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Dream Houses: Historic Beach Homes And Cottages Of Naples



Synopsis

"Wilson and Taylor's Dream Houses brings Old Naples to life, providing both fascinating stories and wonderful photographs of the historic Florida city."--Rodney Kite-Powell, Tampa Bay History Center
Naples, Florida, is known internationally for its stunning beaches, cosmopolitan ambience, and captivating architecture. Originally settled in the late nineteenth century, the seaside resort town is blessed with abundant historical architecture. One of the Sunshine State's first "planned communities," the city is consistently recognized as one of the top growth areas in the United States. As a result, the original beach homes, most built between 1895 and 1950, are today threatened by land development and new construction. Dream Houses is the visually inspiring record of the private homes in the historic district of this iconic Florida beach town. It captures the visual, factual, and familial history of these homes as they have, over the course of decades, survived hurricanes, commercial development, architectural evolution, real estate upheaval, and frenzied economic growth. Joie Wilson and Penny Taylor were given privileged access to these houses; together they reveal the beauty, anonymity, and privacy these homeowners have discovered. This once-in-a-lifetime glimpse into these charming homes is an architectural and interior design delight; a unique look at some of the most distinctive beach cottages remaining in Florida.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A member of the American Society of Interior Designers, Joie Wilson moved to Naples from North

Carolina, where she was active in the historic preservation of the state's architectural heritage. Her design projects in Naples range from contemporary beachfront high-rise condominiums to both new and old cottages. Photographer Penny Taylor has lived and worked in Naples for thirty-five years. Her work is on permanent exhibit at the Norris Center in Naples, and her images have appeared in a variety of publications, including *American Lawyer*.

Unique subject, excellent writing, excellent photography. Preserving the history of Naples Florida is essential during these times when so many of the fascinating older homes in Olde Naples are being torn down for new construction on the massive scale. This book gives details of each of the oldest significant homes that include the original owner's names, and styles, and intentions as well as the recent history of owners and what they have done to enhance and protect their beauty and value. Joie Wilson, a Naples Interior Designer, and Penny Taylor, A Naples Photographer, have combined their efforts to capture the essence of a long past era when life moved at a slower pace and people truly did find time to be at peace within the tropical beauty of this lovely spot on the Gulf of Mexico. Reading about that life, and seeing the images of the decor within these homes is an inspiration to anyone who loves architecture and beautiful, captivating interiors. It is also a message to all of us to think twice before discarding structures and green spaces that give a community its soul.

I live in Naples and this special book is almost the only way you can view some of Naples most interesting cottages and rare homes unless you are lucky enough to be invited inside. It tells some of the history, restoration and little known facts about these wonderful homes which are rarely seen or even known by locals, let alone out-of-towners. Great Photography and writing. Thanks.

My niece bought this book while we were in Naples and I had to have one too. Glad that I found it on . Beautiful houses!

Interesting book on what is left of some of the historical homes in Naples, Florida. Also shows some rarely seen interior photos of the boat house designed by architect, Dwight Oakley.

Great book about Naples and have not had time to enjoy it a lot yet but plan to really read and use it when we stay there in winter.

Wonderful book to have on my table for people to enjoy when visiting! It has great photographs of the first cottages which are now charming homes in Naples, Florida. The book tells the history behind the homes. A perfect gift for someone living in Naples, Florida.

Perfect housewarming for friends who moved to Naples

Wonderful collection of historical cottages and houses that embodies the charm of a time that is rapidly becoming a thing of the past.

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