**Building Security:
A Handbook for Architectural Planning and Design**
edited by Barbara A. Nadel
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(672 pages, \$89.95)

Reviewed by Robert Stokes

Barbara Nadel, a trained architect and journalist whose work has appeared in many media outlets, offers a veritable tour-de-force volume on issues in security and design. Her work here is large, with six parts that include 31 chapters. The six parts have the following themes: achieving transparent security; planning and design; engineering; construction; technology and materials; and codes and liabilities. Nadel herself penned four of the chapters, including the Introduction; for the other chapters, she relies on approximately 40 other authors specializing in the sub-fields covered in this volume.

Part I of the book contains three chapters that largely mimic currently available security textbooks. The first chapter offers a philosophical overview of security planning and alludes to lessons learned from the terror attacks of September 11, 2001. This is largely organizational, and lays out a short history of terror in the US and a listing of the chapters to follow. Chapter 2 covers the logic of security planning and lays out standard operating procedures for security professionals. The last chapter of this section discusses crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED), its theories and applications.

Part II of the book is the largest section and covers security planning and design. This section covers different types of buildings and facilities, including sports facilities, commercial high-rises, courthouses, health care facilities, historic preservation and security, hospitality facilities, multi-family housing, home and business security, industrial facilities, lobby security design, museum and cultural facilities, perimeter protection, religious institutions, research facilities, retail, schools, and women's health centers.

Part III contains three chapters on engineering issues in building security. Part IV contains two chapters on construction, with an emphasis on estimates of security-related construction costs. Part V is on technology and materials, and contains chapters on security devices, how to select the proper devices, and one on glazing and security glass applications. The fifth and last part of the book covers codes and liability.

The book is attractive, containing as it does many quotes from famed world leaders and statespersons. Moreover, the book contains a wealth of photographs and artistic and architectural renderings. The book is meant to serve as a handbook: that is, as a reference for facilities professionals, attorneys and public policy makers concerned with security and design issues. The strength of this book—its varied listing of facility types and sub-fields in security issues in architecture and planning—might also serve as its primary weakness. That is, professionals working in security engineering, for instance, would need to know much more than what is offered in the text to be operationally proficient. That being said, many of the chapters in this volume offer enough detail for the security professional to build a knowledge base on which to do direct further investigation. This reviewer would have hoped for a more evidence-based approach to

assessing the efficacy of design issues and crime prevention and safety: that is, does defensible space theory work? And if so, under what circumstances? As the contributors to this work are not trained behavioral researchers, those questions are not answered here.

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