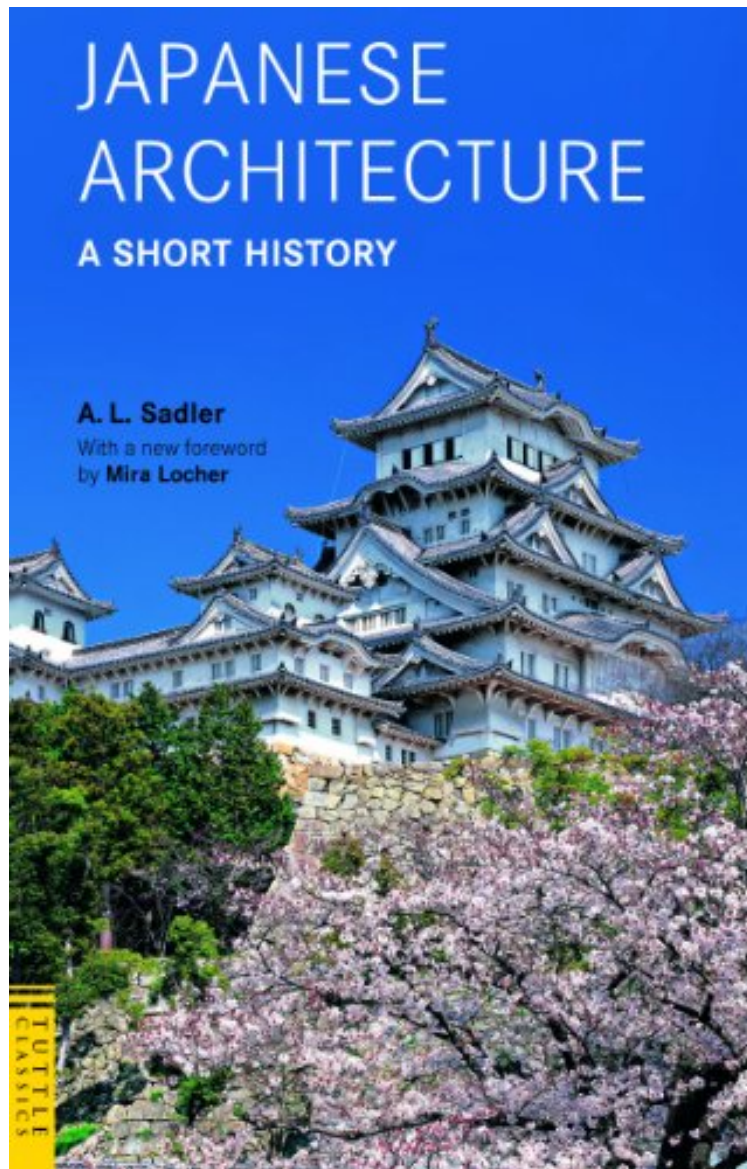


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Japanese Architecture: A Short History (Tuttle Classics)

A. L. Sadler

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A. L. Sadler : Japanese Architecture: A Short History (Tuttle Classics) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Japanese Architecture: A Short History (Tuttle Classics):

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. fantastic look at Japanese structuresBy Michael S.this is a great book for beginning to describe the architecture and design of the buildings in Japan! a great book5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Japanese architecture over the yearsBy Zack DavissonA.L. Sadler's 1941 book "Japanese Architecture: A Short History" is one of several books Sadler wrote to help introduce the West to the then-unknown culture of Japan. More than just a textbook or academic exercise, Sadler infuses his description of Japanese

architecture with short lessons on Japanese culture and society. One cannot separate the building from the people, after all. "Japanese Architecture" goes through each period a chapter at a time, from the Early Period (660 BC - 540 AD) up to the Edo Period (1616 - 1860 AD). He then discusses some of the special features of Japanese architecture, such as the shoji screens, the bathroom, and the ceilings. He goes into some depth of the building regulations of the Tokugawa period, which prescribed what kind of house you could live in by what class you were born into. By "short history," Sadler isn't kidding. Each period gets only a few pages to cover several hundred years, which makes for quick and easy reading. Fully a third of the book is illustrations. Unfortunately, the illustrations are not spread throughout the text but collected in the back as an appendix. That means you have to do a lot of flipping back and forth as you read the book to look at the picture that Sadler is describing. I enjoyed "Japanese Architecture: A Short History" even though the writing was a bit dry. I was happy for the short chapters, and I wish the pictures had been published next to the text instead of in the back. I don't know if this is how the book originally appeared in 1941 or not, but that is likely. When I lived in Japan I was curious about the different types of buildings, particularly in the shrines and temples that appear everywhere but are often stylistically different. Thanks to Sadler's book I have a better grasp of the architecture and can better place when a particular building was made by what style it is in.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. returned this book

By corrientes As it is a good book about architecture, I was looking for one, and still didn't find, that related the religions, social structure and architecture.

helga

This expert guide to Japanese architecture is of enormous historical importance to the understanding of Japanese design and culture. Pioneering Japanologist A. L. Sadler's invaluable study of Japanese architecture first appeared in 1941. Considered a classic in its field, unequalled in clarity and insight, *Japanese Architecture A Short History* is a lucid and uncomplicated introduction to this important aspect of Japanese culture. Beginning with the earliest evidences from prehistory and ending with the Edo period, when Japan attained stature as a modern state, *Japanese Architecture* is as relevant today as it was in 1941. The book includes an overview of Japanese domestic architecture as it evolved through successive periods of history and perfected the forms so widely admired in the West. Of particular importance in this respect are the four concluding chapters, in which the distinctive features of the Japanese house are presented in clear detail. The architecture book also contains excellent illustrations, which show details of planning and construction.

About the Author The late A. L. Sadler was Professor Oriental Studies at the University of Sydney for 26 years. He died in 1971. Among his works are *Shogun: The Life of Tokugawa Ieyasu* and *Japanese Tea Ceremony: Cha-no-yu*.