

NATIONAL GALLERY OF
THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



Caymanian Architecture

Janet Walker, "Cottage with a Yellow Door," 1986



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GALLERY
CAYMAN ISLANDS

What is Architectural Heritage?

Architectural Heritage

**Historic buildings that tell the story of how architecture has changed over time
in Cayman.**

LET'S EXPLORE CAYMAN'S ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE!



Wattle and Daub

The primary style of Caymanian Architecture for 150 years!

WATTLE: Thin sticks woven together (usually cabbagewood) in between sturdy ironwood posts.

DAUB: A plaster/ paste made from by burning coral limestone down in a large kiln on the beach.

Some well-known examples of wattle and daub are **Miss Lassie's house** in South Sound, and the **Catboat Club** in George Town.



Maritime Architecture

Examples: Elmslie Memorial Church, the Old Library, Peace Memorial (Town Hall).

Built by Captain Rayal Bodden in the 1920s and 1930s, who was a shipbuilder and carpenter.

The ceilings of these buildings looks like the inside of a ship (the 'hull') turned upside down, and are also made from timber.



Traditional Cottages

Rectangular houses made from lumber planks brought to the islands by seafarers when they returned home.

They were single-story, with a zinc gable roof, and a wooden porch/veranda.

These cottages often had decorative wooden trims around the porch called gingerbreading!



Joanne & Jeremy Sibley

Joanne and Jeremy Sibley moved to Cayman in 1980 and soon began painting watercolour scenes of the islands. Jeremy was a professional architect and Joanne was an interior designer.

Their interest in the built environment is clear in their artwork, much of which highlights traditional Cayman houses. Several of these buildings have since been damaged or demolished, so the Sibleys' paintings help to showcase Cayman's changing landscape.



Joanne Sibley, Untitled (Upstairs House), 1987



Jeremy Sibley, "Cottages Along the Road," 1988

Maureen Andersen Berry

Artist and teacher Maureen Andersen Berry painted abundantly in oil and watercolour, taking inspiration from Cayman's vibrant flora and landscapes.

This 2008 painting depicts the Mission House in Bodden Town.

The original house was built in the 1700s and was used as a school and home for Presbyterian missionaries. The original structure was sadly destroyed by Hurricane Ivan, but was reconstructed using traditional building techniques.



Maureen Andersen Berry, "Mission House, Bodden Town", 2008

Shane 'Dready' Aquart

Shane "Dready" Aquart is a Jamaican-Caymanian digital artist, known for his whimsical graphic style.

This artwork, titled "**Cayman Panorama**" shows examples of notable architecture from the past and present. Some important examples of Caymanian architecture in this artwork: Pedro St. James, Mission House, Town Hall, Glass House.

Do you recognize any of these buildings?



Shane "Dready" Aquart, "Cayman Panorama" (detail), 2013

Art Activity!