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Access for All

Approaches to the Built Environment

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Access and accessibility are key issues in architecture and urbanism in the 21st century. Around the world we are faced with making ever more complex building structures and ever denser urban centres more accessible, both technically as well as in their design. Likewise, urban quarters with their networks of buildings, streets, paths, squares, and parks or even entire urban regions need to be accessible, potentially for everyone. Today, access has become a byword for quality of life and equal opportunities – access to knowledge, to education, to information media such as the internet, to mobility, and so on.

The 13 essays in this book examine the world of access to architecture, the urban realm and related disciplines. They cover topics such as orientation in the urban environment, the redevelopment of previously inaccessible areas, public participation in the design process, or how accessibility enables people to lead a more independent, self-determined way of life.

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