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978-0-521-79004-8 - Before the Bauhaus: Architecture, Politics, and the German State, 1890-1920

John V. Maciuka

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BEFORE THE BAUHAUS

Before the Bauhaus reevaluates the political, architectural, and artistic cultures of pre-World War I Germany. Every bit as contradictory and conflict-ridden as the German Second Reich itself, the world of architects, craftsmen, and applied-arts “artists” was in no way immune to the expansionist, imperialist, and capitalist struggles that transformed Germany in the quarter-century leading up to the First World War. In this study, John V. Maciuka brings together architectural and design history, political history, social history, and cultural geography. He substantially revises our understanding of the roots of the Bauhaus and, by extension, the historical roots of twentieth-century German architecture and design. At the same time, his book also sheds new light on hotly contested debates pertaining to the history of pre-World War I Germany: namely, questions involving the “modernity” or “anti-modernity” of the German Second Empire, the character and effectiveness of the government administration, and the role played by the nation’s most important architects, members of the rising bourgeois class, in challenging the traditional aristocracy at the top of the new German economic and social order.

John V. Maciuka is assistant professor of architectural history at the University of Virginia School of Architecture. A recipient of fellowships from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, the Graham Foundation, the NEH, and the DAAD, he has contributed to *Centropa*, *Design Issues*, and *German Studies Review*. He was the winner of the Year 2000 Research Article Prize from the German Studies Association of North America.

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Before the Bauhaus

**ARCHITECTURE, POLITICS, AND THE GERMAN
STATE, 1890–1920** 

John V. Maciuika

University of Virginia School of Architecture



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BAGP	Bauhaus Archives, Gropius Papers
BAK	<i>Blätter für Architektur und Kunsthandwerk</i>
BArch	Bundesarchiv (Federal Archives–Berlin)
BDI	Bund der Industriellen (Association of Industrialists)
BWAZ	Bau- und Wohnungsaufsichtsamt Zehlendorf (Zehlendorf Building Office)
<i>CdB</i>	<i>Centralblatt der Bauverwaltung</i> (Construction Administration Gazette)
CDI	Centralverband Deutscher Industrieller (Central Association of German Industrialists)
DK	<i>Dekorative Kunst</i>
DKuD	<i>Deutsche Kunst und Dekoration</i>
DWB	Deutscher Werkbund
GCS	Garden City Society (Deutsche Gartenstadt-Gesellschaft)
GNM-ABK	Germanisches Nationalmuseum Nürnberg, Abteilung Bildende Kunst (Germanic National Museum Nuremberg, Fine Arts Section)
GStA PK	Geheimes Staatsarchiv Preussischer Kulturbesitz (Prussian State Archives)
<i>HW</i>	<i>Hobe Warte</i>
<i>JDWB</i>	<i>Jahrbuch des Deutschen Werkbundes</i>
<i>KgBl</i>	<i>Kunstgewerbeblatt</i>
KKH	<i>Kunst und Kunsthandwerk</i>
KW	<i>Kunstwart</i>
LAB	Landesarchiv Berlin (Berlin City and State Archive)
MB	<i>Moderne Bauformen</i>
MDWB	<i>Mitteilungen des Deutschen Werkbundes</i>
ND	<i>Neudeutsche Bauzeitung</i>
NMWA	Nachlass Muthesius im Werkbund-Archiv (Muthesius Estate in Werkbund Archives, Berlin)
ThHStA	Thüringisches Hauptstaatsarchiv
UdK	Archiv der Universität der Künste–Berlin (Berlin University of the Arts–Archives)
VB	<i>Verwaltungsbericht (Jahresbericht des Königlich Preussisches Ministerium für Handel und Gewerbe)</i>

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