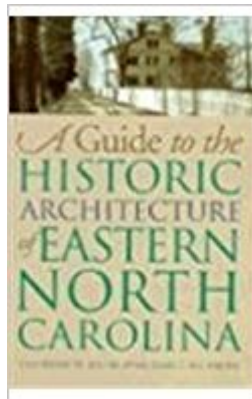




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# **A Guide To The Historic Architecture Of Eastern North Carolina (Richard Hampton Jenrette Series In Architecture And The Decorative Arts)**



## Synopsis

Eastern North Carolina boasts some of the oldest and most distinctive architecture in the state, from colonial churches and antebellum plantation houses to the imperiled lighthouses of the late nineteenth century. The more recent history of this predominantly agricultural region includes landscapes of small farmsteads, country churches, factories, tobacco barns, quiet maritime villages, and market towns. In their guide to this rich and diverse architectural heritage, Catherine Bishir and Michael Southern introduce readers to more than 1,700 buildings in forty-one counties from the coast to Interstate 95. Written for travelers and residents alike, the book emphasizes buildings visible from the road and indicates which sites are open to the public. Featuring more than 400 photographs and 30 maps, the guide is organized by counties, which are grouped geographically. Sections typically begin with the county seat and work outward with concise entries that treat notable buildings, neighborhoods, and communities. The text highlights key architectural features and trends and relates buildings to the local and regional histories they represent. A project of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office of the Division of Archives and History, the book reflects more than twenty-five years of fieldwork and research in the agency's statewide architectural survey and National Register of Historic Places programs. Two future volumes will cover western and piedmont North Carolina.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

An excellent guidebook. "Coastwatch"

Not just the Cupola House and Tryon Palace, but tobacco barns, shotgun houses, textile factories, and railroad stations, too. A feast of North Carolina's historic structures that will stand as a definitive source for many years.--Roy Parker Jr., contributing editor, Fayetteville Observer-Times

Anyone who loves North Carolina history or architecture will adore this superbly written and illustrated guide. This is truly a book to treasure.--Southern Pines Pilot

The three-volume guide to the historic architecture of North Carolina may top the list of guide books. These three books provide what is surely the most comprehensive, historically and culturally informative, and easy-to-use set of guides to any state in the nation.--ARRIS

This is the perfect gift, for it is not armchair scholarship and no one who takes the time to buy and use this book will be untouched. The book transcends the architectural report, combining architectural details, reasons for significance, and ripping vignettes of common and uncommon places into a succinct prose history.--North Carolina Historical Review

A diverse and extensive guide for explorers with a historical bent. . . . An excellent guidebook. . . . No trip to the beach should be a straight drive when the Coastal Plain's back roads offer fascinating stories of North Carolina's history through the details of its architecture.--Coastwatch

This guide, with its maps and detailed place descriptions, would be an invaluable aid to heritage tourists.--Wilson Daily Times

This book is exactly what its title suggests: It's a survey of HISTORIC architecture in eastern North Carolina, one of the richest concentrations of colonial, federal, and early Romantic architecture in the country. Eastern North Carolina is a feast for anyone who enjoys small coastal towns packed with historic churches and houses, small regional cities that aspired to metropoli but failed and are now preserved gems of early 20th century urban architecture, and rural plantations off the beaten path just waiting for that late afternoon thunderstorm. This book, along with its two equally good companion volumes covering the Piedmont and West, is a joy to simply browse for a quick daydream or a resource to pour over as part of a larger research project. They're really that good.

In the world of architectural surveys, the variation in standards can be frustrating. Some are generally excellent, complete and (relatively) objective, while some are grossly incomplete or out of date. Some are packed with structures that have otherwise been demolished or destroyed (what's the point?). Some are so overstuffed with editorial political correctness and arcane archi-speak that they can't be enjoyed for the art itself. Also, some like to use what I call "iconoclastic postdating," a form of revisionism that always finds buildings to be younger than previously thought, but never older.

This guide, miraculously, resists ALL of these potential flaws. It is of the highest scholarly and editorial quality. There are no significant omissions to reveal the author's political or aesthetic bias.

The summaries are concise and well written. The coverage is truly exhaustive, being a combination of single entries and location summaries. The photographs are largely functional rather than artistic, but are well chosen to reveal the structures in entirety, as they would appear from the street or other public right of way. Maps are very good, simple and accurate. The catalog is introduced by a substantial essay which puts the buildings in their larger historical, social and artistic contexts. If you're a fan of architectural surveys, these are among the very best and are every bit as good as, if not better than, the BUILDINGS OF THE UNITED STATES series. If you're a fan of rural and small-town historical architecture, these books are representative of the genre. Buy all three books for a complete survey of the states's remarkable ensemble of historic buildings.

This was purchased as a gift for my father who grew up in Eastern North Carolina. It has tons of information in it and he likes to reminisce about how things used to be when he was a child.

Just returned from a trip all around the historic intracoastal areas of eastern NC. This book was indispensable throughout our road trip. Really enriched our experience.

Nice edition...hard to find along with other books in this genre. Happy with this edition

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