



Melbourne University Press

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE  
PARKVILLE N.2, VIC., AUSTRALIA

Telephone: 34 0484

14 May, 1963.

R. Boyd, Esq.,  
290 Walsh Street,  
SOUTH YARRA.

Dear Robin,

The Puzzle of Architecture

Cheque for advance on royalties of £200 is enclosed with our compliments, and many a sleepless night may it give you! At the same time, let me assure you that my conscience is easy, and I'm looking eagerly forward to your best book yet.

Your selection of size confirmed all my worst forebodings, but I'll go quietly. After all, there are special reasons for the things architects do, even in their books. Perhaps we should have an early publisher's luncheon, with our designer present - (our new designer, not the old one) - and make some fairly firm decisions on format. Then dummies, and costing at something like a rational edition size, thus disposing at the outset of at least some of the things which blight lifelong friendships if left till the writing is complete - or even later.

You must have some rough figure in your mind of the sort of price it shall sell at. Let me into the secret? Baring my own thoughts, 50s. was the magic figure - arrived at by no rational computation, as yet, but just a sort of feeling.

I applaud your idea of the type running in regular unbroken areas - almost like a conventional book, one might say. If you could banish footnotes utterly I think it would be a blow struck in favour of clean typography. If footnotes are saying something



Melbourne University Press

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE  
PARKVILLE N.2, VIC., AUSTRALIA

Telephone: 34 0484

2.

important, the matter should be in the text. If they are merely references, they can appear at the back. Moreover, footnotes must be rather forbidding for the ordinary reader, whom we hope to interest.

As to title, Puzzle gets my vote.

I'll ring you in the next couple of weeks to arrange a meeting.

Best wishes,

Peter