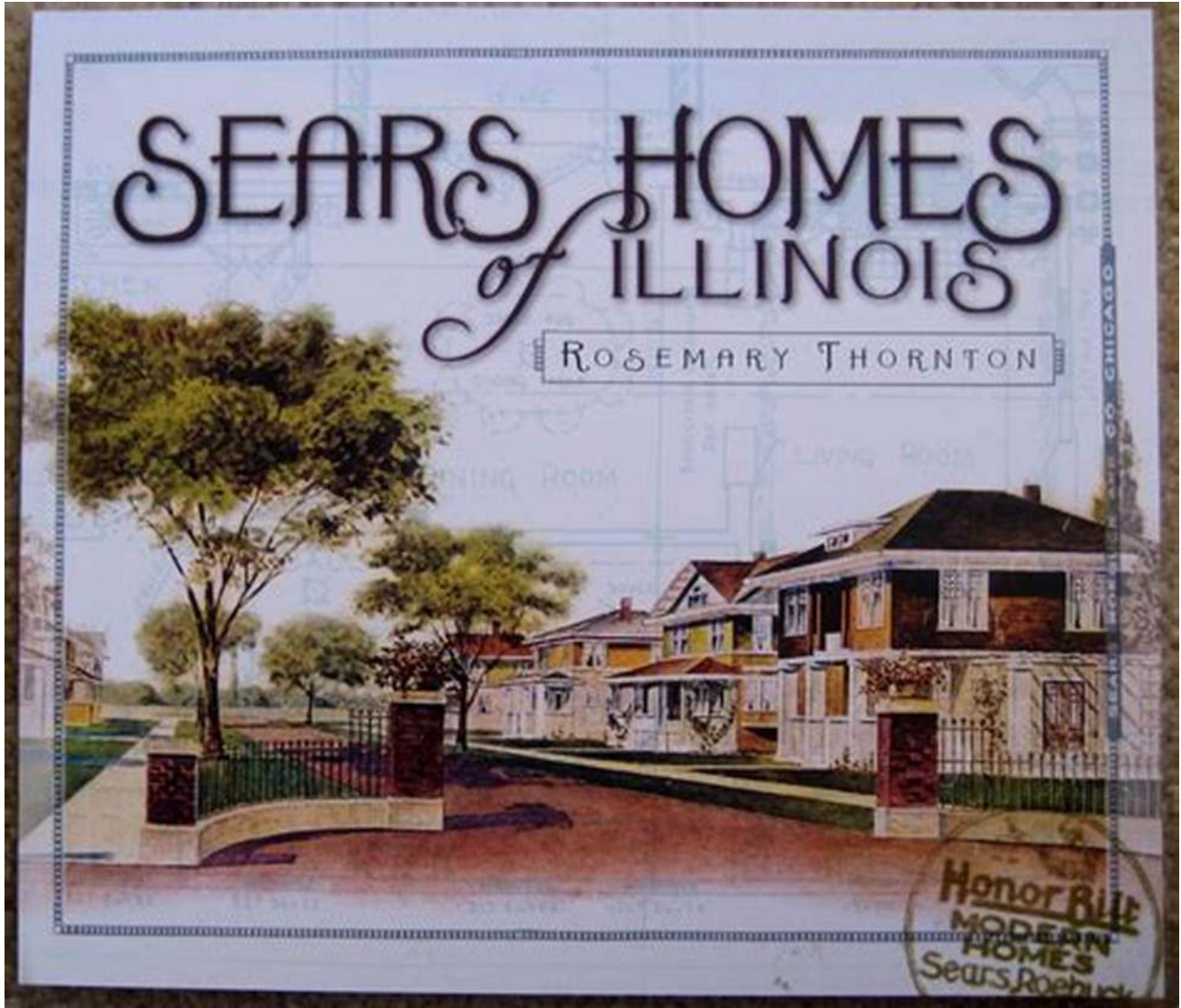


# Sears Homes Of Illinois: Unveiling the Legacy of Mark Rectanus



Illinois holds a rich architectural heritage, with various architectural styles prevalent throughout its landscapes. Among these, Sears homes have a special place, with their historical significance and unique designs. Behind this remarkable legacy is Mark Rectanus, a passionate advocate for preserving and documenting these iconic homes.

## Discovering the Sears Homes

Sears, Roebuck and Company, once a popular catalog retailer, embraced the concept of kit homes in the early 20th century. With a vast selection of home designs, clients could purchase everything needed for building a house, from lumber to nails, directly from the Sears catalog.



## Sears Homes of Illinois by Mark W. Rectanus (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 16645 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 179 pages



Mark Rectanus, an Illinois native and architectural enthusiast, stumbled upon his first Sears home more than two decades ago. Intrigued by its origins, he started researching the history of these kit homes, uncovering an extensive network of Sears homes across Illinois.

## Preserving History through Documentation

Intrigued by the craftsmanship and importance of Sears homes, Rectanus embarked on a mission to document as many of these homes as possible. Armed with his camera and a deep passion for architectural preservation, he traversed Illinois to capture the beauty of these houses.

The impact of Rectanus' work reaches beyond preserving the physical structures. The images he captures encapsulate the stories and emotions of the families who

have lived in these homes. From the white picket fences to the intricate details on the porches, every aspect of these homes tells a tale of bygone eras.

Rectanus' dedication to documenting and cataloging Sears homes has been instrumental in promoting an appreciation for these historic dwellings. His online database serves as a resource for homeowners, historians, and architectural enthusiasts alike, ensuring that the legacy of Sears homes remains alive.

## **The Legacy Lives On**

Today, thanks to Rectanus' passion and advocacy, many Sears homes have been preserved and restored to their former glory. These houses not only serve as beloved homes for families but also act as time capsules, providing a glimpse into the past for future generations.

Rectanus' efforts have also spurred interest in the architectural community, leading to a greater understanding and appreciation for the craftsmanship and historical significance of Sears homes. His legacy is not just the preservation of physical structures but the promotion of an entire architectural movement.

## **Continuing the Mission**

Mark Rectanus is determined to ensure that the legacy of Sears homes continues to thrive. He actively supports organizations and initiatives that focus on restoring and preserving these architectural gems. Rectanus conducts workshops, lectures, and guided tours to spread awareness and share the history of these homes.

Through his tireless efforts, Rectanus aims to engage younger generations and inspire them to become passionate advocates for architectural preservation. His

mission transcends mere recognition of Sears homes; it is about preserving the legacy of architecture and design for future generations to appreciate.

## In

The impact of Mark Rectanus' work in documenting and preserving Sears homes in Illinois cannot be overstated. His dedication and commitment have not only led to the physical preservation of these architectural gems but also promoted a greater understanding and appreciation for the diverse architectural history of Illinois.

Rectanus's passion for Sears homes has given us a window into the past, allowing us to appreciate the craftsmanship and design sensibilities of previous generations. Through his ongoing efforts, the legacy of Sears homes will continue to inspire and captivate generations to come.

Article written by Amanda Johnson



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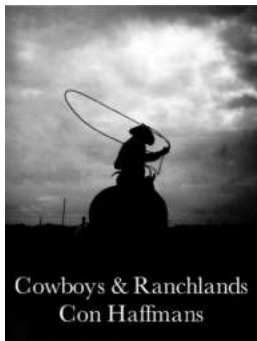
From 1908 to 1940, Sears, Roebuck and Co. sold nearly seventy-five thousand homes through its mail-order Modern Homes program. Families across the nation

set about assembling the kits, using the thick instruction manual to puzzle out how twelve thousand pieces of house might fit together. The resulting dwellings were as durable as they were enchanting, swiftly becoming icons of the American landscape. Follow leading expert Rosemary Thornton through a lavishly illustrated history of the homes many Illinoisans don't know they are living in. Recognize your own front porch on a page in the Neo-Tudor section of the style gallery and tell your plumber he's helping to preserve a Barrington.



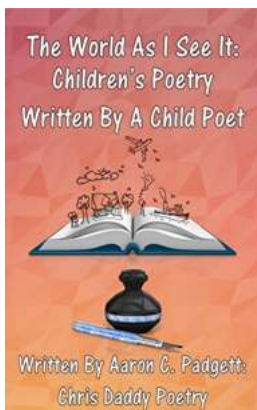
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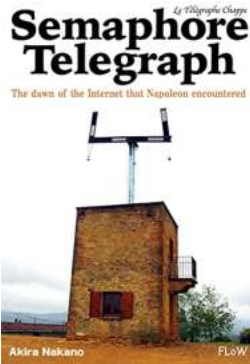
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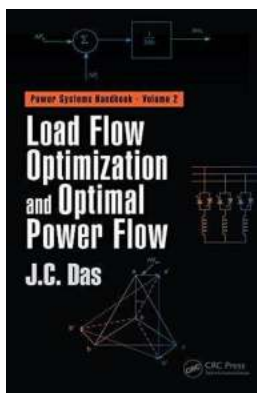
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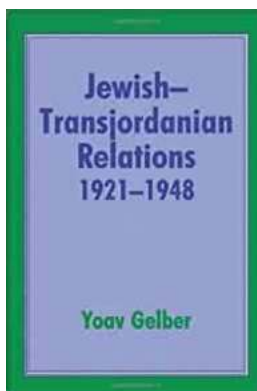
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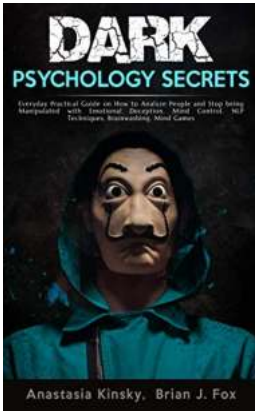
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