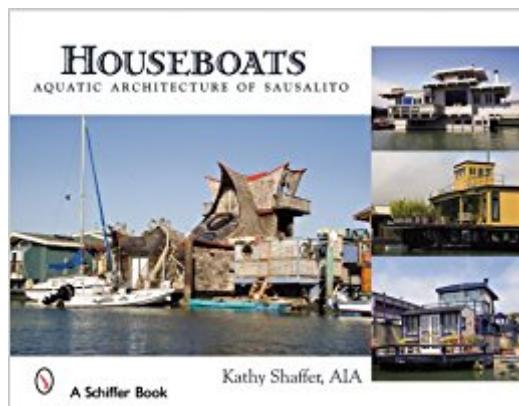


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# Houseboats: Aquatic Architecture Of Sausalito



## Synopsis

Prepare to be wowed, amused, and inspired as you visit over 100 houseboats, inside and out. Architect Kathy Shaffer follows her bliss and explores the floating legacy of her Sausalito home. With an eye toward the artistic, Shaffer carefully documents the architectural evolution of this houseboat community. Learn the geography of the area, the developers who helped shape it, the history of the marinas, and the amazing evolution of houseboat design and construction. This book also reflects the lives of people who choose to constrain their home to a hundred square feet or so, and how they've engineered their surroundings to their spatial restrictions. This book is a celebration of the refreshing, inspiring forms created in the free-thinking spirit of houseboat architecture. It is a must-have for all who love architecture, handmade houses, and inspiring homes.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: Schiffer Publishing (July 3, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0764327224

ISBN-13: 978-0764327223

Product Dimensions: 11.2 x 0.9 x 8.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #533,340 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #90 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Vernacular #684 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Ships #1012 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Reference > Architecture

## Customer Reviews

Kathy Shaffer is a licensed architect in California, Connecticut, and Louisiana, with national certification (NCARB). She specializes in residential and commercial architecture, and is based in Sausalito, California.

Most of the Sausalito houseboats shown in this book still look the same today, 7 years later, with only small decorative changes here or there. We bought this book when we were considering buying and moving into a floating home in Sausalito (which we did) and it has a prominent space on a shelf in our living room now, as guests enjoy looking at it when visiting. We found most all of the

commentary about the houseboat/floating home history and community to be accurate. The community and it's residents are very artistic, vibrant, and eclectic with a strong sense of community and camaraderie. Pretty soon some of the dock related images will be out dated, however, as there are many updates happening right now to Waldo Point Houseboat Marina (the largest of the houseboat communities in Sausalito and the one most prominently featured in the book). The largest one being the raising of the sea wall to prevent the high tides from coming ashore and flooding the parking lots and other areas, as well as updating the Co-op community. This construction project is extensive and the entryways to the docks have had to be fully removed and rebuilt. The new entry areas are nicely updated, very attractive and all include an increase in green space and plantings all around. The Co-op community is next on the list once Waldo point is finished and it will end up with a floating dock, per the current plans, with all the dwellings being brought up to safety standards, as well as a nice park area for residents. By Summer 2014 Waldo Point should have most all of it's work completed and it will look quite different than the images in this book. I'd love to see an updated book on the floating homes of Sausalito, but as this author's focus was strongly on the architecture, not so much on the overall community and people, it's not likely to come from her. Despite being 7 years old as of this review, I'd still recommend this book for anyone interested in floating homes and/or Sausalito. The images are great as well as the historical information presented.

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