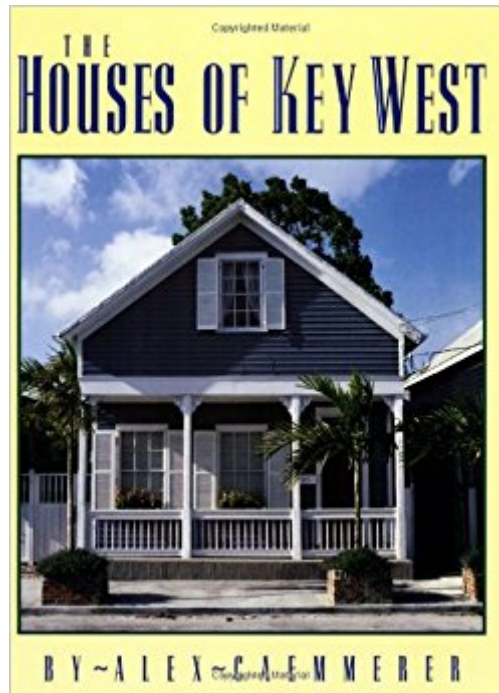




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# The Houses Of Key West



## Synopsis

Perfect for anyone who loves to look at charming old houses and imagine their histories, this book offers a selection of what are probably the most historically interesting, aesthetically appealing, and photogenic of the nineteenth-century houses in the Key West historic district. It includes full color photos, as well as a variety of charming anecdotes about old Key West gleaned from interviews with descendants of the families who built houses there. Key West was an industrial town and many of its houses were for workers who had little to spend on housing. The shotgun houses are simple, undecorated houses, many of them built by cigar-makers for their workers. Then, of course, there are the great houses—the Heritage House, the Cosgrove House, the Hemingway House, and the Southernmost House—large and famous houses with unique and proud histories. Then there are the eyebrow houses, shotgun houses, and "Conch Victorians"—many of Key West's houses were built by ship's carpenters, who built strong, tight, shiplike houses, most working without plans other than memories of vessels and seaport homes from their own past. Widow's walks were borrowed from New England, overhanging eaves (eyebrows) from the West Indies. Builders added details from architectural fads of the time—from Greek Revival columns to Creole trellises. The final architectural mix, what we see now in Key West's Old Town, can only be called, like the natives themselves, Conch.

## Book Information

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: Pineapple Press; 1st edition (January 1, 1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1561640093

ISBN-13: 978-1561640096

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.3 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 17 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #510,178 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #45 in Books > Travel > United States > Florida > Keys #80 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Vernacular #220 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Regional

## Customer Reviews

"A beautiful collection of color photographs...with plenty of meaty text about the various styles and types of houses."

Good read

I think it gave a good external view of what a key west style looks would have liked to see more variations and internal design. Overall tho. Glad I bought it

I found this book to be somewhat disappointing. The photos reveal a lot of what Key West offers, but I would have loved to have seen some interior shots as well. Perhaps we all sometimes expect too much.

Great read. Love Key West architecture.

I've always wanted to know more about the different styles of architecture of Key West homes. There are so many styles and this book clearly demonstrates all of them. It was interesting and educational. Loved it.

Great book. Wish we would have purchased before our trip to KW in Sept. We will be back and bring this book with us.

great history on some of the homes in key west. maybe the second book will include pictures of the interior of the homes. and include more homes.

I love the Keys and this is another great book opening your eyes to the unique architecture in this unique island town.

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