

7.0 Architectural Styles

SECTION 7.1 ARCHITECTUAL STYLES HISTORY

19th Century Styles (1860's - 1900's)

Eastlake/Stick Italianate Queen Anne Shingle Victorian Victorian Transitional	The nineteenth century architectural styles popular in Los Angeles included the Italianate, Queen Anne, Victorian, and Eastlake/Stick styles. Most of these styles were transmitted to Los Angeles by means of pattern books or the experience of builders from the eastern United States, who brought these styles to Los Angeles. The prominent architects in Los Angeles in this period included Ezra Kysar, Morgan & Walls, Bradbeer & Ferris, Frederick Roehrig, Carroll Brown, and Joseph Cather Newsom.
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These 19th century styles were built most prolifically in the boom years of the 1880s, with consistent building continuing through the turn of the last century. These styles were concentrated in areas near today's downtown Los Angeles. Many examples of 19th century architectural styles have been lost through redevelopment or urban renewal projects. Surviving examples of 19th Century architectural styles are most commonly found in Los Angeles in the Angelino Heights, University Park, Boyle Heights, Lincoln Heights, and Highland Park areas. Surviving examples of the pure Italianate styles are rare in Los Angeles, although Italianate detail is often found mixed with the Eastlake or Queen Anne styles.

Turn of the Century Styles (1890's - 1920's)

American Foursquare Arts & Crafts Colonial Revival Commercial Vernacular Craftsman Mission Revival	Architectural styles popular in Los Angeles from the late 1890s through the 1910s included the Shingle style, early Colonial and Neoclassical Revival styles, the Transitional Arts and Crafts style, the early Craftsman and Craftsman/Ultimate Bungalow styles, the Foursquare and Hipped Roof Cottage styles, very early Mission Revival style, the Prairie Style, and the Beaux Arts style. In this period, Los Angeles was beginning to develop a broad base of prominent architects. Prominent architects in Los Angeles during this period included Henry and Charles Greene, the Heineman Brothers, Frank Tyler, Sumner Hunt, Frederick Roehrig, Milwaukee Building Co., Morgan & Walls, J. Martyn Haenke, Hunt & Burns, Charles Plummer, Theodore Eisen, Elmer Grey, Hudson & Munsell, Dennis & Farwell, Charles Whittlesby, and Thornton Fitzhugh.
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These styles were concentrated in areas spreading from downtown Los Angeles into some of the area's first streetcar suburbs. Although many examples of these styles have been lost through redevelopment, fire, and deterioration, many fine examples of these styles still exist in Los Angeles. These styles can be commonly found in the West Adams area (Pico-Union, University Park, Kinney Heights, Harvard Heights, Western Heights, West Adams-Normandie, Jefferson Park), in Angelino Heights, and in Highland Park. Some early examples of the Craftsman and Beaux Arts styles can be found in the Hancock Park area. Only one surviving example of the work of architects Charles and Henry Greene survives in Los Angeles, in the Harvard Heights HPOZ.

The Eclectic Revival Styles - (1915-1940)

Chateausque
 Dutch Colonial Revival
 Mediterranean/Italian Renaissance
 Revival
 Spanish Colonial Revival

The period between the World Wars was one of intense building activity in Los Angeles, and a wide range of revival styles were built in the area during this period. The Eclectic Revival styles popular in Los Angeles between the First and Second World Wars include the Colonial Revival, Dutch Colonial Revival, Spanish Colonial Revival, French Eclectic, Chateausque, English and Tudor Revival, Italian Renaissance Revival, Mediterranean Revival, Neoclassical Revival, Egyptian Revival, Monterey and Hispano-Moresque styles. The Craftsman and Craftsman Bungalow styles continued to develop as popular styles through this period. Many of these styles were popular both as residential and commercial styles, with a few, particularly the Mission Revival and Craftsman styles, being particularly popular for use in small and large scale apartment buildings.

All of these styles were based on an exuberantly free adaptation of previous historic or “foreign” architectural styles. The Los Angeles area is home to the largest and most fully developed collection of these styles in the country, probably due to the combination of the building boom that occurred in this region in the 1920s and the influence of the creative spirit of the film industry. Prominent architects working in these styles included Paul Revere Williams, Walker & Eisen, Curlett & Beelman, Reginald Johnson, Gordon Kauffman, Roland Coates, Arthur R. Kelley, Carleton M. Winslow, and Wallace Neff.

Many surviving examples of these styles exist in Los Angeles, particularly in the Hancock Park, Windsor Square, Lafayette Park, Spaulding Square, Larchmont Heights, Whitney Heights, Carthay Circle, South Carthay, Miracle Mile North, and Los Feliz areas.

The Early Modern Styles - (1900-1950)

Art Deco/Moderne
 Prairie

The period between the World Wars was also a fertile one for the development of architectural styles that were based on an aggressively modern aesthetic, with clean lines and new styles of geometric decoration, or none at all. The Art Deco, Moderne, and Modern styles all took root and flourished in the Los Angeles area during this period. The Prairie style and the work of Frank Lloyd Wright could also be included in this category. The influence of the clean lines of these styles also gave birth to another style, the Minimal Traditional style, that combined the spareness and clean lines of the Modern and Moderne styles with a thin veneer of the colonial or historic revival styles. Prominent architects in the Los Angeles region working in these styles included Richard Neutra, Paul R. Williams, R.M. Schindler, Stiles O. Clements, Robert Derrah, Milton Black, Lloyd Wright, and Irving Gill.

SECTION 7.2 UNIVERSITY PARK HPOZ SUBDIVISION GROUPINGS

The University Park HPOZ district was built in five major subdivision groupings that contain an exceptionally fine and intact assortment of historical architecture built by renowned architects between 1887 and 1924. These groupings exhibit a wonderful range of structures with form and detail, when considered together show the most stylistic trends of late 19th and early 20th Century architecture. This diversity in stylistic expression mirrors the imprint of a diverse group of noteworthy developers, builders, and architects.

Adams-Dockweiler Grouping (1887-1924)

The largest of the groupings, the Adams-Dockweiler Grouping contains the greatest range of building types and architectural styles. Local architects who designed these homes include Sumner P. Hunt, James H. Bradbeer, Arthur B. Benton, George Wyman, Abraham Edelman, and August Wackerbarth. Approximately 50% of the buildings in this grouping were architect-designed, a higher ratio of architect-to-builder-built buildings than within the other four groupings.

Park Grove Grouping (1894-1915)

In contrast to Adams-Dockweiler, the Park Grove Grouping consists of a primarily homogeneous collection of Victorian Cottages along the 1900 block of Park Grove Street, each differentiated from one another with a diverse assortment of Colonial Revival, Renaissance Revival, and Queen Anne details.

Park Villa Grouping (1887-1910)

Park Villa Grouping is noteworthy for the early construction dates between 1887 and 1889. These early buildings are the work of builder Henry Martz and are readily discernable from the later buildings in the grouping because of their two-story floor plans and Italianate Revival detailing. Martz's work is a major component defining the architectural character of this neighborhood.

Twentieth Street Grouping (1902-1908)

The 900 Block of Twentieth Street is the only known residential subdivision development of builder W.W. Watts. All the homes within this block from 920 West 20th Street to 932 West 20th Street were designed and built by Watts within the six-year period between 1902 and 1908. The result is an unusually unified streetscape of Craftsman homes. Each individual example has a subtly differentiated set of floor plan and decorative details. This block ranks as one of the most architecturally unified groupings of two-story within Craftsman homes in the University Park HPOZ district.

Washington Villa Grouping (1892-1915)

The Washington Villa Grouping reflects the design presence of two dominant builders who constructed the majority of its early-to-mid 1890's building stock: Lucien L. Bowen and James A. Keeney.