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# The Queen Anne House: America's Victorian Vernacular



## Synopsis

Queen Anne's style houses are arguably the most charming and picturesque of all Victorians. In this first-ever book on the American Queen Anne style, noted preservationist Janet W. Foster presents a thoughtful recognition of these houses' place in the history of American architecture. Built across the U.S. during the late 19th century (The Inn at Castle Hill in Newport, RI, is a popular example), features of Queen Anne homes include gabled roofs; corbelled chimneys; vertical windows; large porches; balconies; and cut-stone foundations. Foster explains distinguishing elements of the Queen Anne tradition as she examines 21 noted homes, many of them not open to the public and never before published. With more than 200 magnificent photographs, this homage to a great American art form will delight anyone who appreciates a beautiful home.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Janet W. Foster lives in Madison, NJ, in a Queen Anne's style house. She is the assistant director of the Historic Preservation Program at Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation. The architectural photography of Radek Kurzaj has appeared in numerous international magazines and has been the basis of several books, including *The Ranch House* and *The Abrams Guide to American House Styles*. He divides his time between Poland and New York City.

I have been a lover of Victorian houses all my life and own many books on Victorian houses. However I didn't have a book strictly on the Queen Ann style, which is my most favorite of all the beautiful styles created by man kind so I ordered it with the anticipation that I'd really enjoy this book. I was not wrong. The book is full of information, the pictures of both the outsides of the houses and their various styles are excellent and the pictures of the interior rooms are perfect. I also liked seeing some of the floor plans of these houses so that you got a much better picture of the layout and how a family would have lived in them. I'm one of these people who loves to see how the insides of any Victorian house is decorated and this book does not disappoint me. Mrs. C.

I purchased this book as a gift for a couple who just bought a beautiful old Queen Anne that they'll be restoring. They loved the book and were able to match many details in their "new" home to the beautiful photos of interiors & exteriors in the book. My only criticism is that many of the full page photos lacked descriptions but I'd certainly recommend it for anyone interested in this fascinating housing style.

The Queen Anne Revival in America is typically associated with Victorian architecture, both positively and negatively. This book helps to provide an attractive face to it. It is a coffee-table book with very fine photographs. The text is rather weak, however, with no particularly unusual information.

Really, good book. Great examples of the interior, and a breadth of different styles from different locations. I think it is interesting that there are so few sources of information on these houses, but there are thousands out there.

If you are an old house fan or are restoring a house, this would be a book to add to your library. Just the pictures alone just make this book great for a reference!

I recently purchased this book by Janet Foster. What an enjoyable book to read on Queen Anne architecture in the United States. The homes selected are a wonderful representation of the breadth of the style. The author brings each home to life not just with describing the house, but also thorough background research on the architects and the development of the projects. I particularly enjoy the author's musings on life in the homes. The photography complements the writing perfectly. You come away with a good sense of each house. Any serious collector of books on

architecture should have Janet Foster's book in their library. "The Queen Anne House; America's Victorian Vernacular" is a very well written book and easy to read. I look forward to her next effort.

Really neat book for Victorian House enthusiasts.

I bought this book because I love Queen Anne architecture. This book shows the varying styles of the Queen Anne homes.

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