

# Architecture, Environment, and Territory: Essential Writings since 1850

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## Background

The goal of this project was to construct a collaborative volume that examines architecture and environmentalism (with adjacent fields such as urbanism and planning) through the collation of texts from multiple backgrounds regarding environmental issues. Coming into the project, I was to transcribe the selected texts and format them according to publication guidelines.

## Part 2

The second section deals with confronting modernization. A particularly striking text was *The Red Man's Greeting: 1492 to 1892* by Chief Simon Pokagon. The text is beautifully printed on white birch bark as a reminder of his culture (Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians). In the speech, Chief Pokagon describes the process and aftermath of colonization.

## Conclusion

This book project seeks to create a volume of various textual mediums (pamphlets, articles, posters) related to architecture and environmentalism. "Architecture, Environment, and Territory: Essential Writings since 1850" will create a more diverse architectural and environmental canon by including many thinkers who are underrepresented in academia.

## Part 1

The first section I partially transcribed was regarding human-nature relationships. One such text I read was an excerpt from *The American Woman's Home* (1869). In an article entitled "A Healthful Home," Beecher and Stowe walk through various dangers in heating and ventilation, and make the argument that women should understand proper air quality measures for their household safety.

## Part 3

The third section is about the idea of Earth as a closed system. An interesting text in this section is *A City Is Not a Tree* by Christopher Alexander. Alexander explores the concept of a tree (a structure in which differing units are unconnected to other units in a medium, whether in an art piece or in the conceptualization of something such as a city) versus a semilattice (a complex structure with much overlapping and ambiguity). His argument is as stated: a city is not a tree (it's a semilattice).

## References

Alexander, Christopher. "A City Is Not a Tree." 1966, p. 380-388.

Beecher, Catherine and Stowe, Harriet Beecher. "Warming and Ventilation." *The American Women's Home*, 1869, p. 43-58.

Pokagon, Simon. *The Red Man's Greeting: 1492 to 1892*. Hartford, MI: C. H. Engle, 1893, p. 1-17.

## Acknowledgements

This work was funded by Penn First Plus (P1P).