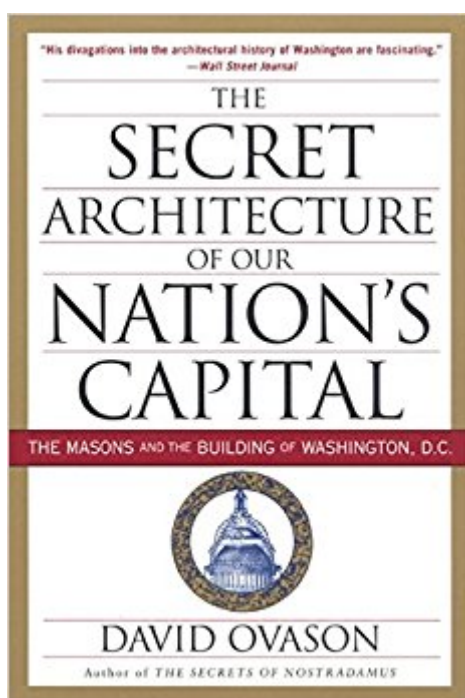


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The Secret Architecture Of Our Nation's Capital: The Masons And The Building Of Washington, D.C.



Synopsis

Today, there are more than twenty complete zodiacs in Washington, D.C., each one pointing to an extraordinary mystery. David Ovason, who has studied these astrological devices for ten years, now reveals why they have been placed in such abundance in the center of our nation's capital and explains their interconnections. His richly illustrated text tells the story of how Washington, from its foundation in 1791, was linked with the zodiac, with the meaning of certain stars, and with a hidden cosmological symbolism that he uncovers here for the first time. Fascinating and thoroughly researched, *The Secret Architecture of Our Nation's Capital* is an engrossing book that raises provocative questions and offers complex insights into the meanings behind the mysterious symbols in Washington.

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Customer Reviews

In this audacious, erudite study, Ovason (*The Secrets of Nostradamus*) sets out to prove that Washington, D.C., was designed and built largely by Masonic architects and that they imprinted the beliefs of their brotherhood on the city's layout. Benjamin Franklin, architect James Hoban (who designed the White House), Presidents Garfield and Polk and Statue of Liberty sculptor Frederic Bartholdi were all Masons. Indeed, when President George Washington laid the cornerstone of the Capitol building in 1793, he wore a Masonic apron adorned with occult Masonic symbols and an image of the zodiac. And although textbooks teach that the federal city was the brainchild of French engineer Pierre-Charles L'Enfant, Ovason argues that Washington, Jefferson, U.S. Surveyor

General Andrew Ellicott and others. Many of them Masons substantially modified L'Enfant's original blueprint. As a result, Masonic symbolism appears in the marble, plaster, concrete, glass and paint facades of the Federal Reserve, the Library of Congress and other landmarks. This book, the result of a decade of thought and research, establishes the plausibility of Ovason's theory. However, the volume is a labyrinthine, illustrated tome that also contains a good deal of wild speculation. Ovason posits, for example, that the "earthly triangle" formed by Capitol/White House/Washington Monument mirrors a triangle of stars in the constellation Virgo, an astrological sign important to the Masons. This, he contends, proves that Masons secretly consecrated the nation's capital to the celestial Virgo. It's an interesting, if dubious, suggestion. But Ovason never establishes the significance of the link between the capital and the occult. (July) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Ovason, an astrology teacher, analyzes the symbols in the architecture of Washington, DC, and connects them to the influences of the arcane traditions of Masonry. This ambitious work looks at the Capitol, the Washington Monument, city planning, and the numerous zodiacs located throughout the city. A major theme is the importance of the Virgo sign of the zodiac and how it is reflected in the sculpture, design, and ceremony involved in the construction of the capital. In general, the work contains thorough research and brilliant analysis, but the reader may find that Ovason reads too much into some symbols, especially when locating ties to Virgo. A minor problem is the overuse of substantive endnotes, which displaces some important information that could have been incorporated into the text. Recommended for academic libraries with collections of architectural history, Masonic, or esoteric literature. By contrast, *The United States Capitol* is a collection of specialists' papers offering numerous points of view on a single building in the nation's capital. The first section, on architecture, traces the design and construction of the building from its beginnings in 1790 through the present Office of the Architect. Much emphasis is placed on the conflicts of personality and philosophy that have burdened the building's development. The second section, on painting and sculpture, focuses more on the objects than the artists, giving considerable attention to techniques and hidden meanings within the works. Altogether, the book is well researched and appropriately illustrated with photographs and architectural drawings. Recommended for both academic and larger public libraries. D. Eric Linderman, Ida Rupp P.L., Port Clinton, OH Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

The Secret Architecture of our Nation's Capital is a fascinating look at the Masonic influence on the

building of Washing D.C. The history, surprisingly, is not told from the perspective of conspiracy theory but from a respected Masonic apologist. While some may claim the United States of America was founded by Christians, the architecture is clearly steeped in esoteric Egyptian, Greek and Roman occultism. From the largest free standing stone phallus in the world, to astronomical alignment of the nation's capital you be "enlightened" by this journey back in time to the origins of some of our great monuments.

This book is a one of a kind for its depth and breadth. There's nothing else out there that I've read that gets into the details of how the city of Washington was built, rebuilt, and then rebuilt again. It gets five stars just for the amount of information David Ovason put together to make this. BUT, the book's narrative is so meandering that it can be hard to follow at times. Even for someone who knows the history of DC, I found myself going back and rereading whole passages before moving on because of the nagging feeling that I was missing something. To his fault, Mr. Ovason takes for granted that the reader knows a lot about both astrology and astronomy. Pop quiz, quick! What's an azimuth?? What's the order of the Zodiac? Which came first, the Age of Virgo or the Age of Leo? Suffice it to say that you'll enjoy this book a lot more if you already know something about astrology and architecture. My recommendation? Before you read "The Secret Architecture of Our Nation's Capital" read "The Power of Stars: How Celestial Observations Have Shaped Civilization" by Bryan Penprase. Penprase's book is a step-by-step guide to the zodiac and how it has played a role in architecture from ancient times until modern times. Once you're done with "The Power of Stars," read "The Secret Architecture of Our Nation's Capital." You'll enjoy it a lot more when you know what Mr. Ovason is talking about. Because of how it's organized, and for getting me lost half way through every chapter, I gave "The Secret Architecture of Our Nation's Capital" three stars. It's worth reading but you need some prep first!

Very interesting book about some "not so hidden" secrets about the architecture of buildings, street layout and monument layout and design of our nations capital. Very interesting, makes me want to go for a visit, which I will probably do in the next few years both because I have been wanting to anyway and because this book has peaked my curiosity. If you are interested in this you may want to also check some materials from Scott Onstott who has a web page and You Tube videos that are very interesting, he is actually a mathematician and unlike some other weird videos his opinions have merit. It was actually through his recommendation that I got this book.

Interesting read about the nations capital and surrounding buildings

Excellent!

Fascinating and engaging analysis, which must be reinforced by visiting the capital and literally seeing what the author is talking about. As a play must be seen (and not only read), in the same manner this book acquires a different feel and has a more powerful effect on the intellect when the text is visually juxtaposed to the real city.

A remarkable amount of research has gone into this book. The previous reviewer complained that it was "undocumented" but why does the author need to document a road, a building, or a statue if it exists in plain sight and is common knowledge? This proves that the author's thesis touches a raw nerve to those who are comfortable only with conventional understandings of history that sugar coat the past and pull the wool over our eyes. Clearly, there was a powerful cult behind the formation of the United States. They were not devout Christians, but were committed only to the esoteric ideals of their own secret society. Ideals that apparently originate in ancient Egypt, not Jerusalem. The author, however, coming from a Christian background and perspective dances around this truth. He prefers to view them as Christians who were simply outside the mainstream. Their obsession with "Virgo" proves this, because as everyone knows Virgo represents the Virgin Mary, right? Wrong. The author fails to grasp this nettle and meanders into a neverland that maintains Washington's "Christianity," so we'll have to wait a while longer for the real story.

Somewhat pedantic this book is fascinating with its connections both real and co-incidental in DC. Whether or not the assumptions are valid the detail included leaves good evidence for the reader to make a decision.

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