

Wright's Organic Architecture: From ›Form Follows Function‹ to ›Form and Function are One‹

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to reassess the modernist principle that form follows function by putting it in the context of Frank Lloyd Wright's organic architecture. Through such a study we may begin to come to terms with one of architecture's most famous principles and we may reevaluate its validity today. Wright's writings and buildings show us two key areas in which Wright advanced Sullivan's original idea of spatial organization and modern architectural aesthetics. The first is a building's interior-exterior relationship and form, and the second is structural function and form. While these approaches may not resound as revolutionary today, Wright's methods were rich and uniquely new ways to relate a building's function with its form.