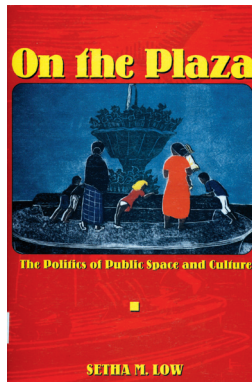


**Setha Low**

*On the Plaza* (F1410.L69)  
*Behind the Gates* (HT169.59.  
 U6L69)



**Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk (1950–)**

*Towns and Town-making  
 Principles* (NA9051.D8 1992)  
*Suburban Nation: the Rise  
 of Sprawl and the Decline of  
 the American Dream* (HT384.  
 U5D83)

**Catherine Bauer Wurster (1905–1964)**

*Modern Housing* (NA7550.B3)

**environmental impact**

**Rachel Carson (1907–1964)**

*Silent Spring* (QH545.P4C38)  
*The Sea Around Us* (GC21.C3)  
*Lost Woods: the Discovered Writing of Rachel Carson*  
 (QH81.C3546)

**Elizabeth K. Meyer**

“The Expanded Field of Landscape Architecture” from:  
*Theory in Landscape Architecture: A Reader* (SB472.T44)  
 “Post-Earth Day Conundrum: Translating  
 Environmental Values into Landscape Design” from:  
*Environmentalism in Landscape Architecture*  
 (SB470.53.E58)

**Anne Whiston Spirn**

*The Granite Garden: Urban Nature and Human De-  
 sign* (HT166.S638)  
*The Language of Landscape* (SB472.S685)  
 “Poetics of City and Nature: Toward a New Aesthetic  
 for Urban Design” from: *Places*, 1989 Fall, v.6, no.1,  
 p.82-93 (HT166.P4)

**May Thielgaard Watts (1893–1975)**

*Reading the Landscape of America* (QK115.W37)

**Further reading**

**Berkeley, Ellen Perry, ed.** *Architecture: A Place for  
 Women*. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution  
 Press, 1989.

**Cole, Doris.** *From Tipi to Skyscraper: A History of  
 Women in Architecture*. Boston: i press; distributed by  
 G. Braziller, New York, 1973.

**Favro, Diane.** “Women Write: The Shaping of  
 American Architecture by Female Authors.”  
*Architecture California* v.18, n.2 (1996-1997): 40-51.

**Norwood, Vera.** *Made From This Earth: American  
 Women and Nature*. Chapel Hill: University of North  
 Carolina Press, 1993.

**Oldershaw, Barbara.** “Developing a Feminist Critique  
 of Architecture.” *Design Book Review* n.25 (1992): 7-15.

**Sherman, Claire Richter, ed.** *Women as Interpreters of  
 the Visual Arts. 1820-1979* Westport, Conn.: Greenwood  
 Press, 1981.

**Torre, Susana, ed.** *Women in American Architecture:  
 A Historic and Contemporary Perspective*. New York:  
 Whitney Library of Design, 1977.

**Van Slyck, Abigail A.** “Women in Architecture and  
 the Problem of Biography.” *Design Book Review* n.25  
 (1992): 19-22.

**Wright, Gwendolyn.** “On the Fringe of the Profession:  
 Women in American Architecture.” In *The Architect:  
 Chapters in the History of the Profession*, edited by  
 Spiro Kostoff, 208-308. Berkeley: University of  
 California Press, 2000.

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[www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/architecture.html](http://www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/architecture.html)

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 and Landscape Architecture Library  
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 Aug. 27–Dec. 31, 2010

write women:  
 an exhibit highlighting women writers who have influenced the design professions



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## About the exhibit

Historically denied opportunities to become architects and landscape architects, women have often influenced both professions through their writing. Along with their domestic duties, writing and art were considered acceptable areas of expertise for women and were integral parts of a proper education for a young woman in nineteenth century America. A result, perhaps unexpected, of this allowance, was that women began to not only write but also be published. Two common early themes were historical criticism of the arts and the proper management and design of the home with authors such as Mariana Van Rensselaer and Catharine Beecher attaining widespread acceptance.

With the rise of the women's suffrage movement at the turn of the twentieth century, writers such as Charlotte Perkins Gilman began to focus on issues such as how the ideas of femininity are reflected in urban and housing design. Jane Addams began addressing the role women should take in urban reform, a role that later authors such as Catherine Bauer and Jane Jacobs would eagerly embrace.

Women would prove to be at the forefront of the environmental movement with writers such as Rachel Carson and May Thielgaard Watts, whose writings led to the restrictions of industrial chemicals and the establishment of the Rails to Trails program. The tradition of women writers continues today with authors such as Beatriz Colomina, Dana Cuff, and Setha Low.

For this exhibit, we have assembled some of the more prominent women writers who have influenced the design professions in the following areas:

- **feminist space**
- **historical criticism**
- **urban design**
- **environmental impact**

## Selected publications

available at Penn State University Libraries  
[www.libraries.psu.edu](http://www.libraries.psu.edu)

### feminist space

#### Jane Addams (1860–1935)

*Twenty Years at Hull-House* (HV4196.C4H7)

*The Second Twenty Years at Hull-House* (HV4196.C4H72)

*Jane Addams: A Centennial Reader* (308.1Ad21j)

#### Catharine Beecher (1800–1878)

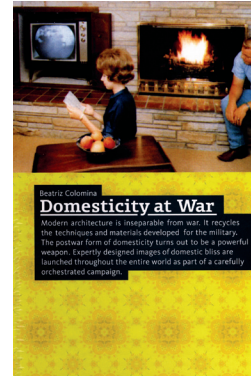
*The American Woman's Home* (TX145.B4)

#### Beatriz Colomina

*Domesticity at War* (NA7208.C589)

*Privacy and Publicity* (NA2543.M37C65)

*The Split Wall: Domestic Voyeurism in Sexuality and Space* (NX650.S8S48)



#### Charlotte Perkins Gilman (1860–1935)

*The Home: Its Work and Influence* (HQ734.G5)

*Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Utopian Novels* (PS1744.G57A6)

*Charlotte Perkins Gilman: a Nonfiction Reader* (HQ1413.G54A3)

### historical criticism

#### Dana Cuff (1953– )

*Architecture: The Story of Practice* (NA1996.C84)

*The Provisional City: Los Angeles Stories of Architecture and Urbanism* (NA7238.L6C84)

#### Ada Louise Huxtable (1921– )

*On Architecture* (NA680.H89)

*Goodbye History, Hello Hamburger* (NA705.H89)

*Kicked a Building Lately?* (NA2563.H88)

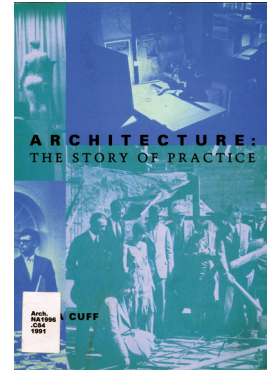
#### Mary McCarthy (1912–1989)

*The Stones of Florence*

(N6921.F7M28)

*Venice Observed*

(DG674.M14 Q)



#### Louisa C. Tuthill

(1799–1879)

*History of Architecture from the Earliest Times* (NA200.T8)

#### Mariana Griswold Van Rensselaer (1851–1934)

*Accents as Well as Broad Effects: Writings on Architecture, Landscape, and the Environment, 1876–1925* (NA2599.8.V36 A5)

*Henry Hobson Richardson and His Works* (NA737.R5V3)

### urban design

#### Denise Scott Brown (1931– )

*Learning from Las Vegas* (NA735.L3V4)

“Room at the Top? Sexism and the Star System in Architecture” from: *Architecture: a Place for Women* (NA1997.A74)

*Urban Concepts* (NA9085.B76A35)

#### Jane Jacobs (1918–2006)

*The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (NA9108.J3)

*Cities and the Wealth of Nations: Principles of Economic Life* (HT321.J319)

#### Dolores Hayden (1950– )

*Power of Place: Urban Landscape as Public History* (F8693.L857 H39)

*Redesigning the American Dream: the Future of Housing, Work, and Family Life* (HD7293.H39)

#### Theodora Kimball Hubbard (1887–1935)

*Our Cities To-day and To-morrow: a Survey of Planning and Zoning Progress in the United States* (NA9105.H83 and HT167.H8)

*An Introduction to the Study of Landscape Design* (SB472.H8)