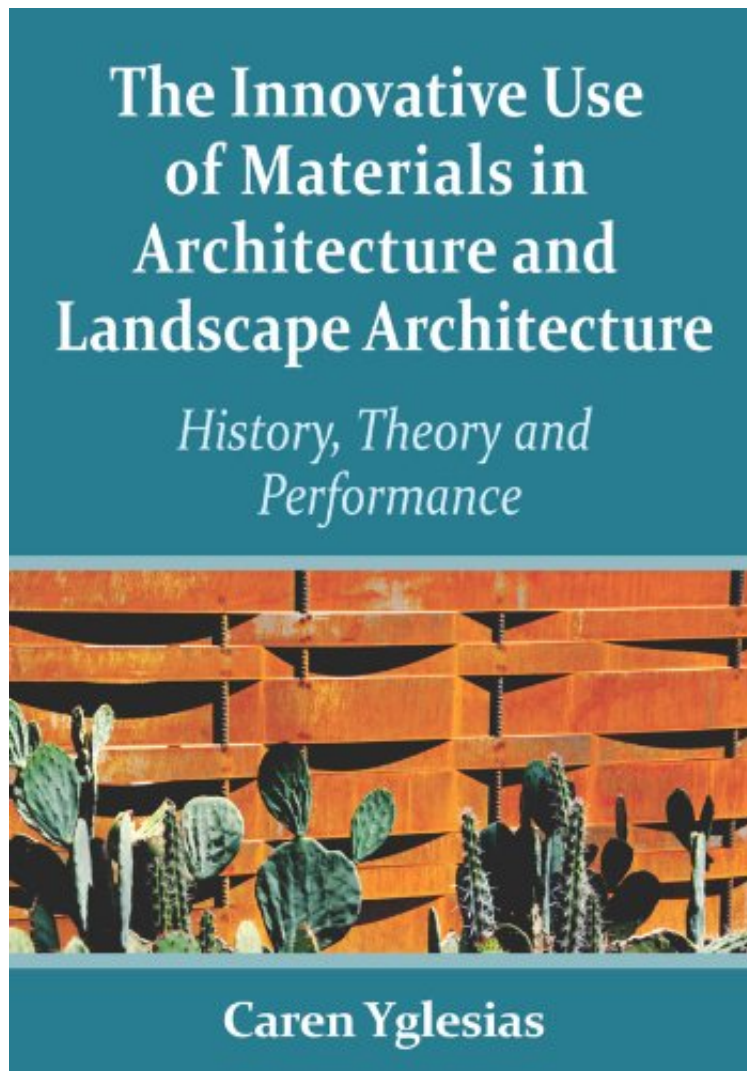


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# The Innovative Use of Materials in Architecture and Landscape Architecture: History, Theory and Performance

*Caren Yglesias*

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**Caren Yglesias : The Innovative Use of Materials in Architecture and Landscape Architecture: History, Theory and Performance** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Innovative Use of Materials in Architecture and Landscape Architecture: History, Theory and Performance:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. " would it be better to answerBy Jennifer BoeckCaren Yglesias has a unique talent for identifying and explaining fundamental concepts that manage to hide in plain sight from most architects, designers and landscape architects. One might wonder how someone could write such a profound treatise on materials as commonplace as concrete. One might also ask why one would spend the time. WHY is why.If a

customer were to ask , "WHY did you choose to use this material instead of that," would it be better to answer, "Because it looks neat," or would it be better to provide an insightful explanation of how the properties and characteristics of one material serve the overarching theme and message that one is attempting to communicate within a design or project?Caren is an educator and practitioner who does not enter into any endeavor without absolute passion and conviction. If you are looking to make informed decisions about the material you use in your designs, this book is for you. If you wish to add meaning and purpose to your work, and be able to communicate those ideas to your clients, trust in this book to provide the answers you were looking for.

This book is about materials. The fundamental properties and technical aspects are reviewed within a context of a material's history, the theories of its meaning and making, and its use. Information about the sustainability aspects of each material is included (as a critical necessity in construction). Innovative design comes from an understanding of materials for what they are, how they have been used in the past, and how they can support human activity. The author provides essential information to students and professionals concerned with advancing their design at a time when the consumption of natural resources and the consequences of wasteful practices are of urgent concern. Instructors considering this book for use in a course may request an examination copy here.

"Caren Yglesias has written a most ambitious book. It offers a practical guide to an architect about the materials he employs, and helps him or her make a choice by offering them an account of the history of their use and the associations and symbolism of each of them. She has succeeded in her ambition so that every student of architecture--and most architects, for that matter--should have this book!" --Joseph Rykwert Professor of Architecture emeritus, University of Pennsylvania  
About the AuthorCaren Yglesias is an architect. She has taught architecture and landscape architecture at Virginia Tech and the University of Maryland and divides her time between Washington, D.C., and San Francisco.