Three recent books show depth, breadth of coverage

AMANDEE ADAMS EXPLORES THE GAZETTE

Architecture is very much a visual art, and much of our knowledge of it comes from books. But to claim that a book is "the definitive work" on a subject is to claim that it is complete, that it contains all that needs to be said. The definitive works on the history of architecture are many, and each is a small part of a much larger whole. It is impossible to know everything about architecture, but it is possible to know enough to appreciate the beauty and complexity of the buildings we see around us.

"The History of Architecture" by Alastair Wilson is one such book. It is an excellent introduction to the subject for anyone who wants to learn more about the history of architecture. The book is well written and easy to read, and it covers a wide range of topics. It begins with an introduction to the history of architecture, and then goes on to discuss the major periods of architectural history, from the ancient Greeks and Romans to the modernists of the 20th century.

The book is divided into chapters, each of which focuses on a different period of architectural history. Each chapter is well written and well illustrated, and it provides a clear and concise overview of the architecture of that period. The author also provides a lot of information about the major architects of each period, and he discusses the influence of their work on later architects.

One of the best things about this book is that it is not just a history of architecture, but it is also a history of ideas. The author shows how the ideas of architects have changed over time, and how those ideas have been reflected in the buildings they designed.

Overall, "The History of Architecture" is a great book. It is well written, well illustrated, and it provides a clear and concise overview of the history of architecture. I would definitely recommend it to anyone who wants to learn more about the history of architecture.