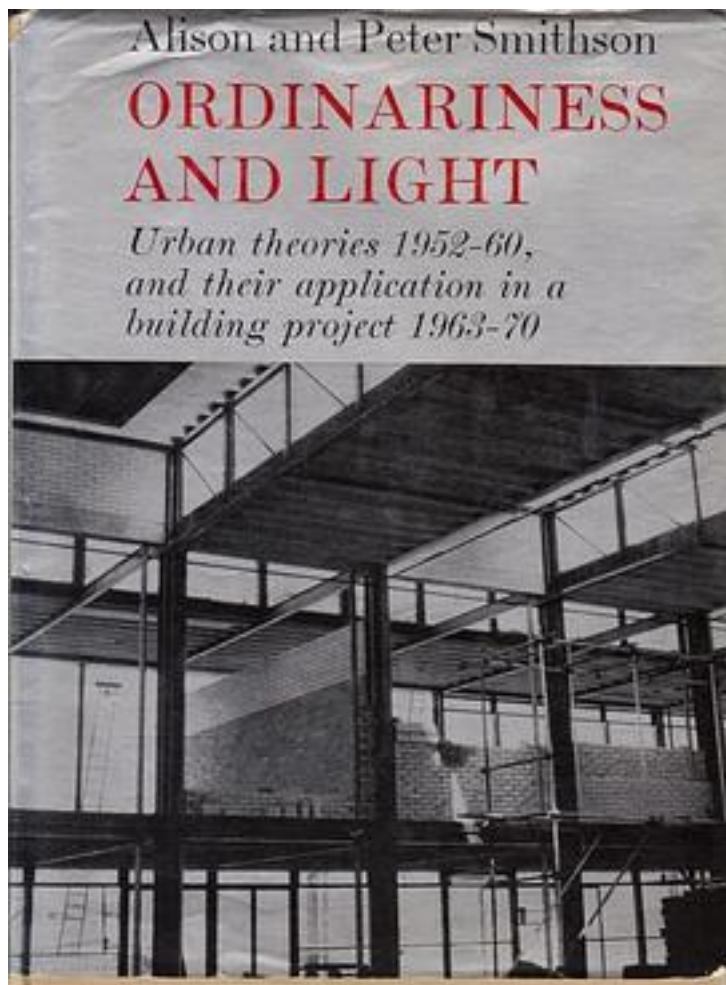


Smithson: Ordinariness & Light



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著者:Alison Smithson

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Until recently the ideas of Alison and Peter Smithson have been known mainly to those professionally involved in architecture and urban design. This is so because they have

presented their ideas usually in project form, accompanied by elliptical texts designed to prevent the building up of rigid thought patterns in the minds of those studying them. "Ordinariness and Light," by contrast, is an extended exploration of their theories and work over the past seventeen years, in which not only their aesthetic but also their political and emotional concerns are made plain. The book brings together a previously unpublished long text of 1952-53, "Urban Re-identification," and a sequence of later essays and statements. All this material has been revised for the present volume, and provided with a linking commentary. The general theme is "the invention of an architecture structured by notions of association." The authors argue that the form of the city and the town must correspond to the human needs of the present; looser knit than in the past, even the quite recent past; more open and changing. And for city and town to correspond to this pattern of society there must be better systems of physical communication, and new form-concepts through which society can recognize and realize its new self. The arguments, examples, and illustrations in the book show how a very small shift in our way of looking at the ordinary things that go to make up cities and towns could restore to them their rich classic connotations. Houses would once more feel like places of adventure, as well as security; roads would be made to give a sense of cohesion and connection, as well as of release. For the Smithsons, to sense an "ordering" in things is to feel liberated and free to use them. "Ordinariness and Light" will enable all who are exercised about the deterioration of urban life to share their dream of cities that can breathe. It may help, perhaps, to generate in society at large that kind of committed participation that their notion of "ordering" implies.

作者介绍:

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标签

英国

理论

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现代主义

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战后

建筑师

评论

Should be a must read/canon for architecture majors.

说到心坎儿上、最给我启发的当属第七章批判模数制、预制化的几段。上世纪50-60年代对现代主义理性运动的批判、对后现代的感知“aesthetics of change”"social foci and social space""letter to America"等等几篇文章

可以读出来当时欧洲建筑师是怎么看美洲的，看地域文化，看城市发展变化的。有一些论述的前提直接跳过去了，值得质疑的地方也有一些。

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