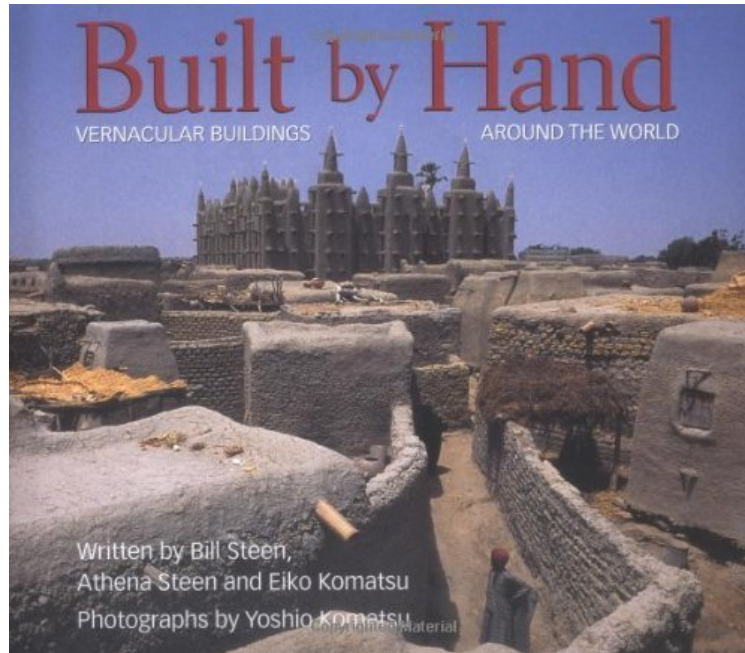


## Built By Hand

*Eiko Komatsu*

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**Eiko Komatsu : Built By Hand** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Built By Hand:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One man's journey's into architectureBy johnboyThis book is one man's collection of architectural photographs taken over what must have been many years of travels. The photographs document different ways of building - with bricks, wood, etc - from many different cultures. While the book is not comprehensive, it is one man's idiosyncratic vision of buildings in the places he has been. It is soulful and lacks artifice. I would recommend it to anyone generally interested in architecture.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. AVOID the Kindle Edition!By S. domesticusThe one star is specifically for the Kindle edition. This is probably a good book, but the Kindle edition does it no justice whatsoever; double-page spreads are chopped in two, captions refer to photos that you must click forward or back to see. It's maddening, and ruins the appearance that the authors surely intended. In future, I will avoid Kindle editions of photo books.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. illuminating book!By Ted SmithHonestly, if you are about doing things yourself you need to embrace what you learn in this book. I think in the future we will need to find new ways to live.

Shelter the Human Family is the most extensive documentation ever published of traditional ("vernacular") buildings throughout the world. With examples from nearly every continent, the book documents the diverse methods people have used to create shelter from locally available natural materials, and shows the impressively handmade finished products through this truly stunning compilation of photographs. Unlike modern buildings that rely on industrially produced materials and highly specialized electric tools and techniques, the shelters featured here represent a rapidly disappearing genre of handcrafted and beautifully composed structures. They are the work of simple and real people who, as builders and homesteaders, have integrated artistic beauty and practical form into their shelter needs.Shelter

the Human Family offers insights into the world of vernacular building, along with potential solutions to many of the problems that plague modern architecture. It is a must-have collection that preserves and documents the rich cultural past of each structure and its community, and offers inspiration for those looking to build in a way that is motivated by something larger than speed, efficiency, and economic profit. Bill and Athena Steen are the authors of *The Straw Bale House* and *The Beauty of Straw Bale*. They are active in community building programs that teach low-income families how to build their own shelters, and known for their efforts to incorporate artistic techniques based on local and natural materials into the world of modern construction. They live in Elgin, Arizona. Yoshio Komatsu has been photographing buildings and people around the world for 25 years. His photographs were collected in the Japanese book *Living on Earth*, and his work is regularly published in books, magazines, and calendars throughout Japan. This is his first book in English. He and his wife, Eiko, live in Tokyo.

A modern, full-color version of the Bernard Rudofsky classic 'Architecture without Architects', this book takes readers on a magnificent journey to distant corners of the earth in search of the world's most amazing vernacular architecture. It is the most comprehensive and groundbreaking documentation of hand-made architecture ever published. (Prarie Avenue Bookshop Holiday Gift Guide 2003-12-01) From elaborate bamboo structures in Sumba, Indonesia, to houses carved out of volcanic rock in Cappadocia, Turkey, and homes made from earth-block in Chipaya, Bolivia, Japanese photographer Yoshio Komatsu (assisted by spouse Eiko) has traveled the world photographing vernacular structures. The Steens (*The Straw Bale House*) provide captions and notes on construction techniques in stone, reeds and many other materials. With more than 700 full-color photos in an 8"X9" format, the book takes readers to Ethiopia, Iran, Japan, Spain, Venezuela and many other places. (Publishers Weekly 2003-10-20) "more than just a collection of amazing photos" (The Last Straw Journal 2003-12-01) From the Inside Flap Contents Acknowledgments Introduction Earth Stone Wood Bamboo, Grasses and Other Plants Thatch Materials Combined Into the Earth On the Water On the Move Natural Conditioning Grain Storage and Birds Communities, Villages and Towns Places of Worship Streets Entryways Windows Sculpted Details Embellishment About the Author Bill and Athena Steen are the authors of *Built by Hand*, *The Straw Bale House*, and *The Beauty of Straw Bale Houses*. They are heavily involved in their non-profit organization, The Canelo Project. Committed to developing and educating others about simple and sustainable living, they regularly teach workshops on straw bale building and artistry with clay and lime. They live in Arizona Eiko Komatsu lives and works with her husband Yoshio, in Tokyo, Japan. Yoshio Komatsu has been photographing buildings and people around the world for 25 years. His photographs were collected in the Japanese book *Living on Earth*, and his work is regularly published in books, magazines, and calendars throughout Japan. This is his first book in English. He and his wife Eiko, live in Tokyo.