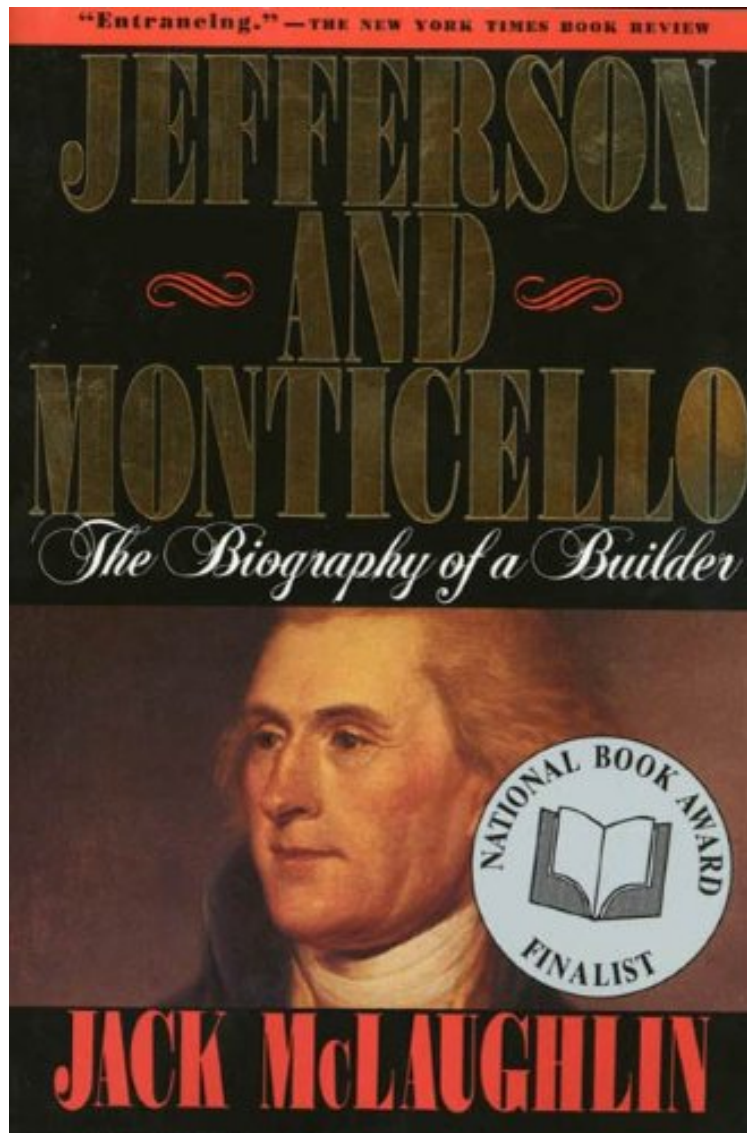


[Free read ebook] Jefferson and Monticello: The Biography of a Builder

Jefferson and Monticello: The Biography of a Builder

Von Jack McLaughlin

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Von Jack McLaughlin : **Jefferson and Monticello: The Biography of a Builder** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Jefferson and Monticello: The Biography of a Builder:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A well written account of the complex man that was JeffersonVon Joe OwenThis is a very informative and well written account about the 3rd President of the United States, the immortal Thomas Jefferson. This biography about the man and his passion for architecture are written down in easy to follow text that is difficult to accomplish about the

complex man. The planning of Monticello and the labor of building and re-building are fascinating to think of, especially in the timeframe of which it was built. Jefferson was a true genius in his inventions and insight of how he wanted Monticello to work and function. People seem to forget that Jefferson was a gifted man of many talents, and in my opinion, one of his greatest gifts was architecture. In architecture of Monticello and the University of Virginia, Jefferson gives an insight to the man himself. Simple yet very complex. Jefferson enjoyed simplicity on the surface, but peel away the layers of the man, you found a very complex and intellectual person. The way Monticello was built and rebuilt due to Jefferson changing tastes and ideas says a lot about the man's personal life himself. The only disturbing thing about Monticello was the human cost of labor that was used in it being built. The African-American slaves were the backbone of building to Jefferson's whim. This must have taken a heavy toll of labor and lives, due to the magnificence of Monticello. This by the man who wrote that "all men are created equal". An interesting point to ponder. Overall, this is an excellent read and highly recommended to any history enthusiasts and enthusiasts of early American architecture.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. First Rate Blend of History and Architecture
Von Avid Reader
This is a masterly work which was interesting not only to the amateur or professional architect but to the historian in each of us. Anyone who has visited Monticello is struck by what I can only call an 18th century "laboratory of ideas." His incessant tinkering, updating, adding, replacing demonstrate a vibrant and open mind. I was struck that Jefferson did not consider his being President, Sec of State or the Declaration of Independence author as the REALLY important facts of his life. They were the design of a new nation, founding the Univ of Virginia and last, but certainly not least, as a builder/architect. A wonderfully illustrated, vivid portrait of the man and his times. Jefferson was and is a hero not because of but in spite of his faults.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Great insight into a portion of this unique man
Von Rick Matson
Having just toured Monticello, I was intrigued to learn more about the man that conceived and built this home and the many clever mechanisms within it. The book more than fulfilled my hopes of giving substantial insight into Jefferson's mindset and rationale for the many changes he made to it. If you like learning how and why unique structures like this come to be, you'll love this book. It was as satisfying as a similar book, *The Builders Behind The Castles* by Taylor Coffman which covers a similar reflection on the building and constant changes to Hearst's San Simeon.

Kurzbeschreibung
This book, a National Book Award nominee in 1988, is the life of Thomas Jefferson as seen through the prism of his love affair with Monticello. For over half a century, it was his consuming passion, his most serious amusement. With a sure command of sources and skilled intuitive understanding of Jefferson, McLaughlin crafts an uncommon portrait of builder and building alike. En route he tells us much about life in Virginia; about Monticello's craftsmen and how they worked their materials; about slavery, class, and family; and, above all, about the multiplicity of domestic concerns that preoccupied this complex man. It is an engaging and incisive look at the eighteenth-century mind: systematic, rational, and curious, but also playful, comfort-loving, and amusing. Ultimately, it provides readers with great insight into daily life in Colonial and Federal America.

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