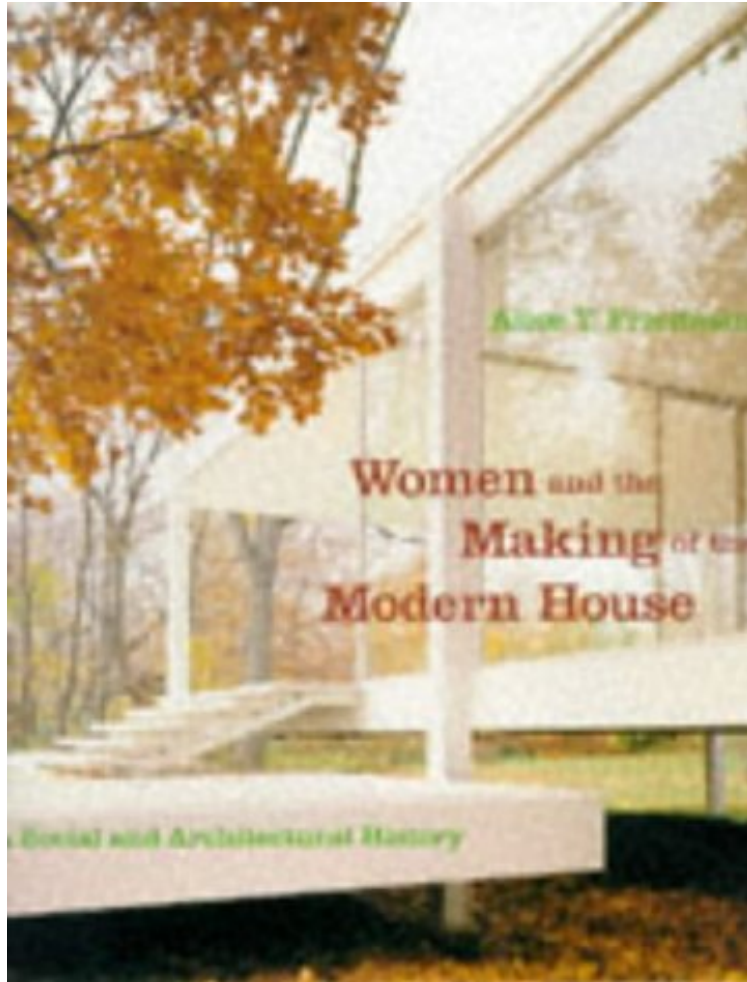


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## Women and the Making of the Modern House

*Alice Friedman*

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**Alice Friedman : Women and the Making of the Modern House** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Women and the Making of the Modern House:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting, thought provoking stories By S. E. Miller This is a wonderful book for history, art, architecture, or liberal arts minded people. Each chapter tells a different story about an architect and his (all are male) unusual clients (all including females). Friedman ties in personal histories, professional needs and accomplishments, architectural trends, public responses and many other details to give a thorough and interdisciplinary review of these famous architectural achievements. It is well written, well researched and accompanied by beautiful photographs and floor plans. I'm no architecture buff, but I enjoyed learning about this relatively unknown to me subject. Art and architecture people will still have plenty to learn from this book as Friedman includes many previously unconnected details to show how these unique professional partnerships helped

contribute to the making of these outstanding homes. This book is not exactly light reading, but I like a challenge! My only negative is that Friedman doesn't always tell you the state of the homes in the current day. So I've been trying to look them up to see if they are privately owned, demolished, changed, etc. In a few more cases, I would have liked to see one current picture or have a little more detail about the life of the home beyond the first owners. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. highly recommended By Gibson Scheid Interesting stories and extremely well researched and written.

If you want a book about architecture which is informative, provocative, offers new paradigms on the way we describe architecture, is both soundly academic, and as compelling to read as a good novel, look no further. Kester Ratenbury In this groundbreaking book, Alice T. Friedman investigates how women patrons of architecture were essential catalysts for innovation in domestic architectural design. By looking at such iconic houses as Hollyhock House (Frank Lloyd Wright), the Truus Schröder House (Gerrit Rietveld), the Edith Farnsworth House (Ludwig Mies van der Rohe), the Constance Perkins House (Richard Neutra), and the Vanna Venturi House (Robert Venturi), she explores the challenges that unconventional attitudes and ways of life presented to architectural thinking and to the architects themselves. Detailed portraits fashioned from personal letters, diaries, office records, photo albums, and interviews of the clients and architects reveal the private passions and struggles that women and men of talent and creativity brought to these projects, and suggest the rich cultural and artistic context in which each house was created. The works considered are thus brought to life through the people who commissioned, designed, and lived in them.

.com Social and architectural historian Alice T. Friedman asks the question, "Why is it that an unexpectedly large number of the most significant and original houses built in Europe and America in the 20th century--houses that stand out not only as examples of modern design but also for their innovative approaches to domestic space--were commissioned by female clients?" She answers with a penetrating look at houses created by well-known client-architect pairs, such as Sarah Stein and Le Corbusier, Edith Farnsworth and Mies van der Rohe, and more than one independent woman who irritated Frank Lloyd Wright by staying in charge of a project. Friedman writes with brilliance and depth about these pairs' shared ideals, their frequent disputes, and the monuments of modernism that resulted from their complex relationships. --Margaret Moorman "If you want a book about architecture which is informative, provocative, offers new paradigms on the way we describe architecture, is both soundly academic, and as compelling to read as a good novel, look no further." Kester Ratenbury About the Author Alice T. Friedman is Grace Slack McNeil Professor of the History of American Art and Director of the McNeil Program for Studies in American Art at Wellesley College in Massachusetts. She is author of *House and Household in Elizabethan England: Wollaton Hall and the Willoughby Family*.