

## Eclectic Revival Styles

### Mediterranean/Italian Renaissance Revival



The first Mediterranean/Italian Renaissance Revival buildings were built in the United States starting in the early 1900s. These styles became popular in Los Angeles in the nineteen-teens.

The Mediterranean Revival style is loosely based on Italian seaside villas from the sixteenth century. The style was particularly prevalent in Southern California, because of a popular association of the California coast with Mediterranean resorts.

The Renaissance Revival style is loosely based on Italian palazzos of the sixteenth century. It was usually used in particularly grand homes where an imposing style was required. Part of the popularity of the Renaissance Revival style grew out of the vogue at the turn of the last century for the distinction and “polish” of familiarity with European architectural and artistic styles. These styles were usually mixed together, creating a hybrid style.

Mediterranean/Italian Renaissance Revival structures tend to be relatively massive, with symmetrical primary facades, a rectangular floorplan, Classical, Spanish or Beaux Arts details, and gardens.

Elements of the Mediterranean/Italian Renaissance Revival style can be found mixed with the Beaux Arts and Spanish Colonial Revival styles.



#### Mediterranean/Italian Renaissance Revival - **Common character defining features**

##### Windows (pg. 53)

- One-over-one, or two-over-two
- Rectangular tops

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

- Relatively restrained porticos
- Piazzas
- Arcades

##### Doorways (pg. 58)

- Paired or single
- Large pane glazing
- Arched or rectangular

##### Roofs (pg. 66)

- Tile
- Flat
- Very low-pitched
- Hipped
- Carved brackets

##### Building Materials (pg. 74)

- Stucco
- Iron details

