



## Frank Lloyd Wright and The Living City

By David De Long

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Frank Lloyd Wright (1867-1959) is acknowledged as America's greatest architect. By the first decade of the twentieth century he had reexamined all aspects of architecture, pioneering advanced applications of materials, transforming interior space into continuous interwoven areas, and redefining architectural programs for the new democratic society he envisioned. Over the next five decades, while fulfilling specific commissions, he continued to conceive of individual buildings as solutions to general problems. His designs can be grouped into nine typologies according to the basic human functions they were designed to serve: communal work, commerce, worship, learning, the arts, recreation, the community, individual dwelling, and communal dwelling. Near the end of his life, in 1958, Wright published *The Living City*, the final version of his vision of an ideal social order. Indeed, all of his building and projects can be seen, retrospectively, as prototypes and proposals, models for the new, decentralized pattern of living that he offered as a blueprint for the future and from which we have much to learn today.

*Frank Lloyd Wright and the Living City* is an innovative survey of Wright's career focused upon the nine basic building types found in the Living City and pursuing the evolution of each throughout his career. The text and illustrations combine to reveal his lifelong ideal of organic architecture, in which he envisioned each building, its interior, and the furniture and fixtures within it, as well as the surrounding landscape or town. Edited by David G. De Long, the book includes essays by David G. De Long on Wright and his vision of the Living City, by Jean-Louis Cohen on Wright and the European reception of his designs, by David A. Hanks on Wright's decorative arts and their European counterparts, and by J. Michael Desmond, Richard Joncas, and Jack Quinan on the nine typologies. Bruce Brooks Pfeiffer has contributed a biographical outline of the architect's career. The book accompanies a major traveling exhibition organized by the Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein, Germany, with the collaboration of Exhibitions International, New York, and with the cooperation of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation.

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## Frank Lloyd Wright and The Living City By David De Long Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

From the Inside Flap

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The contributors

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**Jean-Louis Cohen** is Professor at the Institut Français d'Urbanisme in Paris and at the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, New York. His publications include *Mies van der Rohe* (1996); *Scenes of the World to Come: European Architecture and the American Challenge 1893-1960* (1995); *André Lurçat (1894-1970)*; *Autocritique d'un moderne* (1995); and *Le Corbusier and the Mystique of the USSR: Theories and Projects for Moscow, 1928-1936* (1992). He was recently appointed by the French Minister of Culture to create a museum of architecture in Paris.

**J. Michael Desmond**, an architect, is Associate Professor in the School of Architecture at Louisiana State University, from which he received his Bachelor of Architecture degree. He holds his Master's degree from Harvard University and Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He has taught at Harvard and Tulane universities, the Rhode Island School of Design, the University of Massachusetts, and the Boston Architectural Center, and has practiced architecture in Louisiana, Massachusetts, and New York.

**David A. Hanks** is Director of Exhibitions International, New York City, and Consulting Curator for the Montreal Museum of Decorative Arts. He has held curatorial positions at the Art Institute of Chicago and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. He received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and from the Graham Foundation to carry out research for *The Decorative Designs of Frank Lloyd Wright*, Dutton, 1979.

**Richard Joncas** teaches and lectures on Frank Lloyd Wright as well as modern American and European architecture. His essay on Wright's Hanna house appeared in the September 1993 issue of the *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*. His dissertation for Stanford University, which he is currently preparing for publication, concerned Wright's later work and its non-rectangular geometry.

**Bruce Brooks Pfeiffer** came to the Taliesin Fellowship as an apprentice to Frank Lloyd Wright in 1949. With the exception of a year he spent in Paris studying at the Ecole Nationale des Beaux-Arts, he has remained with the Fellowship ever since. He is director of The Frank Lloyd Wright Archives, a member of the board of trustees of The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, and the author of nearly forty books on Wright's life and work, notably *Frank Lloyd Wright: The Masterworks* (1993). He lives in Taliesin West, Wright's winter home and studio and the international headquarters of the Wright Foundation, with his Doberman, Geronimo.

**Jack Quinan** is Professor in the School of Architecture at the State University of New York at Buffalo, where he has taught since 1975. He also taught at the University of Rhode Island in 1972-75 and holds his Master's and Ph.D. from Brown University. The curator of Frank Lloyd Wright's Darwin D. Martin house, he is currently completing a book on Wright's relationship with Martin, one of his leading clients. He is the author of *Frank Lloyd Wright's Larkin Building: Myth and Fact* (1987) and numerous articles on the architect.

From the Back Cover

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