Booklist and Reader’s Advisory, July 2020

Recently published architectural books and related works, selected by Barbara Opar, architecture librarian, Syracuse University Library.

NOTE: Links to purchasing information generally taken from amazon.com. Amazon will donate .5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the Society of Architectural Historians whenever you shop on AmazonSmile using this link.

Reader’s Advisory

In support of Racial Justice – Art and Architecture Librarians and Archivists respond

The Association of Architecture School Librarians stands in solidarity with all who condemn systemic racism and violence against Black people in the United States. Black Lives Matter. The study of architecture, architectural history, and the practice of architectural librarianship has historically been disproportionately white. That needs to change. We believe that racism hurts everybody, including our community, and that every organization must act against racial injustice. AASL remains steadfast in our commitment to positive change and to working within architecture schools and libraries to increase representation and equality for all. We remain dedicated to being a library association that is intentional in its embrace of equity, commitment to an inclusive environment, and making AASL as diverse as the nation we serve. AASL condemns and stands against all forms of hate, racism, police brutality, or intolerance of any kind. We pledge to support and inform our faculty, students, and the public about racial justice in the built environment.

The Executive Board of the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) adds its voice to the associations condemning racism and violence against Black people as well as the acts of police brutality that took the lives of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade, and too many others. Black Lives Matter. To be silent in the face of injustice is to be complicit.

We acknowledge the pain of our Black colleagues, members, and library users who experience prejudice and injustice, oppression, and violence, and we stand in solidarity with them. We recognize that they are working in times of extraordinary stress. We endorse the statement made by the Black Caucus of the American Library Association and deeply appreciate their advocacy in pushing libraries forward as well as their call "to take proactive and preventative measures in the fight against racism."

We acknowledge that this statement alone does not resolve long-standing injustices, that honest conversations about racism are difficult, and that art librarianship as well as ARLIS/NA are disproportionately white. These uncomfortable truths, however, will not prevent us from taking corrective action. As an organization, the Art Libraries Society of North America will hold itself
accountable to continue the challenging, but necessary, work ahead: educating and self-educating, disrupting structural racism perpetuated in our institutional systems, and building equity through forums for discussion, policy, and action.

We, the Council of the Society of American Archivists, unanimously condemn harassment and violence against the Black community. As archivists, we learn from history that this country was founded on genocide and slavery. We continue to witness the legacy of this history with systemic and structural racism that lead to marginalization, disenfranchisement, and death. The murder of George Floyd, and countless others, at the hands of the police manifest the continuing atrocities faced by Black Americans today. As a profession, we stand by our community and acknowledge, unequivocally, that Black Lives Matter.

During this time of dramatic and traumatic historical significance, the Society of American Archivists remains committed to its core organizational value of social responsibility, including equity and safety for Black archives workers and archives of Black Lives. A truly open, inclusive, and collaborative environment for all members of the Society cannot exist without justice for those affected by anti-Black violence. We acknowledge the trauma Black archives workers face, in particular. The labor of dismantling white supremacy and structural racism in archives, and beyond, does not rest solely upon our Black membership and other people of color. White archivists, who comprise a vast majority of the field, have a responsibility to disavow racism daily in society and in our profession.

As the Council, we are committed to developing and advocating for solutions that contribute to the public good and affirm the importance of Black Lives.[1] Archives workers should follow current guidance on ethical recordkeeping and archiving of social movements during this time of crisis, with special care taken toward the protection and safety of Black Lives amidst anti-Black violence perpetrated by the police. We particularly center Black-led archival documentation efforts and memory-keeping organizations as we continue our collective effort to repair the legacy of structural racism and acts of state-sanctioned violence.

We take action in response to our shared outrage and sorrow from continued attacks on the Black community, including archives workers. We are committed to dismantling structural racism in the interest of a legitimately inclusive profession and to positioning SAA as an organization welcoming of, built by, and led by persons of color. As archivists, we are not neutral in matters of social justice and politics.

The vitality of American archives depends on the safety of archives workers and an explicit commitment to social responsibility, justice, and anti-racism in the work that we do and the organizations we work within. We intend to create and convene a space for constructive discussion toward progressive change in the archival profession and true inclusivity of the archival record, in a profound engagement with our values of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Please be on the lookout for an invitation to join us for a community reflection event in June, followed by an action-oriented forum.

Each of these organizations and their members are also in the process of compiling extensive lists of resources and reading material. Please consult subject librarians at your institutions. Independent scholars should be aware that most of these guides are open access and conveniently posted on library home pages.
Booklist:
Architects


Architecture, Byzantine


Architecture – China


Architecture – The Netherlands


Architecture – United States


Architectural Design


**Architectural Education**


**Architectural Theory**


**Architecture and Society**


**Art and Architecture**


**Building Types**


**Landscape Architecture**


**Masterworks**


**Sustainability:**


**Urban Design:**


**Women in Architecture:**