

OVERVIEW OF ARCHITECTURAL STYLES IN OREGON: 1840s - 1970s



GREEK AND MEDIEVAL REVIVALS 1840s - 1870

Styles in the 1800s to early 1900s trickled from east to west in U.S. Greek revival was used in the eastern U.S. from the 1820s to 1860s. Examples in the west tend to be a bit later. Look for pedimented window and door openings, transoms, pilaster boards at corners, slim doric or Tuscan columns. Gothic revival not found that much throughout Oregon. Identified by gothic pointed arch, with a steep roof, and decorated gable fascia board.



VERNACULAR FORMS AND STYLES 1840s - 1960s/1970s

Utilitarian, mostly farm buildings, were always a major part of Oregon's landscape. The dates run from before 1840s to 1960s-70s. Gresham barn-on SE 282nd is a fantastic example.



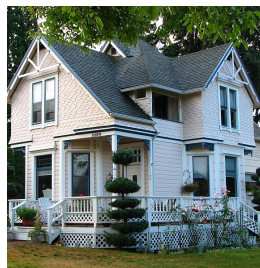
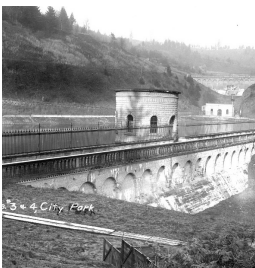
RENAISSANCE AND BAROQUE REVIVALS: ITALIANATE LATE 1870s - 1890

Generally, two or three stories most typical. Wide eaves with decorative brackets, very tall narrow double-hung windows, sometimes with an arch at top and decorative "hoods" or crowns at the top. Cupola or tower. San Francisco. 2nd Empire- French fashion; always has mansard roof- arch window heads common. Not that common in Oregon, until 1910.



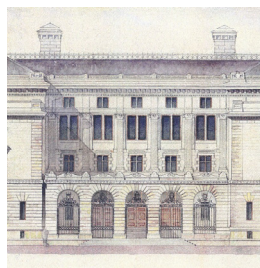
RENAISSANCE REVIVALS: "FOLK VICTORIAN" 1870 - 1910

"Folk Victorian" shows the influence of the Victorian era but simplified- "Vernacular." Common features include jigsaw or spindle ornamentation, Victorian tall narrow windows. Local examples include: Troutdale historical museum, Harlow House; Gresham bakery is at 331 N Main.



RENAISSANCE AND BAROQUE REVIVALS: ROMANESQUE AND QUEEN ANNE 1880 - 1900

Romanesque style features masonry construction, often with rusticated finish. Half-round arches. Asymmetrical composition including tower or turret forms. Expensive! Queen Anne, often shingled gable end, spindlework, asymmetrical composition, sunburst detailing, and multiple gables. Very ornate. Victorian windows. Gresham example is the Anderson house.



ECLECTIC REVIVALS: BEAU ARTS/NEOCLASSICAL 1885 - 1930

Beaux Arts style features classical motifs such as columns with Ionic or Corinthian capitals; garlands, shields. Ornamentation. Quoins. Very symmetrical. Neoclassical the front entry is colonnaded.

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ECLECTIC REVIVALS: COLONIAL REVIVAL AND DUTCH COLONIAL 1880 - 1955

Colonial Revival architecture has an accentuated center entry with pediment and pilasters or columns. Multi-pane windows. Closed eaves. Dutch colonial: gambrel roof. Gresham example: Albertina Kerr center on NE 162nd, and the Russell Albee House.



REVIVALS: TUDOR AND ENGLISH COTTAGE 1900 - 1940

Tudor style resources have steeply pitched roof, decorative half-timbering, tall narrow windows usually with multi-panes, massive chimneys often with chimney pots. Brick and stucco most common but sometimes wood, usually two materials. Jacobean: prominent front chimney, arched entry, intersecting gables. English cottage is one or one-and-a-half story, steep roof, sometimes false thatch roof. Multi-pane windows (casement). Gresham example: Carnegie library (now historic museum).



AMERICAN FORMS & STYLES: 20TH CENTURY STREETCAR COMMERCIAL 1900 - 1940

Streetcar-era commercial- almost always masonry, strong cornice with brick or dentil detail, tall ground floor level with regular bays of storefront; upper windows smaller. One to four stories typically.



AMERICAN FORMS & STYLES: CASCADIAN AND PRAIRIE SCHOOL 1905 - 1925

Prairie school-FLW in Chicago area in 1890s but caught on just after 1900. Heavy, horizontal lines and very deep overhangs. Cascadian- influenced by European chateau/alpine styles. Lodges in Cascade range (Timberline) feature steep sloping roofs, massive masonry walls. Rustic.



AMERICAN FORMS & STYLES: CRAFTSMAN AND ARTS & CRAFTS 1905 - 1930

Craftsman originates in California, 1905- 1920s, and has low-pitched gable roofs with wide, unenclosed eaves, usually with decorative rafter tails under the gables. Partial or full-width porch with its roof supported often by tapered square columns. Hugely popular in Oregon Gresham examples: Munch H, NW 12th.



REVIVALS: SPANISH REVIVAL, MEDITERRANEAN REVIVAL 1915 - 1945

Mediterranean revival is characterized by plain, flat surfaces (often stucco), tile roofs, often a low pitched (hip or gable) roof, or flat with parapet. Spanish or Spanish colonial rev often have a curvilinear gable and ornate detail. Mission style related- not decorative but with curvilinear parapet- slightly earlier to 1920.

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EARLY MODERN STYLES: STREAMLINE MODERNE AND ART DECO

Streamline moderne has a strong relationship to transportation; a sense of movement. Racing stripes- curved corners. Occasional porthole windows. Glass block. Stucco/ concrete common. Art deco: zigzag ornament, stepping forms, more vertical.



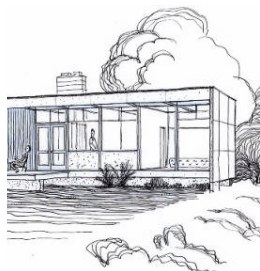
EARLY MODERN STYLES: STRIPPED CLASSICAL AND MINIMAL TRADITIONAL

Stripped classical: austere, monumental; symmetrical; boxy- masonry. Modern Minimal Traditional has small, symmetrical houses, with little to no roof overhang and generally medium-pitch roof. WWII-era cottages are also small, always one-story, low-pitch roof with almost no overhang, and short projecting wing at the front. Often corner windows.



EARLY MODERN STYLES: NW REGIONAL STYLE 1936 - 1965

NW Regional features wood materials, often plywood panels interchangeable for glass. Asymmetrical layout "pinwheel" composition includes exterior space. Prominent NW Regional style architects: Yeon, Belluschi, J Storrs.



EARLY MODERN STYLES: INTERNATIONAL STYLE 1948 - 1960

International style is featured by structural expression, machined precision, with zero ornamentation. Mies van der Rohe "Less is more" – post-war reaction to bourgeois excess, but also incorporated new technology- building science. "Opposite" of what we think of as traditional architecture (horizontal, industrial, stripped, thin planes/volumes above ground)



Residential Modern Styles: Ranch, Split-levels 1945-1965

Early ranch styles feature transitional- low-pitched roofs, front picture window(s), small, but garage intrinsic. Later ranch styles became larger, while remaining simple with no dormers. More complex L forms, V forms, and split-levels were introduced as well.



MODERN STYLES: NEW FORMS; MODERN EXPRESSIONS

Modern architecture has a huge range of new forms made possible by building technology. Even the simple box forms illustrate dramatic difference: curtain wall- everything hangs off the interior structure rather than the exterior wall being weight bearing. Ribbon windows- masonry used in new ways. Neo-expressionist designs are tied to innovations in concrete, thin-shell concrete construction allowing for sweeping, curving forms.

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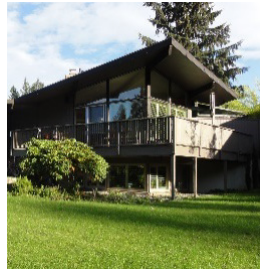
MODERN STYLES: MODERN, "MID-CENTURY MODERN"

By the mid-50s, Modern architecture began to exhibit a noticeable design flair. Not exactly ornament, but exaggerated structural shapes and "jetsons" like forms.



LATE MODERN STYLES: BRUTALISM 1950 - 1980s

Brutalism shaped and molded forms of concrete- "carved out" rather than concrete as a weightless material, with small, deep openings.



LATE MODERN AND POST-MODERN 1980 - 2000s

\Contemporary ranch- full height windows under the roof, treated like a thin folded plane. "Prow" feature- "California contemporary" shed roofs, very asymmetrical. Postmodern an attempt to reclaim historic symbolism- break away from the sterile, boring glass boxes of Modernism.