

case study houses taschen

Case Study Houses Taschen: A Timeless Tribute to Mid-Century Modern Architecture

case study houses taschen represents more than just a book—it's a gateway into one of the most influential architectural experiments of the 20th century. For enthusiasts of mid-century modern design, architecture students, or simply those curious about innovative residential projects, the Taschen edition on the Case Study Houses offers an in-depth and visually stunning exploration of this iconic program. But what exactly are Case Study Houses, and why does Taschen's publication stand out among the many books on modern architecture? Let's dive into this fascinating subject.

Understanding the Case Study Houses Program

The Case Study Houses program was an ambitious initiative launched in the mid-1940s by Arts & Architecture magazine. Its goal was to design and build affordable, efficient, and modern homes suitable for the post-World War II American family. The idea was to showcase new materials and construction techniques, embracing the ethos of minimalism and functionalism while integrating indoor and outdoor living spaces.

The Vision Behind Case Study Houses

After World War II, America faced a major housing shortage. Architects like Charles and Ray Eames, Richard Neutra, Pierre Koenig, and others were commissioned to reimagine housing by using industrial materials like steel and glass. The resulting homes were lean, open, and utilized innovative techniques to reduce cost and complexity—pioneering ideas that would influence residential architecture for decades.

Why These Houses Matter Today

The Case Study Houses remain relevant as they embody principles of sustainability long before it was a trend. Their emphasis on natural light, ventilation, integration with landscape, and adaptability makes them timeless. These homes also serve as cultural artifacts, capturing the optimism and futuristic vision of post-war America.

What Makes the Taschen Edition Special?

Taschen is renowned for producing beautifully crafted art and architecture books, and their publication on the Case Study Houses is no exception. It's not just a collection of photos; it's a meticulously curated archive that captures the essence of the movement with precision and artistry.

High-Quality Visual Documentation

One of the standout features of the Taschen Case Study Houses book is its extensive use of archival photography alongside contemporary images. This blend provides readers with a comprehensive view of the homes' original states and how they've aged or been preserved. The large format and high-resolution prints allow for an immersive visual experience, which is crucial when exploring architecture.

Detailed Architectural Plans and Drawings

For students and practitioners of architecture, the inclusion of original blueprints, plans, and sketches is invaluable. Taschen's edition often features these technical documents, offering insights into the architects' creative processes and the innovative construction methods they employed.

Contextual Essays and Expert Commentary

The book doesn't stop at visuals. It includes essays by leading historians and architects who analyze the social and cultural context of the Case Study Houses. These narratives deepen the reader's understanding, connecting design choices to the broader historical moment and architectural philosophies.

Exploring Iconic Case Study Houses Featured in Taschen

While the program included dozens of homes, several stand out for their design ingenuity and cultural impact. Taschen's book highlights these with rich detail.

Case Study House #8 - The Eames House

Designed by Charles and Ray Eames, this home is perhaps the most famous of the series. It exemplifies simplicity and industrial aesthetics, using prefabricated steel and glass panels. The Eames House is also a personal statement, reflecting the couple's lifestyle and creative ethos. Taschen's coverage includes intimate photographs of the interior and exterior, showing how the house functions as both living space and studio.

Case Study House #22 - The Stahl House

Designed by Pierre Koenig, the Stahl House is iconic for its dramatic cantilevered structure and panoramic views of Los Angeles. It represents the pinnacle of mid-century modernism's fascination with transparency and connection to nature. Taschen's edition includes detailed images of its

construction and the famous night-time photographs that have immortalized it in architectural history.

Other Noteworthy Examples

- Case Study House #16 by Craig Ellwood, notable for its modular design
- Case Study House #21 by Pierre Koenig, a precursor to #22 with similar steel-frame elegance
- Case Study House #1 by Julius Shulman, an early experiment in modern living

Each of these homes showcases different approaches to the program's goals and is richly documented in the Taschen publication.

Why Collectors and Enthusiasts Value Case Study Houses Taschen

Owning the Taschen Case Study Houses book is like having a piece of architectural history on your coffee table. Its appeal goes beyond pure aesthetics.

A Source of Inspiration for Designers

Many architects and designers turn to the Case Study Houses for inspiration in how to blend function with form. The Taschen book acts as a resource for those looking to understand how minimalism, openness, and connection to environment can be achieved.

An Educational Tool

For educators, this edition offers a rich visual and textual resource to teach mid-century modernism and architectural innovation. The detailed plans and essays help bring theory into tangible examples.

A Collector's Treasure

Taschen's reputation for quality and the cultural significance of the Case Study Houses program make this book highly sought after. It's a statement piece that celebrates a golden age of architecture.

Tips for Appreciating Case Study Houses through Taschen's Publication

If you're new to the world of mid-century modern architecture, here are some ways to get the most

out of the Taschen Case Study Houses book:

- **Take your time with the visuals:** Don't just flip through—study the photographs and plans to appreciate the details like material choices and spatial layouts.
- **Read the essays thoroughly:** They provide context that enriches understanding beyond just the look of the houses.
- **Compare the different houses:** Notice how each architect interpreted the program's goals differently, which can deepen your appreciation for architectural creativity.
- **Visit surviving Case Study Houses:** Many are open to the public or available for tours. Use the book as a guide for real-world exploration.

The Lasting Legacy of Case Study Houses and Taschen's Role

The Case Study Houses have left a profound legacy on residential architecture, influencing countless designs worldwide. The program's emphasis on simplicity, integration with nature, and innovative use of materials still resonates today. Taschen's dedication to preserving and presenting this legacy ensures that new generations can discover and be inspired by these architectural gems.

Through its thoughtful curation and high-quality production, the Taschen Case Study Houses publication is more than a book—it's a celebration of a visionary architectural movement that continues to shape how we think about living spaces. Whether you're an architect, a design lover, or simply curious about modern homes, this book provides an enriching journey into a pivotal moment in architectural history.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the 'Case Study Houses' book by Taschen about?

The 'Case Study Houses' book by Taschen is a comprehensive collection that documents the iconic mid-20th century architectural project in California, showcasing modernist residential designs by prominent architects. It includes detailed photographs, architectural drawings, and essays that explore the innovative concepts and cultural impact of the Case Study Houses program.

Who are some of the architects featured in Taschen's 'Case Study Houses' publication?

Taschen's 'Case Study Houses' features works by renowned architects such as Richard Neutra, Charles and Ray Eames, Pierre Koenig, E. Stewart Williams, and Raphael Soriano, among others who

contributed to the original Case Study Houses program.

What makes the Case Study Houses significant in architectural history as highlighted by Taschen?

The Case Study Houses are significant because they represent a pioneering effort to create affordable, efficient, and modern homes using new materials and construction techniques after World War II. Taschen's publication emphasizes their lasting influence on residential architecture and modernist design principles.

Does Taschen's 'Case Study Houses' include original plans and photographs?

Yes, Taschen's 'Case Study Houses' includes original architectural plans, blueprints, and archival photographs, alongside contemporary images, providing a thorough visual and technical understanding of the designs and their context.

How does Taschen's edition of 'Case Study Houses' differ from other publications on the same topic?

Taschen's edition stands out due to its high-quality production, extensive archival research, and the inclusion of essays by leading architectural historians. It combines rich visual content with scholarly insights, making it both a collectible art book and an educational resource.

Is Taschen's 'Case Study Houses' suitable for both architects and general readers?

Yes, Taschen's 'Case Study Houses' is designed to appeal to both professionals in architecture and design as well as general readers interested in modern architecture, offering accessible explanations alongside detailed technical information and stunning visuals.

Additional Resources

Case Study Houses Taschen: An In-Depth Exploration of Mid-Century Modern Architecture

case study houses taschen represents a significant entry point for enthusiasts and scholars of mid-century modern architecture. This comprehensive publication from Taschen, a leading art book publisher, meticulously documents the iconic Case Study Houses program initiated in the mid-20th century. By offering an expansive visual and textual exploration, the book serves as both a historical archive and a source of inspiration, shedding light on one of the most influential architectural experiments in American residential design.

The Genesis of the Case Study Houses Program

The Case Study Houses program was launched in 1945 by John Entenza, editor of *Arts & Architecture* magazine, with the ambitious goal of designing and building inexpensive and efficient model homes for the post-World War II housing boom. The program invited prominent architects such as Richard Neutra, Charles and Ray Eames, Pierre Koenig, and Eero Saarinen to create prototypes that employed industrial materials and modernist principles. These houses were not only experiments in form and function but also reflections of an evolving American lifestyle.

Taschen's edition on Case Study Houses encapsulates this era with precision, offering detailed narratives and high-quality photography that illustrate the architectural innovations and cultural contexts surrounding these homes.

Case Study Houses Taschen: A Visual and Scholarly Treasure

What sets the *Case Study Houses Taschen* edition apart is its dual approach to content — combining archive-quality photographs with rigorous architectural analysis. The book spans over 400 pages, featuring hundreds of images, including original architectural drawings, photographs of the houses both in their early days and contemporary states, and candid shots of the architects and homeowners.

Comprehensive Documentation and Design Insights

The volume delves into each house with balanced attention, contextualizing design choices within the technological advances and social trends of the time. Readers gain insights into the challenges of postwar materials shortages, the embrace of steel and glass as primary building elements, and the forward-thinking integration of indoor and outdoor spaces.

Moreover, Taschen includes critical essays from architectural historians and contemporaries, enriching the narrative beyond mere visual appreciation. This academic rigor appeals to professionals, students, and aficionados alike, making it a versatile resource.

Comparative Analysis of Iconic Houses

Within the *case study houses taschen* compendium, certain houses stand out, such as:

- **Case Study House No. 8 (Eames House):** Designed by Charles and Ray Eames, this house epitomizes modular construction and the seamless merging of art and living.
- **Case Study House No. 22 (Kaufmann Desert House):** Pierre Koenig's steel and glass masterpiece, which pushes the boundaries of modern minimalism.
- **Case Study House No. 21 (Bailey House):** Showcases Richard Neutra's skill in harmonizing structure with the natural environment.

The Taschen book not only presents these projects but also contrasts their design philosophies, materials, and site responses, providing a multi-dimensional understanding of the program's scope.

The Impact of the Case Study Houses on Contemporary Architecture

The **case study houses taschen** publication also addresses the lasting influence of these experimental homes on modern residential architecture. Many contemporary architects draw inspiration from the program's ethos—prioritizing simplicity, functionality, and integration with nature.

Legacy in Sustainable and Prefabricated Design

One of the compelling aspects highlighted in the book is the program's pioneering work in prefabrication and modular construction. These techniques laid groundwork for today's sustainable building practices by advocating efficient use of materials and reduced waste.

The houses' open floor plans and extensive use of glass were revolutionary for their time and continue to inform current trends in maximizing natural light and fostering indoor-outdoor living.

Limitations and Critiques

While the **case study houses taschen** celebrates architectural innovation, it does not shy away from critique. Some designs, while aesthetically groundbreaking, faced practical challenges such as climate control inefficiencies or maintenance difficulties due to their experimental materials and construction methods.

Additionally, the program's focus on a particular socio-economic demographic and geographic region—primarily affluent clients in Southern California—raises questions about accessibility and broader applicability of these architectural ideals.

Why the Case Study Houses Taschen Edition Matters for Collectors and Enthusiasts

For collectors of architectural literature and design professionals, the Taschen edition is more than a book; it's a collectible artifact. Its large format, high-quality printing, and carefully curated content make it a definitive reference.

Features That Enhance the Reading Experience

- **Archival Quality Images:** Reproductions of original photographs and blueprints offer an immersive visual journey.
- **Expert Commentary:** Contributions from leading scholars provide depth and context.
- **Durability and Design:** The book's production values, including robust binding and premium paper, ensure longevity and tactile pleasure.

Accessibility and Educational Value

Beyond being a collector's item, *case study houses taschen* serves as an educational tool. Architecture schools and design programs frequently incorporate it into curricula to expose students to seminal works of modernism and the evolution of residential design.

Comparing Taschen's Case Study Houses to Other Publications

The market for architectural monographs is vast, with numerous titles covering mid-century modernism and the Case Study Houses program specifically. However, Taschen distinguishes itself through:

- **Scope:** Its comprehensive coverage versus selective or thematic publications.
- **Visual Quality:** Superior photographic reproduction unmatched by many competitors.
- **Balance of Text and Imagery:** Neither overwhelms the other, providing a harmonious reading experience.

In contrast, some other books tend to focus either on narrative history or photographic documentation exclusively, which can limit their appeal to a wider audience.

Final Reflections on the Case Study Houses Taschen Experience

Engaging with the *case study houses taschen* publication offers a multifaceted understanding of an

architectural movement that reshaped postwar American living. It invites readers to consider the interplay of innovation, culture, and design while appreciating the enduring aesthetic and practical implications of the Case Study Houses.

By combining scholarship, archival materials, and accessible presentation, Taschen has crafted a work that not only preserves history but also inspires future architectural exploration. Whether for professional reference, academic study, or personal interest, this volume embodies a definitive resource on one of modernism's most compelling chapters.

[Case Study Houses Taschen](#)

case study houses taschen: *Case Study Houses* Elizabeth A. T. Smith, Shannon Loughrey, Peter Loughrey, 2016

case study houses taschen: Case Study Houses Elizabeth A. T. Smith, 2016-02-15 With 36 prototype designs, the Case Study House program created paradigms for modern living that would extend their influence far beyond their Los Angeles heartland. This essential introduction features 150 photographs and plans to explore each of these model residences and their architects, including Richard Neutra, Charles and Ray Eames, and Eero Saarinen.

case study houses taschen: Case Study Houses Elizabeth A. T. Smith, 2019 Le programme Case Study House représente un événement sans précédent dans l'histoire de l'architecture américaine. Chantre du modernisme, John Entenza en fut la force motrice et appela certains des plus grands noms de l'architecture, dont Richard Neutra, Charles et Ray Eames ou Eero Saarinen, à y participer. Cette rétrospective célèbre chacun des 36 prototypes de maison à travers une documentation complète agrémentée de plans, croquis et photos.

case study houses taschen: Case study houses Elizabeth A. T. Smith, 2006

case study houses taschen: Case study houses, 1945-1966 Elizabeth A.T. Smith, E.J. Wal, Elke Doelman, 2009 Beschrijving in woord en beeld van volgens het 'case study program', ontworpen woonhuizen in en om Los Angeles.

case study houses taschen: Case Study Houses Elizabeth A. T. Smith, Julius Shulman, Peter Goessel, 2009 Redefining The Modern Home: A monumental retrospective of the Case Study Houses program The Case Study House program (1945-66) was an exceptional, innovative event in the history of American architecture and remains to this day unique. The program, which concentrated on the Los Angeles area and oversaw the design of 36 prototype homes, sought to make available plans for modern residences that could be easily and cheaply constructed during the postwar building boom. The program's chief motivating force was Arts & Architecture editor John Entenza, a champion of modernism who had all the right connections to attract some of architecture's greatest talents, such as Richard Neutra, Charles and Ray Eames, and Eero Saarinen. Highly experimental, the program generated houses that were designed to re-define the modern home, and thus had a pronounced influence on architecture--American and international--both during the program's existence and even to this day. TASCHEN brings you a monumental retrospective of the entire program with comprehensive documentation, brilliant photographs from the period and, for the houses still in existence, contemporary photos, as well as extensive floor plans and sketches. Text in English, French, and German

case study houses taschen: Case Study Houses 1945-1966 Elizabeth A. T. Smith, 2006 The case study house program. Because most opinion, both profound and light-headed, in terms of post war housing is nothing but speculation in the form of talk and reams of paper, it occurs to us that it might be a good idea to get down to cases and at least make a beginning in the gathering of that mass of material that must eventually result in what we know as house-post war. Agreeing that the

whole matter is surrounded by conditions over which few of us have any control, certainly we can develop a point of view and do some organized thinking which might come to a practical end. It is with that in mind that we now announce the project we have called The Case Study House Program. The magazine has undertaken to supply an answer insofar as it is possible to correlate the facts and point them in the direction of an end result. We are, within the limits of uncontrollable factors, proposing to begin immediately the study, planning, actual design and construction of eight houses, each to fulfil the specifications of a special living problem in the Southern California area. Eight nationally known architects, chosen not only for their obvious talents, but for their ability to evaluate realistically housing in terms of need, have been commissioned to take a plot of God's green earth and create good living conditions for eight American families. They will be free to choose or reject, on a merit basis, the products of national manufacturers offering either old or new materials considered best for the purpose by each architect in his attempt to create contemporary dwelling units. We are quite aware that the meaning of contemporary changes by the minute and it is conceivable that each architect might wish to change his idea or a part of his idea when time for actual building arrives. In that case he will, within reason, be permitted to do so. (Incidentally, the eight men have been chosen for, among other things, reasonableness, which they have consistently maintained at a very high level.)

case study houses taschen: Case study houses Peter Gössel, 2006 Beschrijving in woord en beeld van volgens het 'case study program', ontworpen woonhuizen in en om Los Angeles.

case study houses taschen: The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Homes through World History James M. Steele, 2009-03-30 The house, throughout history, in every place in the world, has been built to provide shelter from the elements. The dwellings that have resulted are as different as the people that have built them, the social norms that prevailed at the time and place in which they were built and the natural environment that they adapted to. Studying them now in a comprehensive way allows us to understand the social, political, economic and religious conditions that existed for their inhabitants. They are a three-dimensional record of culture. Twenty-four pages of color images, along with black and white images through three volumes, illustrate the homes of people throughout the world. The volumes cover ancient times to the late Middle Ages, the Renaissance to the Industrial Revolution, and the Post-Industrial Revolution to the Present.

case study houses taschen: Case study houses Elizabeth A. T. Smith, 2006

case study houses taschen: El impulso californiano , 2006

case study houses taschen: *Prefabricated Systems* Ulrich Knaack, Sharon Chung-Klatte, Reinhard Hasselbach, 2012-12-13 For a number of years, modular construction – the use of prefabricated elements in architecture – has once again become a subject of lively discussion and debate. Long written off as monotonous, today's building components are actually highly differentiated and capable of supporting and enhancing the architect's creativity. Numerous structures work with prefabricated components; for single-family homes the figure is ninety-eight percent, and modular systems are available that meet high aesthetic standards. This book provides an overview of the various different systems and their possible uses, particularly in the areas of housing, office, and industrial buildings. It explains the processes and components of modular construction and the behavior of the various materials when this construction approach is used. The authors offer strategies for planning and designing with prefabricated systems so that the architect can use them productively. Numerous drawings explain the principles of modular construction, while built examples forge a link between those principles and the practical activity of building.

case study houses taschen: *Modern in the Middle* Susan Benjamin, Michelangelo Sabatino, 2020-09-01 The first survey of the classic twentieth-century houses that defined American Midwestern modernism. Famed as the birthplace of that icon of twentieth-century architecture, the skyscraper, Chicago also cultivated a more humble but no less consequential form of modernism--the private residence. *Modern in the Middle: Chicago Houses 1929-75* explores the substantial yet overlooked role that Chicago and its suburbs played in the development of the modern single-family house in the twentieth century. In a city often associated with the outsize reputations of Frank Lloyd

Wright and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, the examples discussed in this generously illustrated book expand and enrich the story of the region's built environment. Authors Susan Benjamin and Michelangelo Sabatino survey dozens of influential houses by architects whose contributions are ripe for reappraisal, such as Paul Schweikher, Harry Weese, Keck & Keck, and William Pereira. From the bold, early example of the Battledock House by Henry Dubin (1930) to John Vinci and Lawrence Kenny's gem the Freeark House (1975), the generation-spanning residences discussed here reveal how these architects contended with climate and natural setting while negotiating the dominant influences of Wright and Mies. They also reveal how residential clients--typically middle-class professionals, progressive in their thinking--helped to trailblaze modern architecture in America. Though reflecting different approaches to site, space, structure, and materials, the examples in *Modern in the Middle* reveal an abundance of astonishing houses that have never been collected into one study--until now.

case study houses taschen: *Movie-Made Los Angeles* John Trafton, 2023-10-17 Explores the proto-cinematic visual culture of Los Angeles that set the scene for modern Hollywood. Los Angeles was a cinematic city long before the rise of Hollywood. By the dawn of the twentieth century, photography, painting, and tourist promotion in Southern California provided early filmmakers with a template for building a myth-making business and envisioning ideal moviegoers. These art forms positioned California as a land of transformative experiences and catapulted the dusty backwater town of Los Angeles to the largest city on the west coast by 1915. Photography aided the Southern Pacific Railroad Company in opening the region to the rest of nation. Painters gave traditions that were fading in Europe a new lease on life in the California sun, with signature colors and techniques that would be adopted by L.A. real estate companies, agribusiness, and health retreats. Tourism infused the iconography and signature styles of art with cultural mythology of the state's colonial past, offering proto-cinematic experiences to those who ventured west. Author John Trafton explores how Hollywood, an industry based on world-building, was the product of these art forms in the land of sunshine. A more complete story of the American film industry's ascendancy in Los Angeles emerges when one considers how the City of Angels cultivated its self-image through pre-cinema narrative art.

case study houses taschen: *O'Neil Ford on Architecture* Kathryn O'Rourke, 2019-04-22 Winner, Publication Award, Southeastern Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians (SESAH), 2019 Acclaimed for his designs of the Trinity University campus, the Little Chapel in the Woods, the Texas Instruments Semiconductor Components Division Building, and numerous private houses, O'Neil Ford (1905-1982) was an important twentieth-century architect and a pioneer of modernism in Texas. Collaborating with artists, landscape architects, and engineers, Ford created diverse and enduringly rich works that embodied and informed international developments in modern architecture. His buildings, lectures, and teaching influenced a generation of Texas architects. *O'Neil Ford on Architecture* brings together Ford's major professional writings and speeches for the first time. Revealing the intellectual and theoretical underpinnings of his distinctive modernism, they illuminate his fascination with architectural history, his pioneering uses of new technologies and construction systems, his deep concerns for the landscape and environment, and his passionate commitments to education and civil rights. An interlocutor with titans of the twentieth century, including Louis Kahn and J. Robert Oppenheimer, Ford understood architecture as inseparable from the social, political, and scientific developments of his day. An introductory essay by Kathryn E. O'Rourke provides a critical assessment of Ford's essays and lectures and repositions him in the history of US architectural modernism. As some of his most important buildings turn sixty, *O'Neil Ford on Architecture* demonstrates that this Texas modernist deserves to be ranked among the leading midcentury American architects.

case study houses taschen: *Dwell*, 2007-07 At *Dwell*, we're staging a minor revolution. We think that it's possible to live in a house or apartment by a bold modern architect, to own furniture and products that are exceptionally well designed, and still be a regular human being. We think that good design is an integral part of real life. And that real life has been conspicuous by its absence in

most design and architecture magazines.

case study houses taschen: Architecture and Energy William Braham, Daniel Willis, 2013-07-18 Does energy consumption influence architectural style? Should more energy-efficient buildings look different? Can that look be used to explain or enhance their performance? Architecture and Energy provides architects and architectural theorists with more durable arguments for environmental design decisions, arguments addressing three different scales or aspects of contemporary construction. By drawing together essays from the leading experts in the field, this book engages with crucial issues in sustainable design, such as: The larger role of energy in forming the cultural and economic systems in which architecture is conceived, constructed, and evaluated The different measures and meanings of energy performance and how those measures are realized in buildings The specific ways in which energy use translates into the visible aspects of architectural style. Drawing on research from the UK, US, Europe, and Asia the book outlines the problems surrounding energy and architecture and provides the reader with a considered overview of this important topic.

case study houses taschen: Carbon-Neutral Architectural Design Pablo M. La Roche, 2017-07-14 The energy used to operate buildings is one of the most significant sources of greenhouse gas emissions. While it is possible to reduce emissions through climate-responsive design, many architects are not trained to do this. Filling an urgent need for a design reference in this emerging field, this book describes how to reduce building-related greenhouse gas emissions through appropriate design techniques. It presents strategies to achieve CO2 reductions, with an emphasis on control of energy flows through the building envelope and passive heating and cooling strategies. This new, revised edition is updated throughout, and includes a new chapter on building simulations.

case study houses taschen: The Courtyard House NasserO. Rabbat, 2017-07-05 The courtyard house is one of the most enduring architectural forms, transcending regional, historical and cultural boundaries. Its balance of simple appropriate construction, environmental control and social and familial structures continues to engage architects and architectural historians. That the courtyard house is still relevant today is indicated through its ability to accommodate continual transformation without losing any of its formal integrity and cultural roots. This book presents a series of viewpoints on courtyard houses from different periods and in different regions around the world; from the Harem courtyards of the Topkapi Palace and the low-cost housing settlements of Protectorate Casablanca, to contemporary design strategies for courtyard houses in the arid Gulf region. Together, the essays illuminate issues of particular relevance in architectural, art historical, and conservation discourses today.

case study houses taschen: Architecture and Nationalism in Sri Lanka Anoma Pieris, 2013 The role of the home, the domestic sphere and the intimate, ethno-cultural identities that are cultivated within it, are critical to understanding the polemical constructions of country and city; tradition and modernity; and regionalism and cosmopolitanism. The home is fundamental to ideas of the homeland that give nationalism its imaginative form and its political trajectory. This book explores positions that are vital to ideas of national belonging through the history of colonial, bourgeois self-fashioning and post colonial identity construction in Sri Lanka. The country remains central to related architectural discourses due to its emergence as a critical site for regional architecture, post-independence. Suggesting patterns of indigenous accommodation and resistance that are expressed through built form, the book argues that the nation grows as an extension of an indigenous private sphere, ostensibly uncontaminated by colonial influences, domesticating institutions and appropriating rural geographies in the pursuit of its hegemonic ideals. This ambitious, comprehensive, wide-ranging book presents an abundance of new and original material and many imaginative insights into the history of architecture and nationalism from the mid nineteenth century to the present day.

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