

NEW ENGLAND ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

A Brief Portable Guide



This guide is meant to reflect homes of the New England region, but in no way can reflect all the vernacular adaptations to a particular design. Examples represent the typical designs of the era.

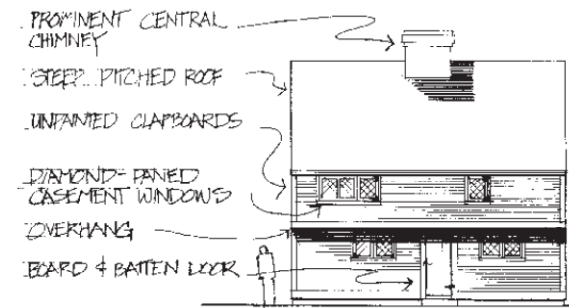


Pamphlet created by:

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Colonial Period – 1630 - 1780

First Period



First period homes were the product of necessity. Most common in Massachusetts, these buildings were heavy timbered, wood buildings with diamond pane windows, and often an overhang at the second level used as defense.

Colonial



Colonial homes were similar to those in the first period. Glass became more common during this time, refining the windows to individual panes. Focus on ornamentation was around the entrance surround. This style has multiple variations found across New England.

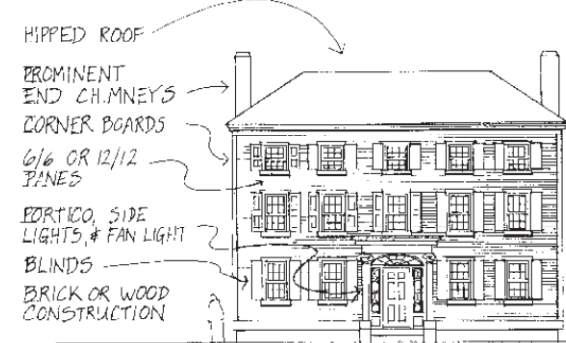
Georgian



Georgian homes were an expansion of the Colonial style, with imported English tastes. Quoining, and end chimneys are symbolic. Focus is on a central axis and repetition and symmetry.

New Republic – 1780 - 1820

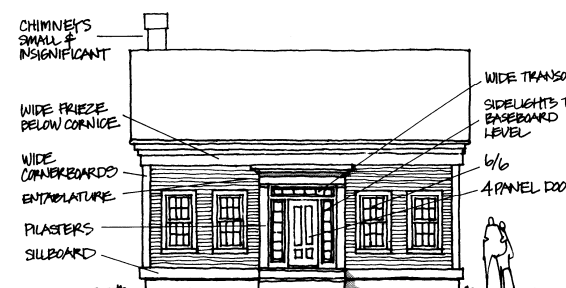
Federal



Federal style homes are often very box like, but maintain symmetry, and include a low pitch roof and end chimneys.

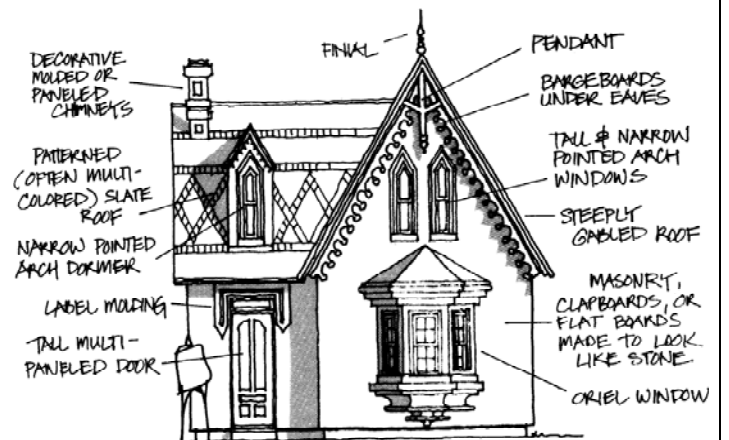
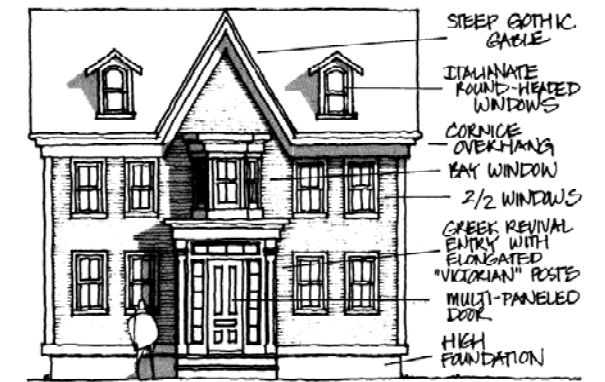
The Revivals – 1820 - 1860

Greek Revival



Greek Revival is the first American Style, returning to the roots of architecture. Designers utilized classical proportions and elements scaled down to a residential level. Character defining features include columns and friezes, and sometimes street facing gables, acting as pediments.

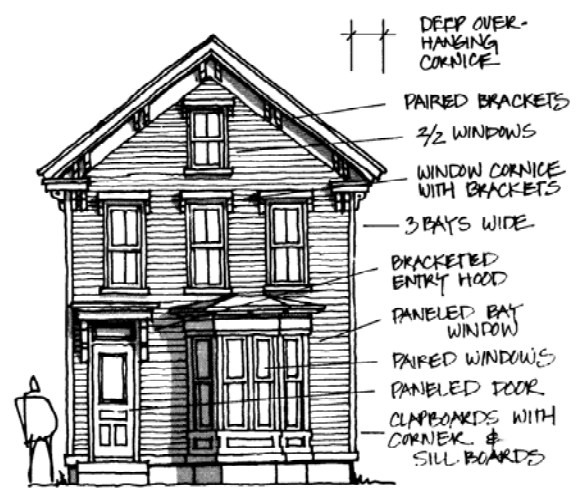
Gothic Revival



Gothic Revival buildings were the product of Andrew Jackson Downing and Alexander Davis. Made popular through their cottage residence's book, these were the first pre-designed buildings. Their inspiration originates from the buildings of Europe. Typical details include pointed arched windows, steep roofs, ornate chimneys, decorative materials, like slate or wood, and gable trim. This style is the first to move away from traditional proportion and the symmetrical plan.

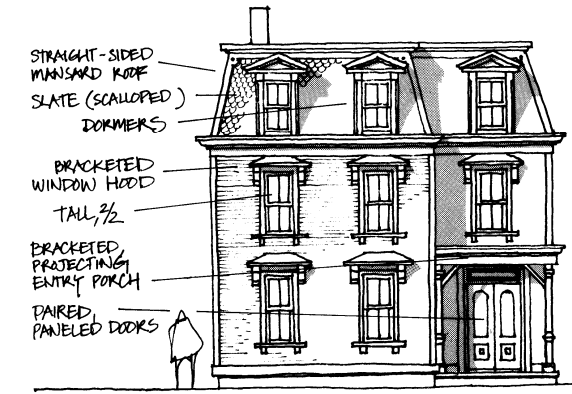
Victorian Era – 1860-1910

Italianate



Italianate style is so named for the inspiration back to Italian villas. During this period, homes were often simply updated by adding the character defining brackets. Typical of Italianate homes were a tower and or a cupola.

Second Empire



Named for the reign of Napoleon III, the style is a glance back towards French architecture. Typically containing a mansard roof, these buildings were constructed of masonry and wood.

Queen Anne

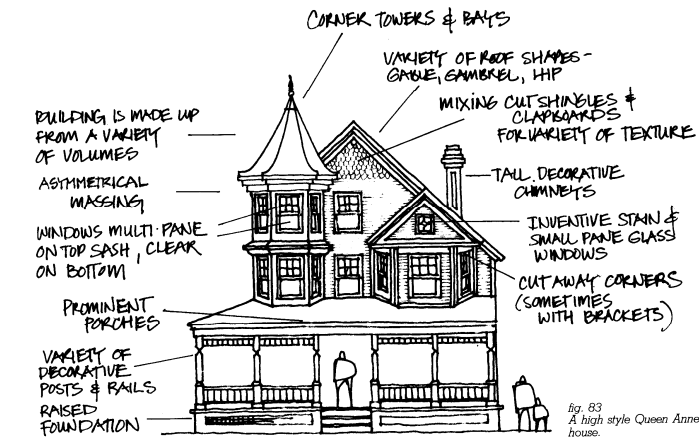
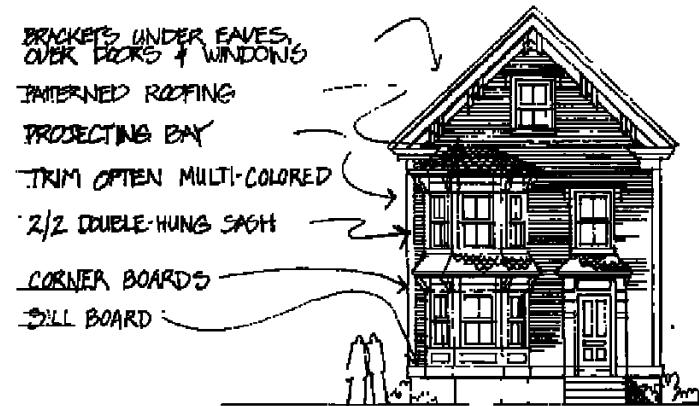


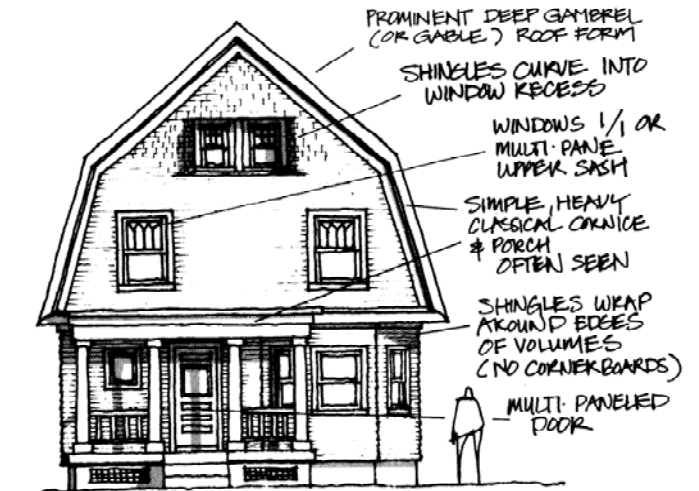
fig. 83
A high style Queen Anne house.

Representing a mesh mash of styles, the Queen Anne design is an explosion of form and plan. Often the most elaborate, this style utilized materials and the mass production of products to its advantage. The style often utilized wood and brick, and had decorative shingling, half timbering, and contained round octagonal or three sided bay.

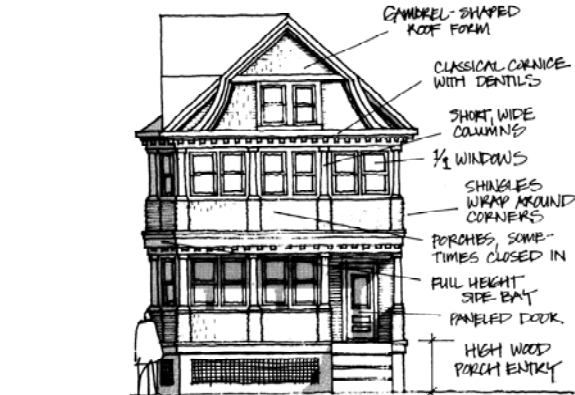


The style was also the most widely adapted. The new middle class could afford luxurious homes. Their wealth was powered by the fact that many communities were streetcar suburb.

Shingle



Shingle Style is a more refined and simplistic version of the Queen Anne Style. Often, a focus is on the material, being natural wood.

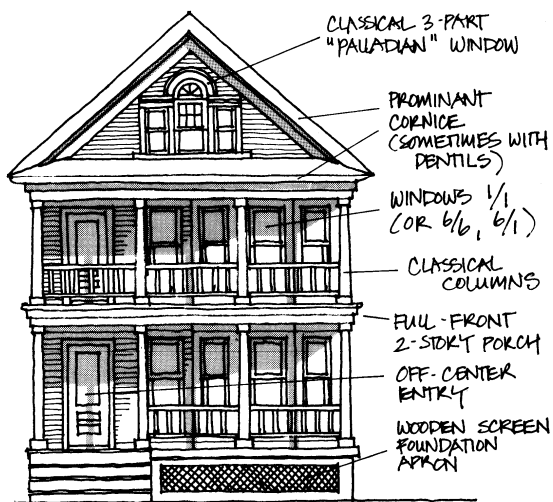


Eclectic – 1895-1930

Colonial Revival

Named for the movement back towards the colonial style, homes often resembled those of the 18th century, with modern decors. Buildings often neglected the proportions to meet current needs.

A rise in two family homes made this style extremely popular with all classes and appears in every New England metropolis areas.



Arts & Crafts

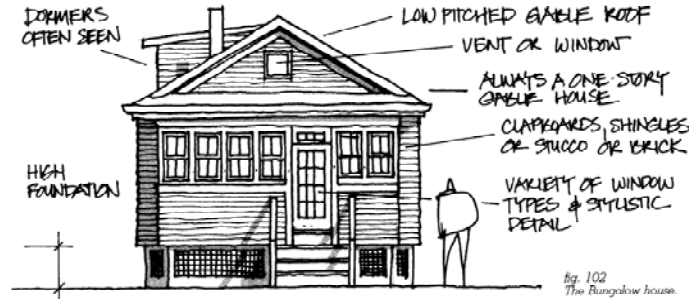


fig. 102
The Russett house.

Houses of the early 19th century tended to be smaller and focused on interior simplistic details. These were post the large movement of creation of suburban two family homes.

Acknowledgements:

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