

# Your Hawaiian Style Home



*Story by Mike Moore*

When someone dreams of Hawai'i, they usually picture a white sun-drenched sandy beach, swaying coconut palm trees and calm crystal-blue waters. In reality, Hawai'i offers a diversity of landscape and climate zones like no other place on earth. From the extraordinary beauty of snow-capped Mauna Kea to the lush cliffs of Waipi'o Valley, there is something for everyone. Introducing an island home into this dream becomes a bit more challenging. Is there a distinctive Hawaiian-style home that captures the true essence of Hawai'i and completes the dream?

From modest indigenous roots of unadorned Polynesian tribal structures to the historic architectural influences that swept around the world, evidence of a myriad of

architectural styles can still be found in many island buildings including Gothic, Renaissance, Romanesque, mission, art deco and modern.

By most accounts, Hawaiian architecture is primarily a distinctive design style characterized by an eclectic blend of western and Asian influences. Of the many architectural styles found in island architecture, the plantation design style has been the most enduring.

Charles Dickey was the single most influential architect who successfully created the vernacular plantation design style back in the 1920s and 1930s that remains popular today. He achieved this by cleverly adapting the California bungalow style to the Hawaiian culture and climate. The plantation design style has an unpretentious simplicity