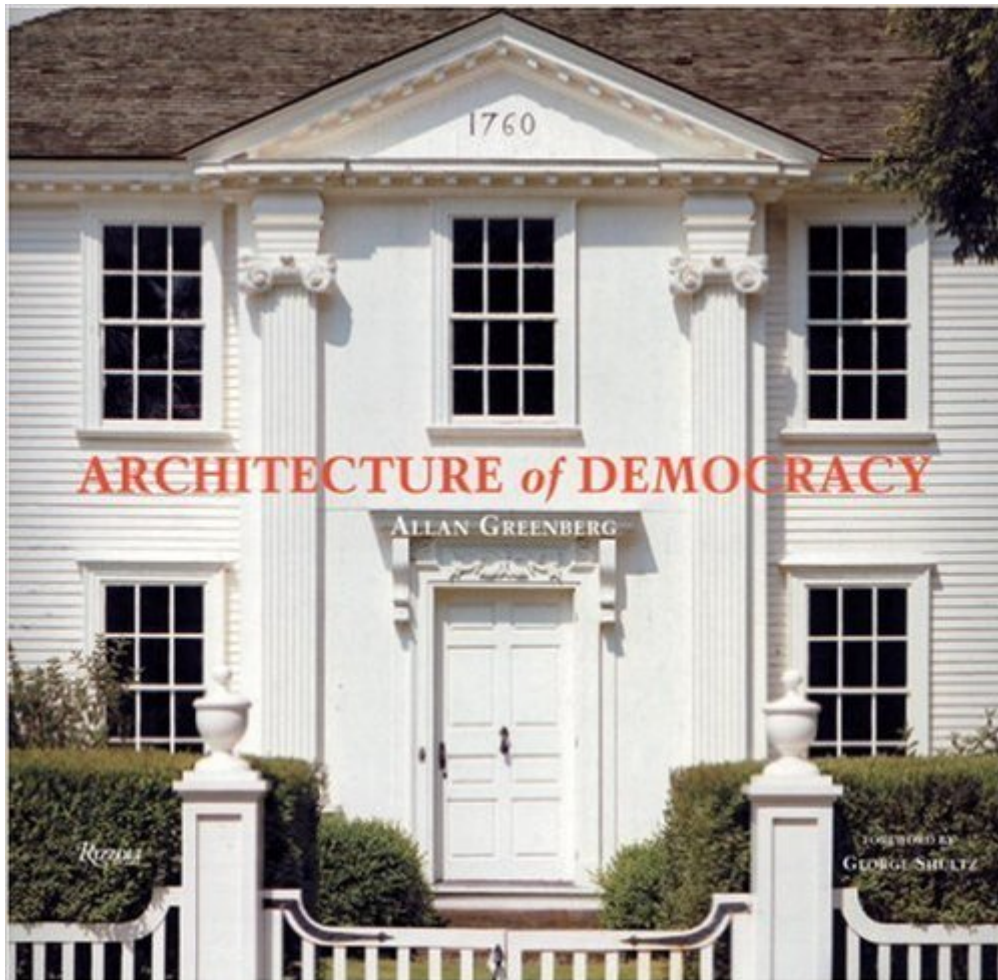


The book was found

# Architecture Of Democracy



## Synopsis

Centered on his intriguing synthesis of the American republic's architectural and democratic traditions, Allan Greenberg's essay moves across geography and through history as the renowned architect and scholar makes the case that America's architectural tradition and political ideals are deeply connected. At the core of the American democratic architectural tradition is the modest, single-family house, which gave rise to the statehouse, the courthouse, the firehouse, the schoolhouse, the jailhouse, and the President's house (as it was known before it became the White House). Generously illustrated and skillfully written, *Architecture of Democracy* traces a common line from the earliest colonial settlements to the Western frontier of the nineteenth century and today's ultramodern city centers. The volume will imbue in its readers a newfound appreciation for the democratic ideals that American architecture strives to express and uphold.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Mr. Greenberg says: 'Although they may be difficult to read, buildings tell stories through their form, symbolic content, and relationship to the surrounding city.' In this book he uses an eclectic set of photographs of buildings that in his mind help to define the American democratic experience. These pictures vary from simple one room school houses to big ornate Government buildings. The pictures are combined with a description that explains what he sees in the architecture of that building. Mr. Greenberg came to this country in 1964, fleeing the apartheid system in South Africa. Perhaps this has given him an insight that we natives don't have, or perhaps he just sees with an artist's eye what

eludes us. Not all of the buildings shown are American. He brings in foreign designs from time to time to illustrate the points he is making. It's a fascinating book that shows a different side of the art of architecture.

This is a book that will appeal to all, the history buff, the architecture buff, and those interested in how America came to be such a unique country. The photos are simply gorgeous, including scenes of the inside and outside of Mt Vernon and Monticello, and the text is innovative and easy to follow---where else will you find a comparison in the size of George Washington's home at Mt Vernon to the scale of the French court at Versailles and listen to Mr. Greenberg talk about why Pres. Washington felt he was a citizen, not a king? You will also laugh: the book shows the architecture of the Empire State building and comments on all the movies that have been built around it. I bought a number of copies of this book for Christmas presents....

one our most aesthetically sensitive architects. And he is daring!

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