

THE OLDEST HOUSE IN KEY WEST

322 Duval Street

The house that stands at 322 Duval Street is generally considered to be the Oldest House in Key West. About 1823-25 Captain Richard W. Cussans had six houses like this one cut and made to order of mahogany, pine, and cedar in New England and shipped to Key West. They were built at the foot of Whitehead Street near Caroline Street. By 1832 the house was moved to its present location and in that year it was purchased by Captain Francis Benjamin Watlington. The captain and his wife raised a family of nine daughters in the house.

The house remained in the family until 1973 when it was purchased by Bart and Dabne Moore. In 1974 it was purchased and donated to the Historic Key West Preservation, Board of Trustees by Mrs. Rosemary Wilson Austin of Islamorada.