

How to find information on architects

To find information (text and images) related to architects or architectural firms you can use both print and electronic resources.

Dictionaries and encyclopedias can be a good starting point. They contain brief authoritative information and often some bibliographic citations. They also can help to put a particular architect or group of architects into historical and cultural context.

All dictionaries and encyclopedia are located in the [Reference section: \(aisles 1 and 2 in the Architecture Library\)](#)

- *Dictionary of art*. New York: Grove's Dictionaries. 34vv. 1996- .
Arch Ref N31 .D5
- *McMillan encyclopedia of architects*. New York: Free Press; London: Collier Macmillan, c1982.
Arch Ref NA40 .1425
- *Encyclopedia of world art*. New York: McGraw-Hill; [1959-68]
Arch Ref N31 .E553
- *Encyclopedia of architecture, design, engineering and construction*. New York: Wiley, c1988-
Arch Ref NA31 .E59
- *Encyclopedia of vernacular architecture of the world*. 3vv. Cambridge; New York, NY, USA : Cambridge University Press, 1997.
Arch Ref NA 208 .E53
- *Dictionary of architecture and construction*. New York: McGraw-Hill, c1993.
Arch Ref NA 31 .H32
- *Biographical dictionary of American architects (deceased)*. Los Angeles: Hennessey Ingalls, 1970 [c1956]
Arch Ref NA736 .W57 1970
- *International dictionary of architects and architecture*. Detroit: St. James Press, c1993
Arch Ref NA40 .I48
- *Contemporary designers*. Chicago: St. James Press, 1990.
Arch Ref NK1166 .C66
- *Contemporary architects*. New York: St. James Press, 1994.
Arch Ref NA680 .C625
- *Biographical dictionaries of British architects 1600-1840*. London: J.Murray, 1978.
Arch Ref NA996 .C6

- *American architects: a survey of award winning contemporaries and their notable works.* New York: Facts on File, c1989.
Arch Ref NA736 .K7
- *Who's who in architecture: from 1400 to the present day.* New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, c1977.
Arch Ref NA40 .W48
- *Master builders: a guide to famous American architects.* Washington, D.C.: Preservation Press, c1985.
Arch Stacks NA736 .M37
- *Illustrated dictionary of historic architecture.* [New York] : McGraw-Hill, c1998.
Arch Ref NA31 .H56
- *Illustrated encyclopedia of architects and architecture.* New York: Whitney Library of Design, 1991.
Arch Ref NA40 .I45
- *Avery obituary index of architects.* Boston : G.K. Hall, 1980.
Arch Ref Z5943 .A69 A93 1980

Bibliographies, bio-bibliographies, and guides present a valuable source of information on architects (the majority of them are located in the **Reference section – aisles 1 and 2**)

- *American architects from the Civil War to the First World War: a guide to information sources./ by Lawrence Wodehouse* Detroit : Gale Research Co., c1976.
Arch Ref Z5944 .U5W63
- *American architects from the First World War to the present: a guide to information sources. / by Lawrence Wodehouse.* Detroit: Gale Research Co., c1977.
Arch Ref Z5944 .U5W635
- *Makers of 20th century modern architecture: a bio-critical sourcebook./ by D.L.Johnson and D.Langmead,* 1997
Arch Ref NA680 .J628
- *British architects 1840-1976: a guide to information resources./ by L.Wodehouse.* Detroit : Gale Research Co., c1978.
Arch Ref Z5944 .G7 W66
- *Bibliography of early American architecture. /by F.Roos.* Urbana, University of Illinois Press, 1968.
Arch Ref Z5944 .U5R6
- *Paul Rudolph and Louis Kahn: a bibliography.* Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1987.
Arch Ref NA712 .S63
- *Le Corbusier: an annotated bibliography.* New York: Garland Pub., 1985.
Arch Ref NA1053 .J4

- *J.J.P.Oud and the international style: a bio-bibliography./ by D. Langmead.* Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1999.
Arch Ref NA1153.O8L36

(For more titles search the [Library Online Catalog](#))

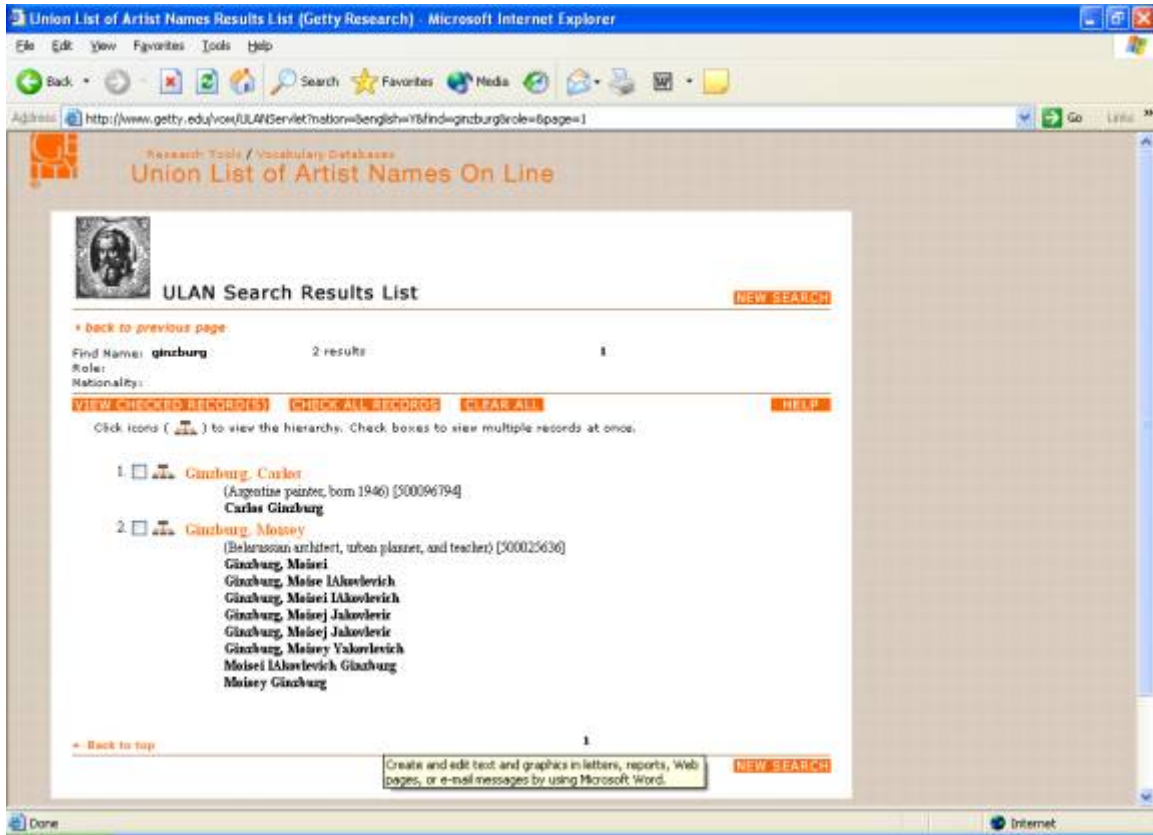
General histories of art and architecture (Sir Banister Fletcher's *History of Architecture*; Marvin Trachtenberg's *Architecture: From Pre-history to Post-Modernism*; Kenneth Frampton's *Modern Architecture: a critical history*, etc.) provide information on architects and often some bibliographical sources.

Monographs offer the most complete information on an architect or group of architects. **How to find a book** tutorial can help you to conduct your research. If you are looking for a specific publication you can check its availability in the library by searching [the online catalog](#). If you do not know the exact title or author's name search by using the architect's name (last name first) or architectural firm's name as a **Subject**. Put the architect's name as an **Author** to find books **written by** him/her.

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the NJIT Library catalog. The address bar shows a search URL for 'Ando, Tadao'. The page title is 'New Jersey Institute of Technology library web catalog'. A navigation menu includes Database, Search, Headings, Titles, Patron, Login, Request, History, Help, and Exit. The search results section shows 'Database name: NJIT Libraries' and 'Search request: Subject search (browse in index) = ando, tadao'. Below this is a table of search results.

#	Titles	Headings	Headings Type
[1]	6 Ando, Tadao, 1941-		LC subject headings
[2]	1 Ando, Tadao, 1941- Criticism and interpretation.		LC subject headings
[3]	1 Ando, T_adao, 1941- Exhibitions		LC subject headings
[4]	1 Ando, Tadao, 1941- Themes, motives		LC subject headings
[5]	1 Andrii, John, 1751-1780 Fiction		LC subject headings
[6]	1 Andrea Gail (Boat)		LC subject headings
[7]	1 Andreu, Paul Catalogs.		LC subject headings
[8]	1 Andrew toolkit.		LC subject headings
[9]	1 Andrews, Edward Deming, 1894-1964 Art collections.		LC subject headings
[10]	1 Andrews, Faith Art collections.		LC subject headings
[11]	1 Andrews, John, 1933-		LC subject headings
[12]	1 Andrews Senior High School		LC subject headings
[13]	2 Androgyny (Psychology)		LC subject headings

It is really helpful if you know all possible spellings of an architect or a firm's name. (Check the [Union List of Artists Names](#) to find different versions of name spelling).



Very often articles are the only source available, especially when you are looking for information on recent events and new names in the field of architecture.

To locate articles, search Periodical Databases.

NJIT has access to various indexes: *Avery Index*, *Art-Full Text and Art Index Retrospective*, *Architectural Index*, which provide you with information on where and when a specific article was published.

Databases *Academic Search Premier*, *OmniFile*, *JStor*, *Project Muse*, *Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe*, give you citations and often full text articles (check each database for full-text coverage).

Learn more about searching databases by reading their "Help" sections and our online tutorials: **How to search Avery Index** and **How to find an article**.

Web resources, which are growing rapidly, can also be used for finding information on architects and architectural firms.

[ProFile](#) – the architects' sourcebook.

[Online directories of practices](#) – RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects).

[Brief biographies of American architects](#) who died between 1897-1947.

[Biographical database of women in architecture](#) from the IAWA (International archive of women in architecture).

Many architectural firms have their own websites that include biographical and other data on their principal architects. To find these sites search the [YAHOO directory of architectural firms](#).

Architectural Information Portals created in various countries can help to locate information on architecture worldwide.

[ArchiNed \(Netherlands\)](#)

[ArchINFORM \(Germany\)](#)

[Architects Online \(Italy\)](#)

[Architecture.com \(UK\)](#)

[CHIN \(Canada\)](#)

[Merimee \(France\)](#)

[web\[architect\].at \(Austria\)](#)

[PSA Publishers](#)

Many web resources provide access to digital images.

[Architecture Library Image Database](#) (password protected)

Great Buildings

Vitruvio

For more information on images read our tutorial: [*How to find images.*](#)

There are many web sites available for your research, but not all are of equally good quality. Learn how to [evaluate web resources.](#)

Precedent research can be conducted by recalling the **BArTLES** acronym by searching each descriptor

(Credit: Jim Robertson, past Director of Barbara & Leonard Littman Architecture Library)

B Building

Ar Architect

T Building Type

L Location

E Era

S Style

Please do not hesitate to ask library staff for assistance!

Maya Gervits