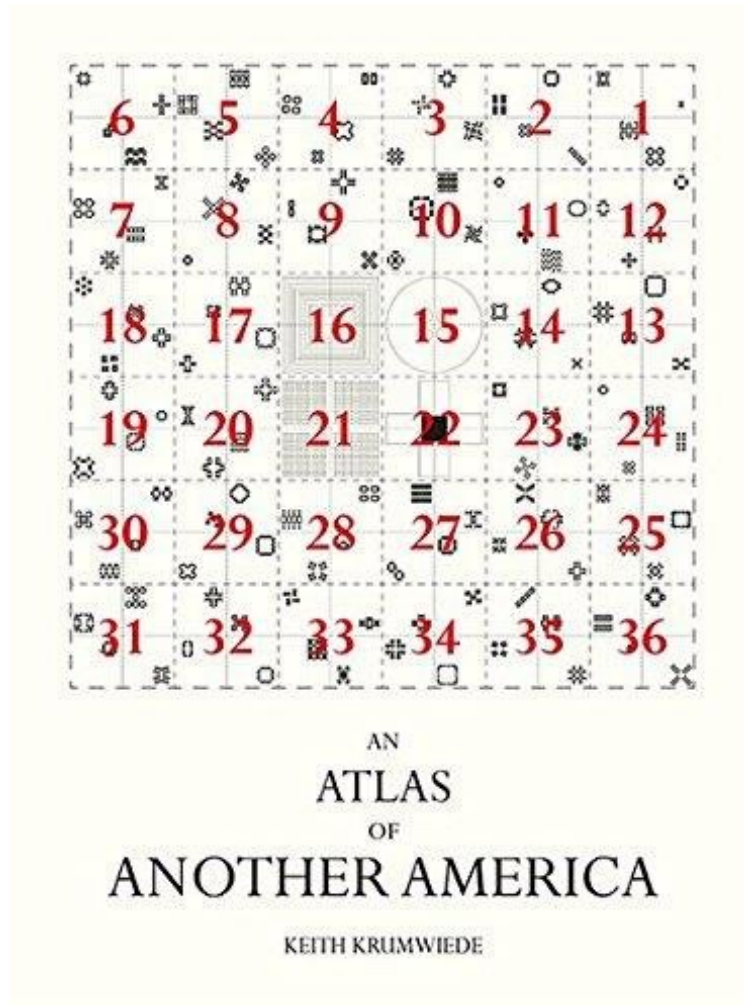


# Atlas of Another America: An Architectural Fiction

*Keith Krumwiede*

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**Keith Krumwiede : Atlas of Another America: An Architectural Fiction** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Atlas of Another America: An Architectural Fiction:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Thought inspiringBy Linda JarvinSimoultaneously thought inspiring and an enjoyable read, I recommend it to anyone engaged in thinking about how we stucture our lives in Europe and North America today, whether you are an urban planner, architect or citizen. I do not necessarily agree with all the authors' suggestions, but they are all food for thought.1 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Andrew BrunoThis is how we make Another America great again.

Owning a home is the pinnacle of the American Dream, the ultimate status symbol of the middle class. But is the dream in crisis? As the suburban single-family home has been endlessly multiplied and mass-marketed, it has become

entwined with environmental catastrophe and economic crisis. Never before have we been so badly in need of a reconsideration of our cultural values and consumption from an architectural perspective. With *Atlas of Another America*, Keith Krumwiede has written a bold and highly original work of speculative architectural fiction that calls on Americans--and, increasingly, the rest of the world--to seriously reconsider the concept of the single-family home. Krumwiede's "Freedomland" is a fictional utopia of communal superhomes constructed from the remains of the suburban metropolis. Eschewing formal innovation for its own sake, Freedomland's radical architects rely on artful appropriation and the reorganization of found forms. Krumwiede produces the complete plans for Freedomland in the style of a historical architectural treatise, supplemented with more than two hundred plans and drawings and five essays that draw on a long lineage of architectural thought--from Piranesi to Ledoux, Branzi, and Koolhaas. Among the essays, "Atypical Plans" is a redaction of Koolhaas's landmark text "Typical Plan," "Supermodel Homes" looks at the mad genius of developer David Weekley," and "New Homes for America" is a short story in which a young architect produces new forms of communal living.

"Krumwiede's research is invaluable, not least for taking an area overlooked by almost every architect seriously and trying to figure out what makes it work." - Aaron Betsky, *Dezeen*"My desk at The Times, like the one in my home office, is shadowed by an ever-growing pile of new architecture books. Many (if not most) are monographs that closely follow the self-promotional formula of that genre, [but e]very once in a while a different kind of book sneaks through. One whose sentences and images have been rattling around in my brain since I began reading it a few weeks ago is "Atlas of Another America," by Keith Krumwiede. It is that rare thing in architecture: a book of satire." - Christopher Hawthorne, *The Los Angeles Times*"Atlas of Another America... envisions an alternative reality in which McMansions are used as building blocks to create small communities not unlike medieval villages or 19th-century communes. These "estates," aggregated from real house plans used by big homebuilders, are set in Krumwiede's fictional domain of Freedomland. Across the Atlas's richly colored pages, the McMansions pinwheel around a fountain, lock together in tight Tetris-esque combinations, or link up delicately like daisy chains. Falling somewhere between satire, sci-fi, and earnest architectural speculation, the Atlas combines the estate plans with essays by Krumwiede, cheeky reworkings of pastoral paintings to include McMansion facades, and an opening "discourse" in flowery 18th-century language." - Amanda Kolson Hurley, *CityLab*"...beautifully produced in everything from its layout to the types of paper and binding, "Atlas of Another America" is "one of the most refreshing, enjoyable and thought-provoking books I've come across in a long time." - John Hill, *Archidose*With *Atlas of Another America*, "Krumwiede asks architects to mine what they would have considered waste -- the aspirational writings of previous generations and dreamy model home plans. In assembling this refuse into a possible utopia, Krumwiede offers a fertile methodology to a discipline glutted by its own speculative production." - Mimi Zeiger, *Los Angeles of Books*About the Author Keith Krumwiede is a writer and designer and is currently a visiting associate professor in the department of architecture at the University of California at Berkeley. He is the winner of the 2017-2018 Arnold W. Brunner / Katherine Edwards Gordon Rome Prize in Architecture.