Recent Architecture - March 2017

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Ultra-Modernism: Architecture and Modernity in Manchuria / Edward Denison and

Guangyu Ren

Hong Kong University Press, Hongkong 2016

160p.; 41 b&w illus. 23cm.

9789888390502 \$ 45.00 / HB 374 gm.

The first half of the twentieth century was fraught with global tensions and political machinations. However, for all the destruction in that period, these geopolitical conditions in Manchuria cultivated an extraordinary variety of architecture and urban planning, which has completely escaped international attention until now. With over forty carefully chosen images, Ultra-Modernism: Architecture and Modernity in Manchuria is the first book in English that illustrates Manchuria's encounter with modernity through its built environment. Edward Denison and Guangyu Ren take readers through Russia's early territorial claims, Japan's construction of the South Manchuria Railway (SMR), and the establishment of Manchukuo in 1932. The book examines in detail the creation of modern cities along the SMR and focuses on three of the most important modern urban centres in Manchuria: the Russian-dominated city of Harbin, the port of Dalian, and the new capital of Manchukuo, Hsinking (Changchun).

Like so much of the world outside 'the West' during the twentieth century, Manchuria's encounter with modernity is merely a faint whisper drowned out by the deafening master narrative of Western-centric modernism. This book attempts to redress an imbalance in the modern history of China by studying the impact of Japan on architecture and planning beyond the depredations of the Sino -Japanese War

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Lahore: History and Architecture of Mughal Monuments / Anjum Rehmani

Oxford University Press, Karachi 2016

xix, 500p. Includes Index 9780199066094 \$ 100.00 / HB 1630 gm. The city of Lahore, one of the seats of the Mughal Empire, is regarded as the cultural centre of Pakistan and is famous for its many old monuments. However, the informed visitor or student has long felt the absence of a reliable volume on its architecture. Dr Rahmani's book resolves that issue. Diligently researched, it deals with the history and architecture of old monuments in Lahore, especially of the Mughal period., The topic is rich in terms of the variety of building types and the book covers a period of several centuries. The study has been organized chronologically, highlighting locations, significance, history, architecture, and the current condition of each monument. It also discusses the architectural and aesthetic influences, both foreign and local, and contains a comprehensive statement of achievements of particular epochs. For determining the architectural merit of specific monuments, a comparative approach has been adopted. At the end of the book, there is a chapter pertaining to analytical study of monuments in a historical perspective. The old theories regarding origin and nomenclature have been updated in the light of fresh research. The study, based on 33 years of personal observation by the author, also utilizes both published and unpublished sources, and official records.

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La Plantation / Yvon Chalm Different Publishers, Cambodia 2016 96p. 9789924911104 \$ 24.00 / PB 174 gm.

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Alternate Moderns: The Half-timbered Architecture of HSH Prince Vodhyakara Varavarn in Thailand, 1930s-1950s / Chomchon Fusinpaiboon (Ed) Nepal Asatthawasi

Department of $\mbox{ Architecture }$, Faculty of Architecture, Chulalongkorn University 2016

166p. Includes Bibliography 9786164070325 \$ 20.00 / PB 222 gm.

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Dimensions of Masjid Architecture: Perspectives and Writing in Theory and Design / (Eds) Norwina Mohd Nawawi, Shireen Jahnkassim & Mansor Ibrahim Strategic Information Kulliyah of Architecture and Environmental Design (KAED), Malaysia 2016 xxxiii, 273p. Includes Index 9789833142330 \$ 75.00 / PB 962 gm.

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