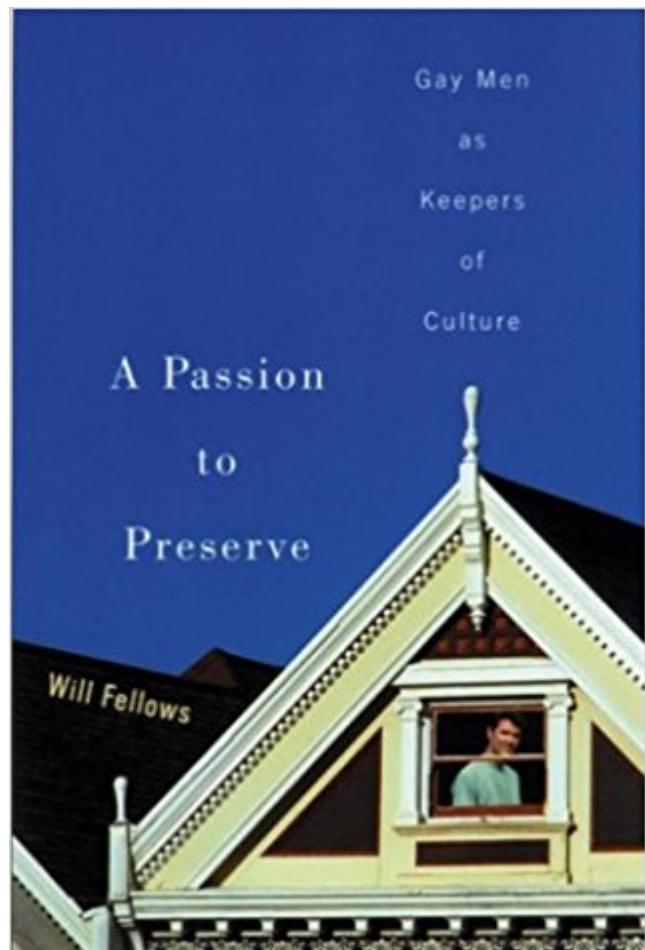


The book was found

A Passion To Preserve: Gay Men As Keepers Of Culture



Synopsis

From large cities to rural communities, gay men have long been impassioned pioneers as keepers of culture: rescuing and restoring decrepit buildings, revitalizing blighted neighborhoods, saving artifacts and documents of historical significance. *A Passion to Preserve* explores this authentic and complex dimension of gay men's lives by profiling early and contemporary preservationists from throughout the United States, highlighting contributions to the larger culture that gays are exceptionally inclined to make.

Book Information

Hardcover: 304 pages

Publisher: University of Wisconsin Press; 1 edition (May 15, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0299196801

ISBN-13: 978-0299196806

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 6.4 x 0.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #680,510 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #147 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Historic Preservation #818 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Specific Groups > LGBT #1154 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Specific Demographics > Gay & Lesbian

Customer Reviews

I was watching a television preacher who is based in Roseville, California. His sermon was about how gays were destroying civilization and how, for that reason, his congregation should use California's Proposition 8 to deny California's gays equal rights and to make civil laws for everyone conform to the specific dictates of this gentleman's theology. I didn't believe the pastor at the time, but the comment about "destroying civilization" stuck in my mind. So, when I saw this book, I just had to read it to see how far the minister was "off the mark." One of the things that impressed me about this book is the chapter on Savannah, Georgia. The author says on page 80: "The official story in Savannah is that seven ladies--outraged, courageous, and fiercely resolved--joined together to save the 1820 Federal-style house and found the organization. As is typical, the uncommon men who worked with the ladies have been edited out of the story." So, now I can see how a television minister in Roseville, CA, (and others like him) gets the factually-challenged idea that gays are

destroying civilization. It's simply because the contributions of "uncommon men" are often written out of historical accounts, as stated in this book. Therefore, this book goes a long way to fill a huge, educational void. All in all, a very good book, get a copy. You won't be disappointed.

Met the author in PRovidence. His book is an interesting read for me... a long time preservationist. Bought a copy for my massage therapist who is a gay man and he was very pleased and intrigued. Lots of men from all over the country were researched and quoted here. So many wonderful projects described.

Congratulations to Will Fellows for writing a truly remarkable and highly enjoyable book! His account of his childhood and his attraction to antiques could have passed for my own. This is a subject that deserves the attention. In an age of assimilation, the author's research illuminates the gay and lesbian past and its contributions to the world at large. As the author explains; the irony is that in the process of preserving the historical architectural record, gay men erased their footprints, and like a detective, this collection of essays uncovers their tracks. I highly recommend this book.

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