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Architecture & Design versus Consumerism

how design activism
confronts growth



ANN THORPE

Architecture Design Versus Consumerism Architecture Design Versus Consumerism

**Adrian Smith, Mariano Fressoli, Dinesh
Abrol, Elisa Arond, Adrian Ely**



Architecture Design Versus Consumerism Architecture Design Versus Consumerism:

Architecture & Design versus Consumerism Ann Thorpe, 2012-06-14 The mentality that consumerism and economic growth are cure alls is one of the biggest obstacles to real sustainability but any change seems impossible unthinkable Our contemporary paradox finds us relying for our well being on consumer driven economic growth that we actually can't afford not in environmental economic or social terms Although architecture and design have long been seen as engines for consumerism and growth increasing numbers of designers are concerned about the problems resulting from growth But designers face a paradox of their own in scenarios of sustainable consumption where people consume or build significantly less what will be left for designers to do This book informed by recent research into the viability of a steady state economy sets an agenda for addressing the designer's paradox of sustainable consumption The agenda includes ways that architecture and design can help transition us towards a new kind of economy that prioritizes real wellbeing rather than economic growth Packed with examples and illustrations the book argues that taking action or activism is an important but so far underexplored way for architects and designers to confront consumerism The first chapters explore how economic growth and consumerism shape and are shaped by the professions of architecture product and landscape design and how we can understand the problem of consumerism as four main challenges that designers are already addressing The book maps out the main issues surrounding the development of metrics that designers and others can use to measure wellbeing instead of simply measuring economic growth The second half of the book looks at how design activism works and its connection to growth and consumerist issues These chapters examine how activist practices are financed highlight five specific methods that designers use in working for social change and investigate the power of these methods The book concludes with a consideration of what design's role might be in a post growth society

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Architecture Theory Reader Gregory Marinic,2018-01-17 The Interior Architecture Theory Reader presents a global compilation that collectively and specifically defines interior architecture Diverse views and comparative resources for interior architecture students educators scholars and practitioners are needed to develop a proper canon for this young discipline As a theoretical survey of interior architecture the book examines theory history and production to embrace a full range of interior identities in architecture interior design digital fabrication and spatial installation Authored by leading educators theorists and practitioners fifty chapters refine and expand the discourse surrounding interior architecture

Questioning Architectural Judgment Steven A. Moore,Barbara B. Wilson,2013-07-24 The book shines light on the problem of judgment particularly in the realm of architectural technics and the codes that regulate it The struggle to define sustainability and thus judge architecture through such lenses is but one dimension of the contemporary problem of judgment By providing the reader with an inherently interdisciplinary study of a particular discipline architecture it brings to the topic lenses that challenge the too frequently unexamined assumptions of the discipline By situating architecture within a broader cultural field and using case studies to dissect the issues discussed the book emphasizes that it is not simply a matter of designing better more efficient or more stringent codes to guide place making but a matter of reconstructing the boundaries of the systems to be coded The authors are winners of the EDRA Place Research Award 2014 for their work on the Green Alley Demonstration Project used in the book **Grassroots Innovation Movements** Adrian Smith,Mariano Fressoli,Dinesh Abrol,Elisa Arond,Adrian Ely,2016-08-25 Innovation is increasingly invoked by policy elites and business leaders as vital for tackling global challenges like sustainable development Often overlooked however is the fact that networks of community groups activists and researchers have been innovating grassroots solutions for social justice and environmental sustainability for decades Unencumbered by disciplinary boundaries policy silos or institutional logics these grassroots innovation movements identify issues and questions neglected by formal science technology and innovation

Grassroots Innovation Movements Adrian Smith,Mariano Fressoli,Dinesh Abrol,Elisa Arond,Adrian Ely,2016-08-25 Innovation is increasingly invoked by policy elites and business leaders as vital for tackling global challenges like sustainable development Often overlooked however is the fact that networks of community groups activists and researchers have been innovating grassroots solutions for social justice and environmental sustainability for decades Unencumbered by disciplinary boundaries policy silos or institutional logics these grassroots innovation movements identify issues and questions neglected by formal science technology and innovation

organizations Grassroots solutions arise in unconventional settings through unusual combinations of people ideas and tools This book examines six diverse grassroots innovation movements in India South America and Europe situating them in their particular dynamic historical contexts Analysis explains why each movement frames innovation and development differently resulting in a variety of strategies The book explores the spaces where each of these movements have grown or attempted to do so It critically examines the pathways they have developed for grassroots innovation and the challenges and limitations confronting their approaches With mounting pressure for social justice in an increasingly unequal world policy makers are exploring how to foster more inclusive innovation In this context grassroots experiences take on added significance This book provides timely and relevant ideas analysis and recommendations for activists policy makers students and scholars interested in encounters between innovation development and social movements *The Politics of Green Transformations* Ian

Scoones, Melissa Leach, Peter Newell, 2015-01-09 Multiple green transformations are required if humanity is to live sustainably on planet Earth Recalling past transformations this book examines what makes the current challenge different and especially urgent It examines how green transformations must take place in the context of the particular moments of capitalist development and in relation to particular alliances The role of the state is emphasised both in terms of the type of incentives required to make green transformations politically feasible and the way states must take a developmental role in financing innovation and technology for green transformations The book also highlights the role of citizens as innovators entrepreneurs green consumers and members of social movements Green transformations must be both top down involving elite alliances between states and business but also bottom up pushed by grassroots innovators and entrepreneurs and part of wider mobilisations among civil society The chapters in the book draw on international examples to emphasise how contexts matter in shaping pathways to sustainability Written by experts in the field this book will be of great interest to researchers and students in environmental studies international relations political science development studies geography and anthropology as well as policymakers and practitioners concerned with sustainability **Low Impact Living** Paul

Chatterton, 2014-08-21 This book is the inspirational story of one project that shows you how you can become involved in building and running your neighbourhood The author co founder of Lilac Low Impact Living Affordable Community along with other members of the community and the project team explains how a group of people got together to build one of the most pioneering ecological affordable cohousing neighbourhoods in the world The book is a story of perseverance vision and passion demonstrating how ordinary people can build their own affordable ecological community The book starts with the clear values that motivated and guided the project s members sustainability co operativism equality social justice and self management It outlines how they were driven by challenges and concerns over the need to respond to climate change and energy scarcity the limits of the business as usual model of pro growth economics and the need to develop resources so that communities can determine and manage their own land and resources The author s story is interspersed with vignettes on

topics such as decision making landscaping finance and design The book summarises academic debates on the key issues that informed the project and gives technical data on energy and land issues as well as practical how to guides on a range of issues such as designing meetings budget planning and community agreements Low Impact Living provides clear and easy to follow advice for community groups practitioners government business and the development sector and is heavily illustrated with drawings and photographs from the architectural team *Public Space/Contested Space* Kevin Murphy, Sally O'Driscoll, 2021-02-15 It is not possible to be alive today in the United States without feeling the influence of the political climate on the spaces where people live work and form communities *Public Space Contested Space* illustrates the ways in which creative interventions in public space have constituted a significant dimension of contemporary political action and how this space can both reflect and spur economic and cultural change Drawing insight from a range of disciplines and fields the essays in this volume assess the effectiveness of protest movements that deploy bodies in urban space and social projects that build communities while also exposing inequalities and presenting new political narratives With sections exploring the built environment artists and activists and public space the book brings together the diverse voices to reveal the complexities and politicization of public space within the United States *Public Space Contested Space* provides a significant contribution to an understudied dimension of contemporary political action and will be a resource to students of urban studies and planning architecture sociology art history and human geography

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