



Ladders (Architecture at Rice)

By Albert Pope

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Albert Pope's 1996 seminal book *Ladders* is now available in a second edition. Considered a classic in the field of urbanism and one of our most requested out of print titles, Pope's provocative study of five post-war American cities examines the forces--including demographic upheavals, market expansions, and technological developments--that precipitated a change from the open system of the pre-war urban grid to the fragmented and closed spaces of suburban cul-de-sacs, expressways, and office parks. Through an incisive series of diagrams and photographs, Pope reveals the concepts, theories, and rules that have guided their organizational evolution into post architectural spaces whose character is shaped more by the effects of immense urban spaces and infrastructure than built forms. A new preface by architect and educator Pier Vittorio Aureli situates the book in the context of contemporary urban thinking and makes a compelling argument for its continued relevance as springboard for the investigation of our contemporary cities.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Pier Vittorio Aureli, an architect and educator, teaches at the Berlage Institute in Rotterdam and the Technical University of Delft. He is the author of "The Project of Autonomy" and other books.

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