

This edited book examines architectural representations that tie water, as a physical and symbolic property, with the sacred. The discussion centers on two levels of this relationship: how water influenced the sacredness of buildings across history and different religions; and how sacred architecture expressed the spiritual meaning of water.

The volume deliberately offers original material on various unique contextual and design aspects of water and sacred architecture, rather than an attempt to produce a historic chronological analysis on the topic or focusing on a specific geographical region. As such, this unique volume adds a new dimension to the study of sacred architecture. The book's chapters are compiled by a stellar group of scholars and practitioners from the US, Canada, Europe, Asia, and Africa. It addresses major aspects of water in religious buildings, such as, rituals, pilgrimage, water as a cultural material and place-making, hydro systems, modern practices, environmental considerations, the contribution of water to transforming secular into sacred, and future digital/cyber context of water and sacredness. All chapters are based on original archival studies, historical documents, and field visits to the sites and buildings. These examinations show water as an expression of architectural design, its materiality, and its spiritual values. The book will be of interest to architects, historians, environmentalists, archaeologists, religious scholars, and preservationists.

**Anat Geva**, PhD, a registered architect in Israel and Associate Member of the AIA, is Professor Emerita of Architecture in Texas A&M University, and the College of Architecture Outstanding Alumni. She taught design; history/design of sacred architecture; history of building technology; and historic preservation. She published many articles and three books: *Frank Lloyd Wright Sacred Architecture: Faith, Form, and Building Technology* (Routledge, 2012); *Modernism and American Mid-20th Century Sacred Architecture* (Routledge, 2019); and *Israel Architecture as an Experimental Lab for Modern Architecture: 1948-1978*: with Inbal Ben-Asher Gitler (Intellect Books, 2020). Geva's forthcoming book *The Architecture of Modern American Synagogues (1950s-1960s)* is currently in press (Texas A&M University Press). She also has an extensive record of editorial work: being a co-editor of *Arris*, and founder and co-editor of *Preservation Education & Research*. She is a recipient of several awards and research grants including the prestigious *James Marston Fitch National Award* for innovative research in historic preservation.