

Theme: Period Revival

By the late 1910s, Period Revival architecture prevailed throughout Southern California. A range of styles associated with Europe and Colonial America inspired Period Revival architecture in the early 20th century. These styles remained a popular choice for residential design through the late 1930s and early 1940s. By World War II, Period Revival architecture had largely given way to styles such as Minimal Traditional and Mid-Century Modern, which were more pared down and embraced more contemporary materials in lieu of references to the past.

Sub-Theme: American Colonial Revival



A late example of the American Colonial Revival style: 545 W. Main Street.

American Colonial Revival architecture experienced a resurgence during the 1920s population boom in Southern California. The style used elements from a variety of earlier classically-based architectural modes, including Neoclassical, Federal, and Georgian. Early examples of the style were typically single-family residences. Tustin has few high-style American Colonial Revival homes, especially in comparison to Santa Ana and Anaheim; more commonly, restrained Colonial Revival elements were utilized on simple Craftsman cottages. However, at least one example of the rare Dutch Colonial Revival variant, defined by a gambrel roof, can be found in Old Town Tustin.

Common character-defining features of the American Colonial Revival style include:

- Typically one or two stories in height

- Simple building forms
- Symmetrical façades
- Hipped or gable roofs, typically with boxed eaves
- May display multiple roof dormers
- Clapboard or brick exteriors
- Multi-paned double-hung sash windows that are often paired
- Entryways accentuated with classical detailing
- Paneled front door, sometimes with sidelights and transom or fanlight
- Details may include pediments, columns or pilasters, and fixed shutters

Sub-Theme: Spanish Colonial Revival



Example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style: 14611 Prospect Avenue.

Spanish Colonial Revival architecture gained widespread popularity throughout Southern California after the 1915 Panama-California Exposition in San Diego. The exposition’s buildings were designed by architect Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, who wished to go beyond the popular Mission architectural interpretations of the state’s colonial past and highlight the richness of Spanish precedents found throughout Latin America. The exposition prompted other designers to look directly to Spain for architectural inspiration. The Spanish Colonial Revival style was an attempt to create a “native” California architectural style that drew upon and romanticized the state’s colonial past.²⁵⁸

The popularity of the Spanish Colonial Revival style coincided with Southern California’s population boom of the 1920s. The versatility of the style, allowing for builders and architects to construct buildings as simple or as lavish as money would permit, helped to further spread its popularity throughout the region. The style’s adaptability also lent its application to a variety of

²⁵⁸ McAlester and McAlester 2009, 418.

building types, including single- and multi-family residences, commercial properties, and institutional buildings. Spanish Colonial Revival architecture often borrowed from other styles such as Churrigueresque, Italian Villa Revival, Gothic Revival, Moorish Revival, or Art Deco. The style is characterized by its complex building forms, stucco-clad wall surfaces, and clay tile roofs. The Spanish Colonial Revival style remained popular through the 1930s, with later versions simpler in form and ornamentation. Spanish Colonial Revival is a prevalent Period Revival style in Tustin and is typically applied to single-family residential properties around the Cultural Resources District. There are also several commercial and institutional buildings in the city that are designed in the style.

Character-defining features of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture include:

- Complex massing and asymmetrical façades
- Incorporation of patios, courtyards, loggias, or covered porches and/or balconies
- Low-pitched gable or hipped roofs with clay tile roofing
- Coved, molded, or wood-bracketed eaves
- Towers or turrets
- Stucco wall cladding
- Arched window and door openings
- Single and paired multi-paned windows (predominantly casement)
- Decorative stucco or tile vents
- Details often include the use of secondary materials, including wrought iron, wood, cast stone, terra cotta, and polychromatic tile

Sub-Theme: Tudor Revival



Example of the Tudor Revival style: 520 W. Main Street.

The Tudor Revival style was loosely based on a variety of Medieval and 16th- 17th century English building traditions, ranging from thatched-roof Tudor cottages to grandiose Elizabethan and Jacobean manor houses. The first Tudor Revival-style houses appeared in the United States at the end of the 19th century. These houses were typically elaborate and architect-designed. Much like other Period Revival styles, Tudor Revival architecture became extremely popular during the 1920s population boom in Southern California. Masonry veneering techniques of the 1920s and '30s helped to further disseminate the style, as even modest houses could afford to mimic the brick and stone exteriors of traditional English designs.²⁵⁹

Tudor Revival architecture is characterized by its asymmetry, steeply-pitched gable roofs, decorative half-timbering, and prominent chimneys. High style examples are typically two to three stories in height and may exhibit leaded glass diamond-paned windows and slate roof shingles. The popularity of the Tudor Revival style waned during the Great Depression as less ornate building designs prevailed. Although the style continued to be used through the 1930s, later interpretations of Tudor Revival architecture were much simpler in terms of form and design.

Character-defining features of Tudor Revival architecture include:

- Irregular massing and asymmetrical façades

²⁵⁹ McAlester and McAlester 2009, 355.

- Steeply-pitched gable roofs with a prominent front-facing gable and slate, wood shingle, or composition shingle roofing
- Rolled, pointed, and/or flared eaves, sometimes with exposed rafter tails
- Prominent chimneys
- Brick, stone, or stucco wall cladding
- Decorative half-timbering
- Entrance vestibules with arched openings
- Multi-paned casement windows that are tall, narrow, and typically arranged in groups

Sub-Theme: Mission Revival



Example of the Mission Revival style: 560 El Camino Real.

The Mission Revival style, which some consider the first indigenous architectural mode developed after California became part of the United States, was made popular in the Southwest through its use in the design of hotels and stations constructed for the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific Railroad companies. Though a prevalent style for civic architecture in Southern California in the early 20th century, the style lost popularity after the 1915 Panama-California Exposition and the emerging dominance of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture.

Character-defining features of the Mission Revival style include:

- One or more stories in height
- Horizontal emphasis
- Hipped, tile-covered roofs
- Projecting eaves supported by exposed rafters

- Stucco exterior
- Espadañas (bell gables), bell towers, and domes
- Rounded arches and arcades
- Impost moldings and continuous stringcourses around openings
- Verandas, patios, and courtyards
- Buttresses, especially at building corners
- General lack of ornamentation or use of Moorish-inspired decoration

Sub-Theme: Classical Revival



Example of the Classical Revival style: 150-58 W. Main Street.

The Classical Revival style, which includes the variants of Neoclassical Revival, Beaux Arts, and Greek Revival, was very popular across the United States from the turn of the 20th century well into the 1920s. The resurgence of interest in Classical Revival architecture is often attributed to the City Beautiful movement as popularized at the 1893 World Columbian Exposition in Chicago. This style is characterized by symmetrical facades, columns, and pediments on buildings that are usually two stories in height.

Character-defining features of the Classical Revival style include:

- Massive symmetrical and rectilinear form
- Low pitched roof
- Decorative dentils along eaves
- Triangular pediments supported by classic columns
- Large rectangular windows, usually arranged singularly
- Decorative plaster elements

- Masonry walls
- Color schemes indicative of stone and masonry construction

Theme: Minimal Traditional



Example of the Minimal Traditional style: 335 W. 6th Street.

Minimal Traditional style is a simple residential style historically designed to meet the demand for quick and affordable housing. It first evolved in the 1930s during the Great Depression and continued with increasing vigor in the post-World War II period. The appeal of the style was maximized in the postwar era, as it fit the mold for houses seeking Federal Housing Administration (FHA) financing. As outlined in the FHA’s bulletin, *Principles for Planning Small Houses*, as well as in pattern books, the Minimal Traditional style is characterized by its modest size and simplicity in massing and decorative details. Approved embellishments included porches, bay windows, platform steps, and paneled front doors.

Character-defining features of the Minimal Traditional style include:

- Small, typically one-story height
- Simple massing
- Low-pitched, hipped, side-gable, or gable-and-wing roof
- Double-hung windows
- Minimal ornamentation and architectural features, but relating to Tudor, Colonial Revival, or Ranch styles where applied