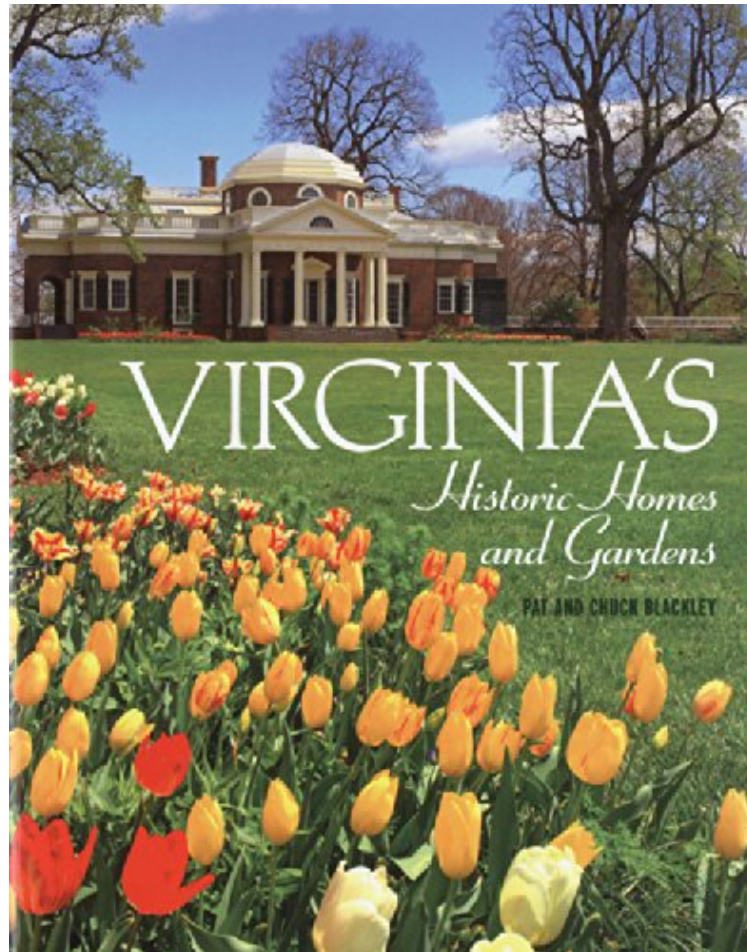


(Download free pdf) Virginia's Historic Homes and Gardens

## Virginia's Historic Homes and Gardens

*Pat Blackley, Chuck Blackley*

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**Pat Blackley, Chuck Blackley : Virginia's Historic Homes and Gardens** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Virginia's Historic Homes and Gardens:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful selective portfolio of important Virginia plantationsBy Jon L AlbeeCompared to other so-called "coffee table" books in this genre, this book is small. The selection of sites is by no means exhaustive, but it is diversely representative of the different dwelling styles of Virginia's colonial and federal elite.This book is proof of the well-worn notion that great things come in small packages. The photography alone is worth the price of the book. We're treated to gorgeous exterior, interior and garden shots that will make architects, historians, and architectural historians catch their breath. Pat and Chuck Blackley are skilled photographers, well known and respected for their work in architectural history. You will not be disappointed with this slice of shots from their enormous portfolio.What you may not know is that they are also skilled writers, and each entry in the book is framed by an essay of historical and social depth. Clearly, the authors have written this material for people who understand and enjoy Virginia history. Overall, I was impressed by the editorial quality of the entire presentation.This

book, though quite a bit smaller, reminds me very much of the excellent *Houses of the Founding Fathers*, by Howard Straus. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nice overview of historic landmark homes. By E in VAI saw this book in a hotel lobby and decided to order a copy for myself. I've visited many of these homes while living in Virginia in the last few years and wanted to keep a beautiful photographic reminder for reference later. Also wanted to remind myself of places that I still want to visit. Seeing these beautiful places and their pictures helps me to soak up that sense of early American history that Virginia is noted for. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great coffee table book! By catlib55 This is a great book. Since we live in Virginia, we have seen many of the homes in this book, and I saw this book in the gift stores of several of the homes. But it was \$25.00! So I looked it up on and found it for a much cheaper price - thank you, !! Because I am an Prime member, I was able to get it in 2 days with free shipping!

Home to Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in the New World, Virginia is in many ways the birthplace of America and the home of U.S. history. It is also literally the birthplace of eight presidents and numerous Revolutionary and Civil War heroes. Virginia was among the wealthiest southern states in the antebellum period, resulting in a long tradition of stately homes on luxuriant plantations. In addition to their elegant architecture and classic southern styling, these homes feature some of the most extravagant and noteworthy gardens on the eastern seaboard. From the James River Plantations to the Shenandoah foothills, *Virginias Historic Homes and Gardens* celebrates the legendary houses and landscapes of Old Dominion. Virginia natives, the authors travel throughout the state to highlight the best of the famous and lesser-known homes. Including such national landmarks as George Washingtons Mount Vernon and Thomas Jeffersons Monticello, the book brilliantly illustrates the homes exteriors and interiors as well as their gardens and landscaping. Historical details accompany the exquisite color photographs, along with useful information on each sites location.

The real appeal of the Blackleys latest offering is in the eye candy found on nearly every page. The sharp details and lush colors in each photograph are mentally mouth-watering. But, beware. If you think you will be able to read this book and then resist the temptation to actually visit one or more of these historical delicacies, you could be sadly mistaken. Turning the pages of *Virginias Historic Homes and Gardens* will whet your appetite, but it also will leave you hungry for more. --Free-Lance Star (Fredericksburg, VA) April 18, 2009