

The Sky's the Limit!

An Affectionate History of the Skyscraper

(More or Less)

A one-hour illustrated presentation by

Mike Ogden

There are nearly 5000 skyscrapers around the world. That's nearly 5000 buildings over 40 storeys high, as lower buildings don't even qualify as skyscrapers these days.

From the time the word was first used, in the 1880s, people's idea of what constitutes a skyscraper has grown as the buildings themselves have grown. From their origins in the USA they have now conquered the globe.

From the start, there was admiration, enthusiasm, outrage and dismay at the ever-increasing impact of skyscrapers on America's cities. They were welcomed by many as dramatic symbols of the country's dynamic growth; they were derided by many others as the first new building form in history to be entirely dedicated to the vulgar business of making money.

Love them or loathe them: You can't IGNORE them!



Where will it end? That's a question well outside this talk's scope. But when and where did it begin? Those are questions we can deal with, and the answers aren't necessarily what you'd expect.

And how can we overlook the huge impact that skyscrapers have had on popular culture? To take just five very different examples:



Join Mike Ogden for an entertaining tour around the life and times of this dynamic (or vulgar) building form that began in the 19th century, became massive in the 20th, and in the 21st seems more than ever to be an unstoppable force.

To ask about a venue and a date please call Mike Ogden on 07741 777768, or email ogewriter.mike@gmail.com

For details of Mike Ogden's other talks see the website:
www.mikeogdentalks.co.uk