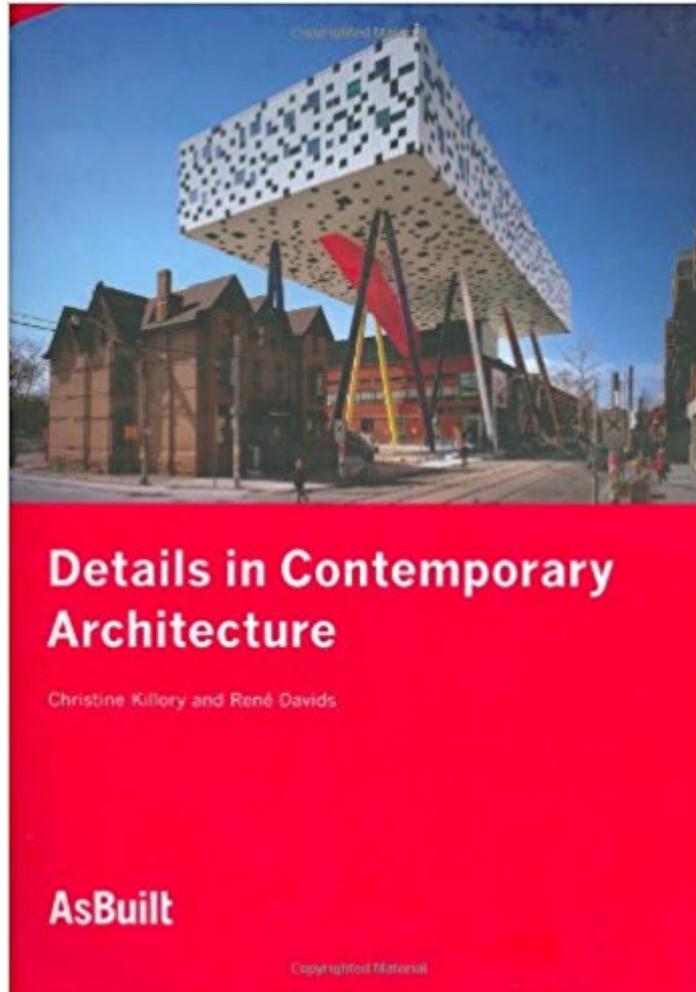


The book was found

# Details In Contemporary Architecture: AsBuilt



## Synopsis

Curious about how Alsop Architects managed to construct that flying, translucent rectangle at the Ontario College of Art and Design? Wonder about the sustainability of the Genzyme Building? The saying "the truth is in the details" reveals an essential quality of architectural design. How a staircase curves, a roof seemingly floats, or a concrete wall illuminates are critical questions for architects looking at or creating new work. You might forgive designers for closely guarding their signature techniques. Fortunately, editors Christine Killory and Ren Davids culled an amazing collection of the best trade secrets in *Details in Contemporary Architecture*. By looking at the best work of the past two years, the book demonstrates how complicated design problems have been handled by architects to achieve beautiful, functional, innovative, sustainable, and, where necessary, economical results. Including work by David Chipperfield, Herzog and de Meuron, Morphosis, ShoP, and many other well-known firms, *Details in Contemporary Architecture* extensively explores the common as well as more exotic architectural detailing (screens and walls, doors and windows, roofs, bridges, and stairs) that so often gets lost in the pages and photographs of the design media. *Details in Contemporary Architecture* is the first volume of a new series entitled *AsBuilt*. *AsBuilt* features details from a representative range of building types and materials of recent built work in America. The series seeks to ground both practice and theory more deeply while fostering a better understanding of the relationships between architectural form and technology.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

AsBuilt is a new series of architecture books being published by Princeton Architectural Press. This is the first book in the series and seems to be the prototype for the concept of the series. This book, and all of the planned books in the series, feature 25 buildings that were actually constructed in the US or Canada. Besides being interesting buildings in their overall design, the author, a practicing architect in her own right, goes beyond the facade to present how the special features of the building were designed/constructed. As the saying goes, 'the Devil is in the details.' And here are the details of these buildings discussed in the open. Many of these feature new construction materials, old materials used in new ways, or merely have designs that go beyond the expected. Ms. Killory has been able to get the architects involved to share their newest developments, right down to including the engineering drawings of particularly difficult parts of the structure. This book goes beyond the normal 'idea book' to give you the how as well. And showing only 'AsBuilt' buildings, here are buildings not just concepts on paper.

I buy architecture books within a somewhat narrow focus. It should be a publication that can't be, wouldn't be, duplicated on the web (so, excellent quality, big illustrations one wants to pore over and compare a few pages back with some other big illustration) and helpful to the actual practice of architecture. Inspiration and theory will be supplied through the explication of structure, materials, fulfillment of program as well as any ephemeral qualities of beauty. While this book supplies a bit of each of the above, it is not deep enough to win a big "wow." The projects have all been published in many magazines, so no surprises there. The hardcore information is cursory. Still, for a quick consult it is better than many surveys and the projects are juicy (that's why they got published in the first place.) Question to Princeton Architectural Press: would it kill you to include an index or some appendices? [The best references for contemporary details remain... Detail magazines and books, even if the text takes some vigilance to filter the Germ-glish, actually charming, commentary and captions.]

It is a great book and it arrived very quickly. Great!

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