

# H-Net Reviews

in the Humanities & Social Sciences



Margaret Culbertson. *American House Designs: An Index to Popular and Trade Periodicals, 1850-1915*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1994. xiv + 326 pp. \$79.50 (cloth), ISBN 978-0-313-29202-6.

Reviewed by Michael Alcorn (University of Nevada at Las Vegas)

Published on H-Local (June, 1995)

*American House Designs* by Margaret Culbertson is an important bibliography for students of American domestic or vernacular architecture. House designs which appeared in thirty-five periodicals addressed to carpenters, women, or the general public are indexed by both architect and location. The importance of this work is that it makes readily available access to popular turn of the century house designs by pattern book architects, low profile architects and local architects in remote locations who

have seldom been acknowledged by the professional architectural journals. The history of domestic architecture as written in the journals which Culbertson indexes is the story of architecture as a consumer commodity rather than as a fine art and helps explain the townscape of virtually every small town in the United States. Scholars of vernacular architecture and regional historians will find this bibliography valuable in their work.

If there is additional discussion of this review, you may access it through the list discussion logs at:

<http://h-net.msu.edu/cgi-bin/logbrowse.pl>.

**Citation:** Michael Alcorn. Review of Culbertson, Margaret, *American House Designs: An Index to Popular and Trade Periodicals, 1850-1915*. H-Local, H-Net Reviews. June, 1995.

**URL:** <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=81>

Copyright © 1995 by H-Net, all rights reserved. H-Net permits the redistribution and reprinting of this work for nonprofit, educational purposes, with full and accurate attribution to the author, web location, date of publication, originating list, and H-Net: Humanities & Social Sciences Online. For any other proposed use, contact the Reviews editorial staff at [hbooks@mail.h-net.msu.edu](mailto:hbooks@mail.h-net.msu.edu).