

## 19th Century Styles Italianate



The first Italianate style buildings in the United States were built in the late 1830s, and most surviving examples date from the 1850s through the 1890s. In Los Angeles, Italianate style buildings were built around the 1860s.

The Italianate style grew out of the Picturesque or Romantic movement, which was popularized in Great Britain as a result of the industrial revolution and a reaction against the symmetry of the classical styles which had been popular in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The style was popularized in the U.S. by the architectural pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing. The architectural features of this style are intended to give the impression of Italian villas.

Italianate structures are generally of two or three stories, with low-pitched roofs, wide overhanging eaves with decorative brackets, tall, narrow windows, which are commonly arched or curved above, an asymmetrical plan and frequently, these structures feature a square cupola or tower.

Italianate style features can often be found mixed with the Classical Revival, Queen Anne, and Federal styles.

### Italianate - *Common character defining features*

#### Windows (pg. 53)

- One-over-one or two-over-two
- Arched or curved tops
- Rectangular tops
- Arranged in pairs or threes
- Decorative crowns

#### Porches/Balconies (pg. 62)

- Relatively restrained
- Decorative brackets
- Small or large in size
- Square beveled posts

#### Doorways (pg. 58)

- Paired and single
- Large pane glazing
- Arched or rectangular
- Decorative crowns

#### Roofs (pg.66)

- Hipped
- Center gable
- Asymmetrical
- Front gabled
- Flat (commercial)
- Cupola or tower
- Large decorative eave brackets