

GLOSSARY OF HOUSE STYLES

bungalow Originally a one-story house with prominent roof and large overhangs.

Cape Cod A small one-story or one-and-a-half-story house with gable roof, clapboard or shingle siding, and no dormers (originally).

contemporary A modern house that emphasizes materials and structure rather than any traditional or derivative style.

Dutch colonial revival A house with a gambrel roof where the lower slope of the roof flares into the eave with a gentle curve.

Elizabethan A house using or simulating half-timber construction; cross gables; steeply pitched roof; large chimney stacks.

English colonial A saltbox, Cape Cod or other simple style with no ornamentations or classical details.

Federal An adaptation of classical and Georgian styles, featuring tall windows, curved stairs, elliptical rooms, bowed projections and octagonal bays, virtually flat roof, balustrade along the eave line, fanlight transoms, decorated sidelights, porticoes and columns.

Georgian A style characterized by symmetry, aligned windows, and conventional details; gambrel, gable or hip roof; windows capped with cornices or crown moldings; classical cornices on the eaves; pilasters often frame the doorway, but there is no covered porch at the front door; balustrade set high on the roof; building material varies regionally.

Gothic revival A variety of irregular, picturesque, rambling designs; steeply-pitched gable and cross-gable roof, vertical siding in earthy colors; carved ornamentation; verandas and balconies.

Greek revival A style based on the forms of the classical Greek temple; shallow-pitched gable roof, with gable end usually oriented toward the road; portico with columns; recessed front entrance with wide casings; white clapboard with dark green shutters.

Mansard A modern style featuring the mansard roof; often has arched dormer windows, double front doors, smooth stucco covering, and decorative corner features.

modern A house built with up-to-date materials. May be contemporary in style, or a reproduction or derivative style.

neoclassical revival A style featuring a two-story classical portico with columns, restrained decorative details, smooth exterior wall surfaces, often a hip roof.

Prairie Characterized by a low-pitched hip roof with wide overhangs; bands of casement windows; stucco covering; strong horizontal emphasis; low, heavy and solid appearance.

Queen Anne A multi-story, wood-framed and (usually) clapboarded style featuring turrets, towers, verandahs, wrap-around porches, gazebos, scrollwork, varied shingle patterns.

ranch Typically one-story; simple gable roof; built on a slab or shallow foundation; materials, coverings, ornamentation vary.

Romanesque A style featuring masonry construction, massive walls, round arches, masonry mullions, steep multi-gabled roof, turrets.

saltbox A two-story house with a gable roof, the back slope of which is elongated down to a one-story height; usually covered in clapboard siding.

Spanish mission Characterized by red tile roof, wide eaves with exposed rafter ends, open porches with rectangular piers, a dominant curved parapet, and stucco.

split-level A ranch-type house with a one-story section meeting a two-story section midway.

Tudor A masonry or stucco building with parapeted gables, stone mullions, large leaded windows, and a Tudor arch.

Victorian Not a single style; often used to refer to Queen Anne or Gothic revival styles.

Williamsburg colonial A modern style featuring symmetrical facade, steeply-pitched gable roof with dormers; clapboard or brick covering.