Further reading


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**write women**

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)

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 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)
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
wwwlibraries.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)
Urban Concepts (NA9085.B76A35)

Jane Jacobs (1918–2006)
The Death and Life of Great American Cities (NA9108.J3)

Dolores Hayden (1950–)
Power of Place: Urban Landscape as Public History (F8693.L85 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)