



RESEARCHING THE HISTORY OF YOUR HOUSE

A BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Books

Blumenson, John J. G. *Identifying American Architecture: A Pictorial Guide to Styles and Terms, 1600-1945*. Revised ed. New York: Norton, 1990. 118 p.

Includes photos from the Historic American Buildings Survey.

Friedman, Donald. *Historical Building Construction: Design, Materials, and Technology*. New York: W. W. Norton, 1995. 238 p.

Written for construction professionals, the book is a primer on how New York's buildings have gone up and come down.

Houses & Homes: Exploring Their History. The Nearby History Series, v. 2. Reprint ed. Walnut Creek, Calif.: AltaMira Press, 1987. 168 p.

Howard, Hugh. *How Old Is This House?: A Skeleton Key to Dating and Identifying Three Centuries of American Houses*. New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 1989. 224 p.

Kerr, K. Austin. *Local Businesses: Exploring Their History*. The Nearby History Series, no. 5. Reprint ed. Walnut Creek, Calif.: AltaMira Press, 1990. 128 p.

Kyvig, David E and Myron A. Marty. *Nearby History: Exploring the Past Around You*. Walnut Creek, Calif.: AltaMira Press, 1996. 300 p.

Guidance in investigating the complete history of your immediate environment--your communities, families, institutions, and cultural artifacts.

Light, Sally. *House Histories: A Guide to Tracing the Genealogy of Your Home*. Spencertown, N.Y.: Golden Hill Press, 1989. 302 p.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984. 525 p.

"The guide that enables you to identify, and place in their historic and architectural contexts, the houses you see in your neighborhood or in your travels across America--houses built for American families (rich, poor, and in-between), in city and countryside, from the 17th century to the present."

Morgan, James. *If These Walls Had Ears: The Biography of a House*. New York: Warner Books, 1996. 276 p.
A journalist wrests the secrets from his own home in Little Rock and tells the history of an old house and the seven other families who had called it home.

Pamphlets

Bezat, Barbara. *Drafting a House History*. Minneapolis: Northwest Architectural Archives, University of Minnesota, 1979. 12 p.

Brownstone Biographies. *The House Research Guide: A Step by Step Manual for Owners, Occupants and Other Old House Lovers*. Brooklyn, N. Y.: Brownstone Biographies, 1978. 19 p.

Chidley, George A. ***How to Research the History of a House***. Trenton, N.J.: Dept. of Environmental Protection, Div. of Parks and Forestry, Bureau of Parks, Historic Preservation Office, 1994. 11 p.

Ellsworth, Linda. ***The History of a House: How to Trace It***. Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1976. 8 p. (Technical leaflet / American Association for State and Local History, 89)

Summers, Lydia B. ***Researching the Old House***. Portland, Me.: Greater Portland Landmarks, 1981. 72 p.

Your House Has a History. Chicago, 1988. 8 p.

Articles

Brooks, Andree. "Your Home: Historic Houses; National Register Status." ***New York Times***, Sunday, May 23, 1993, Sec. 10, p. 7.

Brown, Norman. "Your House's Roots." ***Early American Life*** (April 1986): 14-16.

Folsom, Michael B. "Searching for Ghosts: How to Track Down the History of an Old Country House." ***Blair & Ketchum's Country Journal*** (January 1980): 92-100.

Gray, Christopher. "Rattling the Bones of an Old House." ***New York Times***, Aug. 4, 1994, Sec. C, p. 8.

Maxwell, Shirley and James Massey. "Making the Honor Roll." ***Old House Journal*** 21 (Jan. 1993): 44 ff. Focuses on whether or not your house belongs on the National Register of Historic Places. Getting on 'the register'; Research to be done; Is your house register-worthy; Books and literature on the subject; The registration process; Individual vs. historic district; Describing the building and doing the research; How much will it cost; Details.

Schell, Ernest H. "Tracing the History of an Old House." ***Early American Life*** (October 1981): 32, 95-99, 104.

Whitcomb, Claire. "The Stories Houses Tell." ***House Beautiful*** 138:6 (June 1996): 64, 66, 130.

Web Sites

[American Association of Museums \(AAM\)](http://www.aam-us.org/)

[<http://www.aam-us.org/>]

[Historic House Architecture](http://www.ragtime.org/arch/)

[<http://www.ragtime.org/arch/>]

Guide to historic houses, with emphasis on late-Victorian and Craftsman style bungalows.

[National Building Museum](http://nbn.org/)

[<http://nbn.org/>]

[Society of Architectural Historians](http://www.sah.org/)

[<http://www.sah.org/>]

[This Old House Online](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/thisoldhouse/)

[<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/thisoldhouse/>]

Web site of the popular PBS television program.