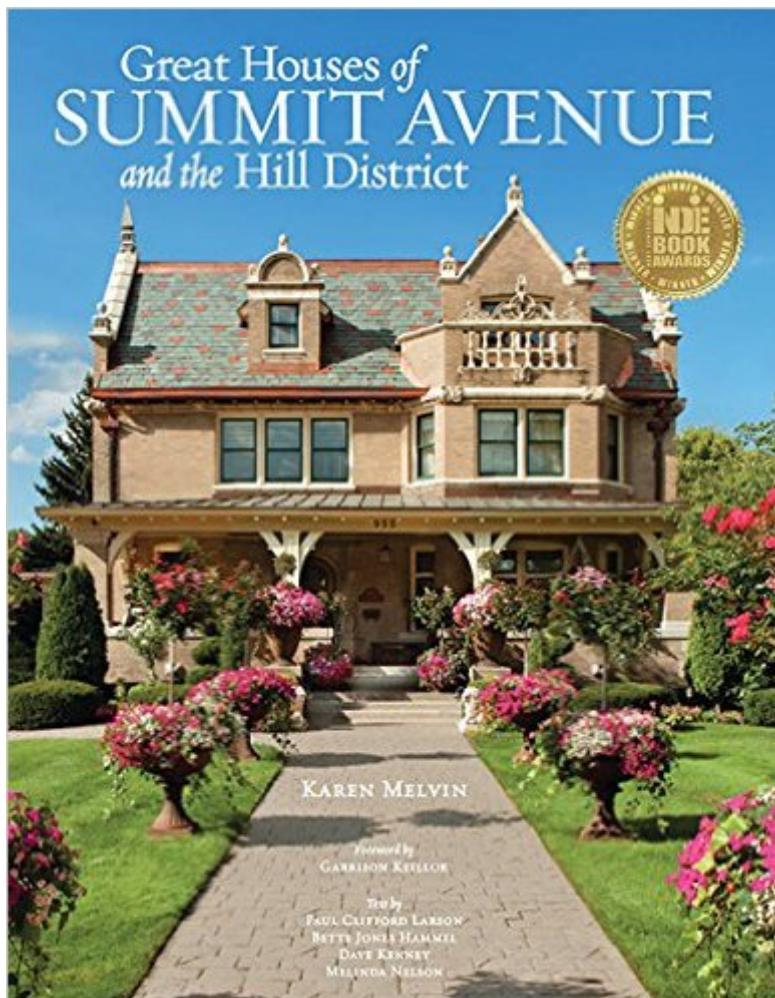


The book was found

Great Houses Of Summit Avenue And The Hill District



Synopsis

Summit Avenue, grande dame of Victorian boulevards, is lined with magnificent turn-of- the-century mansions built by railroad magnates, lumber barons and captains of industry. Great Houses of Summit Avenue and the Hill District is a celebration of these homes on St. Paul's best-known and most beloved avenue. With a foreword by Garrison Keillor and fascinating stories penned by four award-winning writers including Paul Clifford Larson, Bette Hammel, Dave Kenney, and Melinda Nelson, the book opens the doors to more than two dozen legendary homes situated on America's best-preserved avenue from the era. Photographer Karen Melvin takes us along for a tour through stately mansions to view these remarkable architectural gems. Featuring the work of notable architects including Clarence Johnston, Cass Gilbert and Allen Stem, readers experience the interiors first-hand, including the home of F. Scott Fitzgerald. Richly illustrated with hundreds of photos, this book offers an irresistible invitation to step through the doors of these showcase homes to explain what we are all curious to know.  Discover how the homeowners have restored the original grandeur and rich heritage of their homes while infusing them with new life and energy.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars  See all reviews  (22 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Garrison Keillor shows his trademark humor in his Forward to this lovely coffee table book: "The mansions of Summit were intended to declare the owners' status in St Paul society  "you could drive by and see the porte cochere, the colonnade, the turret, and you knew that the owner had not just fallen off the turnip wagon."Unfortunately for the houses, succeeding generations weren't

always able or willing to keep them up. By the 1960s, according to Paul Clifford's Introduction, about half of the houses in the area were renter-occupied, often with the large houses split into apartments. The drive to restore and preserve houses started in the late 60s, and now a big area of Summit Ave is listed on the National Historic Register. All of the 24 houses shown in "Great Houses" are in top condition and have been restored to their former glory where needed. As all 24 houses are privately owned, a book with full-sized photos is probably the only way I'll get to see their beauty. Each house has a short write-up and picture captions. There are several pictures for each house, many full page. That makes them large photos, because a page is almost 9" x 12". There are no people in the photos, it is the architecture and decoration that are the stars. Except for when the owner's pet is in the frame. There are many wonderful rooms shown, in many different styles. One of my favorites is the Music Room in the Frederick A. Fogg House. This extraordinary room has a European light & airy feel. With its delicate plaster-work and high ceiling, it is an oasis of beauty. The customer image I've attached shows its arched windows and painted ceiling round.

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