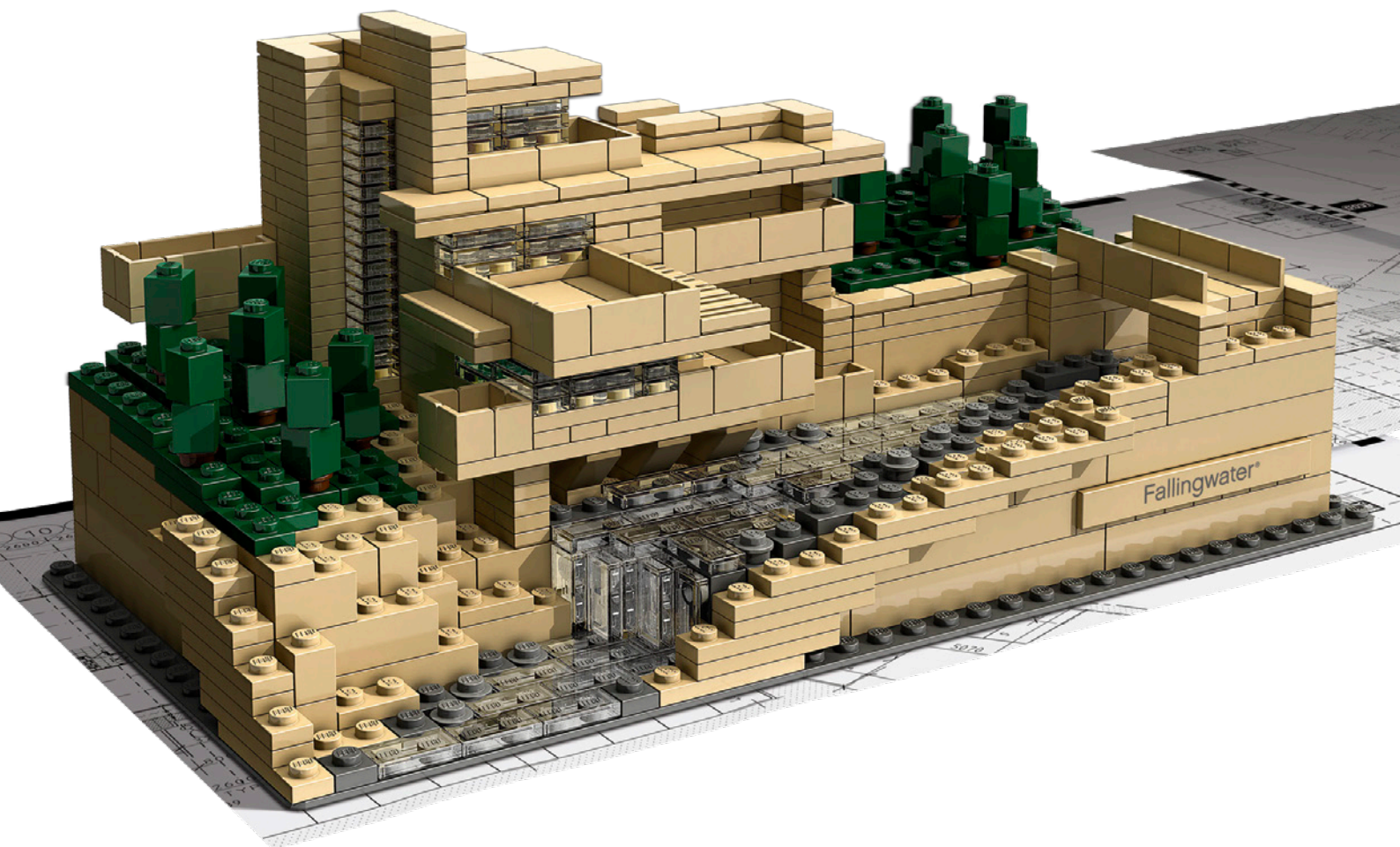




Architecture

Fallingwater®

Mill Run, Pennsylvania



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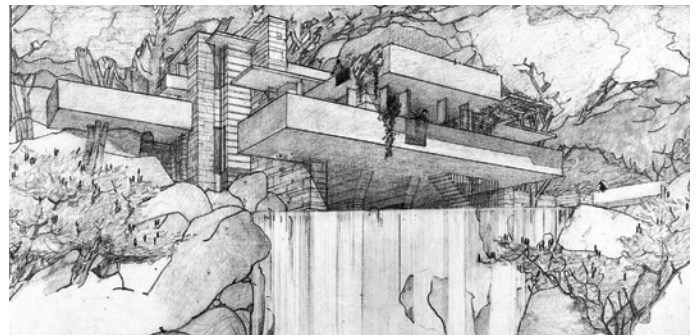
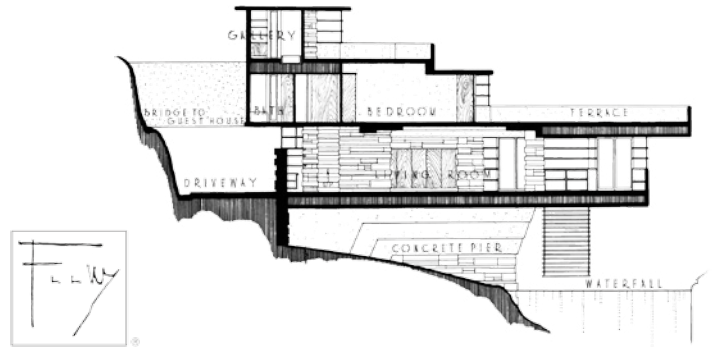
Frank Lloyd Wright

Frank Lloyd Wright, 1867–1959, is recognized worldwide as one of the greatest architects of the 20th century. His work heralded a new approach to architecture using innovations in design and engineering made possible by newly developed technology and materials.

No other American architect's work endures, or remains as compelling, as that of Frank Lloyd Wright. His was a unique style rooted in nature, that he called "organic architecture"; emphasizing the harmonious relationship between a building and its landscape. It changed how we came to view our buildings, towns, and the land around us.



(Photo: OBMA. ©FLWright Fdn.)



(©FLWright Fdn.)



Fallingwater. (Courtesy of Western Pennsylvania Conservancy).

The Architect's Thoughts about the Building

"The rock-ledges of a stone-quarry are a story and a longing to me. There is suggestion in the strata and character in the formations. I like to sit and feel it, as it is. Often I have thought, were great monumental buildings ever given me to build, I would go to the Grand Canyon of Arizona to ponder them... For in the stony bone-work of the Earth, the principles that shaped stone as it lies, or as it rises and remains to be sculptured by winds and tide – there sleep forms and styles enough for all the ages for all of Man.^[5]"



Desk and view (©Hedrich-Blessing)

"The visit to the waterfall in the woods stays with me and a domicile has taken vague shape in my mind to the music of the stream. When contours come you will see it. Meantime, to you my affection.^[6]"

"This structure might serve to indicate that the sense of shelter... has no limitations as to form except the materials used and the methods by which they are employed for what purpose.^[7]"

"Looking back years later at what he had created there, in this enchanted glen, Wright said, 'Fallingwater® is a great blessing – one of the great blessings to be experienced here on earth. I think that



Living Room (©Yukio Futagawa)

nothing yet ever equaled the coordination, sympathetic expression of the great principle of repose, where forest and stream and rock and all the elements of structure are combined so quietly that really you listen not to any noise whatsoever, although the music of the stream is there. But you listen to Fallingwater the way you listen to the quiet of the country.^[8]"

History of Fallingwater®



Scaffolding (©F.L.Wright Fdn.)

“He had the design totally in his head, as always, and as he recommended to the apprentices, if no whole idea, no architecture.” John Lautner, letter of June 20, 1974. Lautner was an apprentice from 1933 to 1939.

“Mr. Wright was not at all disturbed by the fact that not one line had been drawn. As was normal, he asked me to bring him the topographical map of Bear Run to his draughting table in the

sloping-roofed studio at Taliesin, a rustic but wondrous room in itself... I stood by, on his right side, keeping his colored pencils sharpened. Every line he drew, vertically and especially horizontally, I watched with complete fascination... Mr. Kaufmann arrived and Mr. Wright greeted him in his wondrously warm manner. In the studio, Mr. Wright explained the sketches to his client. Mr. Kaufmann, a very intelligent but practical gentleman, merely said... ‘I thought you would place the house near the waterfall, not over it.’ Mr. Wright said quietly, ‘E.J. I want you to live with the waterfall, not just to look at it, but for it to become an integral part of your lives.’ And it did just that.” Bob Mosher, Letter of Jan. 20, 1974.

“In 1963, Edgar Kaufmann Jr. gave his home, Fallingwater®, to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy with the intent that it be open to the public for tours. His gift constitutes one of the most magnanimous acts in the annals of architectural and fine art history. This one building, undoubtedly the most famous private residence built in a free, democratic society, has been widely published the world over since its completion in 1939, and its influence continues to this day.^[1]”

“The famous view of the house, taken from downstream looking up to the water cascades and under the balconies above it, emphasizes this element of projecting forms merging building and

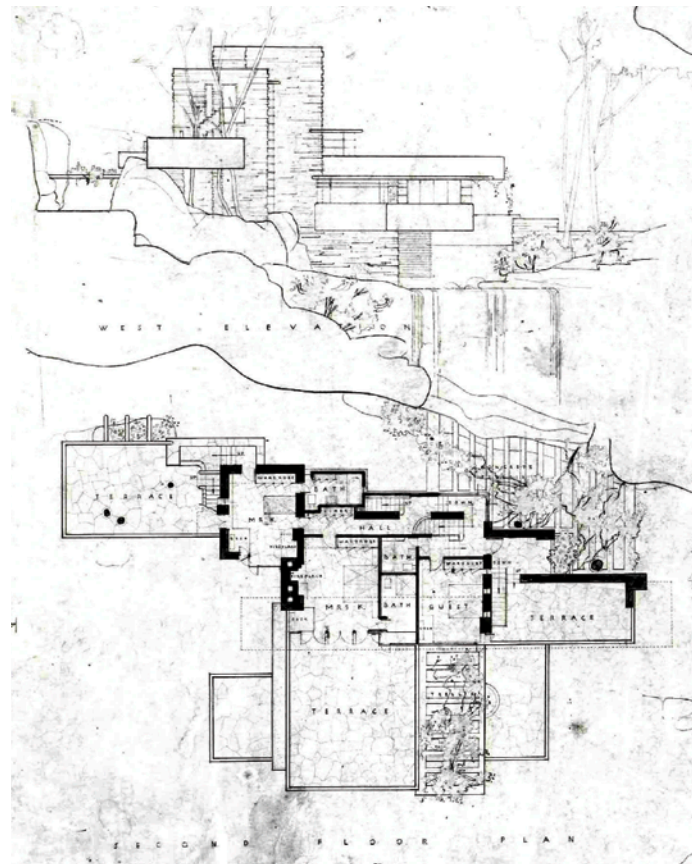


(©F.L.Wright Fdn.)

landscape. In most architecture of the world, balconies are smaller features of a larger, more stable mass. At Fallingwater, the entire house is composed of these projections from and above the rock ledges. The rooms themselves, with their adjacent outdoor terraces, are all a part of broad-sweeping balconies reaching out to the branches of the surrounding trees, and over the stream and waterfalls below.^[2]”

“Fallingwater is a country home, and in the annals of so-called country homes it differs from any other ever built up to that time... Fallingwater achieves something that no country home successfully had before: it emphasizes, in every place and at every turn, the wonder and beauty of nature in this woodland setting.^[3]”

“Fallingwater is that rare work which is composed of such delicate balancing of forces and counterforces, transformed into spaces thrusting horizontally, vertically and diagonally, that the whole achieves the serenity which marks all great works of art.^[4]”



Elevation and Floor Plan

Facts from the Project

Architect: Frank Lloyd Wright
 Classification: Vacation Home
 Year: 1935
 Construction Type: Reinforced Poured Concrete
 with Limestone Fascia
 Square Feet: 2,885 sq. ft. interior
 Original Cost: \$ 155,000



Construction workers



Construction

Facts and statements

"Bring out the nature of the materials, let their nature intimately into your scheme... Reveal the nature of the wood, plaster, brick or stone in your designs, they are all by nature friendly and beautiful."

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1908 ■



"By organic architecture I mean an architecture that develops from within outward in harmony with the conditions of its being, as distinguished from one that is applied from without."

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1914 ■



"Architecture is the triumph of Human imagination over materials, methods, and men to put man into possession of his own Earth."

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1930 ■



"Architecture is the scientific art of making structure express ideas."

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1930 ■



"Stone is inflorescent: stone is the mass residue of intense heat. Stone is therefore the simplest mass material. As human hands directed by the imagination begin upon it, it becomes a shapely block."

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1937 ■



"Architecture is that great living creative spirit which from generation to generation, from age to age, proceeds, persists, creates, according to the nature of man, and his circumstances as they both change. That really is architecture."

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1939 ■



"I had an idea that the horizontal planes in buildings, those planes parallel to the earth, identify themselves with the ground – make the building belong to the ground. I began putting this idea to work."

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1943 ■



"In architecture, expressive changes of surface, emphasis of line & especially textures of material or imaginative pattern, may go to make facts more eloquent – forms more significant."

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1943 ■



"Organic architecture takes this thought from within the nature of the thing. It is a profound nature study."

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1952 ■



"Rhythm in a building is largely a question of the third dimension or the depth of the building. A thing is out of place when it is not in rhythm. And what is rhythm in a building? In music you listen to it, in painting you look at it, in a building you live with it"

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1952 ■



"I began to see a building primarily not as cave but as broad shelter in the open, related to vista; vista without vista within."

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1954 ■



"A great architecture, a great building, must have a great concept. It must be born according to the depths of the human mind and nature."

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1955 ■



"The cantilever is essentially steel at its most economical level of use. Construction lightened by means of cantilevered steel in tension, makes continuity a most valuable characteristic of architectural enlightenment."

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1957 ■



"Organic architecture sees the third dimension never as weight or mere thickness but always as depth. Depth an element of space; the third (or thickness) dimension transformed to a space dimension."

– Frank Lloyd Wright, 1957 ■



A Word from the Artist

As an Architectural Artist my desire is to capture the essence of a particular architectural landmark into its pure sculptural form. I first and foremost do not view my models as literal replicas, but rather my own artistic interpretations through the use of LEGO® bricks as a medium. The LEGO brick is not initially thought of as a material typically used in creating art or used as an artist's medium. I quickly discovered the LEGO brick was lending itself as naturally to my applications as paint to a painter or metal to a blacksmith. As I explore how to capture these buildings with the basic shapes of the bricks and plates, I find the possibilities and challenges they offer almost magical.

Fallingwater®

This model underwent a total of 14 design concepts as it delicately incorporates a unique “pull-apart” interactive feature. Unlike the first 5 models in the LEGO Architecture series which are static by design, I wanted to explore the use of the LEGO Brick even further by expressing the dynamic nature of Fallingwater; with this in mind I was able to have sections of the model slide out. The design challenge was in figuring out how to cleverly disguise, in an almost puzzle-like design

where the model comes apart without distorting one of Mr. Wright's most recognizable achievements. Another design concern was how to carefully balance the playful nature of the river, waterfall, woods, and bridge that embrace and define Fallingwater. These subtle details give Fallingwater context, without which it would not be possible to truly illustrate its beautiful, sensitive and thoughtful design.



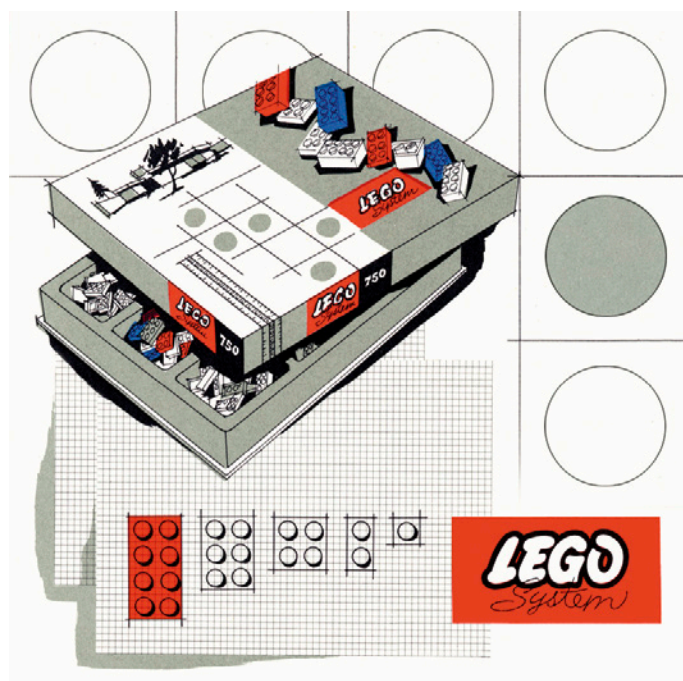
– Adam Reed Tucker



LEGO® Architecture: Bringing two worlds together

The LEGO Group and Adam Reed Tucker are excited to bring you LEGO Architecture, a new line of LEGO building sets that celebrates world-renowned architects, who continue to inspire the builders of tomorrow. Whether young and eager to learn or simply young at heart and intrigued by these modern day marvels, we hope the Architecture series inspires builders of all ages by celebrating the past, present and future of architecture through the LEGO brick. Through incredible products and exciting events, the Architecture series promotes awareness of the fascinating worlds of architecture, engineering and construction. The launch of the LEGO Architecture series begins with a celebration of Frank Lloyd Wright, and one of the most famous buildings in the world, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York City. We hope to inspire future architects around the world with the LEGO brick as a medium. Enjoy this experience!

Visit www.LEGO.com/architecture or
www.Brickstructures.com for more information



References

For further information please visit:
www.franklloydwright.org

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The History of Fallingwater

- [1] Bruce Brooks Pfeiffer, "Frank Lloyd Wright – Fallingwater," 2003, Pg. 6
- [2] Bruce Brooks Pfeiffer, "Frank Lloyd Wright – Fallingwater," 2003, Pg. 10
- [3] Bruce Brooks Pfeiffer, "Frank Lloyd Wright – Fallingwater," 2003, Pg. 20
- [4] Paul M. Rudolph, 1970, "Global Architecture – Frank Lloyd Wright Kaufmann House," "Fallingwater," Opening Paragraph.

The Architects Thoughts about the Building

- [5] Frank Lloyd Wright "In the Cause of Architecture: The Meaning of Materials – Stone." *Architectural Record*, 63 (Apr. 1928), pp. 350, 356.
- [6] Frank Lloyd Wright, "In the Cause of Architecture: The Meaning of Materials – Stone." *Architectural Record*, 63 (Apr. 1928), pp. 350, 356.
- [7] Frank Lloyd Wright, "Architectural Forum." 1938
- [8] Frank Lloyd Wright, 1955 FLLW Tape Transcript No. 129, part 2, p. 11
Bruce Brooks Pfeiffer, "Frank Lloyd Wright – Fallingwater." 2003, Pg. 20.

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