

Updates to Existing Architectural Styles

HSI Homeowners Handbook

Gothic Revival

1830-1860

One of the many styles pioneered by landscape designer Andrew Jackson Downing, the Gothic Revival style was inspired by 11th and 12th century medieval structures found throughout England and Europe.

Promoting the idea that a building should interact with its natural surroundings, Downing included bay windows, porches and balconies in his designs that allowed for the enjoyment and appreciation of nature that was intended to surround the house.

Hip or Gable roof

Clapboard or flat board siding

Porch, balcony and/or bay windows



At least one steep-gabled dormer

Square, Foursquare

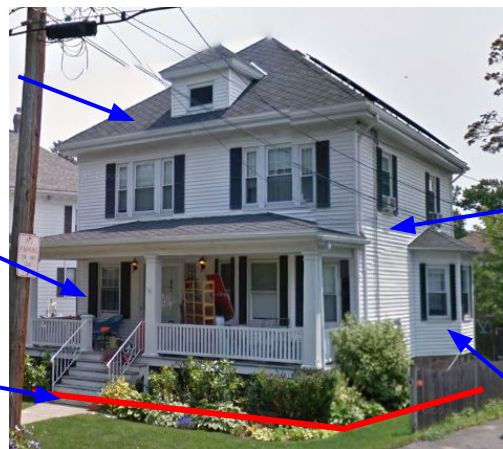
1890-1940

The late 19th and early 20th century introduced the mass-produced mail-order house kits. Their popularity led to manufacturers designing homes that maximize production efficiency. The simple, square floor plan made the most of the use of space and ease of construction.

Low hip roof with dormers

Front porch with simple columns

Square, or rectangular, footprint



Clapboard and/or shingle siding. Commonly vinyl

Occasional bay windows

Bungalow/Craftsman

1900-1930

The Arts and Crafts Movement was a reaction against mass-production and the disconnect from nature and handiwork it created. The Bungalow house style, inspired by tropical architecture, was perfectly suited to blend into nature without being 'loud' or ornate. The 1 1/2 -2 story houses were low-slung, with the second floor hidden almost entirely within the roof that would extend out to shelter a deep front porch with large square columns as supports. Trimwork was minimal and consisted of simple wood shapes.

Gable or hip roof shape, with a prominent dormer.

Front porch with square columns.

Shingles, clapboard or stucco siding



Large overhangs with exposed rafter 'tails'

Modern/International Style

1930-1950

This new theory of architecture abandoned traditional details and shapes in favor of unornamented geometric forms that utilized modern materials. Flat roofed and asymmetrical, Modern designs were striking and representative of the new era where the function of a structure superseded the form. Commercial and industrial examples were more common than residential, however a few rare examples still exist in Salem.

Flat roof

Minimal trims and details

Smooth siding, usually stucco



Large picture windows or bands of windows

Rectangular footprint