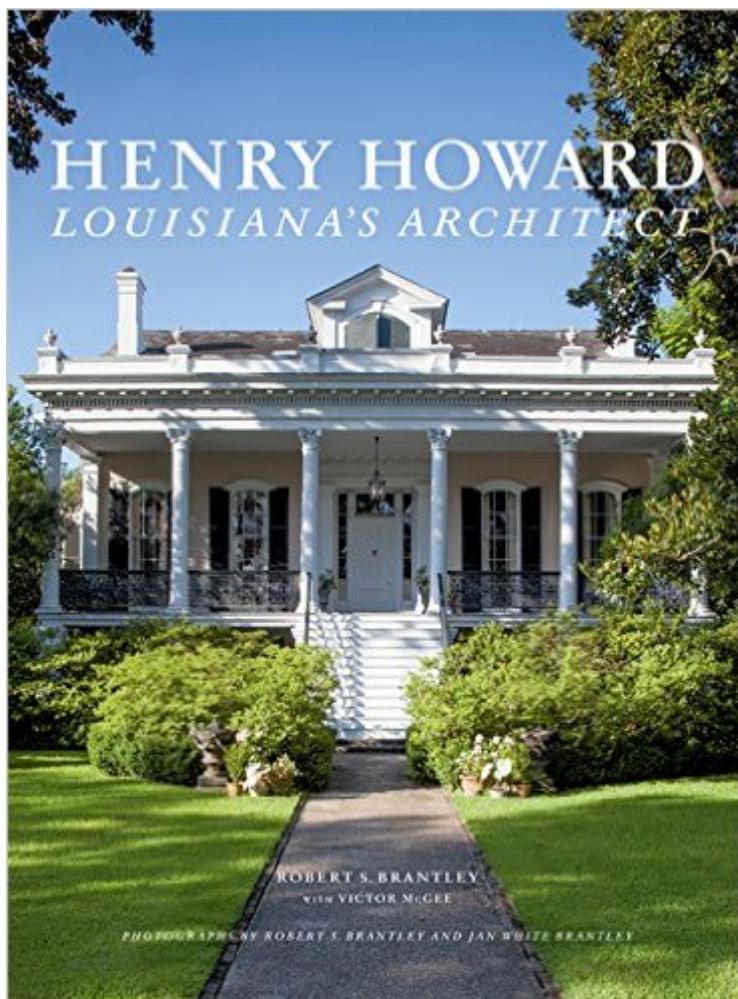


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# Henry Howard: Louisiana's Architect



## Synopsis

Few nineteenth-century architects ventured far from the pattern-book styles of their time. One architect not constrained by tradition was the Irish-born American Henry Howard, who started as a carpenter and stair builder in 1836 New York and arrived in New Orleans the following year, soon establishing a reputation for distinctive designs that blended American and European trends. His career gained momentum as he went on to design an extraordinarily diverse portfolio of magnificent residences and civic buildings in New Orleans and its environs. Henry Howard is a lavishly produced clothbound volume featuring hundreds of contemporary and archival images and a comprehensive analysis of his built work. The first book to examine the forty-year career of the architect, Henry Howard establishes a clear lineage of his aesthetic contributions to the urban and rural environments of the South. Princeton Architectural Press co-publishes Henry Howard with The Historic New Orleans Collection: a museum, research center, and publisher dedicated to the study and preservation of the history and culture of New Orleans and the Gulf South.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I just got my copy of this amazing book this afternoon and I spent 4 hours just getting my feet wet! I've already learned things I thought I already knew everything about but I was wrong! I had no idea that Windsor was designed by Howard. I always read that no one really knew. Also that work on BelleGrove began in 1852 which was 2-3 years before what everyone thought. Love the rare pictures I've never seen published anywhere else, also the wonderful new elevations done in full color of both BelleGrove and Woodlawn! This book is a rare treat for anyone who loves the old

houses built in and around New Orleans before, during, and after the Civil War.

Being an architectural historian, I have many books on the lives and careers of great architects. None surpasses this one. I've been aware of Henry Howard since the 1950's and lamented the fact there was no biography detailing his life and career. I recently heard about the book, and quickly got a copy and can say it exceeds my most hoped for expectations. It is visually stunning, for starters, magnificently illustrated with superb photography and architectural renderings, archival photographs seldom seen, prints, drawings, etc. The prose is wonderfully readable and clear, moreover. The book is incredibly comprehensive with everything heretofore known about Howard as well as well as new information, as example, presented regarding the attribution of Windsor Plantation by Howard, which frankly, does not surprise me. Anyone interested in the South, the architectural history of the South and New Orleans, most certainly should have this magisterial and in a sense, incomparable book!

This is a gorgeous book with stunning photos and text that reads like literature . What a great New Orleans and Louisiana feel !

Magnificent!! Congratulations, Robert and Victor (who I know is smiling on the other side, what an elegant man he was). This is an over-due and inspired work, no doubt channeled by Howard himself (I know something of this because I too have been captured of his spirit), as no architect immigrant of the time contributed more to our country than Howard, with such lacking of recognition. For years his brilliance was attributed to many, far undeserving of such workmanship. I am the fortunate owner of the beautiful Auguste Tete House, which was the last house designed and built by Howard. To live in a Howard house is to understand his immense contribution to the history and grace that once was commonplace. During my personal restoration of my home, I've been made continually aware of the deliberate construction quality. Coupled with a desire for comfort, Howard made deliberate choices for every corner, creating a vista for the eyes, indulgently rich for the enjoyment of the family and elegantly gracious for entertaining.

I have been fascinated by the charm of Louisiana's antebellum architecture since I was a child riding the River Road when we visited family. I have collected books for over forty years on the subject. This book is the most complete study of the architecture of Louisiana plantations and the city of New Orleans. There are an amazing number of pictures and diagrams combined with very readable text

that conveys a tremendous amount of information. I enjoyed every bit of it. This book will be read and referred to many times due to the great format.

A well written, researched and documented book. The authors present a detailed overview of one of Louisiana's finest architects who for too long had been lost in the pages of history. The photographs and color rendition are peerless and complement the narrative in an exceptional way. The book will appeal to those with a casual interest in architecture as well as the student and practitioner of the art. The narrative is easy to read and follow and appropriately weighted with reference material.

After reading a very brief review in a prominent magazine I took a chance and ordered Howard book. The book is so professionally formatted and thorough we decided to give first copy to a well-known traditional Atlanta architect for his firm's library and purchase a second copy for ourselves. Highly recommend if the general Southern/Gulf architecture styles and/or New Orleans area are of particular interest.

Congratulations are in order for the work in tracking down the elusive history of Henry Howard, only the greatest of Louisiana's Antebellum architects. The history is a great story and the research extensive. The pictures are expansive and a wonderful book to have in your collection.

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