

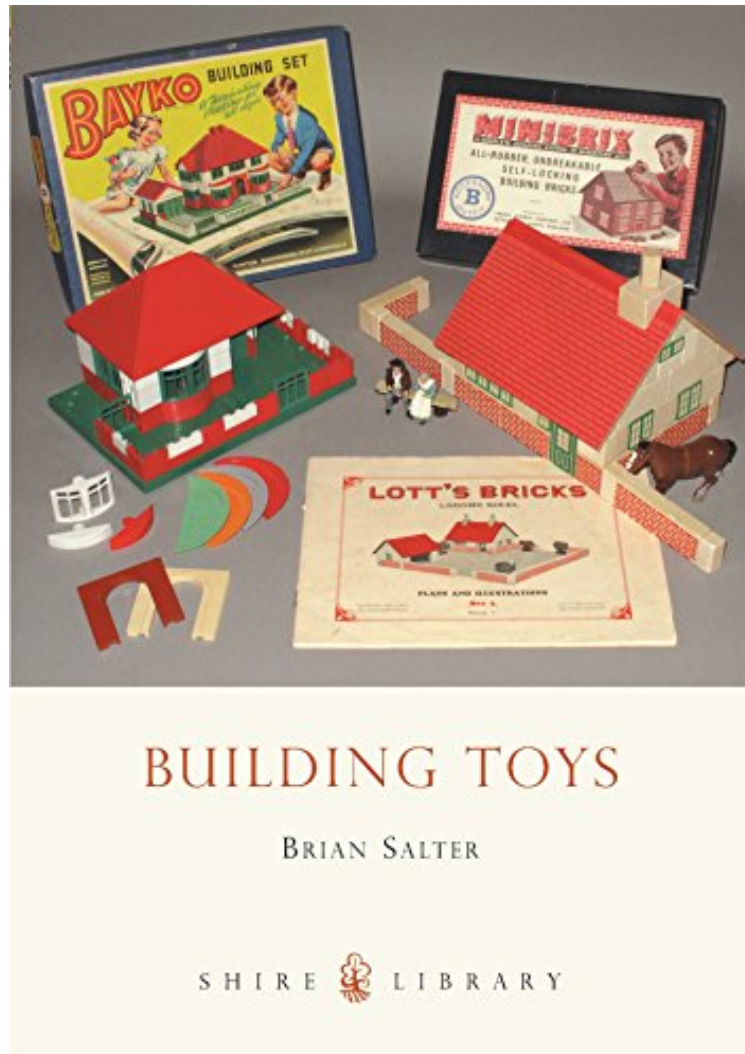
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Brian Salter

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Brian Salter : Building Toys: Bayko and other systems (Shire Library) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Building Toys: Bayko and other systems (Shire Library):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An excellent book about architectural model systemsBy M. NusairBrian Salter is a well known architectural model builder, and also manufactures parts that supplement the Bayko system. Architectural systems have been around since the Richter Anchor Blocks of the 19th century, and Bayko is one of the best. Everyone knows Lego nowadays, of course, and it is a fine system which has evolved to meet the demands of modern kids and adults, but as an architectural system it has a major disadvantage: the width of the blocks. If you build a house with Lego, you get window ledges that are 3 feet thick, to scale. With Bayko and a few other systems, the building units are thin and the windows and walls are much more to scale and much better looking. Unfortunately, it is also a bit harder to use and the little steel rods would now be considered a hazard in our more risk-

averse times, so most of these systems are no more. This book does a great job describing these systems and how they worked, their history and their development. Highly recommended for anyone interested in model architectural systems. Bayko, in particular, is my favorite.

Building blocks have been a familiar presence in children's toy collections for generations, but in the twentieth century new production techniques allowed the building brick to evolve into a multiplicity of systems that could make any child his or her own architect and skilled builder, capable of constructing realistic and sturdy miniature buildings. This highly illustrated book is devoted to British building toys with all the major brands and some of the minor ones represented. Photographs of sets, completed buildings and the box art and advertising material that were used to sell these toys make this book a feast of nostalgia for anyone who grew up in the middle years of the last century, and an invaluable source of information for any collectors who keep the memory of these toys alive today.

About the Author Brian J. Salter is a lifelong enthusiast for transport, industrial toy and model history, and is a regular contributor to various magazines. He has been involved in all aspects of commercial model manufacture and now owns the Bayko trademark. His company, Bayko 2000, produces new parts to fit Bayko building sets.