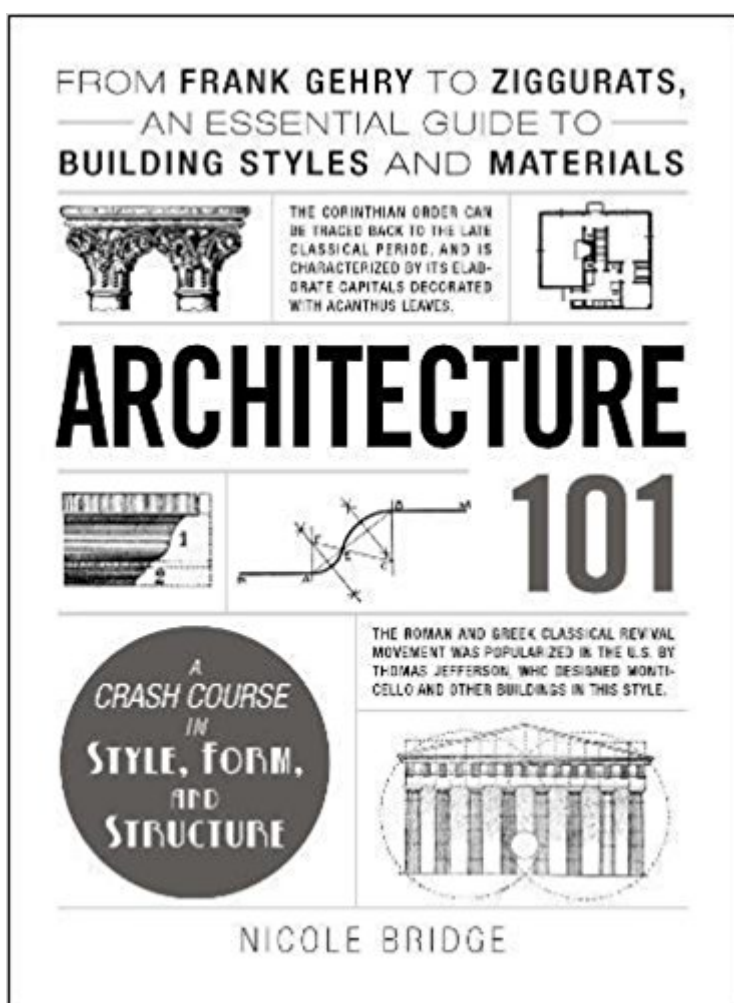


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# Architecture 101: From Frank Gehry To Ziggurats, An Essential Guide To Building Styles And Materials (Adams 101)



## Synopsis

A crash course in designing and constructing buildings Too often, textbooks turn the noteworthy details of architecture into tedious discourse that would put even Frank Gehry to sleep. Architecture 101 cuts out the boring explanations, and instead provides a hands-on lesson that keeps you engaged as you explore the world's greatest structures. Featuring only the most important facts, building styles, and architects, you'll enjoy uncovering the remarkable world of architecture with this book. Inside, you'll also find fascinating elements like: Illustrations of popular building styles, such as Georgian and Greek Revival Drawings of the essential parts of different buildings Unique profiles of the most inspirational figures in architecture From Norman Foster and Frank Lloyd Wright to the Beauvais Cathedral and the Empire State Building, Architecture 101 is packed with hundreds of entertaining architecture tidbits that you can't get anywhere else!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Nicole Bridge is a freelance writer and editor who lives outside Philadelphia with her husband and three children.

When I got the book, I was first taken aback by how small it was and how short some of the items were. (Sometimes, a page is just a sentence long). But then I discovered that this is the strength of

this book. To paraphrase Mark Twain: Someone sat down to write a shorter book. You can read through this quickly in on sitting, or just take a look at a topic at a time, taking just a few seconds. In terms of learning value and "bang for the buck", it's probably the best value you will ever see.

This book was a gift, requested by my 13 year old, honor student Granddaughter. She was very pleased.

Great book; smaller than I expected. Really want a glossary for architecture terms, but overall I think it's a great book!

NICE

..which, unfortunately I did. The cover contains some line drawings which suggested to me that the text would contain labeled diagrams and illustrations, hopefully explaining, or at least identifying the various parts of buildings. Nope. The cover and the sample pages, particularly the labeled Mycenaean megaron floor plan on on page 33, led me to expect a book containing informative text expanded by detailed drawings. I expected, for example, a line drawing of a Greek temple, containing labels to call out "plinth", "pediment", "frieze", "fascia" et cetera, and maybe a bit explaining how New England farmhouses were "Greek Revival in style. No help here just a stock photo of the Parthenon. There IS a vague description of Corinthian, Ionic, and Doric orders, but on the following page, there is an unlabeled drawing of the three types, un-helpfully arranged in the OPPOSITE ORDER from the descriptions in the text. At the very least the descriptions could have been contained in captions beneath each of the drawings. The book has a section on skyscrapers that details Mrs. O'Leary's pyromaniacal bovine, but merely mentions the names of a few skyscrapers, leaving unmentioned the seminal changes in society that made them necessary, the advances in building technology that made them possible, or the cavernous city centers they created. The other 51 sections are similarly superficial. I thought this would be a good introduction to architecture for middle school kids, but it is more like a collection of required essays on architecture written BY middle school kids on the last day of Spring Break. At least the grammar, spelling, and punctuation are workmanlike, but the Harbrace College Manual is probably a more gripping read.

The book arrived as described within the stated timeframe. Impressed!

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