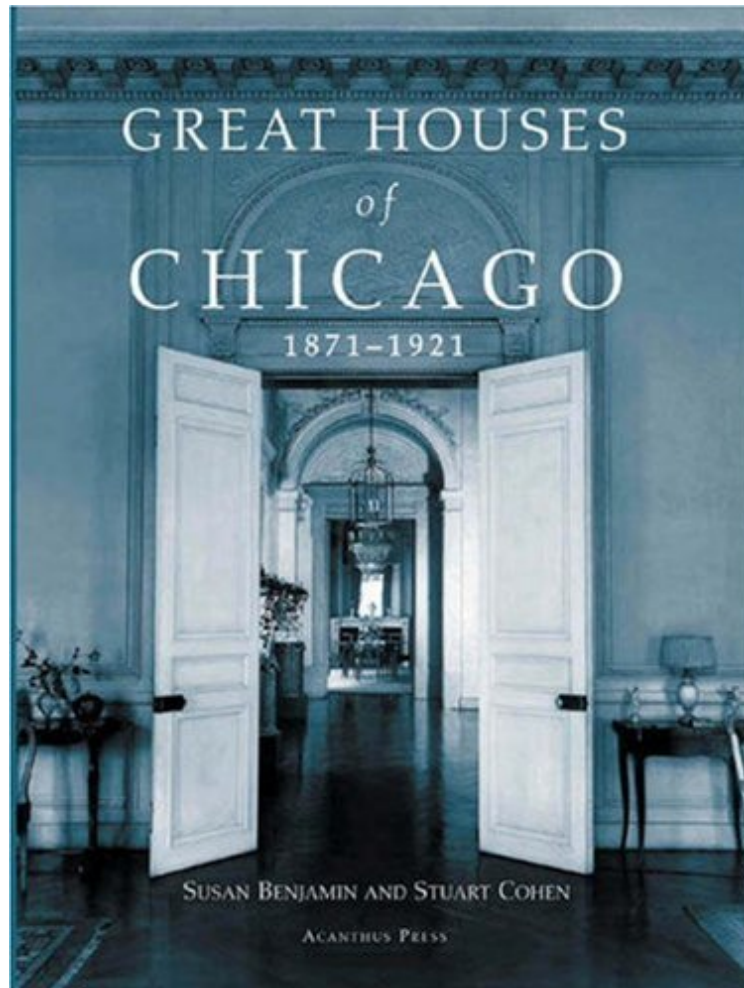


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## Great Houses of Chicago, 1871-1921 (Urban Domestic Architecture Series)

*Susan Benjamin, Stuart Cohen*  
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**Susan Benjamin, Stuart Cohen : Great Houses of Chicago, 1871-1921 (Urban Domestic Architecture Series)**  
before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Great Houses of Chicago, 1871-1921 (Urban Domestic Architecture Series):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This is a very easy to follow book that provides a comprehensive history of ...By eve heffer This is a very easy to follow book that provides a comprehensive history of Chicago's great mansions, many of which are no longer still standing. It contains photos and architectural drawings that provide valuable information and would otherwise be hard to find. Overall, the book leaves one with a special appreciation for the remaining houses that have been preserved, grand reminders of another era, that contribute to the architectural diversity of our city. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great gift book By WeHoLancer This was a gift

for someone from Chicago, and they love the book. It brought back good memories to the receiver. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great history! By Michael Kerley Great retro perspective and history of these amazing houses, one, of which, I actually lived in!

Along Prairie Avenue, majestic Lake Shore Drive, and Astor Street, the Armours, McCormicks, Pullmans, and Ryersons immortalized their place among Chicago's elite with lavish palaces. They were designed by the great architects of the era, including Daniel Burnham, Frank Lloyd Wright, Howard Van Doren Shaw, and David Adler, in styles that ranged from Classical and Romanesque to Prairie School and International Modern. GREAT HOUSES OF CHICAGO, 1871-1921 is the first authoritative study of Chicago's city houses. Thirty-four in-depth profiles, illustrated with restored archival photographs, drawings, and floor plans, portray a private world of Midwestern splendor. This masterful volume includes biographical sketches of leading Chicago architects, a comprehensive bibliography, and a portfolio of 40 additional, rarely-seen residences.

From Publishers Weekly In the period after the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, a burgeoning economy and fortunes led to a building boom. This latest volume in the Urban Domestic Architecture series charts the changing architectural tastes and steady migration of the part of Chicago society that one early 20th-century commentator referred to as the sifted few to their enclaves on Prairie Avenue and Lake Shore Drive. The mansard roofs and restrained exteriors of the French-style mansions built by such Chicago leaders as Marshall Field, Cyrus McCormick and Henry Pullman masked lavish and eclectic interiors. This was a period that saw some of the earliest designs of Frank Lloyd Wright as well as two of H.H. Richardson's final Romanesque structures. The authors often spend as much time on the families that commissioned a specific home as they do on the architecture itself. This combination of social and architectural history places both the most traditional and the more advanced houses in the context of their times, while paying due attention to such acknowledged masterpieces as Wright's Robie House of 1908-1910. Benjamin and Cohen (coauthors, North Shore Chicago, 1890-1940) include brief biographies of 25 architects and their firms, along with 350 b/w photos, drawings and floor plans. (Mar.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. ...illuminating new book... The heart of the book consists of in-depth profiles of the 34 houses, which are portrayed with drawings, restored archival photographs, floor plans and text. The profiles are sharply drawn and richly detailed. Together, they reveal broad stylistic shifts, from the dark, cluttered, European-influenced houses of the 1870s, to the bright, open Prairie Style houses at the turn of the century, to the graceful, tradition-minded eclecticism of the Teens and '20s as rendered by such talents as Howard Van Doren Shaw. --Chicago Tribune, April 12, 2008 This delicious feast of a book is the fifth in the admirable Acanthus Press series on urban domestic architecture in the U.S. The present book examines 34 Chicago houses in detail and appends a portfolio of single images of 40 or more. Of the whole group, 45 have been destroyed and only 12 are still private residences, so the emphasis is necessarily - an nostalgically - on what once was. Just as informative and interesting as the images, the text tells us much about why the owners lived as they did. --Interior Design, March 2008 Three dozen vintage mansions - including 28 landmarks - are examined in the book. The publication, loaded with hundreds of photographs, visits residences on such city streets as Astor, Prairie, Lake Shore Drive, Drexel, lakeview, Greenwood and Woodlawn. --Chicago Sun-Times, March 23, 2008 Three dozen vintage mansions - including 28 landmarks - are examined in the book. The publication, loaded with hundreds of photographs, visits residences on such city streets as Astor, Prairie, Lake Shore Drive, Drexel, lakeview, Greenwood and Woodlawn. --Chicago Sun-Times, March 23, 2008 ...illuminating new book... The heart of the book consists of in-depth profiles of the 34 houses, which are portrayed with drawings, restored archival photographs, floor plans and text. The profiles are sharply drawn and richly detailed. Together, they reveal broad stylistic shifts, from the dark, cluttered, European-influenced houses of the 1870s, to the bright, open Prairie Style houses at the turn of the century, to the graceful, tradition-minded eclecticism of the Teens and '20s as rendered by such talents as Howard Van Doren Shaw. --Chicago Tribune, April 12, 2008 About the Author Susan Benjamin owns a Chicago-area consulting firm, Benjamin Historic Certifications, with a focus on historic preservation. Her firm specializes in preparing landmark nominations and in acquiring tax benefits for homeowners and developers who rehabilitate their landmark properties. Susan frequently lectures, makes television appearances and has written several books and many articles on Chicago architecture. She is a resident of Highland Park. Stuart Cohen is a practicing architect and a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. He is Professor Emeritus at the University of Illinois, Chicago. Stuart's firm, Cohen and Hacker Architects, specializes in residential architecture and the restoration and renovation of historic houses. He is the author of two books and numerous articles on architecture. Susan Benjamin and Stuart Cohen are co-authors of North Shore Chicago: Houses of the Lakefront Suburbs, 1890-1940 (Acanthus Press, 2004)