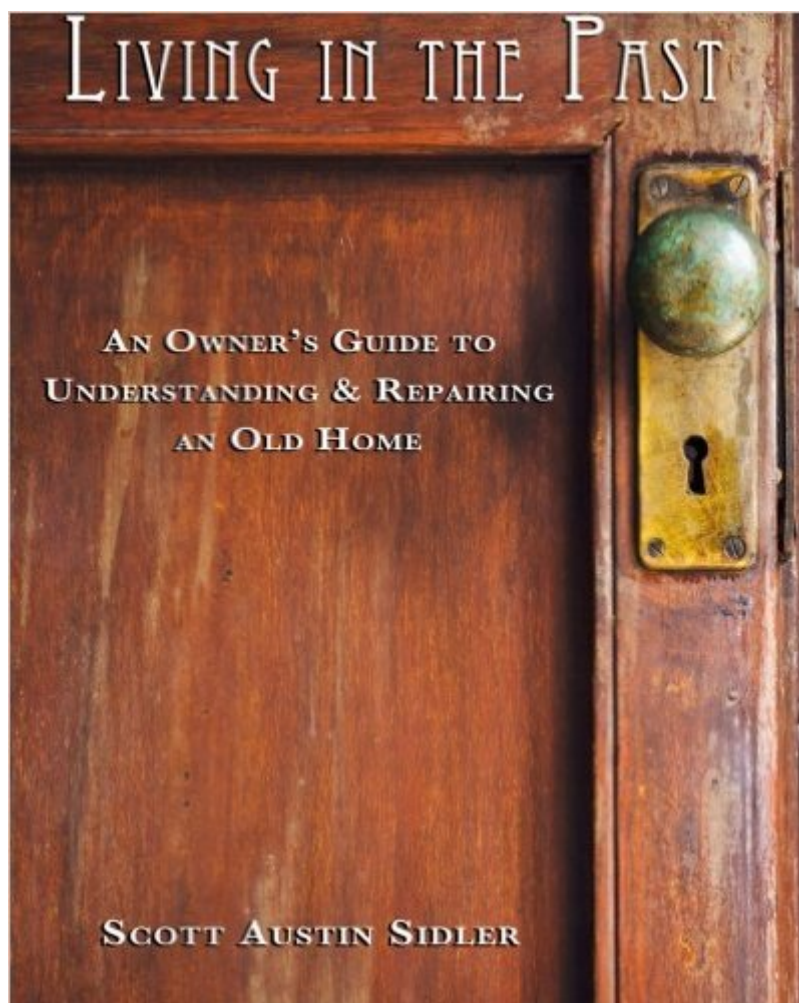


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# Living In The Past: An Owner's Guide To Understanding & Repairing An Old Home



## Synopsis

The homeowner's guide to old houses! For anyone owning an old home this book will give you all the knowledge you need to restore and maintain it. Filled with over two dozen full-color tutorials describing the most common repair projects. Wood Window Restoration Siding Hardwood Floor Repair Plaster Repair Painting Tips Weatherstripping Doors Learn industry tips and tricks from someone who owns a historic restoration company and works in the trenches every day preserving historic structures of all kinds. This book is geared toward the homeowner and DIYer. No annoying technical jargon that only a few understand. Easy to understand. Easy to learn. This book makes the historic preservation and restoration trades accessible to the average homeowner.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (41 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #158,843 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #132 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Home Repair](#) #219 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Do-It-Yourself](#)

## Customer Reviews

Not worth \$32. While I applaud the author's basic tenet: respect the old and, when updating, do no harm to its integrity, this isn't much of an owner's guide. There just isn't a whole lot here. Maybe it's for beginners or folks thinking about buying an old house. Dunno. For someone with a little experience working on old houses, there are more comprehensive and detailed resources out there to help you. I've restored a 1920's NYC apartment, a 3200 sq ft 1880's Eastlake Victorian in upstate NY and a small 100+ year double-walled adobe in NM. I found some new and useful tips/advice/warnings on treatments and use of certain chemicals (wood strippers). But based on other reviews here, I expected to read more on most subjects. For instance, I was hoping for an in depth explanation of how to evaluate the pros and cons of a property from an expert's point of view.

Four and a half pages. However, I loved the step-by-step how to repair double hung windows. I wish I'd had it for the 20+ I fixed myself but it wasn't hard to figure out. He's so right: don't replace, repair those. Other strengths: fixing sagging plaster (but nothing on removing wallpaper from those walls!), working with various materials and a life expectancy of building materials chart. But these sections are short for the most part. And too many leave out really relevant things, such as safe wallpaper removal. Specifics: The book is in large print format, @180pp of core text (207 pp total) would boil down to just over half that length in typical 12 pt font typeface and typical line spacing. It's big and bloated to seem like more than it is, sadly.

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