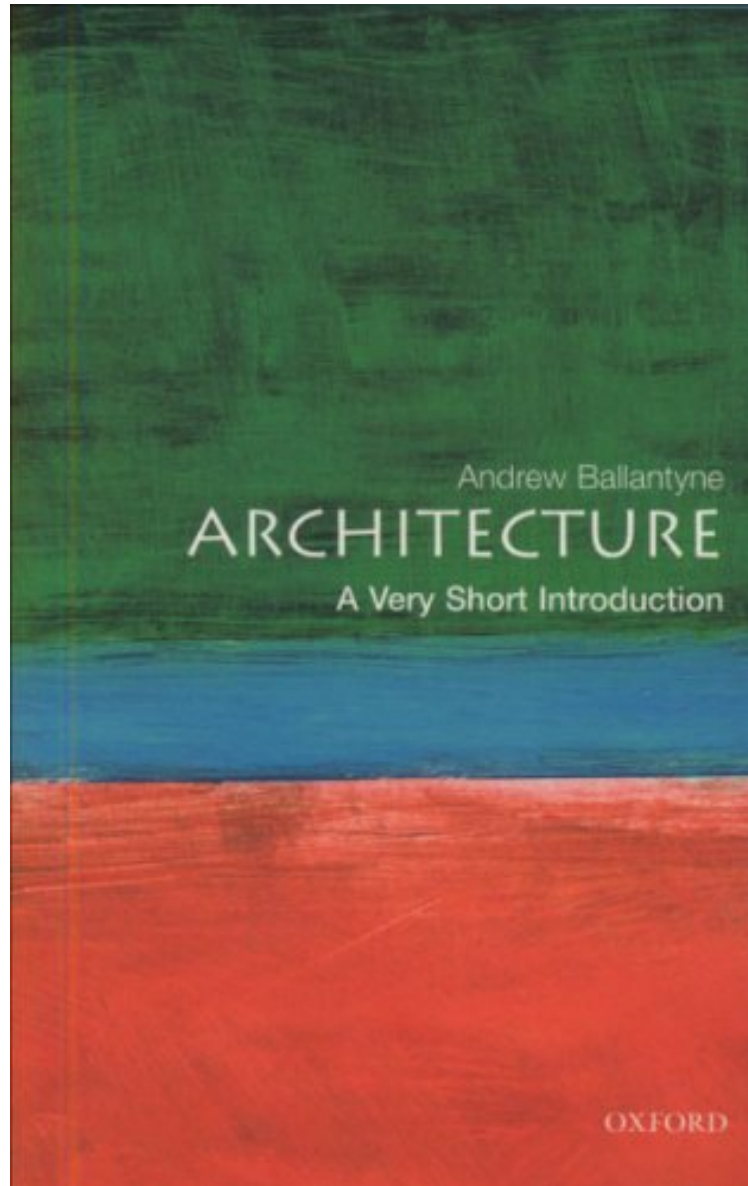


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## Architecture: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)

*Andrew Ballantyne*

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**Andrew Ballantyne : Architecture: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Architecture: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What You Might Expect--An IntroductionBy Charlotte LenoxWhile this guide doesn't offer much space to discuss such a broad topic, what is presented provides ideas for further reading. Little description is given for terms such as Baroque, Gothic, Rococo, Classicism, etc., which is a shame, but this book

does cover such "classic" works of architecture such as Falling Water, the Pantheon, the Parthenon, and others, and each is used to illustrate a point about architecture. The author spends quite a bit more time on what buildings mean, and how that meaning changes depending on the time period, culture, and individual perspective. Overall, I would recommend this book to someone looking for a very basic understanding of architecture, but if you are looking for something more detailed, I'd suggest looking elsewhere. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. building a foundation By troyesffigy Indeed a very short introduction but what it lacks in length it makes up for in concentrated doses of knowledge. As someone who is completely unschooled in the architectural domain, I found this book very satisfying. Thanks to this book, I believe I will pursue other books on the subject. At the end of the book, there is a nice 'further reading' section with blurbs of other books related to buildings and architecture. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Very Disappointing By Customer I had high hopes for this book. While the author meant well, the book is very poorly written, and its message unclear. It seemed as though the author did not have a firm grasp of the subject. "A Very Short Introduction" was hardly an introduction at all. The book took major detours into advanced (advanced for me) subject matter that I wondered if the author himself understood. I'm probably more confused now about architecture than I was before reading the book. I did not complete the book. I got half way through it and simply could not endure any more. Unfortunately for me, I did not heed some of the bad reviews for this book. I will not be so careless next time. Fortunately, there are far better books available.

This highly original and sophisticated look at architecture helps us to understand the cultural significance of the buildings that surround us. It avoids the traditional style-spotting approach in favour of giving an idea of what it is about buildings that moves us, and what it is that makes them important artistically and culturally. The book begins by looking at how architecture acquires meaning through tradition, and concludes with the exoticism of the recent avant-garde. Illustrations of particular buildings help to anchor the general points with specific examples, from ancient Egypt to the present day. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.