

Skins, Envelopes, and Enclosures: Concepts for Designing Building Exteriors

By Mayine L. Yu

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With more than seventy significant case studies located in North America, South America, Europe, and Asia from prehistory to the present, this book illuminates the theory and techniques of assembling exteriors. Six chapters organized by wall types, from hand-set monolithic walls to digitally fabricated curtain walls, each have a material focus section to help you understand their intrinsic properties so that you can decide which will best keep the weather out of your building.

Examples from the ancient world, including **the Pyramids** and **the Great Wall**, through a range of renowned modern architects, such as **Studio Gang**, **Sauerbruch Hutton**, **Herzog and deMeuron**, and **Rafael Moneo**, illustrate how significant works in the history of architecture explored innovative use of materials – stone, brick, concrete, glass, and aluminium. Along the way, principles of construction from masonry and basic framing through ever more sophisticated envelope systems address classic problems presented by gravity, wind, rain, and sun with studies of lateral forces, building movements and materials that bridge the gaps in between them.

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Editorial Review

Review

"A great text on building enclosures providing historical context and connection between the spatial and technical requirements. The images of construction along with relevant portions from drawings are a great resource. This is a welcome addition to anyone learning about enclosures either on a course or in a studio."

Hitesh Doshi, professor, Building Science, Department of Architectural Science, Ryerson University

About the Author

Mayine L. Yu is a senior associate at Davis Brody Bond Architects in New York and was an adjunct associate professor in the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation at Columbia University.

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