

Craftsman Style Guide



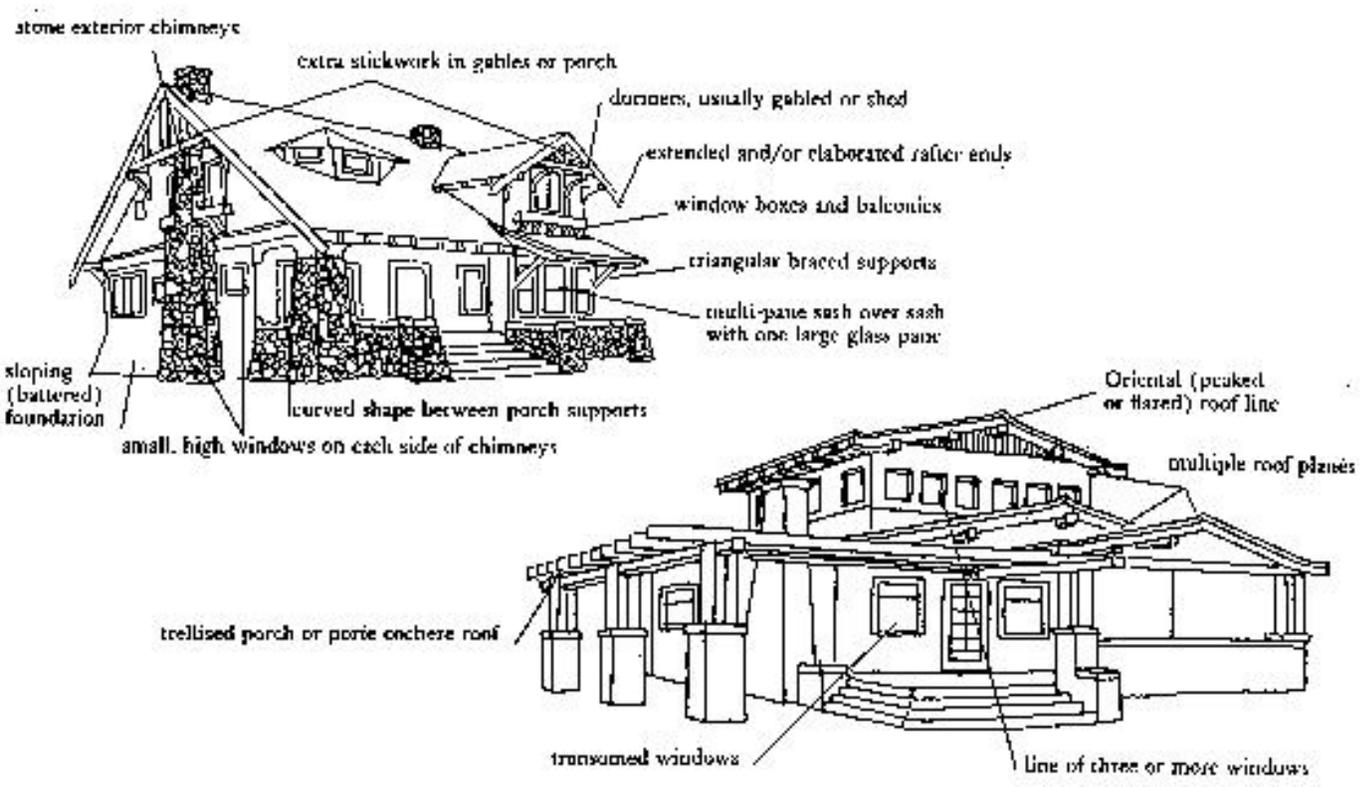
(Photograph of two-story Craftsman house located on East First Street in Long Beach.)

CRAFTSMAN STYLE (c.1900-c.1930)

The Craftsman Style was the dominant style for smaller houses built throughout the country during the period from about 1905 until the early 1920s. It originated in southern California and most landmark examples are concentrated there. Like vernacular examples of the contemporaneous Prairie style, it quickly spread throughout the country through pattern books and popular magazines. The style rapidly faded from favor after the mid-1920s; few were built after 1930.

Craftsman houses were inspired primarily by the work of two California brothers – Charles Sumner Greene and Henry Mather Greene – who practiced together in Pasadena from 1893 to 1914. From about 1903 they began to design simple Craftsman-type bungalows; by 1909 they had designed and executed several exceptional landmark examples that have been called the “ultimate bungalows.” Several influences – the English Arts and Crafts movement, an interest in oriental wooden architecture, and their early training in the manual arts – appear to have led the Greenses to design and build these intricately detailed buildings. These and similar residences were given extensive publicity in such magazines as the *Western Architect*, *The Architect*, *House Beautiful*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Architectural Record*, *Country Life in America*, and *Ladies' Home Journal*, thus familiarizing the rest of the nation with the style. As a result, a flood of pattern books appeared, offering plans for Craftsman bungalows; some even offered completely pre-cut packages of lumber and detailing to be assembled by local labor. Through these pre-cut examples, the one-story Craftsman house quickly became the most popular and fashionable smaller house in the country. High-style interpretations are rare except in California where they have been called the Western Stick style. One-story vernacular examples are often called simply bungalows or the Bungaloid style. (Excerpt taken from [A Field Guide to American Houses](#) by Virginia and Lee McAlester.)

CHARACTER DEFINING FEATURES OF THE CRAFTSMAN STYLE



*All line drawings in this style guide have been taken from [A Field Guide to American Houses](#) by Virginia and Lee McAlester. All definitions in this style guide have been taken from [Old House Dictionary: An Illustrated Guide to American Domestic Architecture, 1600 to 1940](#) by Steven J. Phillips.

THE CRAFTSMAN STYLE



Craftsman

Typically a one- to two-story building with a low-pitched, gabled roof (occasionally hipped) with wide, unenclosed eave overhang; roof rafters usually exposed; decorative (false) beams or braces commonly added under gables; full- or partial-width porches with roof supported by tapered square columns; columns and/or pedestals frequently extend to ground level (without a break at level of porch floor).

Character Defining Features of a Craftsman:

- Low-Pitched Gabled (or sometimes Hipped Roof)
 - Wide, Unenclosed Eave Overhang
 - Timber Framed
 - Triangular Knee Brace Supports
- Wood Shingle Siding and/or Wood Horizontal Siding and/or Cut Stone Cladding
 - Wide Window and Door Casings
 - Tapered Porch Supports
- Low Porch Pedestals usually Supporting Columns
 - Exposed Rafters
- Decorative (False) Beams or Braces under Gables
 - Shed, Gabled or Eyebrow Dormers
 - Porches, either Full- or Partial-Width
 - Sloping (Battered) Foundation

Although these are considered the most typical character defining features of a Craftsman, not all of these will apply to each Craftsman-style building. Each building must be addressed individually. The following pages feature photographs of various Craftsman typologies which will be included in this survey. *Please keep in mind that many of the Craftsman buildings of the Glendale survey have been altered over the years and are not intact examples of the following typologies. Also, the character defining features pointed out on the following examples may not apply to all examples of the typologies seen in the field.*

CRAFTSMAN TYPOLOGIES

COTTAGE STYLE CRAFTSMAN



Cottage Style Craftsman – Typically a one-story building with a compact rectangular plan; a centralized main entrance consisting of a partial-width porch and flanked by windows; a symmetrical facade; a side-gabled low-pitched roof; horizontal wood siding (occasionally stucco); and Craftsman stylistic details (exposed rafter tails, wide window and door casings, triangular knee brace supports, etc.).

CRAFTSMAN TYPOLOGIES

THE BUNGALOW

One-Story Building with Gently Pitched Broad Gables

Wood Shingle Siding

Horizontal Wood Siding

Low Stone Pedestals with Columns Above

Partial-Width Front Porch



Multiple Roof Levels

Cross-Gabled Roof

Exposed Rafters

Transom Window

Trellised Porch

Wide Window Casings

Fixed Window with Large Glass Pane and a Multi-Light Transom Window Above



The Bungalow – The typical bungalow is a one-story house with low pitched broad gables. A lower gable usually covers an open or screened porch and a larger gable covers the main portion of the house. In larger bungalows the gable is steeper, with interesting cross gable or dormers. Rafters, ridge beams and purlins extend beyond the wall and roof. Chimneys are of rubble, cobblestone or rough-faced brick. Porch pedestals are often battered. Wood shingles and/or horizontal wood boards are the favorite exterior finish although many also use stucco or brick. Exposed structural members and trim work usually are painted but the shingles are left in a natural state or treated with earth-tone stains (although many of these shingles have since been painted). The wood windows are either sash or casement with many lights or single panes of glass. Shingled porch railings often terminate with a flared base. The bungalow, like other simple but functional houses, was subject to variations such as the California, the Swiss, the Colonial, Tudor and others according to locale and fashions of the time. (excerpt taken from Identifying American Architecture: A Pictorial Guide to Styles and Terms, 1600–1945 by John J.G. Blumenson.

CRAFTSMAN TYPOLOGIES

CLIPPED-GABLE CRAFTSMAN (also called Hip on Gable Craftsman)



Clipped-Gabled (or Hip on Gable) Craftsman – A Craftsman building covered by a gabled roof which has had its gable point “clipped off.” The roof can be front, side or cross-gabled. Typically this type of Craftsman is a one-story building. Sometimes the clipped-gabled roof will have gabled, hipped or eyebrow dormers.

CRAFTSMAN TYPOLOGIES

COLONIAL CRAFTSMAN



Colonial Craftsman – A Craftsman building which displays Colonial Revival features. Typically, this type of Craftsman has a trellised front and/or side porches, symmetrical façade and columns.

CRAFTSMAN TYPOLOGIES

AEROPLANE CRAFTSMAN

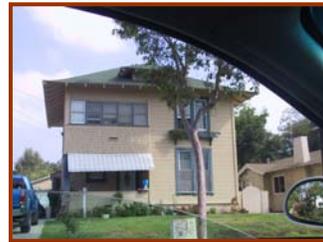


Aeroplane Craftsman – A Craftsman building with a set-back second-story and wide overhanging eaves giving the impression of airplane wings. Can have a front, side or cross-gabled roof.

CRAFTSMAN TYPOLOGIES

ECLECTIC INFLUENCED CRAFTSMAN

Oriental (Peaked or Flared) Roof Line



Oriental-influenced Craftsman



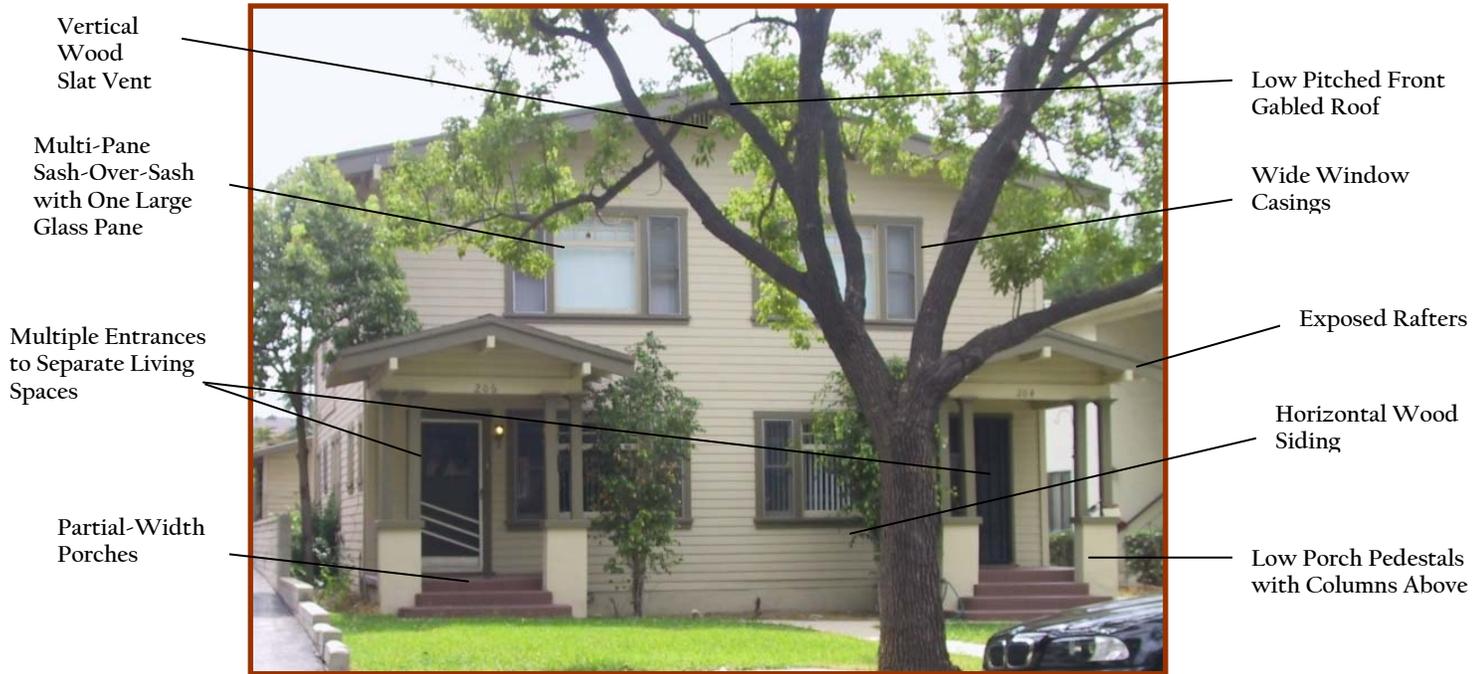
Strong Vertical Emphasis on Façade with Steeply-Pitched Gabled Roof

Swiss Chalet Influenced Craftsman

Eclectic Influenced Craftsman – A Craftsman building influenced by other cultures, other styles, the region it was designed in, by the preferences of its architect or builder, by the preferences of its owner and/or by the fashions of the time. Craftsman bungalows were subject to variations such as the Oriental, the Swiss, the Colonial and Tudor, among others.

CRAFTSMAN TYPOLOGIES

MULTI-FAMILY CRAFTSMAN



Multi-Family Craftsman – A Craftsman building designed with separate complete living spaces to accommodate more than one household. A multi-family Craftsman building could be a duplex, multiplex or bungalow court. Bungalow courts tend to be in a “U” shape around a central courtyard. Often the short side of the “U” shape has a two-story, or substantial residential building that is either where the owner/manager lives, or could be a duplex.

CRAFTSMAN TYPOLOGIES

TRANSITIONAL

Vertical Design
Emphasis
Reminiscent of
Victorian-Era
Architecture

Horizontal
Wood
Siding

Bay
Window



High-Pitched Cross
Gabled Roof

Exterior Chimney

Triangular Knee Brace
Supports

Low Stone Porch
Pedestals with
Columns Above



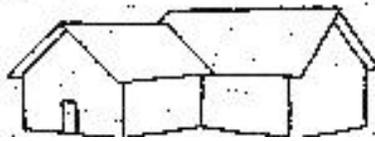
Transitional – A building which appears to be “transitioning” from the Victorian-era into the Craftsman-era in design and materials. Typically, this type of building still retains its strong vertical emphasis on the façade, and Victorian-era design elements such as bay windows, long skinny windows and decorative knee brackets and rafters. What differentiates this type of residence from a Victorian-era residence is its Craftsmansque features such as stonework on porch pedestals, more square windows, surrounded by wide casings, sometimes a hipped roof with a squat dormer at the façade side of the roof, and foundations and rafter tails under the roof line.

CRAFTSMAN ROOF FORMS

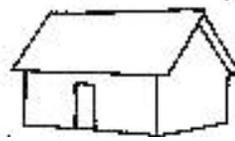
Standard Examples:



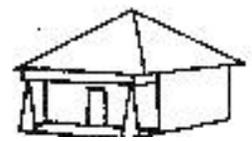
Front-Gabled Roof



Cross-Gabled Roof



Side-Gabled Roof



Hipped Roof

Field Examples:



Front Gabled Roof



Cross Gabled Roof



Side Gabled Roof



Clipped Gable (or hip on gable roof) Roof

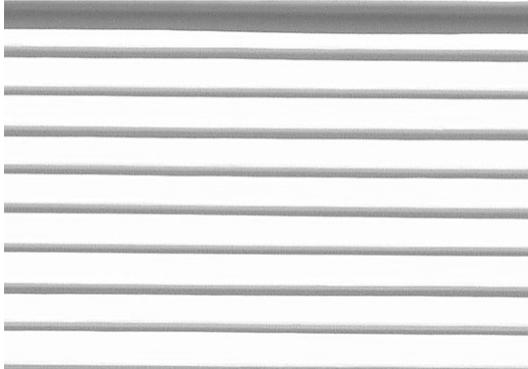


Hipped Roof

CRAFTSMAN SIDING MATERIALS

“Siding – Although the term siding is sometimes used to refer to exterior wall coverings made of wood, its meaning may be extended to include any type of finish covering on a frame building (with the exception of masonry).

Horizontal Wood Siding:



bevel siding, clapboard, lap siding -

This type of siding consists of boards that are thicker on one edge than the other: the bottom (thick) edge of one board overlaps the top (thin) edge of the board below.



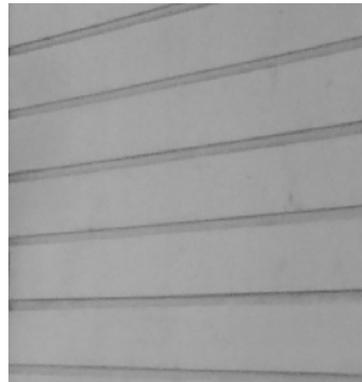
weather-boarding -

A type of clapping characterized by beveled overlapping boards with rabbeted upper edges; a popular type of wood siding in early-American domestic architecture.



simple (drop) siding -

A type of cladding characterized by overlapping boards with either tongued and grooved, or rabbeted top and bottom edges. Oftentimes, the upper part of each board has a concave curve, in which case the siding is sometimes referred to as German siding.



channel rustic siding

Wood Shingle Siding:

“Wood Shingles - ...take the form of thin, long pieces of wood that taper from one end to the other. Shingles up until about 1850, were cut by hand; after this date sawing became the dominant means of manufacture. Wood shingles come dimensioned or in random widths, plain or end-modified; length is most often 16, 18, or 24 inches.



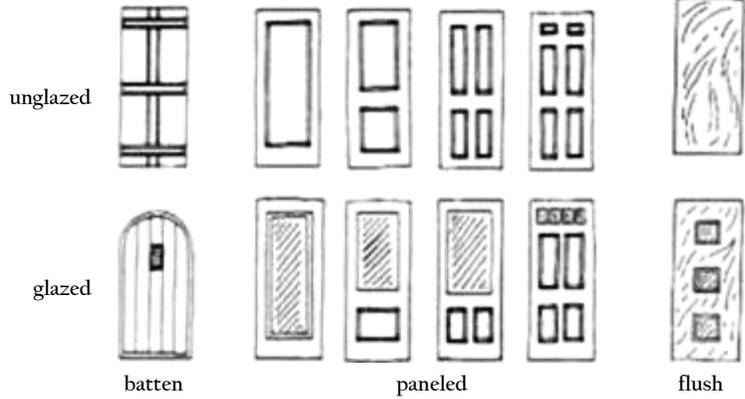
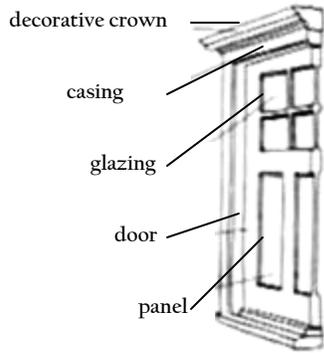
staggered shingles



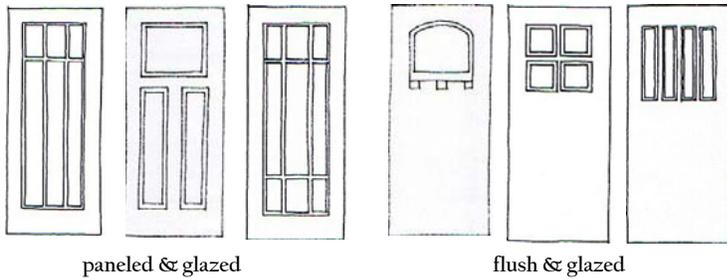
coursed shingles

CRAFTSMAN DOOR STYLES

Doorway Components



Standard Examples:



Terms

“glazing – Fitting glass into windows and doors.”

“paneled door – A door with one or more recessed panels. Paneled doors are given specific names according to the number of panels they possess or according to the configuration of the panels. Example: Four Paneled Door”

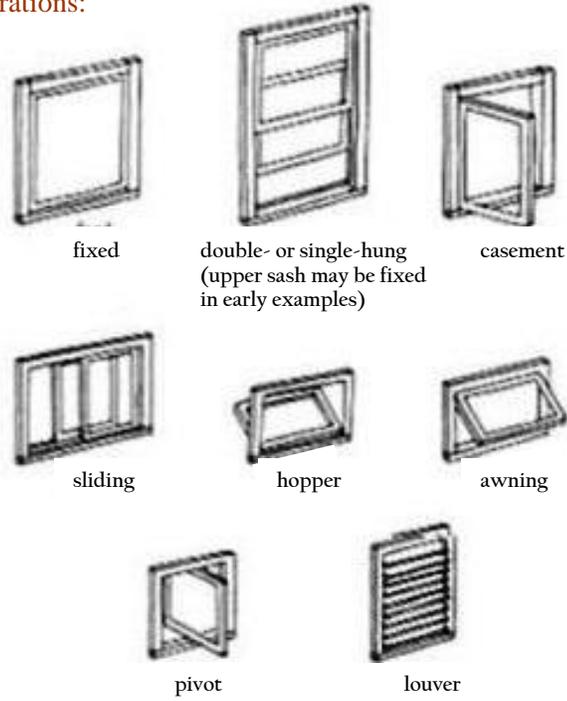
“batten door – A door constructed by nailing boards (battens) together in various ways. The solid batten door or double diagonal door is composed of two layers of boards nailed at 90° to each other. The legend door, frontier door or batten door is made by securing vertical or diagonal battens to each other by horizontal members.

Field Examples:



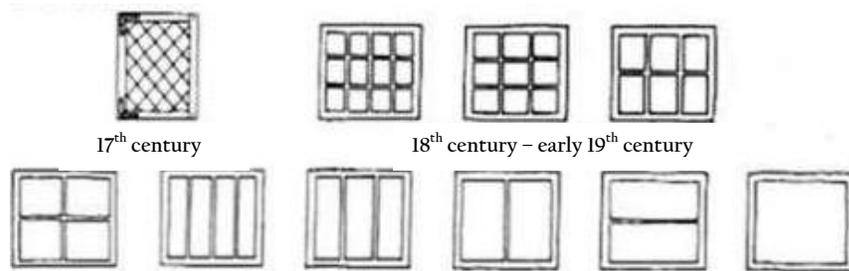
CRAFTSMAN WINDOW STYLES

Examples of Sash Operations:



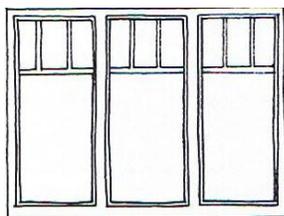
Examples of Sash Glazing Patterns:

“Glazing – Fitting glass into windows and doors.”

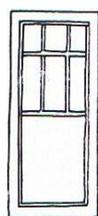


mid-19th century to present
(plus revival of earlier patterns)

Standard Examples:



Wood sash three-over-one pane fixed window; consisting of one large pane widow and a three paned transom window above.



Wood sash six-over-one pane double-hung window; consisting of one single pane window with a fixed six

CRAFTSMAN WINDOW STYLES CONTINUED...



Two wood sash double hung windows with nine lights over one light flanking one large fixed window with 18 multi-lights surrounded by a wide wood surround.



Set of ribbon windows (likely two sets of paired casements) with Craftsman-style geometric mullion design and extended lintel.



Two wood cased casement windows with diamond-patterned multi-light designs flanking one single pane wood cased fixed window with wide wood surrounds.



Paired wood cased double hung windows with Craftsman mullion design over a single pane.



Two small narrow wood cased casement windows with wide wood surrounds.



Paired wood cased casement windows with three narrow rectangular lights over one horizontal light, each cased in wide wood surrounds.



Paired wood cased single hung windows with 8 small lights over one single pane and wide wood surrounds.



One wood cased awning style window with two lights and wide window surrounds.



Two wood cased fixed nine light windows flanking one large double hung window with 15 lights over one single wood sash.



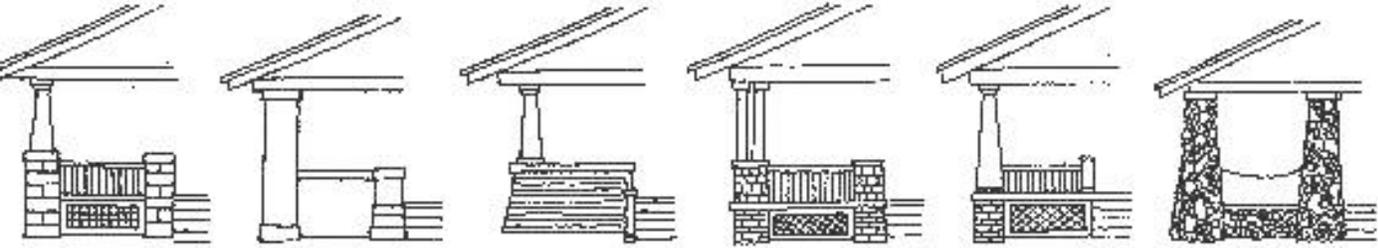
Two wood cased casement windows with two small lights over one vertical light flanking one fixed window with three lights over one light with a wide wood surrounds.



Ribbon (triple) wood cased double hung windows with five geometric lights over one light and an extended lintel.

CRAFTSMAN PORCH SUPPORTS AND RAILINGS

Standard Examples:



Low porch pedestals with columns or wood posts above. Pedestals constructed of brick, stucco, wood siding and stone.

Field Examples:

Stone Columns and Pedestals:



CRAFTSMAN PORCH SUPPORTS AND RAILINGS CONTINUED...

Brick Pedestals:



Stucco Columns and Pedestals:



CRAFTSMAN PORCH SUPPORTS AND RAILINGS CONTINUED...

Ornamental Concrete Block Columns and Pedestals:



Wood Shingled Pedestals:



Wood Board Sided Pedestals:



CRAFTSMAN PORCH SUPPORTS AND RAILINGS CONTINUED...

Wood Posts:



CRAFTSMAN GARAGE DOORS

A Craftsman garage door is typically a paneled wooden door. Many times a Craftsman door has windows arranged in a distinctive pattern of multi-lights (usually in single and double rows).

Field Examples:



CRAFTSMAN DECORATIVE VENTS

Picket Fence Vertical Slat Vent:



Vertical Slat Vent w/Decorative Cut Outs:



Vertical Slat Vent:



Lattice Vent:



Horizontal Slat Vent:



CRAFTSMAN DECORATIVE VENTS CONTINUED...

Round Vent:



Rectangular Vent:



CRAFTSMAN DORMERS

“Dormer – A vertical window projecting from the slope of a roof; usually provided with its own roof.”

Gable Dormer:



Oriental-Influenced Gable Dormer:



Shed Dormer:



Eyebrow Dormer:



Clipped Gable (also called Hip on Gable) Dormer:



DECORATIVE FEATURES

“Brackets –Projecting support members found under eaves or other overhangs; may be plain or decorated. Related terms: console, mutules, modillions, corbel.”

“Rafters – The sloping members of a roof upon which a roof covering is placed. Rafters are given specific names largely according to their location and use.”

Triangular Knee Brace Supports (Brackets):



Exposed (false or decorative) Rafters:





DECORATIVE FEATURES CONTINUED...

Stickwork:



CRAFTSMAN FOUNDATION WALLS

“Foundations– Fieldstone or poured concrete walls that enclose a basement or crawl space and support the parts of a building that are above ground.

Fieldstone Foundation Walls:



Poured Concrete Foundation Walls:



Ornamental Concrete Block Foundation Walls:

