

ARCHITECTURE ON ICE: A History of the Hockey Arena

By Howard Shubert

"Teeming with illustrations ... a thorough and broadly thoughtful chronicle of the social and cultural spaces that ice-houses occupy in our hearts and on our streets."

—Literary Review of Canada

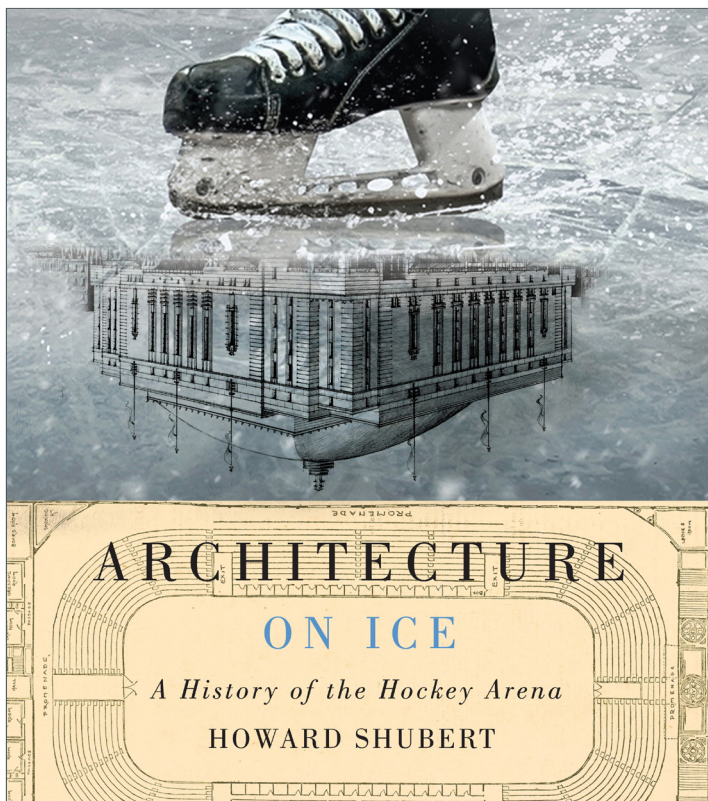
"Shubert shows the trajectory of a sport through architecture and in doing so turns the standard script for architectural history on its head. A compelling read, whether scholars of the built environment, historians, or sports enthusiasts feeling nostalgic for the Golden Age of hockey."

—Montreal Review of Books

"Unique in topic and scope, Architecture on Ice offers a historically broad yet detailed architectural history of skating rinks and hockey arenas in North America and makes an important contribution to the study of these culturally and economically significant spaces."

—Michael Windover, Carleton University

Winner of the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) 2017 Melva J. Dwyer Award



Despite the legendary reputations of Madison Square Garden, Maple Leaf Gardens, and the Montreal Forum, skating rinks and hockey arenas may be North America's most overlooked cultural buildings. *Architecture on Ice* reveals the central role they have played in influencing urban, social, and political life across the continent.

In the first book to chart the development of skating rinks and arenas from their origins as simple wooden sheds to today's fully wired, multi-purpose entertainment complexes, Howard Shubert examines how these buildings have been adapted to seasonal change and to a multitude of uses besides skating – from political rallies to rock concerts – and how these adaptations, in turn, have transformed skating, curling, and hockey. Revealing the ways in which arenas are sites where sport, culture, and commerce intersect, *Architecture on Ice* describes four distinct phases in the development of these buildings: the early rinks and arenas of the mid-nineteenth century to the early twentieth century, the Golden Era of 1920-31, the building boom in postwar arenas from 1960-83, and the postmodern hockey complexes built between 1990 and 2010.

Lavishly illustrated with surprising, amusing, and previously unpublished images, *Architecture on Ice* explains how the construction of buildings engineered the way recreational activities are performed and experienced.

Howard Shubert is the former curator of prints and drawings at the Canadian Centre for Architecture. He lives in Toronto.

An architectural and cultural history of skating rinks and hockey arenas in North America.

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