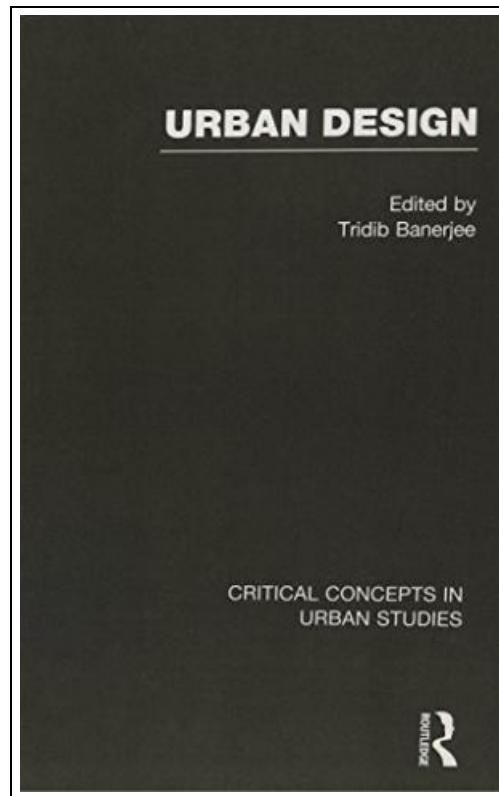


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Taylor & Francis Ltd, United Kingdom, 2014. Mixed media product. Condition: New. Language: English. Brand new Book. From the earliest attempts to structure and organize human settlements in the image of divine, cosmic, or an ideal social order, the notion of urban design has deep historical roots. Down the ages, the design of cities has reflected edicts prescribed by the highest authorities, including priests, rulers, philosophers, and visionary thinkers. Many dynasties sought glory and fame in the design of their cities and-even in modern times-new cities have been designed and built as icons of independence and as symbols of progress. Thus, city design has played a crucial role in the construction of new capitals like Brasilia, Chandigarh, and Islamabad, and-more recently-in the dizzying new urban developments of Dubai and Shanghai. In common parlance, urban design means the appearance, layout, and organization of the built form of large-scale urban environments. Urban design also implies a deliberate process to create functional, efficient, just, and aesthetically appealing urban spaces. Accordingly, as the editor of this new Routledge collection explains, 'design' is used simultaneously as both noun and verb, and the literature on urban design reflects this parallel possibility. As a noun, urban design is an object of historical, critical, comparative commentaries on the circumstances, values, and processes that lead to a particular urban design outcome and its human consequences. Scholarship here is critical and reflective of the past outcomes, and normative about future possibilities. The other literature that focuses on design as a process tends to emphasize the practice, methods, and the institutional frameworks that guide urban design and influence its outcome. While the former includes writings from social sciences and the humanities, the latter are drawn primarily from the disciplines of architecture, landscape architecture, and urban planning. In the realm of practice, these three...



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