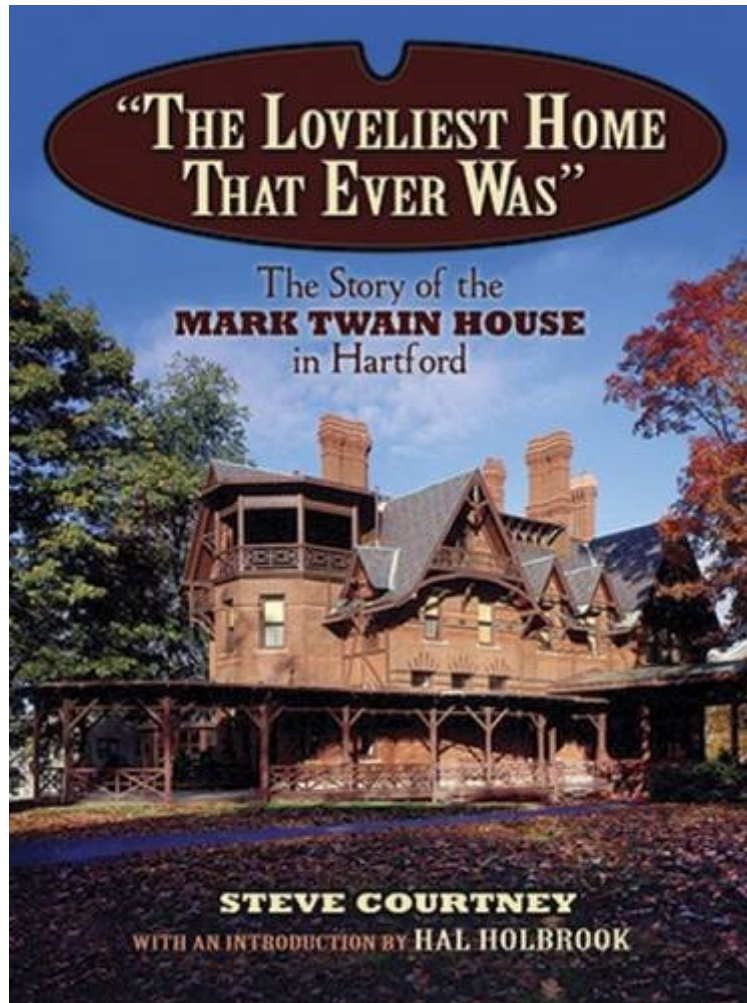


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## "The Loveliest Home That Ever Was": The Story of the Mark Twain House in Hartford

Steve Courtney

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**Steve Courtney :** "The Loveliest Home That Ever Was": The Story of the Mark Twain House in Hartford before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised "The Loveliest Home That Ever Was": The Story of the Mark Twain House in Hartford:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Superb architectural history of Mark Twain's homeBy David ArbogastFor those who are fascintated with Mark Twain (aka Samuel Clemens) this book provides all the information one might desire regarding his life in Hartford, Connecticut and the house he had built there. For those of us who are interested in late-Victorian architecture or, more specifically his architect, who is virtually unknown today, this is a significant addition to one's architectural library.The book is lavishly illustrated and the accompanying text is excellent, incorporating a written description of the house as it was initially constructed. This is architectural history at

its best - a history of the house with the biographical history subordinated to the architectural history. If one wishes a complete biography of Mark Twain, this is probably not the book. There are many excellent biographies of him in print. However, if one wishes to understand his architectural ambitions, this is the premier book for that purpose.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. the perfect gift for the Mark Twain fan in your lifeBy Kindle CustomerWhat a beautiful book! Everybody who is interested in Mark Twain's life will want a copy.. A lot of this is new material and there are some rare reprints of pictures and text from the Dover archives.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Tomeeegift

This is the official guide to The Mark Twain House Museum, an institution dedicated to preserving the author's home, literary legacy, and life story. Author Steve Courtney, the organization's Publicist and Publications Editor, conducts a journey back to the Gilded Age, when the celebrated author and humorist was known as Mr. Samuel Clemens of Hartford, Connecticut. Readers can venture inside "the loveliest home that ever was" for an illustrated tour that offers intimate glimpses of the writer, his wife, and their daughters within their Victorian mansion. Abundantly illustrated with architectural drawings and period photos, this volume also features dozens of recent color images. Built in the American Gothic tradition, the richly appointed house features the decorative work of Louis Comfort Tiffany and contains many souvenirs of family trips to Europe. During the seventeen years that he lived in the Hartford home, Sam Clemens completed *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (1876) and *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1884), along with *The Prince and the Pauper* (1881) and *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* (1889), in addition to countless lectures, magazine pieces, and stories improvised for the children's delight. The narrative traces the house's history beyond the Clemens family's residence, from its 1903 sale to its current status as a lovingly preserved and restored National Historic Landmark.

About the Author Author Steve Courtney is Publicist and Publications Editor at the Mark Twain House and Museum. For over 20 years he was associated with the Hartford Courant as bureau chief, copyeditor, book reviewer, and writer on scientific, historic, and literary subjects. For nearly 50 years, actor Hal Holbrook (Introduction) has portrayed Twain on the stage in an internationally acclaimed one-man show.