

The Art of Reading Buildings

By John Mittendorf, Dave Dodson



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The Art of Reading Buildings focuses on the practical art of reading a building and applying its positive and negative attributes in developing a size-up for fireground operations that center on structure fires. First-due company officers, incident commanders, and safety officers will appreciate the practical "streetwise" lessons captured in the book. Chief officers, training officers, engineers, firefighters, and fire science degree candidates will benefit from the wide range of building construction topics covered in this text.

- Learn on-the-spot building construction assessment using the authors' custom rapid-read street guides
- Understand the technical and practical aspects of building construction
- Develop a quick construction size-up for immediate application to fireground operations
- Recognize firefighter traps in newer and alternative-construction methods
- This text covers objectives for the National Fire Academy's Fire and Emergency Services in Higher Education (FESHE) Building Construction for Fire Protection course



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Editorial Review

About the Author

Dave Dodson is a 34-year fire service veteran?25 years on the street?starting his fire service career with the US Air Force. After the USAF, Dave spent almost seven years as a fire officer and training/safety officer for the Parker Fire District in Parker, Colorado. He became the first career training officer for Loveland Fire & Rescue (CO) and spent time as an engine officer, hazmat technician, duty safety officer, and emergency manager for the city. He accepted a shift battalion chief position for the Eagle River Fire District in Colorado before starting his current company, Response Solutions, which is dedicated to teaching safe and practical incident handling. Dave is the author of Delmar's Fire Department Incident Safety Officer and Fire Engineering's Training DVD series The Art of Reading Smoke. He continues to develop and deliver classes on firefighter safety and survival issues and firstdue officer procedures. Chief Dodson has served as the chairman of the NFPA 1521 Task Group (Fire Department Safety Officer) and served on the Fire Service Occupational Safety and Health Technical Committee for NFPA. Dave is also a past president of the Fire Department Safety Officer's Association. In 1997, Dave was chosen as the ISFSI George D. Post Fire Instructor of the Year.

John Mittendorf is a 30-year veteran of the Los Angeles City Fire Department and held the rank of battalion chief until his retirement in 1993. He has been a member of the National Fire Protection Research Foundation on Engineered Lightweight Construction Technical Advisory Committee. He has provided training programs for the National Fire Academy, UCLA, and the British Fire Academy in England. He has acted in an advisory capacity for five college fire science advisory boards and is the author of numerous fireground articles for magazines in the United States and Europe. He is the author of the books Ventilation Methods and Techniques, Truck Company Operations, editions 1 and 2, Facing the Promotional Interview, and the recently released the DVD program, Ten Commandments Of Truck Company Operations, from Fire Engineering/PennWell. He currently lectures in the United States and the United Kingdom on strategy and tactics, truck company operations, fireground operations, ventilation operations, and the Complete Fire Officer. He is a member of the editorial advisory board of Fire Engineering magazine. In 2008, Chief Mittendorf received the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) Lifetime Achievement Award.

Users Review

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