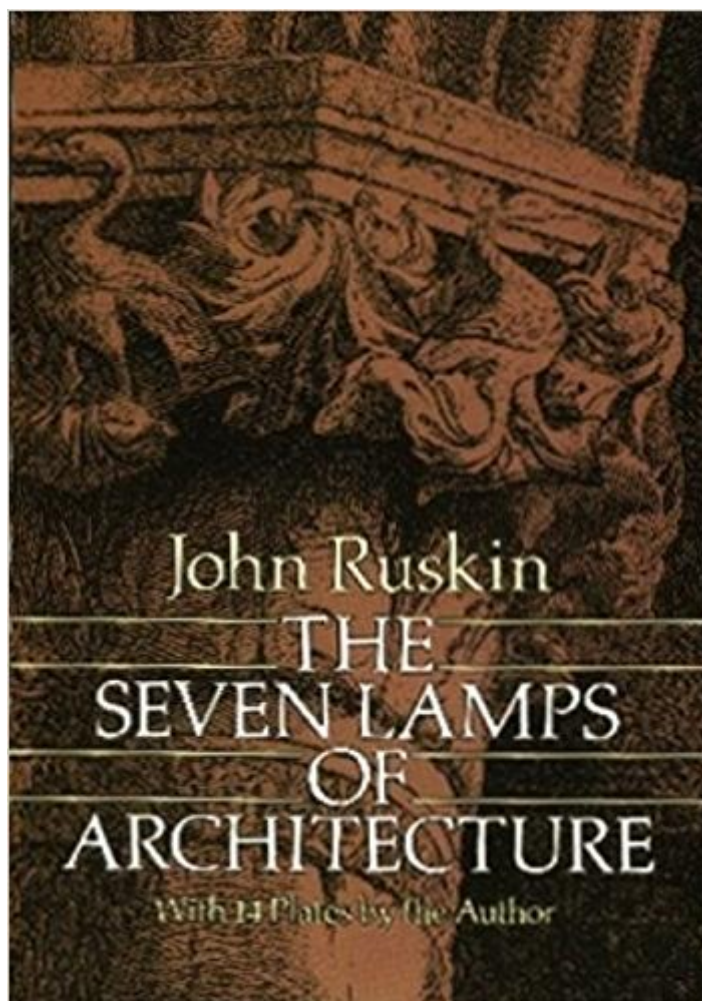


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# The Seven Lamps Of Architecture (Dover Architecture)



## Synopsis

"I believe architecture must be the beginning of arts, and that the others must follow her in their time and order; and I think the prosperity of our schools of painting and sculpture, in which no one will deny the life, though many the health, depends upon that of our architecture." — John Ruskin. In August of 1848, John Ruskin and his new bride visited northern France, for the gifted young critic wished to write a work that would examine the essence of Gothic architecture. By the following April, the book was finished. Titled *The Seven Lamps of Architecture*, it was far more than a treatise on the Gothic style; instead, it elaborated Ruskin's deepest convictions of the nature and role of architecture and its aesthetics. The book was published to immediate acclaim and has since become an acknowledged classic. The "seven lamps" are Sacrifice, Truth, Power, Beauty, Life, Memory, and Obedience. In delineating the relationship of these terms to architecture, Ruskin distinguishes between architecture and mere building. Architecture is an exalting discipline that must dignify and ennoble public life. It must preserve the purity of the materials it uses; and it must serve as a source of power and renewal for the society that produces it. The author expounds these and many other ideas with exceptional passion and knowledge, expressed in a masterly prose style. Today, Ruskin's timeless observations are as relevant as they were in Victorian times, making *The Seven Lamps of Architecture* required reading for architects, students, and other lovers of architecture, who will find in these pages a thoughtful and inspiring approach to one of man's noblest endeavors. This authoritative edition includes excellent reproductions of the 14 original plates of Ruskin's superb drawings of architectural details from such structures as the Doge's Palace in Venice, Giotto's Campanile in Florence, and the Cathedral of Rouen.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Book-length essay on architecture by John Ruskin, published in 1849. According to Ruskin, the leading principles of architecture are the "lamps" of Sacrifice, Truth, Power, Beauty, Life, Memory, and Obedience. The noblest style of architecture was Gothic, but in time medieval architecture had lost the power to resist innovation. This loss of vitality was the result of the spiritual decline of Christianity during the materialistic Renaissance. The essay took the studies of a generation of medievalists and provided them with a general framework and a moral flavor. -- The Merriam-Webster Encyclopedia of Literature --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

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one star is too many for this....It is a rip off...No actual text is is just references , which is not stated anywhere in the description. I thought I was getting punked.

If you're interested in knowing why Ruskin was considered the foremost authority on art and architecture in his day, you can probably get a sense of that by reading an anthology of selections from his voluminous writings.If you want to go deeper, read this book and the first two volumes of MODERN PAINTERS. If you go further, you've become a Ruskin fanatic, not a bad thing to be!

I had to read this book for a masters class and it was fun to be able to read an older edition like this. The condition of this book was excellent and the price was great, but how much demand is there for old copies of John Ruskin? Pretty obscure stuff. Nonetheless, I was thrilled to find it and the seller was very accurate with their description, fair with the price and fast with the shipping.

Several classmates also ordered this book online, but they chose a different, better version. This one is filled with formatting and spelling errors as if someone used a scanner with word recognition software to make this copy. My recommendation if you need this book for class: keep looking

This book is not immediately to hand, but as I remember this was the volume from which many of Ruskin's diagrams had been omitted, rendering much incomprehensible.

am so Disappointed of this book !! the copying is not readable at ALL the words are missing ,, its just like printing a book with a printer that has low ink ,, there is no single page that is copied properly.

Bought this book for the famous quote of "when we build let us think that we build forever." Have not had a chance to read through all of it yet...

I found that tying in human traits to different styles of architecture was not interesting at all. There is no discussion of building techniques or the practical side of architecture. This would be more for the artist that is trying to project different human feelings into the structure. If you are looking for a technical guide to architecture this is not it.

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