reference source to acousticians, thermal and chemical physicists, analytical spectroscopists, materials scientists, and nondestructive testing engineers.

**Time-Saver Standards for Building Types: 3rd Edition**

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The 1st Edition of Time-Saver Standards for Building Types has been an important part of my professional library since its publication in 1973. As stated in its preface: "It is intended to give basic design criteria for each major type of building. It will give those unfamiliar with a specific building type a talking or working knowledge of its functions, organization, and major components." Over the years, I have referred to Time-Saver frequently for planning and design guidelines for building types such as gymnasiums, airport terminals, and police stations. But as the 1st Edition is now 17 years old and much of it is based on other even older versions of Time-Saver Standards, I have begun to find the book inadequate for contemporary design practice. The past two decades have been a period of profound change for building planning and design. Many building requirements have changed and entire new categories of buildings have evolved. It was with enthusiasm that I looked forward to the 3rd Edition; which the publisher promised would be "revised, expanded, and completely brought up to date." I am greatly disappointed with the result. While the 3rd Edition has been expanded to approximately 1400 pages, nearly a third more than the 1st Edition, little of the original material has been revised and the updating has been insufficient.

It is as if "Time-Saver" was redefined so that instead of meaning "a reduction in design and research time" it meant a "time capsule or a depository of obsolete building design criteria." The chapter on residential design, for example, is virtually unchanged from previous editions and is completely silent on current issues such as how to accommodate a microwave oven into a kitchen. The chapter on office design ignores the impact of computers in the work environment. In Time-Saver, movie theaters are still large auditoriums instead of the multiplexes that have replaced movie palaces, and Cinemascope is referred to as a "new" optical system. The 3-point line has not been added to Time-Saver's basketball court layout. Shopping centers still have millinery shops and a 5-and-10 but no video arcades, food courts, or warehouse type mega-martians. Radio stations still spin records and have no notion about compact laser disks. Hospitals do not have birthing rooms or magnetic resonance imaging equipment. The criteria for hospital laboratories are taken from a 1963 publication and ignore a quarter of a century of medical technology. The 3rd Edition shows a familiar environment that we may know from our past but which is not an accurate image of the current world.

New material in the 3rd Edition frequently appears to be stuck onto the ends of existing chapters without much attempt to integrate the old and new information. The new material also lacks the authority and encyclopedic treatment of the 1st Edition. For example, a new "chapter" on child-care centers is only a single page long, hardly adequate for a building type that has become such an important aspect of our social landscape. Furthermore, the section consists solely of two floor plans reprinted from a 22-year-old Department of Defense manual without any text or interpretation. When there is significant new material, it is embedded in obsolete material, which renders the entire collection suspect.

The book is also lacking in production values. As material was added to the book over the years, varied illustration and typographical styles have accreted until now the book is visually chaotic. Indeed, some of the new plates appear as though they were prepared on a typewriter of poor quality and then run through an inferior photocopier before being stripped into the book (e.g., page 859). The 3rd Edition sports a brightly colored binding, but the review copy I received was already splitting whereas my 1st Edition still has years of serviceability in it.

Time-Saver Standards for Building Types will remain a part of my library, but I am tempted to keep the 1st Edition instead of the 3rd Edition; at least the former was authoritative at the time it was published. The 3rd Edition suffers from too many inaccuracies and omissions to be considered a primary reference tool.