

Unbuilt Victoria: The City That Might Have Been



Unbuilt Victoria (The City That Might Have Been Book

3) by Dorothy Mindenhall

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 11747 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 248 pages
Paperback	: 178 pages
Item Weight	: 11.5 ounces
Dimensions	: 6 x 0.41 x 9 inches



Victoria is a city with a rich history and a vibrant culture. But it could have been so much more. In *Unbuilt Victoria*, author John Adams explores the grand plans and ambitious visions that never came to fruition, from a towering skyscraper to a floating airport.

Adams' research is meticulous, and his writing is engaging. He brings to life the people and ideas behind these unbuilt projects, and he offers a unique perspective on the city's development. *Unbuilt Victoria* is a must-read for anyone interested in the history and architecture of Victoria.

The Towering Skyscraper

In the early 1900s, Victoria was a booming city. The population was growing rapidly, and the economy was thriving. This led to a building boom, and several skyscrapers were constructed during this time. One of the most ambitious of these projects was the Victoria Tower, which was planned to be the tallest building in the British Empire.

The Victoria Tower was designed by the renowned architect Francis Rattenbury. It was to be a 40-story building, with a height of over 500 feet. The tower would have been a landmark in Victoria, and it would have offered stunning views of the city and the surrounding mountains.

However, the Victoria Tower was never built. The project was abandoned in 1914, due to the outbreak of World War I. The steel that had been earmarked for the tower was instead used to build warships.

The Floating Airport

In the 1960s, Victoria was facing a transportation crisis. The city's airport was located on a small island in the middle of the harbor, and it was becoming increasingly difficult to accommodate the growing number of passengers. In 1964, to solve this problem, the city proposed building a floating airport.

The floating airport was to be built on a massive concrete platform, which would be anchored to the seabed. The airport would have been large enough to accommodate jumbo jets, and it would have been able to handle millions of passengers per year.

The floating airport was a bold and ambitious project, but it was never built. The cost of the project was prohibitive, and there were concerns about the

environmental impact. In the end, the city decided to build a new airport on land, which is now known as Victoria International Airport.

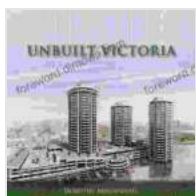
Other Unbuilt Projects

The Victoria Tower and the floating airport are just two of the many unbuilt projects that Adams explores in his book. He also discusses a number of other ambitious plans, including a monorail system, a subway system, and a new city hall.

These unbuilt projects offer a glimpse into the dreams and aspirations of Victorians past. They show us what could have been, and they remind us of the importance of having a vision for the future.

Unbuilt Victoria is a fascinating and thought-provoking book. It is a must-read for anyone interested in the history and development of Victoria. Adams' research is meticulous, and his writing is engaging. He brings to life the people and ideas behind these unbuilt projects, and he offers a unique perspective on the city's development.

Unbuilt Victoria is a reminder that the future is not set in stone. It is a product of our dreams and aspirations. By understanding the past, we can better shape the future.



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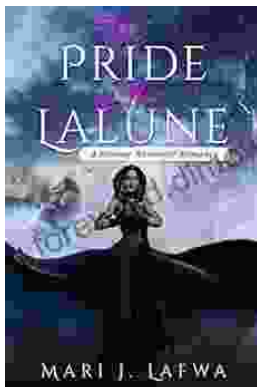
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