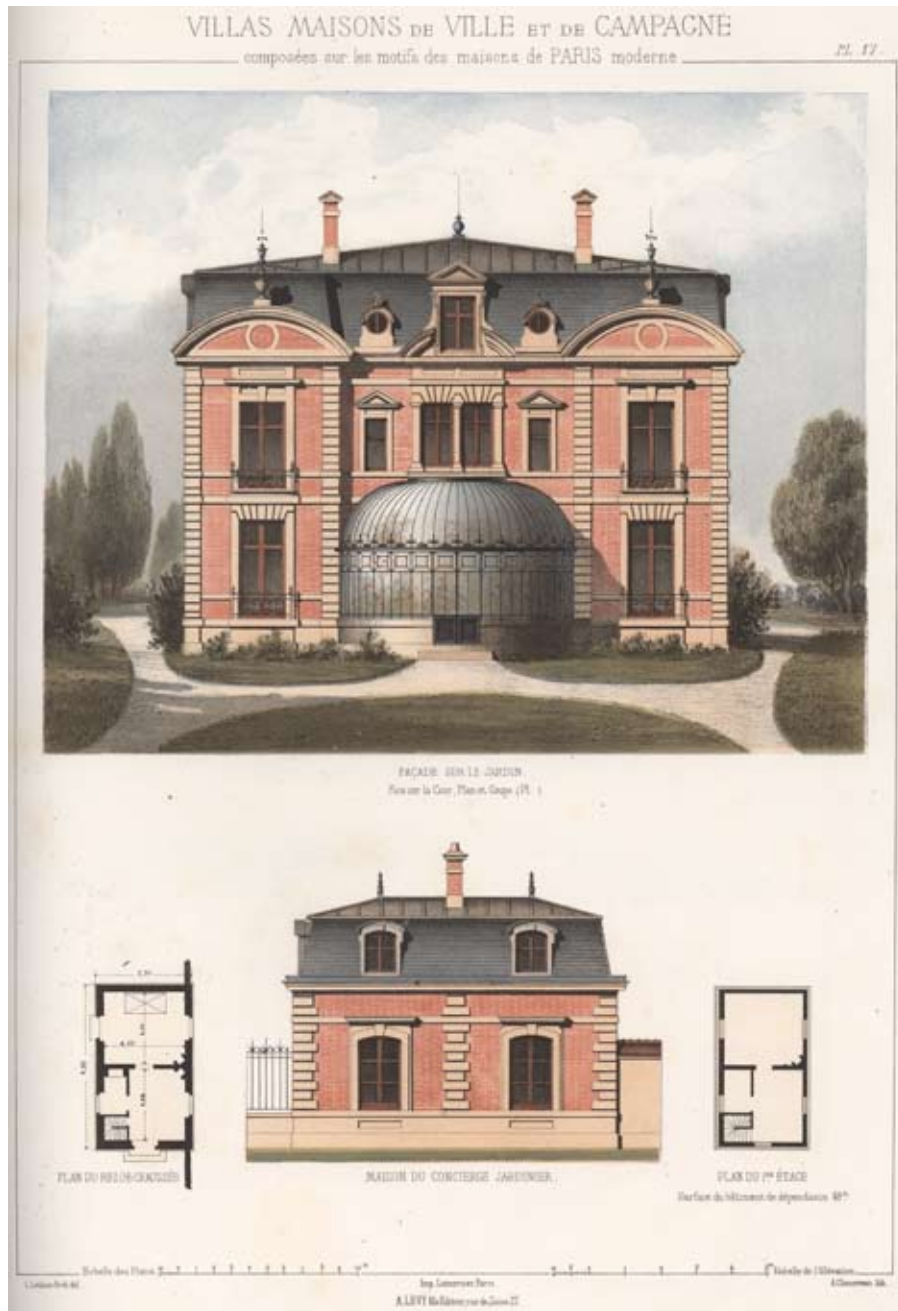


RECENT ACQUISITIONS

The Grega and Leo A. Daly III Fund for Architectural Books

National Gallery of Art May 16 – November 15, 2009





Léon Isabey and Leblan, *Villas, Maisons de Ville et de Campagne Composées sur les Motifs des Habitations de Paris dans les Styles des XVIe, XVIIe, XVIIIe & XIXe Siècles, et sur un Choix des Maisons les Plus Remarquables de l'Étranger* (Paris: A. Levy, 1864)

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After more than a century of the dominance of baroque architecture, architects and designers of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries began to look to the past for new inspiration. The twin movements of the Gothic revival and Greek revival emerged in northern Europe and were quickly exported to the Americas and Australia. The Greek revival movement was spurred by a newfound access to Greece and its ancient monuments in the mid-eighteenth century.

As part of the neoclassical movement, which was reacting against the highly ornamented rococo style, the goal of Greek revival architects was to return to “pure” forms. Yet many still desired some embellishment on their houses and buildings—so although the roots of the Gothic revival began around the same time and grew out of the same ethos, Gothic elements were at first only details incorporated into classical design. Only in the nineteenth century did the Gothic revival come into its own as a reaction against neoclassical design.

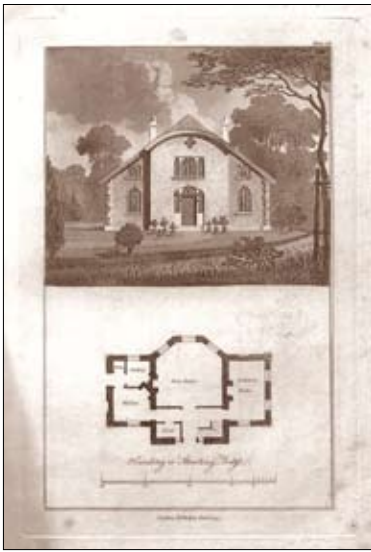
Thanks to the generous support of Grega and Leo A. Daly III, the National Gallery of Art Library has been able to add substantially to its holdings in the area of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century architecture in order to provide a greater wealth of original source material for scholars to study these and other architectural movements of the period. From architectural surveys, to guides and pattern books, to proposed designs for buildings and houses, we can better see how these movements evolved and how their histories intertwine. With the continued support of the Dalys, we hope to add even more architectural books to our collection in the coming years.

DECORATIVE ELEMENTS

1 Paolo Bianchi, *Raccolta d'Ornati d'Architettura ad uso delli Disegnatori, ed Artefici* (Milan, c. 1760)

This collection of plates depicts late baroque and neo-classical decorative architectural elements by Milanese architect Paolo Bianchi, who also wrote a book of instruction, *Instituzione Pratica dell' Architettura Civile*, which the library was able to acquire with the support of the Daly Fund.

2 John Plaw, *Ferme Ornée; or Rural Improvements* (London: I. & J. Taylor, 1796)



Along with the architecture of country estates, there developed a new type of landscape design broadly modeled on the Roman villa estate with its idealized, picturesque design. This work includes designs for everything from fences to barns to a variety of small outbuildings, like the one shown here,

“suited to parks, plantations, rides, walks, rivers, farms, etc. . . . calculated for landscapes and picturesque effects.”

3 William and John Halfpenny, *The Country Gentleman's Pocket Companion and Builder's Assistant, for Rural Decorative Architecture* (London: Robert Sayer, 1756)

William and John Halfpenny were the first to popularize a more rustic style for this rural architecture. In addition to the classical and Gothic styles, these smaller alcoves, temples, grottoes, huts, lodges, and summer homes sometimes included Eastern influences, such as a small Chinese temple.



4 Francis Price, *A Description of That Admirable Structure the Cathedral Church of Salisbury* (London: R. Baldwin, 1774)

One of the ways the architectural movements of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries developed was through thorough examinations of the buildings of previous eras. This particular book describes the chapels, monuments, and gravestones of the Gothic cathedral in Salisbury.

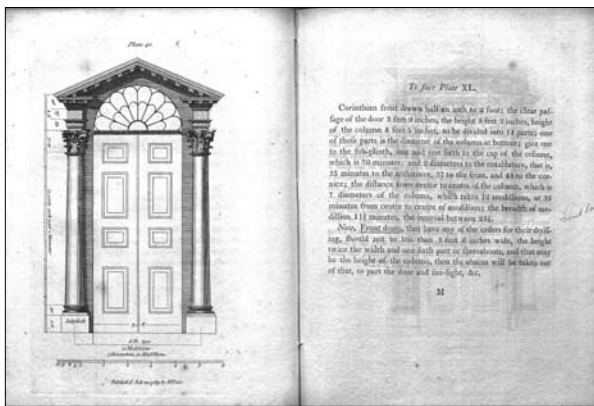
5 F. T. Dollman and J. R. Robbins, *An Analysis of Ancient Domestic Architecture Exhibiting the Best Examples in Great Britain, from Drawings and Measurements Taken on the Spot* (London: Atchley & Co., 1861–1863)

This work is the most thorough mid-nineteenth century survey of medieval secular buildings, including houses, hospitals, palaces, towers, castles, schools, and almshouses, all with plan elevations, construction details, geometrical drawings, and measured details.

GUIDES AND INSTRUCTION

6 William Pain, *The Builder's Companion and Workman's General Assistant* (London: printed for the author and Robert Sayer, 1758)

William Pain was an important architectural writer in the eighteenth century, and this is the first edition of his first book. *The Builder's Companion* was popular and widely used as a pattern book—especially in America, where Pain's books were more in demand than those of any other English author.

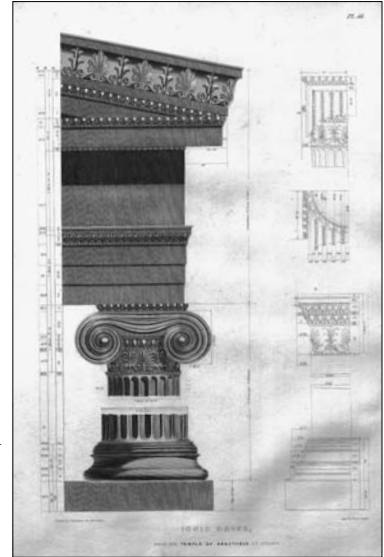


7 William Pain, *The Practical House Carpenter; or, Youth's Instructor* (London: J. Taylor, 1805)

Originally published in 1788 and “containing a great variety of useful designs in carpentry and architecture,” this was likely the most influential architectural book in the late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century United States. Reprinted in Boston in 1796 and Philadelphia in 1797, it was the source of much material in the first architectural book published in the United States, Asher Benjamin's *Country Builder's Assistant*.

8 Minard Lafever, *The Modern Builder's Guide* (New York: Henry C. Sleight, Collins & Hannay, 1833)

Along with Asher Benjamin, Minard Lafever was one of the most influential architectural artists in the development of the Greek revival in America. This first edition of his second book demonstrates his mature style and imaginative work, which influenced builders all over the eastern half of the United States.



9 Samuel Sloan, *Sloan's Constructive Architecture* (Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1859)

Samuel Sloan added American variations to English and European practices in this first edition of the first American work on carpentry, also one of the first American architectural books to extensively use color printing.



BUILDING PLANS



10 John Riddell, *Architectural Designs for Model Country Residences* (Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1864)

A successful architect, John Riddell's best-known work remains this book of designs with full-color lithographic illustrations showing primarily Italian and Gothic revival styles with hints of Greek revival. Riddell advocated the use of cast iron, one of the nineteenth century's primary contributions to architecture, seen here in the columns on the porch and other decoration.

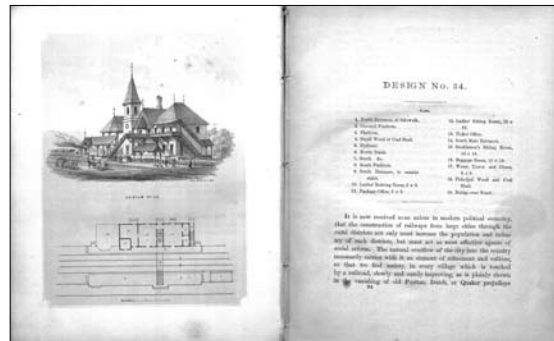
11 William Halfpenny, *Useful Architecture* (London: Robert Sayer, 1755)

Successive editions of this work attest to the popularity of Halfpenny's utilitarian designs, which were much used by gentlemen as models for the building of tenant farms on their country estates. Included are twenty-five plans for barns, farm houses, parsonages, inns, and bridges.

12 James Thomson, *Retreats: A Series of Designs, Consisting of Plans and Elevations for Cottages, Villas and Ornamental Buildings* (London: J. Taylor, 1833)



James Thomson's designs in Grecian, Gothic, rustic, and irregular styles are provided in hand-colored aquatint in this book. His Grecian designs, such as the one shown here, were more favored in the United States than in England.



13 Henry Hudson Holly, *Holly's Country Seats* (New York, D. Appleton and Company, 1863)

Prominent New York architect Henry Hudson Holly advocated drawing from classical sources in modern designs. In this book he presents thirty-four designs for a variety of buildings, including the railway station shown here. As an example of the effect architecture can have on society, Holly urged the railroad companies to be careful in the design of their stations, in the belief that this would "bear its fruit in the increased refinement of rural sentiment."

COMPLETED DESIGNS



14 Victor Petit, *Architecture Nouvelle. Recueil de Constructions Modernes Exécutées en France, en Angleterre, en Allemagne, en Italie* (Paris: Monrocq Frères, c. 1865)

Part of a series of architectural books featuring brightly colored prints produced by Victor Petit in the mid-nineteenth century, this portfolio of plates presents town and country houses, orangeries, chalets, community office buildings, churches, chapels, farm buildings, and garden kiosks, among others. Petit's designs were influential in American architecture at the time of their publication.

15 Léon Isabey and Leblan, *Villas, Maisons de Ville et de Campagne Composées sur les Motifs des Habitations de Paris dans les Styles des XVIe, XVIIe, XVIIIe & XIXe Siècles, et sur un Choix des Maisons les Plus Remarquables de l'Etranger* (Paris: A. Levy, 1864)

Architect Léon Isabey built many public buildings, as well as the Courbet Pavilion for the 1855 Exposition Universelle in Paris, but he also built homes in a variety of historical and international styles, such as the suburban and country homes shown in the color renditions on page 2.



16 Robert Lugar, *Villa Architecture: A Collection of Views, with Plans, of Buildings Executed in England, Scotland, &c.* (London: J. Taylor, 1828)

In one of the most spectacular of the villa and cottage books produced in London in the early nineteenth century, hand-colored aquatints show an eclectic variety of buildings in picturesque settings.

17 William H. Ranlett, *The Architect, A Series of Original Designs, for Domestic and Ornamental Cottages and Villas, Connected with Landscape Gardening, Adapted to the United States* (New York: William H. Graham, 1847, and Dewitt & Davenport, 1849)

Two volumes produced two years apart by different publishers comprise this book of 120 tinted lithographs of buildings built by William Ranlett in Long Branch and Morristown, New Jersey, and Staten Island, as well as a villa on New York's Eightieth Street. In addition to houses in Gothic, Tudor, Egyptian, classical, and Swiss styles, many of the plans include landscape designs.

Checklist of the exhibition *Recent Acquisitions: The Grega and Leo A. Daly III Fund for Architectural Books*, National Gallery of Art, May 16–November 15, 2009.

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The Gallery's Web site features highlights from the exhibition and links to exhibition-related activities at www.nga.gov/daly.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours: Monday–Saturday, 10:00 am–5:00 pm, Sunday, 11:00 am–6:00 pm. Gallery Web site: www.nga.gov. For information about accessibility to galleries and public areas, assistive-listening devices, sign-language interpretation, and other services and programs, inquire at the Information Desks, consult the Web site, or call 202.842.6690 (TDD line 202.842.6176).

Admission to the National Gallery of Art and all of its programs is free of charge, except as noted.

COVER

Victor Petit, *Architecture Nouvelle. Recueil de Constructions Modernes Exécutées en France, en Angleterre, en Allemagne, en Italie* (Paris: Monrocq Frères, c. 1865)

