

Early Modern Styles Prairie



The first Prairie style houses were built in the United States in the late 1890s. The first Prairie style buildings in Los Angeles were built in the early 1900s, and the movement was most popular between 1900 and 1920.

The Prairie style originated in Chicago, growing from the work of Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright, and was designed as an intentional break from traditional styles. The style reflects the Midwestern prairie with an emphasis on horizontal lines, natural materials, and a subdued color palette.

The Prairie style structure is often box-shaped with an emphasis on horizontal lines and symmetry, wide over-hanging eaves, and windows with multi-paned leaded art glass.



Prairie - *Common character defining features*

Windows (pg. 57)

- Leaded art glass
- Casement windows
- Arranged in horizontal bands
- Rectangular tops

Porches (pg. 59)

- Deeply recessed
- Small or large in size
- Entranceway

Doorways (pg. 61)

- Paired or single
- Large pane glazing
- Leaded art glass
- Rectangular

Roofs (pg. 66)

- Hipped
- Flat
- Wide, overhanging eaves
- Cantilevered eaves

Building Materials (pg. 74)

- Brick
- Stucco
- Wood