

A NEW BOOK PUBLISHED BY OBLONG FOR
THE BIRMINGHAM AND WEST MIDLANDS
GROUP OF THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY

Birmingham's Victorian and Edwardian Architects



OBLONG

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Hardback with colour dustjacket, 652 pages, 245 x 171 mm, 330 illustrations

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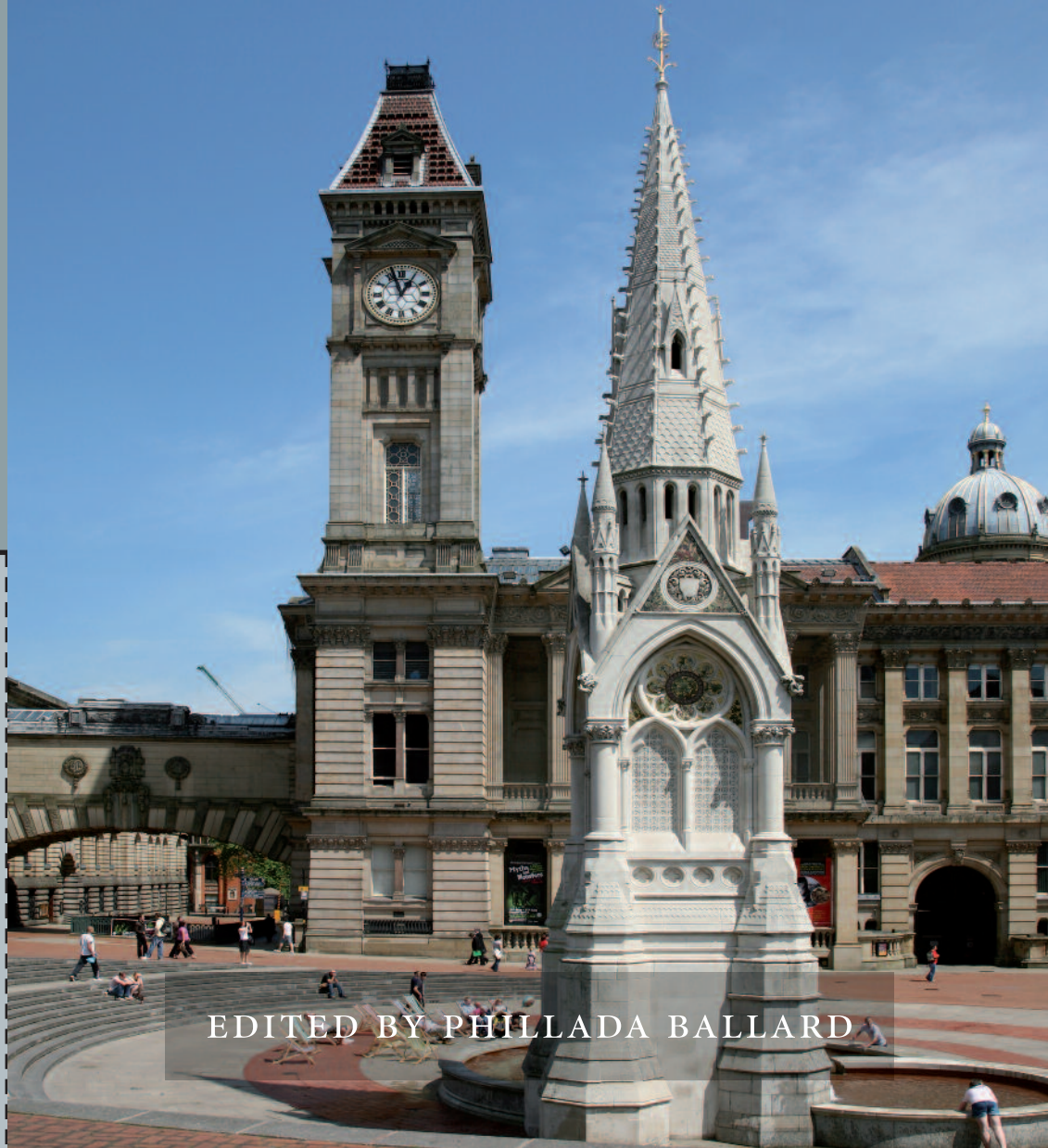
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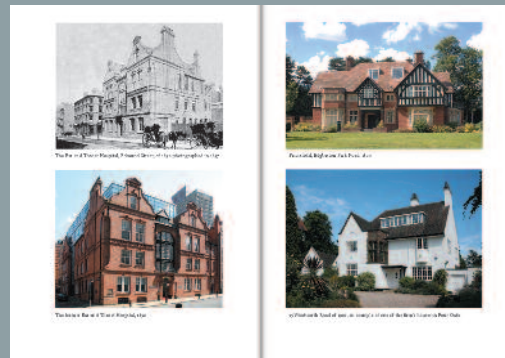
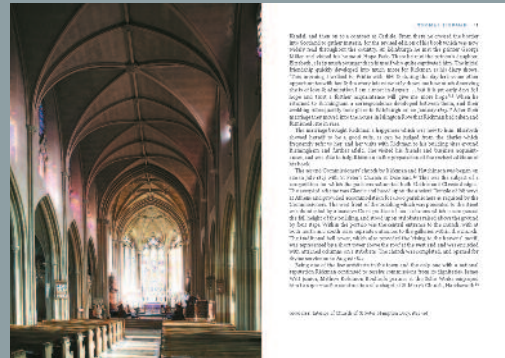
EDITED BY PHILLADA BALLARD

Birmingham's Victorian and Edwardian Architects

Birmingham's Victorian and Edwardian Architects covers the work of the leading practitioners in Birmingham from the 1820s to the First World War, in twenty-six essays on individual architects or architectural practices.

Birmingham's marked preference for 'local buildings for local people by local people' demonstrated a reluctance to employ 'outside' architects, and, in general, major commissions went to Birmingham men. These architects were noted for their versatility, their output ranging from villas to churches, banks to hospitals, as well as the wide range of buildings required for civic purposes after Birmingham became a borough in 1838, notably a prison, lunatic asylum, workhouse, Council House, public libraries and an Art Gallery. With the increasing prosperity of England's second city after the mid-nineteenth century the range of buildings types increased with commissions being placed for office chambers, department stores and shopping arcades, gentlemen's clubs and hotels, large educational buildings and purpose-built factories. By the early twentieth century designs for cinemas and electricity sub-stations were also required.

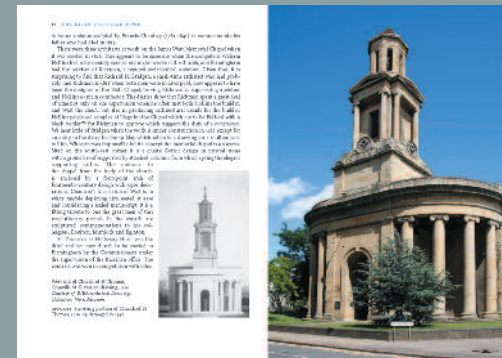
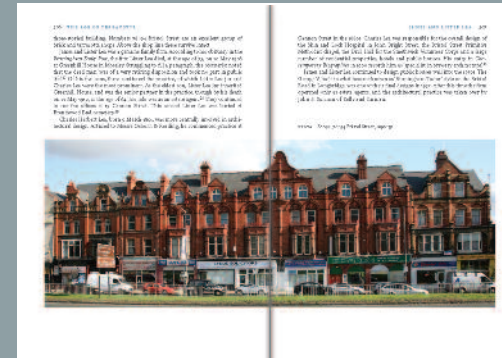
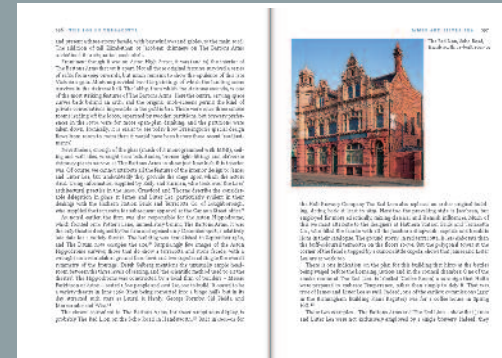
The range of building materials employed was also wide and for a period Birmingham architects were notable for their use of terracotta in such buildings as reformed pubs, gospel halls, a telephone exchange, the School of Art and Board schools.



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Much output was domestic and the book includes the important group of Arts and Crafts architects whose work received national and international recognition.

The book features many architectural drawings, historic engravings and photographs, and contemporary photographs which enhance this record of the designers of Birmingham's Victorian and Edwardian city.

The essays in this book have been commissioned by the Birmingham and West Midlands Group of the Victorian Society. The contributors include architectural, local and social historians, university lecturers, conservation officers and practicing architects all with a particular expertise on individual architects and their contribution to the historic built environment.

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