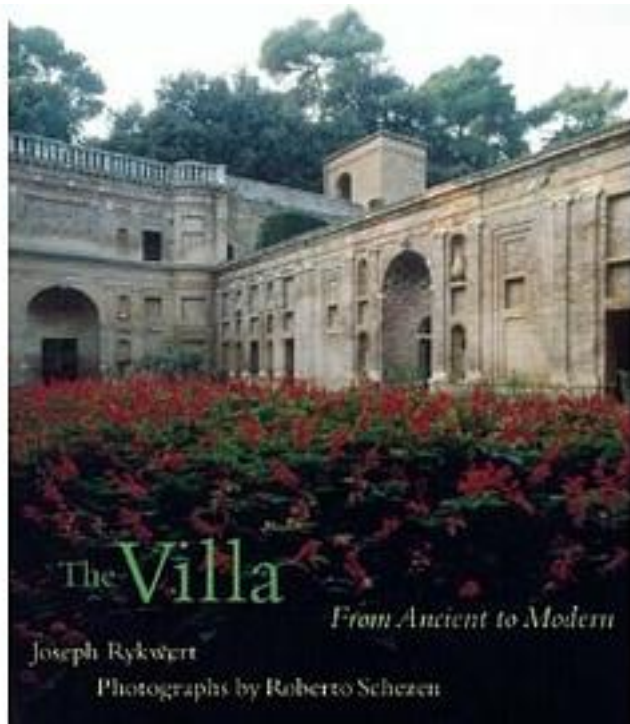


The Villa: From Ancient to Modern



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The volume opens with Roberto Schezen's lovely photographs of the Villa of the Mysteries in Pompeii (built in first-century AD but not rediscovered until 1930); Hadrian's Villa in Tivoli, with both its Greek and Roman theater and library, plus the ruins of its baths; the 13th-century Alhambra, its interior walls so richly carved that they look like woven tapestries; and Palladio's archetypal and much-copied Villa Rotonda in Vicenza. It closes, however, with some latter-day jewels that would have knocked the socks off Louis XV and Thomas Jefferson (whose Petit Trianon at Versailles and Monticello in Charlottesville, Virginia, are also included here), such as Adolf Loos' fabulous early modernist villa at Montreux, Switzerland; Le Corbusier's celebrated 1929

Villa Savoye in Poussy, France; and the home that spurred Frank Lloyd Wright's mid-'30s career comeback, the gravity-defying Fallingwater in Mill Run, Pennsylvania--all of which were so astonishingly ahead of their time that they still look as though they must have been built at least a quarter-century after their actual construction dates. (It's still too early to say the same of the book's last two entries, Gwathmey Siegel's sleek 1979 Francois de Menil House in East Hampton, New York, and Richard Meier's 1998 Neugebauer House in Naples, Florida, which, its high-tech coolness notwithstanding, looks more like one of Meier's acclaimed public projects than a private residence.)

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标签

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评论

There are beautiful photos with a brief introduction for each villa. How I wish that each of the 20 cases could be turned into a book.

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书评

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