

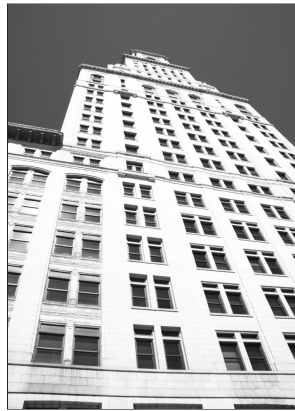
## Photographing Architecture

Buildings are big – much bigger than the photographer! Sometimes it is difficult to get the entire building in one photograph, unless you stand across the street. Those types of photographs are good and often necessary. However, there are other ways of photographing a building that can help to tell its story. Here are some ideas:

### 1. Look Up

Sometimes, we forget to point our camera up over our heads. There's a lot to see up there! There might be a detail near the roof that's interesting, or something over the entrance.

You can also try squatting down or kneeling on the ground and pointing your camera up for a different view of the building.



### 2. Look Down



Photographs don't have to always be taken from ground level. You can see very interesting views by looking down—from a porch or balcony; by looking out the window of a 2nd or 3rd floor room; from a stairwell. This offers a very different point of view and helps to provide a sense of place.

### 3. Look 'Through a Keyhole'

There are many architectural details that are wonderful to see—especially on older buildings. Sometimes, you have to 'zoom in' to really see them. Here's how to practice seeing in this way: Take a piece of cardboard that's about 5" x 7" and cut a 2" x 1-1/2" rectangle out of the center of the cardboard. Walk around looking through that 'keyhole' to get used to seeing a 'detail' view of a building. Once you can see in that way, you can photograph in that way too!



### 4. Look with a different kind of view

Here are a few ideas:

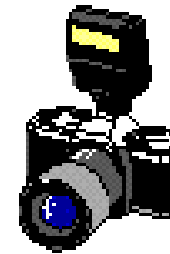
- photograph in early morning or late afternoon light when the sun is low in the sky
- photograph the reflection of a building in water (like a puddle) or off of window glass
- frame two very different types of architecture in the same photo ("juxtapose") for an interesting statement



### Summary

Photographs tell a story. Use your imagination to see things in different ways—through unusual lighting, different angles or in ways that will help the building tell the story of its age, style of architecture and place.

# Photographing Architecture



## Different Ways of Seeing

by

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