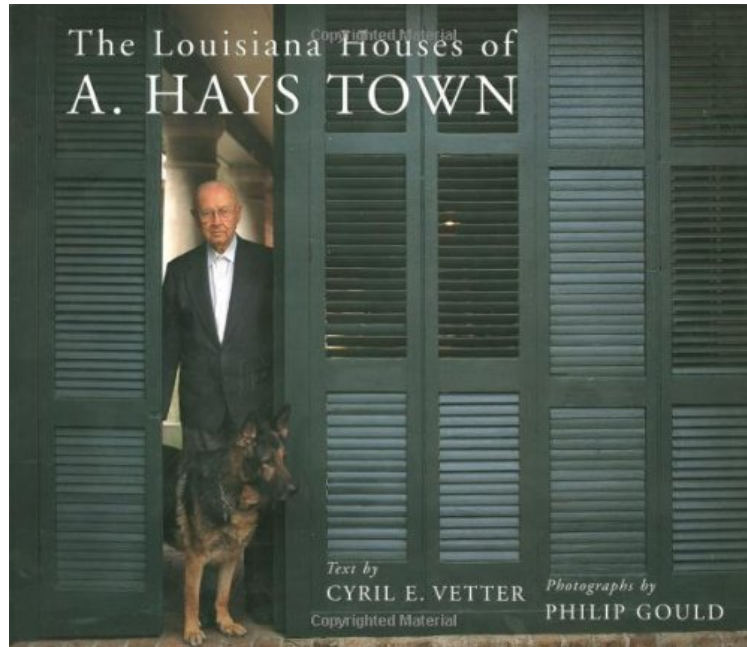


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The Louisiana Houses of A. Hays Town

Cyril E. Vetter

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Cyril E. Vetter : The Louisiana Houses of A. Hays Town before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Louisiana Houses of A. Hays Town:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great Gift item! By William F Town Maybe I like it because Hays is a cousin of mine! Good book... Great Pictures!! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great coffee table book By Niko Hosszu Great coffee table book that captures much of the beautiful architecture of southern Louisiana that A. Hays Town is responsible for. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. disappointing By O. Wayne Watkins Considering the price the book was a disappointment to me. As an architect who lives in Baton Rouge, I would have liked to have known the address of the houses covered so that I could view them in person. An interior designer may like it better because it covers the interiors much more than the exteriors. The book covers houses with mixed design style. People here have praised his work to me so often that I was anxious to view his work. I am not impressed.

A. Hays Town changed the face of the Louisiana house. In a career that includes designing more than five hundred homes, he led architects, builders, and homeowners to embrace the finest elements of Louisiana's architectural past. Almost every home built in Louisiana during the last twenty years is in some way inspired by Town's work. The Louisiana Houses of A. Hays Town honors his legacy as Louisiana's premier residential architect. Color photographs of numerous homes -- including Town's own -- by Philip Gould combined with an illuminating text by Cyril E. Vetter produce a volume that captures the appeal and beauty of the state's finest architectural tradition. Born and raised in rural southwest Louisiana, Hays Town graduated from Tulane University with a degree in architecture in 1926 and worked for a firm in Jackson, Mississippi, for many years. He established his own successful commercial practice in

Baton Rouge in 1939, but in the 1960s, Town turned to his abiding passion -- residential architecture. Throughout this chapter of his career, he perfected his inimitable style and emerged as one of the most prominent architects in the South. Town's residential designs are perceptibly influenced by the diverse culture of south Louisiana. His synthesis of the classic Acadian cottage, Spanish courtyards, and exterior French doors with Creole-influenced full-length shutters achieves an original confluence of seemingly disparate yet elegantly balanced themes and forms. Other Town trademarks include pigeoniers, tree alleys, thirteen-foot ceilings, heavy use of such woods as cypress and heart of pine, plantation-style separate structures, and brick floors with a special beeswax finish. *The Louisiana Houses of A. Hays Town* illuminates the momentous effect Town has had on the look of Louisiana. Crafted from the perspective of two people, Vetter and Gould, who are not architects but admirers of one man's exceptional talent, this delightful book demonstrates that each Town house is a work of art that fits both person and terrain. At the door of each home, proud owners hang a bronze plaque that says it all: A. Hays Town, Architect.

About the Author Over a twenty-year career in the communications industry, Cyril E. Vetter has owned and operated newspapers, radio and television stations, a television production company, and a recording and music publishing company. He is the author of *Fonville Winans' Louisiana: Politics, People, and Places*. He lives in Baton Rouge. Philip Gould, who lives in Lafayette, Louisiana, is a documentary photographer. His work has been featured in numerous national magazines, among them *Newsweek*, *National Geographic Traveler*, and *Smithsonian*. His previous books of photographs include *Louisiana's Capitols -- The Power and the Beauty* and *Cajun Music and Zydeco*.