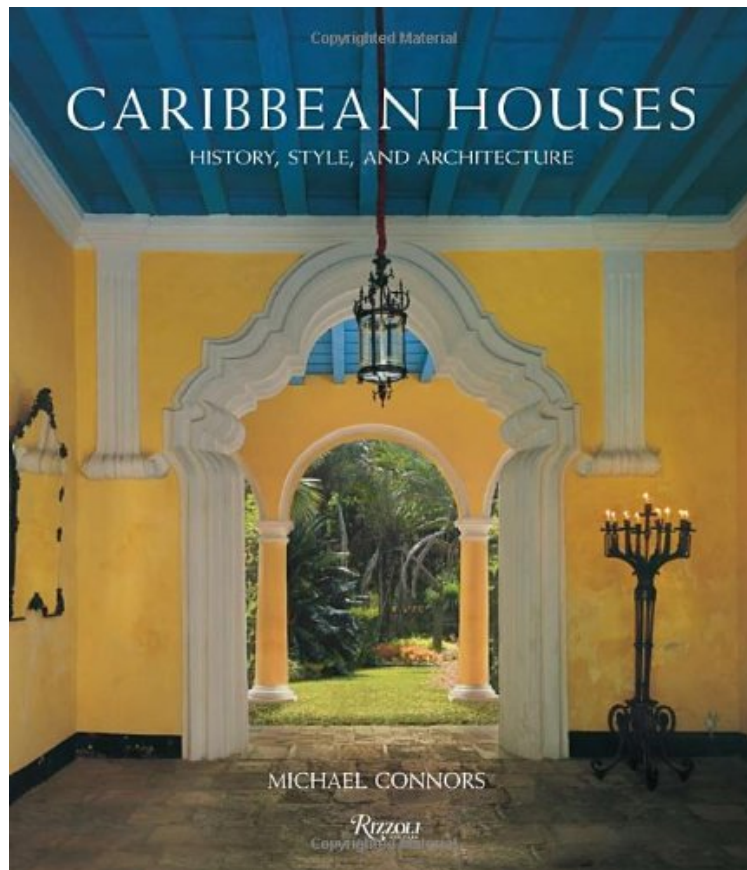


Caribbean Houses: History, Style, and Architecture

Michael Connors

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Michael Connors : Caribbean Houses: History, Style, and Architecture before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Caribbean Houses: History, Style, and Architecture:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Excellent and BeautifulBy glendaA gorgeous book and up to date photography of wonderful architecture, interior design and history. If you love the West Indies Style, with both french, british, spanish and african influences you will drool over this book. You get a feel for the real caribbean and not the "resort" caribbean. If you go to the Carribean for culture as well as nice beach vacations, you will appreciate this book. If you like to stay at the hotel pool, this is not for you. It is a fine representation of the finer side of the rich caribbean experience, minus the kitsch and cruises.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful book is also good architectural historyBy Jon L AlbeeYep, I'll be jumping on the bandwagon with this one. This is a beautiful book that not only dazzles the eyes with exceptional photography, but teaches us a bit of Caribbean colonial history as well. Here is the authentic Caribbean, the one you'll find if you search beyond the typical tourist destinations. The chapters are arranged, rather uniquely, by colonial backgrounds and their corresponding styles. The Spanish, English, Dutch, French, and Danish all had different historical roles in the region, and all left distinct stylistic elements on the domestic structures they influenced. The houses are highly stylized examples, and reveal sophisticated mastery of classical

technique. A kaleidoscope of vivid color, the Caribbean is a melting pot like no other on Earth. Brilliantly captured, the interior and exterior photography here is stunning. The related text for each site is rich with both architectural and historical contexts. There are no floor plans, elevations, or other architectural devices, but this is a book that works as well as a reference work for an architectural historian as it does a coffee table browse. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Style and warm sea breezes By Percy Lovetonsil A leisurely stroll through the manor houses of the colonial period. Brief historical sketches of the islands, and well photographed interior shots of these treasures. Exterior photographs show the exotic surroundings. Some architectural commentary, but no floor plans or measured drawings of the rooms. The book, however is a delightful visual read that entices the reader to come and visit this grand area of the West Indies. R.W.B.

Caribbean Houses is a lavishly illustrated account of the development of historically significant houses in the West Indies. Author Michael Connors, a West Indian decorative arts scholar, examines venerable houses that remain as a testimony to the rich history and vibrant lifestyle that was, and continues to be, an important part of Caribbean culture. The book is divided into five chapters, one for each European heritage: the Spanish Antilles, the Dutch Leewards, the English Islands, the French Lesser Antilles, and the Danish Virgin Islands. An authoritative text sheds light on the areas rich architectural and interior design history and gives the reader a unique view of houses that combine the tradition of European styles with the vernacular island forms and decorative motifs. The lavish new photography captures the stunning exteriors and provides a rare look into the interiors of these historic houses, with exotic tropical hardwoods, indigenous stone, and a blending of local crafts and handiwork with antiques and contemporary furnishings. With the disappearance of so much of the Caribbeans historic domestic architecture, the colonial residences that still exist represent an important historical record of the Caribbeans material culture.

"A rare look into the interiors of these historic houses, complete with exotic tropical hardwoods, indigenous stone, local crafts and contemporary furnishings, Caribbean Houses is one for the bookshelf." ~AlltheBestBlog.com "The photographs are glorious... this makes an excellent coffee-table book..." ~Caribbean Beat About the Author Michael Connors is a contributor to numerous trade journals, including Art Antiques and The Magazine Antiques, and he has written many books, including Caribbean Elegance, French Island Elegance, and Cuban Elegance. He lives in New York City, St. Croix, and Deer Isle, Maine.