City of Beverly Hills

RESIDENTIAL DESIGN
STYLE CATALOGUE

Single Family Residential Design Guidelines
City of Beverly Hills Community Development Department,
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(Not Represented in Style Catalogue)

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- Art Deco

Examples other than those listed can be considered if architecturally true to textbook definitions

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BACKGROUND

The City of Beverly Hills was incorporated in 1914, and became a residential enclave for such Hollywood celebrities as Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., Mary Pickford, Will Rogers, and others. The City’s residential streets were master planned and developed according to the design of noted Landscape Architect and Planner, Wilbur Cook. From its inception forward the City of Beverly Hills was renowned for its carefully detailed custom-built homes, most of which were period revival styles, some inspired by lavish film industry sets.

During the late 1980’s a new building pattern emerged. The new pattern began to change the original character of the residential streets. It was during this period that an increasing number of newly constructed homes began to exhibit an out-of-scale appearance with respect to their neighboring buildings.

An aspect which highlights the bulk and mass appearance of these new or remodeled homes is the use of elements which emphasize the prominence of the façade, particularly as viewed from the street. Another aspect which contributes to the bulky appearance is the use of materials lesser in quality than were used in the original neighboring buildings. In combination with the bulky appearance and materials has been an overall decrease in the number of landscape plantings, which conflicts with typical landscape pattern associated with the traditional homes built prior to this period.
At the close of the 20\textsuperscript{th} Century, City of Beverly Hills residents began to relay numerous comments to the City Council expressing their concern and desire that some form of design guidelines be implemented to assist in the retention of the neighborhood character and the garden quality of the City. It is anticipated that by ensuring the preservation of neighborhood character; property values will be retained and enhanced.

The Residential Design Style Catalogue is the result of a request from the City Council to respond to these comments from the public. The Style Catalogue addresses issues of mass and bulk by studying the character of the residential neighborhoods and identifying pure styles that do not appear bulky and out-of-scale and offer an opportunity to contribute to the street by utilizing quality materials and lush landscape designs.
PURPOSE

The purpose of the design guidelines contained in the Residential Design Style Catalogue is to provide a pictorial of architecturally pure residential styles that are prevalent throughout the City. Although the Style Catalogue describes numerous recognized styles by detailing their architectural features and materials, other styles which are not exemplified will be considered when they are textbook true. A list of additional styles not illustrated in this catalogue, but available from which to choose is offered at the end of the Style description section.

The intent of the Residential Design Style Catalogue is to provide guidance for designing and building a new home or remodeling an existing residence.

The written and graphic contents of this booklet are offered to supply a visual understanding of recognized residential styles in the City. The design recommendations including additional information contained in the appendix have been developed to promote architectural design and detailing that will enhance the neighborhood character and protect the property values of the City’s residential community.

It is anticipated that residential property owners, developers, architects, building designers, and contractors aiming to construct new residential structures or make alterations or additions to existing buildings, that may be visible from the street would obtain the guidance of this booklet prior to developing plans.
GOALS

The goals of the Style Catalogue are the following:

♦ Protect the distinguished architectural character and identity which prevails in the City’s residential neighborhoods and which is traditionally recognized as of the highest caliber.

♦ Encourage the upgrading, remodeling, or replacement of existing dwellings, while sustaining and increasing high property value, and to accommodate changing lifestyles and preferences.

♦ Adhere to architecturally pure styles that foster congruous designs and details, which best compliment the existing massing, scale and character of the City’s residential neighborhoods.

♦ Protect the long-range objectives of the City to preserve a positive neighborly atmosphere by inspiring sensitivity to surrounding properties.

♦ Ensure flexibility in the choices for creative residential design.

♦ Retain the traditional use of required open space and encourage the use of compatible plant materials and landscaping placement.
PROCESS

Adherence to these guidelines will be reviewed by City of Beverly Hills staff when an application for new construction or residential remodel is submitted to the Community Development Department.

The guidelines are not intended to limit creative design. On the contrary, two alternate methods for obtaining residential construction permits have been made available to the City’s residential property owner. This booklet represents Track 1 in a two-track approach available for the permitting of new construction or exterior modifications visible from the street.

Track 1 is a staff-level review and applies to projects that conform to a pure architectural style and are designed by a licensed architect.

Track 2 is a Commission-level review and applies to all other single-family residential projects that require design review.

Please refer to the process flow chart on page 7.
PRE-APPLICATION SUBMITTAL
(ZONING CODE COMPLIANCE REVIEW)
Staff reviews one set of plans for zoning compliance
and to determine whether project is a staff level
(Track 1) or Commission level (Track 2) review
Letter sent to applicant

APPLICANT SUBMITS DESIGN REVIEW APPLICATION

TRACK 1 – Staff Review:
Submit a complete application - 3 sets of plans
1. Design must be a pure architectural style
2. Project must be stamped by a licensed architect
Staff Approves (PROCEED TO PLAN CHECK)

TRACK 2 – Commission Review:
Submit a complete application - 8 sets of plans
PUBLIC NOTICE - Staff sends notices 10 days before the
Design Review Commission (DRC) meeting

DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION MEETING(S)
APPROVAL / DENIAL

DRC decision may be appealed to Planning Commission by Applicant

Once project design is approved:
PLAN CHECK

BUILDING PERMITS
Residential Styles
Principal Categories:

American Colonial
Rural European Revival
Spanish Colonial
Contemporary
Period Revival

Additional styles are listed at the end of the section. Other styles not listed can be considered when recognized as architecturally pure.
Principal Category:
American Colonial

**Principal Subtypes**
- Neo-Classical Revival: 13
- Georgian and Federal Revivals: 17
- New England Revival (Cape Cod Style): 21
- Neo-Colonial Revival: 25
Principal Subtype:

Neo-Classical Revival

(May not be appropriate for lots smaller than 60 feet in width)
NEO-CLASSICAL REVIVAL:

Character defining features:

♦ Two stories and a single gable.
♦ Flat façade, human scale openings.
♦ Width of the front façade at least twice the height.
♦ Roof overhangs, cornices, columns, window and door sizes shall adhere to the proportions illustrated in the photographs and renderings.
♦ Symmetrical features repeating horizontally against vertical flat surface.
♦ Central two story portico full height columns support pediment.
♦ Occasionally full height colonnade across full width of porch.
♦ Windows symmetrical, multi-paned and rectangular. Occasionally Palladian windows at ground floor, or above entry.
♦ Double hung windows with decorative entablatures, cornices, shutters.
♦ Porte cochere or garage in rear.

Note: Changes to the proportionality of the key style defining features, such as width to height ratio, windows, front entries, and roof lines, will jeopardize the pure architectural nature of the design and would require Track 3 Design Review.

Typical materials and details:

♦ Shingle roofing materials.
♦ Brick, wood, stucco combinations.
♦ Columns decorated typically with Ionic or Corinthian capitals made of wood.
♦ Typical portico appointments also in wood.
♦ Wood shutters and trims, wooden entry door and decorative fans.
♦ Windowpanes of quality wood.
♦ Hardware, exterior lamps, address appointments, etc., in brass
♦ Temperate woodland landscape materials.

For more information see Appendix

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style. Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 60 feet in width.
Occasionally full height colonnade across full width of porch

Window trims and shutters, entry door and decorative fans painted enamel and of quality wood

Portico appointments in wood including Ionic or Corinthian columns, door frames and decorative

Façade of wood, stucco or a combination

Temperate woodland landscape materials

Symmetrical features repeating horizontally across flat façade, multi-paned windows rectangular in shape

Central two story portico full height columns support pediment

Shingle style roofing materials

Double hung windows with decorative entablatures, cornices, shutters

Porte-cochere or garage in rear

Flat façade, human scale openings

Entablature above door

Hardware, exterior lamps, etc., in brass

Columns decorated typically with Ionic or Corinthian capitals made of wood

City of Beverly Hills

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Principal Subtype:

Georgian and Federal Revivals

(May be appropriate for lots 60 feet in width and smaller)

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style. Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 60 feet in width.
GEORGIAN and FEDERAL REVIVAL:

Character defining features:

♦ Two stories.
♦ Distinct primary gable: Georgian, flat façade: Federal.
♦ Stately linear shapes.
♦ Asymmetrical balance (Georgian) or Symmetry (Federal) with human scale attributes everywhere.
♦ Door cases with broken pediments.
♦ Classical detail in door surrounds and entryway porches, porticos, and pavilions.
♦ Distinctive Roman and Grecian single story classical columns.
♦ Bay, Palladian, dormer and porthole windows.
♦ Porte cochere.

Typical materials and details:

♦ Brickwork, wood, or combination.
♦ Pilasters, Quoins.
♦ Window frames, panes, shutters and doors of quality wood
♦ Roofs of shingle materials.
♦ Balconies and balustrades florid or ornamental details fanlights sash windows.
♦ Lawn and foundation plantings, mature trees in repetition.
♦ Landscape material temperate woodland plantings

For more information see Appendix
Primary gable
a feature of
Georgian style

Roofs of shingle-
style materials

Classical detail in door
surrounds and entryway
porches, porticos and pavilions

Bay, Palladian
dormers, and
portholes

Landscape material
temperate woodland
plantings

Distinctive
Roman and
Grecian single
story columns
at door

Asymmetrical balance
and human scale
attributes everywhere

Window frames,
panes, shutters and
doors of quality wood

Two stories, stately
linear shapes

Symmetrical balance,
(Federal), human scale
attributes everywhere

Materials can consist
of brick or flagstone
with wood on upper
stories

Flat façade a feature of
Federal style

Broken pediments,
entablatures, and
classical door
decoration of wood

Lawn and
foundation
plantings, mature
trees in repetition

City of Beverly Hills
Principal Subtype:

New England Revival
(Cape Cod Style)

(Appropriate for lots 60 feet in width and smaller)

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style. Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 60 feet in width.
NEW ENGLAND REVIVAL
(Cape Cod Style):

Character defining features:

♦ Could be one story, but is typically two stories.
♦ When more than one gable, one is always front facing.
♦ High-pitched roof, begins at first story, almost always dormers.
♦ Horizontal volumes, cube-shape volumes in floor plans.
♦ Double hung small windows, multiple panes.
♦ Porches common.
♦ Garage in rear.
♦ Chimney.

Typical materials and details:

♦ Shake roofs, cornice molding below eaves
♦ Wood siding painted in pale colors, earth tones, or exterior facade of large heavy dark wood shingles
♦ Wood Shutters, however traditionally no shutters.
♦ Walkways brick, landscape materials typical woodland community, although shorelands plantings acceptable.

♦ For more information see Appendix

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style. Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 60 feet in width.
When more than one gable, one is always front-facing.

Shake style roofs with cornice molding below eaves.

Shutters of quality wood.

Wood siding generally painted pale colors or rich earth tones, shutters of quality wood.

Walkways brick, landscape materials typical woodland community, although shorelands plantings acceptable.

Exterior façade of dark heavy wood shingles.

High-pitched roof begins at first story, almost always dormers.

Chimney.

Horizontal volumes, cube shape volumes in floor plans.

Double hung small windows, multiple panes.

Porches common.
Principal Subtype:
Neo-Colonial Revival
(Appropriate for lots 60 feet in width or smaller)

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style.
Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 60 feet in width
NEO-COLONIAL REVIVAL:

Character defining features:

♦ Two Stories.
♦ Moderately pitched roof, single gable.
♦ Flat façade with small porch, occasionally bay window.
♦ Human scale features, strong horizontal elements breaking up façade at or above first story.
♦ Pediment over entry and porch, (single story only).
♦ Symmetrical placement of all window and entry openings.
♦ Shutters, metal window canopies.
♦ Chimney.
♦ Porte-cochere and/or Garage in Rear.

Typical materials and details:

♦ Shingle roof materials.
♦ Wood, brick, and stucco surface combinations.
♦ Wooden window trims, eaves, and fascia boards.
♦ Decorative appointments of wood painted to match shutters or trims.
♦ Lighting porch in traditional colonial styles of brass.
♦ Brick chimney.
♦ Landscape of temperate woodland plant materials.

*For more information see Appendix*
Moderately pitched roof, single gable Shingle-style roof materials

Symmetrical placement of all windows and entry openings, shutters of wood

Occasionally bay window with metal window canopies

Flat façade with small porch Pediment above entry door of wood construction over front porch; Single story only

Wood, brick, and stucco surface combinations

Horizontal elements at first story break up facade

Brick Chimney

City of Beverly Hills
Principal Category:
Rural European Revival

**Principal subtypes**
- English Cottage Style
- Tudor Style
- French Normandy Farmhouse

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Principal Subtype:

English Cottage Style

(Appropriate for lots 60 feet in width and smaller)
ENGLISH COTTAGE STYLE:

Character defining features:

♦ Generally single story, occasionally two stories.
♦ Interior spaces defined by recesses and protrusions in building envelope.
♦ Steeply pitched roof with numerous gables and pitches, occasionally dormers.
♦ Arched front doorways and porch entries.
♦ Typically main entry off front patio or courtyard and/or porch leads to courtyard entrance and recessed front door.
♦ Some entries face street.
♦ Several windows of differing shapes usually narrow and multi-paned, panes of whimsical geometric shapes.
♦ Large chimney.
♦ Decorative fascia boards, window boxes, French doors.
♦ Courtyard behind low wall.
♦ Typically curvilinear pathways lead to entrance.
♦ Driveway leads to garage in rear, or porte cochere

Typical materials and details:

♦ Shingle-style roofing of: treated wood, aesthetic composite, or slate.
♦ Clapboard or Stucco finish.
♦ Pale colors (white, cream, yellows, blues).
♦ Occasionally quality stone veneer on exterior walls.
♦ Window frames and panes, shutters, and doors of quality wood.
♦ Gates into front patio of wrought iron or white picket.
♦ Plant materials from European “Woodland” communities and cottage gardens of England.

♦ For more information see Appendix

Typical single-story cottage on a property approximately 50 feet in width. Drawing illustrates proportions of windows, roof pitches, and details associated with the style.

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style. Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 55 feet in width.
Human scale features

- Pale colors (off-white, cream, pale yellows, pale blues)
- Steeply pitched roof, with numerous gables and pitches
- Interior spaces defined by recesses and protrusions in building envelope
- Clapboard or stucco finish
- Main entry off patio or courtyard and/or porch leads to recessed entrance
- Shingle style roofing of treated wood, aesthetic composite or slate
- Window frames and panes, shutters, and doors of quality wood
- Porte cochere
- Plant materials from European “Woodland” communities and cottage gardens of England

Other features:

- Several windows of differing shapes
- Curvilinear path leads to recessed entry
- Occasionally exterior of quality stone veneers
- Some entries face street
Principal Subtype:
Tudor Style
(Appropriate for lots 60 feet in width and smaller)

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style. In this case, the Tudor Style represented has wood window and door details with flagstone and wood exterior. Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 80 feet in width.
TUDOR STYLE:

Character defining features:

♦ Two stories.
♦ Steeply pitched roof with numerous gables and pitches.
♦ Half-timbering in geometric and curvilinear patterns, usually define “rooms” in house.
♦ Heavy eaves, occasionally double eaves.
♦ Arched front doorways and porch entries.
♦ Modulations to front façade can be geometric or curvilinear, i.e., bay windows, turrets, etc.
♦ First story has rusticated veneer of stone or brick applied to emulate cold climate protection in original designs.
♦ Several windows of differing shapes each usually narrow and multi paned; panes of whimsical geometric shapes, (pentagons, narrow rectangles, elongated diamond shapes).
♦ Large chimney.
♦ Window boxes.
♦ Porte cochere of equal materials and design as main structure.

Typical materials and details:

♦ Shingle roofing material.
♦ Half-timbering of quality wood, stained, natural or painted.
♦ If bricks are used as first story rustication can be of any color.
♦ Brick courses can be soldier or fish-scale pattern.
♦ Highest grade true stone veneer on exterior walls.
♦ Window frames and panes, shutters, and doors of quality wood.
♦ Leaded glass panes in diamond pattern.
♦ Plant materials from European woodland community are generously planted and make up a strong part of Tudor style character

♦ For more information see Appendix
Steeply pitched two-story roof with numerous pitches and gables

Half-timbering in geometric and curvilinear patterns usually define “rooms” in house

Shingle style roofing material

Porte cochere of equal materials

Several windows of differing shapes each usually narrow and multi-paned; panes of whimsical geometric shapes, (pentagons, narrow rectangles, elongated diamond shapes).

If bricks are used as first story rustication; they can be of any color and pattern

Modulations to front façade can be geometric or curvilinear, i.e., bay windows, turrets, etc.

Heavy eaves, occasionally double eaves

Half-timbering of quality wood; stained natural or painted

Porte cochere of equal material and design as main structure

First story has rusticated veneer of stone or brick applied to emulate cold climate protection in original designs

Arched front doorways and porch entries

Plant materials from the “European Woodland Community” are generously planted and make up a strong part of Tudor style character.

City of Beverly Hills
Principal Subtype:

French Normandy Farmhouse

(May be appropriate for lots 60 feet in width and smaller)

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style. Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 100 feet in width.
FRENCH NORMANDY FARMHOUSE:

Character defining features:

♦ One or two stories.
♦ Numerous rooflines, high pitched gables.
♦ Asymmetry in rooflines balanced by bold shapes in footprint.
♦ Rounded entry vestibule with conical roof and denticulated eaves.
♦ Modulation representative of interior spaces, but no modulation between first and second stories.
♦ Various fenestration and entry patterns; bays, window seats, narrow rectangles, rounded and arched, each always a human scale opening.
♦ Stylized chimney.

Typical materials and details:

♦ Shingle roof material and application.
♦ Smooth stucco exterior with plaster type quoins at entry and dentils around windows, OR
♦ Quality stone veneers with quality wood trims throughout.
♦ Generally many small window frames and panes, windows generously double framed in wood.
♦ Doors fashioned of quality wood and detailed with wrought iron decorations, (handles, latches, etc.).
♦ Generously landscaped with Woodland Plant Communities.

*For more information see Appendix*

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style. Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 60 feet in width.
Generously landscaped with Woodland plant communities.

Asymmetry in rooflines balanced by bold shapes in footprint.

Rounded room or entry vestibule feature with conical roof and denticulated eaves.

Smooth stucco exterior some with plaster quoins surrounding entry and dentils surrounding windows.

Modulation representative of interior spaces, but generally no significant plane modulation between first and second story.

Stylized chimney.

Shingle style roof material and application.

Quality stone veneers with quality wood trims throughout.

Generally small window frames and panes, windows generously double framed in wood.

Doors fashioned of quality wood and details with wrought iron decorations, (handles and latches, etc.)

Numerous rooflines, high-pitched gables.

Various fenestration and entry patterns; bays, window seats, narrow rectangles rounded and arched, each always a human scale opening.
Principal Category:
Spanish Colonial

Principal subtypes
Spanish Mission Revival
Monterey Style

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Principal Subtype:

Spanish Mission Revival

(Appropriate for lots 60 feet in width and smaller)

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style. Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 60 feet in width.
SPANISH MISSION REVIVAL:

**Character defining features:**

- One or two stories.
- Low pitched roofs.
- Large volumetric pieces generally built around functional indoor and outdoor “rooms”.
- Visible heavy rounded eaves.
- A large picture window on ground floor typical, decorated at times with wrought iron frame.
- Human scale openings including small windows, small doorways, double doors at balconies and courtyards.
- Asymmetry in placement of rooflines, windows, and balconies.
- Several arched windows and entries generally recessed, arched vehicular entries.
- Entry courtyards and/or enclosed patios walled in stucco.
- Porte cochere.

**Typical materials and details:**

- Red terra cotta barrel tiled roof, may be of different earth tone clay colors.
- Decorative iron work in the windows, on the balconies, and as decorative pieces above windows.
- Stucco wall surfaces covered with white, cream, or earth tone paint, i.e., mustard yellow, olive green, light brown, etc.
- Wooden window trims, eaves, and overhangs.
- “Azulejos” (colorful hand-painted tiles).
- Balconies and balconettes of wood with wood railings.
- Mediterranean and Subtropical plant materials.

*For more information see Appendix*
Low pitched roofs, one or two stories

Balconies and balconettes of wood with wood railings

Human scale openings including small windows, small doorways, double doors at balconies and courtyards

Large volumetric pieces built around functional indoor and outdoor “rooms”.

Wooden windows trims, eaves and overhangs

Red terra cotta barrel tile roof, maybe of different earth tone clay colors

Asymmetry in placement of rooflines, windows, and balconies

Visible heavy rounded eaves

Stucco wall surfaces covered with white, cream or earth tone paint, i.e., mustard yellow, olive green, light brown

Several arched windows, arched entries generally recessed

Decorative iron work in the windows and on the balconies

City of Beverly Hills
Principal Subtype: Monterey Style

(May be appropriate for lots 60 feet in width and smaller)

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style. Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 60 feet in width.
MONTEREY STYLE:

Character defining features:

♦ Two stories.
♦ Straight shapes: i.e., bold horizontal rectilinear modulations across front façade.
♦ Single or double roof pitches, low gables are pitched and occasionally hipped.
♦ Cantilevered covered balcony across front façade, decorative.
♦ Wrought iron and/or wood railings always covered by second story roof.
♦ Front porch under full length balcony.
♦ Rectilinear windows, multi-panes, shutters, or thick wooden borders.
♦ Windows occasionally recessed emulating adobe style period.
♦ Large chimney.

Typical materials and details:

♦ Roof material either shingles or barrel tiles.
♦ Stucco finish, sometimes wood across first level, pale colors (white, cream, yellows, blues).
♦ Window frames and panes, shutters, and doors of quality wood.
♦ Balcony rails of decorative Iron work painted white or black OR
♦ Of wood-- latticed or straight courses generally painted to match trims.
♦ Mediterranean and Subtropical landscape material.

*For more information see Appendix*
Two stories, straight shapes bold horizontal rectilinear modulation across the front façade

Single or double roof pitches, low gables are pitched and occasionally hipped

Stucco finish, sometimes wood across first level, pale colors, (white cream, yellows, blues)

Mediterranean or Subtropical plant material

Balcony rails of decorative iron work painted white or black

Cantilevered covered balcony across front façade

Front porch under full length of balcony

Roof material either shingle or barrel tiles

Large chimney

Wrought iron or wood railings always covered by second story roof

Windows occasionally recessed emulating adobe style period

Rectilinear windows, multi-panes, shutters or thick wooden borders

City of Beverly Hills
Principal Category:
Contemporary

Principal subtypes
Moderne (Modernistic, Modernism) 55
International Style 59
Post Modern Style 63
Principal Subtype:

Moderne

(Modernistic, Modernism)

(Appropriate for lots 60 feet in width and smaller)

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style. Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 70 feet in width.
MODERNE (Modernistic, Modernism):

Character defining features:

♦ One or two stories.
♦ Flat roof, no cornices or eaves.
♦ Cube-like and organic shapes in a mostly open floor plan.
♦ Horizontal orientation of volumes arranged asymmetrically, including balconies on second story, overhangs, and large expanses of horizontal openings.
♦ Windows rectangular, rectangular metallic panes accentuate window walls.
♦ Rounded corners.
♦ When columnar supports are used (lally columns) resemble poles with no ornamentation.
♦ Chimney.
♦ Porte cochere in matching materials or Garage in rear.

Typical materials and details:

♦ Asphalt and composite roofing materials, not visible from ground level.
♦ Metallic strips often surround the upper fascia.
♦ Exterior wall surface smooth white stucco with sleek streamline appearance.
♦ Efficiency in use of contemporary materials.
♦ Little or no ornamentation.
♦ Metal window frames, exterior hand railing tubular.
♦ Glass block windows.
♦ Structural plant materials.

♦ For more information see Appendix
Horizontal orientation of volumes arranged asymmetrically, including balconies on second story, overhangs, and large expanses of horizontal openings.

Asphalt and composite roofing materials, not visible from ground level

Windows rectangular with rectangular metallic panes accentuate window walls

Metallic strips often surround the upper fascia

Porte cochere in matching materials

Chimney

Structural plant material

Glass block windows

Flat roof no cornices or eaves

Little or no ornamentation

Glass block windows

Cube-like with organic shapes in a mostly open floor plan

Exterior wall surface smooth white stucco with sleek streamline appearance

Overhangs

Rounded corners

Structural plant material

City of Beverly Hills
Principal Subtype:

International Style

(Appropriate for lots 60 feet in width and smaller)

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style. Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 100 feet in width.
INTERNATIONAL STYLE:

Character defining features:

♦ One or two stories.
♦ Exterior walls are not structural or load bearing as much as barrier to the elements an opportunity for indoor/outdoor openness.
♦ The exterior of the building expresses the location of the interior spaces.
♦ Robust asymmetry.
♦ Flat roofs and assertively cubic shapes.
♦ Bold horizontal projections.
♦ Deep modulations in volume with “rooms” punched back as balconies and overhangs.
♦ Exposed framework.
♦ Ribbon windows occasionally recessed.
♦ Any and all decoration is omitted.
♦ Garage in rear.
♦ Chimney is low and wide and part of vertical compositional elements.

Typical materials and details:

♦ Confidence in steel, glass, and concrete construction.
♦ Generally metallic roofing materials, when roof is visible.
♦ Smooth surfaces painted white, occasional use of contrasting natural materials as stone and wood.
♦ Window and door surrounds as inconspicuous as possible.
♦ Glass tinted if part of over all composition.
♦ Structural plant materials.

For more information see Appendix
Exterior walls are not structural or load bearing as much as barrier to the elements; an opportunity for indoor/outdoor openness.

Chimney is low and wide and part of the vertical compositional elements.

Ribbon windows occasionally recessed.

Bold horizontal projections.

Flat roofs assertively cubic shapes.

Confidence in steel, glass, and concrete construction.

Structural plant materials.

The exterior of the building expresses the location of the interior spaces.

Deep modulations in volume with “rooms” punched back as balconies and overhangs.

Robust asymmetry.

Glass tinted if part of overall composition.

Window and door surrounds as inconspicuous as possible.

Any and all decoration is omitted, but where possible design vocabulary is repeated.

City of Beverly Hills
**Principal Subtype:**

Post Modern Style

(Appropriate for lots 60 feet in width and smaller)

Photograph illustrates typical proportions, details, and materials associated with the style. Residence pictured is located on a property approximately 50 feet in width.
POST MODERN STYLE:

Character defining features:

♦ Two stories.
♦ Whimsically geometric shapes on the façade as roof patterns.
♦ Asymmetry but balanced.
♦ Stylized classical references.
♦ Numerous recesses and modulations in the form of balconies and terraces.
♦ Amalgam of materials used as defining spaces on façade.
♦ Various window shapes on same façade; round, rectangular, square, or cut versions.
♦ Round chimney and columnar shapes as post and railings.
♦ Although pure style typically would place garage as part of the street-facing façade, a porte-cochere with garage in the rear is recommended.

Typical materials and details:

♦ Stucco façade painted white or pastel.
♦ Occasionally darker pastel colors are used for contrast.
♦ Metal railings, metal window and door surrounds, metal panes.
♦ Decorations are classical and traditional vernacular, constructed of contemporary materials.
♦ Outdoor lighting accessories match whimsical appearance of building.
♦ Roof materials usually asphalt, composite, or steel.
♦ Structural plant materials and foundation plantings.

♦ For more information see Appendix
Metal railings, metal window and door surrounds, metal panes

Various window shapes on same façade; round, rectangular, square, or cut versions

Roof patterns whimsical

Stylized classical references

Porte cochere with garage in rear recommended

Occasionally darker colors are used for contrast

Amalgam of materials used as defining spaces on façade

Structural plant materials

Round chimney

Various window shapes on same façade; round, rectangular, square, or cut versions

Roof patterns whimsical

Stylized classical references

Porte cochere with garage in rear recommended

Occasionally darker colors are used for contrast

Amalgam of materials used as defining spaces on façade

Structural plant materials

Round chimney and columnar shapes as post and railings

Whimsically geometric shapes as roof patterns

Asymmetry but balance

Stucco portion of façade painted white or pastel colors

Numerous recesses and modulations in the form of balconies and terraces

Structural plant materials

Metal railings, metal window and door surrounds, metal panes

Structural plant materials
Principal Category:
Period Revival

Principle subtypes
Classical Revival (Greek Revival) 69
Italianate (in the California Style) 73
Italian Renaissance Revival (Tuscan Villa, Palladian) 77
Principal Subtype:
Classical Revival
(Greek Revival)
(Not appropriate for lots smaller than 60 feet in width)
CLASSICAL REVIVAL
(GREEK REVIVAL):

Character defining features:

♦ Two stories.
♦ Low pitched roofs, or flat with large pitched pediment at entrance.
♦ Always a porch.
♦ Columns and colonnade, Doric or Corinthian columns.
♦ Symmetry and modulation of building with strong geometric forms.
♦ Roof pitch lower than colonial houses, too shallow to permit dormers.
♦ Numerous tall narrow windows with small windowpanes, and either shutters or thick casings.
♦ Recessed entrances with wide casings.
♦ One gable oriented towards street.
♦ Colonnaded porch can be one story.
♦ Porte cochere.

Typical materials and details:

♦ Shingle style roofing material.
♦ Exterior surface of wood clapboard, smooth stucco, painted white, cream, or very, very pale forms of blue or gray.
♦ Each heavy cornice, wide plain frieze, bold and simple molding, portico, pediment, casing, and ornamentation of wood painted with exterior white enamel.
♦ Wood doors, narrow windows at each side, lanterns or exterior wall lighting in polished brass, dark bronze, or black wrought iron.
♦ Shutters can be of dark color; blue, green gray or can be white.
♦ Southern style woodland plantings.

For more information see Appendix
Low pitched roofs, or flat with large pitched pediment at entrance.

Shingle style roofing material

Each heavy cornice wide plain frieze, bold and simple molding portico, pediment, casing, and ornamentation of wood painted with exterior white enamel.

Numerous tall windows with small window panes, and either shutters or thick casings

Always a porch

Symmetry and modulation of building with strong rectilinear forms

Columns and colonnade, Doric or Corinthian columns

Exterior surface of wood clapboard smooth stucco painted white, cream, or very, extremely pale forms of blue or gray

Shutters can be of dark color; blue, green, gray or can be white

Wood doors, narrow windows at each side, lanterns or exterior wall lighting in polished brass, dark bronze, or black

Southern style woodland or estate plantings
Principal Subtype: Italianate (California Style)

(May be appropriate for lots 60 feet in width and smaller)
ITALIANATE:

Character defining features:

♦ Two stories, rarely one story.
♦ Low pitched roofs.
♦ Asymmetry typical, if not, then first and second order symmetries common.
♦ Predominantly flat facades, widely overhanging eaves and decorative porches create modulation.
♦ Single story porches with supporting square posts.
♦ Front doors single or paired.
♦ Doors rectangular, arched or segmentally-arched.
♦ Elaborate enframements often brakets or pediment crowns above doors match those over windows.
♦ Paired and triple windows, usually tall and narrow.
♦ Windows on first story larger, usually of different geometric theme than upper story.
♦ Chimney, at times more than one.
♦ Porte cochere.

Typical materials and details:

♦ When visible typically terra cotta barrel tiled roof, some shingle style.
♦ Large overhanging eaves with decorative “brackets” beneath, singly or in pairs in quality wood.
♦ Stucco, brick, and sometimes wood exterior wall surfaces.
♦ Stucco and wood surfaces covered with white, cream, or earth tone paint.
♦ Wooden window trims, eaves, and doors.
♦ Mediterranean and Subtropical plant materials.

For more information see Appendix
Two stories, rarely one story, low pitched roofs

Asymmetry typical, if not, then first and second order symmetries common

When visible typically terra cotta barrel tiled roof, some shingle style

Mediterranean and Subtropical plant materials

Paired and triple windows, usually tall and narrow

Stucco and wood surfaces covered with white, cream, or earth tone paint.

When visible typically terra cotta barrel tiled roof, some shingle style

Wooden window trims, eaves, and doors

Large overhanging eaves with decorative “brackets” beneath, singly or in pairs in quality wood

Elaborate enframements, often brackets or pediment crowns above doors match those over windows.

Single story porches with supporting square posts

City of Beverly Hills
Principal Subtype:

Italian Renaissance Revival
(Tuscan Villa, Palladian)

(May be appropriate for lots 60 feet in width and smaller)
ITALIAN RENAISSANCE REVIVAL
(Tuscan Villa, Palladian):

Character defining features:

♦ Two stories.
♦ Fairly flat façade, some entry modulation.
♦ Rectangular shapes predominate floor plan and window shapes.
♦ Symmetry and balance.
♦ Very low pitched hipped roofs, extended into overhanging eaves carried by non-ornate corbels situated at rhythmic intervals sometimes paired.
♦ The upper story shorter than lower, and maybe setback from the lower elevation, divided from it by a running entablature sometimes broken or surmounted by a central arch motif.
♦ Windows smaller in scale, less ornate in treatment.
♦ Incorporates some neo-classical elements and beaux arts elements, by more modest execution.
♦ Balconies on side elevations or stepped back front elevations.
♦ Chimney.
♦ Porte cochere repeats architectural language and materials.

Typical materials and details:

♦ Red terra cotta barrel tiled roof, may be of different earth tone clay colors.
♦ Smooth, light earth-toned stucco exterior surfaces only.
♦ Stately multi-paneled double or single doors of heavy wood.
♦ Doors, window frames and panes of quality wood, occasionally shutters, and balconettes.
♦ Understated architectural plaster moldings.
♦ Mediterranean, (especially Italian Cypress), and Subtropical plant materials.

For more information see Appendix
Two stories, fairly flat façade, some entry modulation

Windows smaller in scale, less ornate in treatment window

Rectangular shapes predominate floor plans and window shapes

Doors, window frames and panes of quality wood, occasionally shutters and balconettes

Porte cochere repeats architectural language and materials

Understated architectural plaster moldings

Symmetry and balance

The upper story shorter than the lower, and maybe setback from the lower elevation, divided from it by a running entablature sometimes broken or surmounted by a central arch motif

Mediterranean (especially Italian Cypress) and subtropical plant materials

Very low pitched hipped roofs extended into overhanging eaves carried by non-ornate corbels situated at rhythmic intervals sometimes paired

Smooth light earth-toned stucco exterior surfaces only

Red terra cotta tiled roof, may be of different earth tone color

City of Beverly Hills
Additional Styles
ADDITIONAL STYLES

♦ Prairie
♦ Asian
♦ Craftsman
♦ Bungalow
♦ Ranch Style
♦ Art Deco

♦ Examples other than those listed can be considered if architecturally true to textbook definitions.
Recommended Guidelines
RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES

The following design recommendations are made in order to guide the applicant to a better understanding of the preferred methods for thorough adherence to architecturally pure styles. Consultation with the City’s staff in the Community Development Department early in the process is strongly encouraged to assist with all applicant inquiries. The following design principles are the most common and critical elements associated with style consistency.

ROOFS

♦ Roof placement, i.e., gables, pitches, angles, shall remain consistent with the recommended type in the Style Catalogue.

♦ Roof materials, i.e., barrel tiles, shake, slate, etc., shall be executed consistent with the overall style of building. For example, it is not recommended to use barrel tiles on an English Cottage design.

♦ Roof color shall always be in an unobtrusive shade, one which does not contrast too far from the surrounding properties. In general, the rule of thumb for roof color shall be “earth tones”, including painted metallic roof material which may be visible from the street.

FAÇADE MATERIALS

♦ Façade shapes shall coincide with the recognized volumetric forms delineated in the style description section.

♦ Façade materials shall follow the recommended materials in the style description section.
**WINDOWS**

- Window shapes, sizes and pattern placement are recognized to be the single most character defining feature of the building’s presentation.

- Window panes, mullions, muntins, frames, shutters must be always of highest grade materials.

- It is recommended that window treatment is carefully designed and adhere to the purity described in the respective style section.

**MODULATION**

- Reminder: horizontal elements are consistently present in every traditional style described in the Style Catalog.

- A horizontal datum is the typical cut off point for setting back from the vertical plane the changes in materials, usage of decorative projections, positioning of balconies, and placement of courtyards.

- Generally speaking, modulation is referred to as the pushing back of the façade creating an adequately sufficient spatial subtraction which entails more than merely a difference in materials or window framing. Typical examples of modulation are balconies, courtyards, or movement of a vertical plane backwards or forwards.
DETAILS

♦ The decorative details executed in traditional building are the components which most contribute to the streetscape.

♦ Details must remain consistent with the prevailing style, and are recommended to suitably upgrade the overall look of the building.

♦ Overt decorative detailing is recommended for all new construction. Where additions or alterations are made, which are visible from the street, the details must match the existing quality of the building.

LANDSCAPE

♦ The final recommendation that fundamentally contributes to the streetscape and makes for quality residential design is the quantity, quality, and placement of plant materials.

♦ It is recommended that sufficient plant materials be proposed to screen the foundations of the building and to compliment the prevailing volumetric shapes of the house.

♦ It is recommended that a landscape plan be submitted for review concurrent with the structural drawings and that the plant materials be consistent with the style of the proposed building.
Discouraged
Materials & Methods
DISCOURAGED MATERIALS METHODS

In order to ensure that the highest quality presentation of residential construction is the end product of the Style Catalogue; and in order to preserve the character of the City’s residential neighborhoods; and finally, in order to sustain and increase residential property values the following design attributes under the categories of roofs, façades, windows, and landscape are discouraged.

ROOFS
The following design attributes would add to the out-of-scale appearance of a home:

♦ Flat roofs associated with Beaux Arts whose cornices, moldings, dentils, etc., which are not carried past the front façade of the building are discouraged.

♦ Decorative roof elements are discouraged when constructed of inferior materials such as stucco and not constructed of appropriate smooth architectural plaster.

♦ Conflicting roof angles not consistent with a pure style are discouraged.

♦ Two story overhangs are discouraged as they are not associated with recognized “Pure styles”, with the exception of the subcategory of American Colonial “Neoclassical Revival”.

FAÇADE
Façade decorations such as quoins, entablatures, cartouches, etc., are executed with appropriate ratios of protruding portions to flat wall surfaces.

Lack of horizontal elements is discouraged.

The mixing of details such as capstones or projecting stucco forms emulating balconettes, and arches surrounding openings of the windows for example in the Spanish Colonial Style is discouraged.

WINDOWS

Fenestration patterns and quantities must adhere to proportions dictated by the original style.

Windows on each façade must remain consistent – mixtures are discouraged.

Lack of fenestration is also discouraged.

LANDSCAPING

Insufficient and immature landscape species are discouraged.

Low ratios of plant materials to building surfaces are discouraged.
Appendix
APPENDIX

Neo classical Revival

Shutters are almost always associated with the Neoclassical Revival style. The use of shutters was once a function of protection from the climate, hot or cold. Eventually their use became purely decorative. In a pure style the shutters of a Neoclassical Revival home are constructed of high grade wood and painted with gloss enamel finishes.

Georgian and Federal Revival

Even modest Georgian homes might have a finely proportioned hand-carved doorway such as the one to lower left located in Beverly Hills. Georgian design principles stress symmetry and balance and classically derived decoration is always used.
**New England (Cape Cod)**

Among the shades of gray, blue and white typical wood paint colors associated with the Cape Cod style are batten down wood shutters, which once protected from hurricane winds. Although not necessary in West coast climates, all authenticities are encouraged, as they add to the design.

Wood siding, and quality wood window treatments are also a typical feature of the Cape Cod style.

**Neocolonial Revival**

Neocolonial style traits include clapboard siding, partial (if partial, generally lower half) or full façade, and often hooded one story porticos of wood. Doors are often painted a bright color like the one on the lower right located in the Central Area Single family zone in Beverly Hills. Brass lanterns and hardware are common. Decorative shutters and window enframements of quality wood are used throughout.


**English Cottage Style**

English Cottage is a popular building style throughout America. It offers nostalgic romantic overtones utilizing sturdy exterior materials such as slate and heavy wood. The associated shapes are all of human scale proportions. Generally roofs are stylized and high pitched.

Gardens are filled with greenery and charm. Materials are the most critical element in determining a pure English Cottage style.

**Tudor Style**

Tudor style is one of the most prevalent of the traditional styles in Beverly Hills. This style is always characterized by heavy woodland plantings. Details associated with the Tudor Style are often reminiscent of the central European mountains, others reflect details from the English countryside.
French Normandy Farmhouse

The West Coast version of the French Normandy-style home is a bit more theatrical than those found in other parts of the country. Farmhouse features are more liberally combined with heavier architectural details. The living room typically has a high-pitched ceiling that is supported by carved redwood trusses. As in a French country home, plenty of wood is used because of its easy accessibility in the region.

Spanish Mission Revival

The Spanish Mission Revival style is popular because of its splendid details, color, and charm.

Typical plantings include colorful succulents, with Subtropical accents as pictured above.
**Monterey Style**

The characteristic second story balcony and its colonial style simplicity have made this a preferred choice in Beverly Hills. Most of the specimens are painted in pale colors and have been given spectacular attention to wood and wrought iron detail in the Spanish tradition.

![Monterey Style Building](image)

**Moderne (Modernistic, Modernism)**

Moderne style is clean and volumetric. Windows and openings are part of the overall system of shapes and shadows. Variety in materials is kept at a minimum and decorative elements are non-existent.

![Moderne Building](image)
**International Style**
International is most easily defined by its ribbon windows and the combination of geometric forms that define the “functions” of the building. Concrete, steel and glass primarily compose the exterior with intended indoor-outdoor spaces the result of balconies, glass walls, and structural plantings.

![International Style Building](image)

**Post Modern Style**
The post modern style takes many different forms and colors. Its characteristics are however undeniable. Whimsical geometrical shapes, and pastel colors mixed with a variety of media define the style.

![Post Modern Style Building](image)
**Classical Revival (Greek Revival)**

The style most associated with status plantation dwellings and American aristocracy, Greek Revival is stately and not as easy to execute properly on the City’s typical lot sizes south of Santa Monica Boulevard. Below left is an example of a Greek Revival home on Hillgreen Drive and to the right one on Spalding Drive, both south of Olympic Boulevard.
Italianate (in the California Style)

The brackets and tall narrow windows most define the style. The exterior walls generally always a stucco-masonry combination. Roof elements usually are placed as decorative accents and are not functional. Elaborate window embellishments in plaster are typical. Paint is usually pastel and sometimes playful.

Italian Renaissance Revival (Tuscan Villa, Palladian)

Italian renaissance revival and the Tuscan villa style are enjoying resurgence in popularity throughout California.
Glossary
Definitions

A

Architrave. The lowest portion of a Classical entablature, the architrave is the horizontal beam or lintel that spans the distance between columns. It is located directly below the frieze.

Axial. Situated around, in the direction of, on, or along an axis. Extending in a direction essentially perpendicular to the plane of a cyclic structure.

Azulejo. An earthenware tile of Spanish manufacture, painted and enameled in rich colors, esp. one having a metallic luster.

B

Balconet. A pseudo-balcony; a low ornamental railing to a window, projecting but slightly beyond the threshold or sill.

Balustrades. Row of balusters topped by a rail. Low parapet or barrier.

Belt course. A horizontal course of masonry that marks the division between floors; the raised profile of the course also helps divert rainwater. Also called a string course.

Bracket. A projecting supporting found under eaves, windows, or cornices. These may be used for structural purposes, but are often merely decorative. They are especially prominent in the Italianate Style of the mid-nineteenth century.

C

Capital. The top element of a column.

Casement Window. A hinged window which opens outward from the side, rather than having a movable sash; in proportion, it is usually taller than it is wide. These were used in the seventeenth century, and revived in the nineteenth century.
**Clapboard.** Thin horizontal boards of tapering section used to seal houses against the wind and cold. Such boards covering the clay plaster surfaces between the half-timbering of the post-and-beam structures of seventeenth century colonial houses were also called clayboards. The harsh American climate made this additional covering more necessary than in England. Clapboards became one of the most common wall coverings in wood-frame houses.

**Colonnade.** A series of columns set at regular intervals and usually supporting the base of a roof structure.

**Column.** A vertical, round structural post. In Classical architecture, the column usually consists of a base, shaft, and capital.

**Conical.** Resembling a cone especially in shape.

**Corbel.** A projecting stone which carries a weight above it. These may be decorated. A series of progressively projecting stones may form a corbelled arch, or even a corbelled dome, as is found in Navaho hogans.

**Corinthian order.** The most slender and most ornate of the Classical orders; Corinthian columns have an elaborate base and a tall capital which resembles a basket with acanthus leaves growing through it. The height to width ratio of the column is about 10:1, and the entablature is about 1/5th the height of the column.

**Cornice.** A projecting molding along the top of a building, wall, or arch which caps it off. In Classical architecture, the crowing feature of the entablature.

**Curtain wall.** In modern architecture, a curtain wall is on which is suspended from the frame of the building, and does not carry any weight, but serves only to shield against weather. The term derives from medieval fortifications.

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**D**

**Dentil.** A small square block used in groups (like rows of teeth) for decoration in Classical architecture, typically under a cornice.

**Doric order.** The oldest and heaviest of the Classical orders. Doric columns have no base, and the capital is composed of a simple abacus and echinus. The height to width ratio of the column is about four or six feet to one, and the entablature is about the height of the column.
**Dormer.** A window set vertically into a capping roof, with its own separate roof and walls. The name is due to the fact that these were often set in bedrooms.

**Double Course.** A double layer of shingles or the like, one over the other, providing a minimum coverage of two thicknesses.

**Double Eaves.** Same as double course.

**Double-hung window.** A window with two vertically sliding sashes, or glazed frames, set in grooves and capable of being raised or lowered independently of each other. These windows are of Dutch origin. Frank Lloyd Wright, who preferred casement windows, referred to these as “guillotine windows.”

**Double roof pitches.** A timber framing system in which the common rafters rest on purlins which provide intermediate support.

**E**

**Eave.** The projecting end of a roof which overhangs a wall.

**Entablature.** The upper part of a Classical order, consisting of the architrave, frieze and cornice.

**F**

**Fan light.** A semicircular or elliptical window over a door; frequently found in eighteenth and early nineteenth century houses.

**Fascia.** A flat horizontal band or surface; in Classical architecture, these are found in the architrave.

**Fenestration.** The arrangement, proportioning, and design of windows and doors in a building.

**Fish-scale pattern.** The pattern created in brickwork, used either on the ground or on walls, that is laid at 30 degree angles and takes on the appearance of diagonal overlapping layers set in to each other as in fish scales.

**Florid.** Covered with flowers. Very flowery in style, elaborately decorated.
Frieze. The middle division of a Classical entablature, a horizontal band between the architrave and the cornice. This may be decorated with sculpture.

G

Gable. The triangular end of a wall below a pitched roof and above the level of the eaves.

Grecian columns. Commonly associated with Greek columns are Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian. (See definitions).

H

Half-timbering. A construction technique where the house is built with a timber frame (post-and-beam construction), with the spaces between the timbers filled in with plaster or brickwork.

Hipped roof. A hipped roof is one which slopes upward from all four sides of the house, rather than ending in a gable.

I

Ionic order. A more slender and ornate order, Ionic columns have a bas and a capital composed of a scroll volutes emerging from a cushion. The height to width ratio of the column is about 9:1, and the entablature is about 1/5th the height of the column.

K

Keystone. The central stone of an arch or vault.

L

Lally Columns. Used for a concrete-filled cylindrical steel structural column.

M

Mansard roof. A characteristic roof form invented by Francois Mansart in France in the seventeenth century.

Molding. A carved or shaped band projecting from a wall or attached to it.

Mullion. A vertical element which divides a window into separate lights, or panes of glass.
Palladian window. A three-part window construction associated with the 16th century Italian Renaissance architect Andrea Palladio; a taller central window with arched top is flanked by smaller rectangular windows. The vertical elements are frequently treated like Classical columns or pilasters.

Pavilions. Part of a building projecting from the rest. One of several detached or semidetached units into which a building is sometimes divided.

Pediment. In Classical architecture, the triangular termination at the end of buildings or over porticos, corresponding to a gable in medieval architecture, but framed with an enclosing cornice. In later usage, the term is used for any similar feature found above doors or windows; these may be round, segmental, or broken (open at the top).

Purlin. A piece of timber laid horizontally on the principal rafters of a roof to support the common rafters on which the roof covering is laid.

Pilaster. A flat column, projecting slightly, attached to a wall. This can be of any Classical order.

Porte Cochere. A French term for covered entrance area designed to shield people and coaches from the rain.

Portico. A porch with a roof supported by columns attached to the main entrance of a house.

Quoins. The larger dressed stones found at the corners of stone or brick buildings, typically laid in an alternating pattern. Originally used as structural reinforcements, quoins were also used as decorative elements; some American houses used wider cut boards over siding to imitate stone quoins in the eighteenth century.
Rectilinear. Moving in or forming a straight line. Characterized by straight lines.

Ribbon window. A continuous band of windows, made possible by modern framing techniques, which emphasizes the transparency and open plans of Modernist architecture. A hallmark of the International Style.

Roman columns. Commonly associated with Roman columns are Doric and Tuscan styles. (See definitions).

Sash window. Any framework of a window; may be movable or fixed; may slide in a vertical place (as in a double-hung window) or may be pivoted (as in a casement window); a pivoted sash also called a ventilator.

Soffit. The exposed flat surface on the underside of any overhead buildings component such as an eave, cornice, arch, or balcony.

Soldier. A masonry unit which is set on end, with its face showing on the wall surface.

String course. See “belt course.”

Turrets. A little tower. An ornamental structure at an angle of a larger structure.
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