

## **CRAFTSMAN STYLE GROUP (1900-1930)**

The Craftsman Style, also known as Arts and Crafts, Western Stick, or the Crafts Movement, was based on the ideas espoused by the English Arts and Crafts movement led by architect William Morris, and the Arts and Crafts Exhibition Society formed in 1888, with designs based on organic shapes and an appreciation of handcrafted art. Their influence on younger architects of that time, including Frank Lloyd Wright, Gustav Stickley, Bernard Maybeck and Charles and Henry Greene was substantial, and significant in moving public taste toward a more natural style in architecture and interior design. The machine aesthetic was viewed as impersonal, and the solution was a house in which all of the interior and exterior elements were artistically detailed.

The Craftsman Style incorporated built in furniture, such as window seats, hutches, bookcases, and interior details emphasizing natural materials such as redwood tile and stone, and earth colors. Furniture and interiors were both unpainted. The Craftsman House was two stories and composed of several intersecting or overlapping gable sections that incorporate multiple roof planes, with exposed wooden verandas, pergolas, and terraces. California architects Greene and Greene are the best known exponents of the high style Craftsman house.

The Craftsman Cottage was built on a more modest scale, one or one and one half stories. Craftsman styles were applied to multifamily residences, typically duplexes with a symmetrical façade, as well as commercial and public buildings. The Craftsman Style Group includes some notable sub styles:

- **Transitional Craftsman Victorian (1900-1910)**
- **Craftsman Bungalow (1905-1930)**
- **Colonial Craftsman (1900-1930)**
- **Clipped Gable Colonial Craftsman (1905-1930)**
- **Aeroplane Craftsman (1920-1930)**
- **Craftsman Cottage (1920-1930)**

### **Essential Character Defining Features of the Craftsman Style Group:**

#### **Primary**

- Low pitched gable roof, though they may be hipped too, may be peaked or flared
- Wide, unenclosed eave overhang, may be flared
- Exposed roof rafters, may be extended or elaborated with decorative shapes
- Decorative beams or knee braces under the gables
- Porches, full or partial width with roofs supported by tapered square columns
- Columns, and columns on pedestals, may extend to the ground level.
- Casement or transom windows, grouped multi-pane sash over single large pane

#### **Secondary**

- Small high windows on either side of chimney
- Interior doors may incorporate colored glass, custom metal or wooden hinges; exterior doors may include multi-pane sash, doors often oak.

- Window boxes or balconies
- Dormers, gabled or shed
- Exterior chimney may be tapered
- Sloping foundation
- May combine various materials- wood, stone and brick

## TRANSITIONAL CRAFTSMAN-VICTORIAN SUB STYLE (ca. 1900-1910)



This regional sub style is characteristic of the period when architectural styles were transitioning from the Victorian era into the Craftsman era. It retains Victorian elements such as bay windows, long narrow windows, which emphasize the vertical line, as well as decorative knee brackets and rafters, and paneled front doors. Craftsman features may include stonework on porch pedestals, horizontally oriented windows surrounded by wide casings, sometimes a hipped roof with a squat dormer on the front façade, and exposed rafter tails under the roof line instead of boxed eaves. In Arcata, remodeling brought some Victorian homes into the twentieth century with the addition of Craftsman features or with Craftsman Style additions.

### ***Additional Character-Defining Features***

#### **Victorian era elements**

- Bay windows, long narrow windows
- Decorative knee brackets and rafters

- Paneled front doors

## Craftsman era elements

- Stonework on porch pedestals
- Horizontally oriented windows surrounded by wide casings
- Hipped roof, squat dormer on the front façade
- Exposed rafter tails.

## CRAFTSMAN BUNGALOW (ca. 1905-1930)

The *Craftsman* magazine, published by furniture maker Gustav Stickley from 1901-1916 popularized this style for countless small houses and bungalows. The Bungalow is sometimes described as the "first indigenous domestic architecture in California," is usually a one-story, gabled house with extended eaves and exposed rafter ends. This style features beam brackets, shingle siding, open verandas with large, tapered square columns on piers, small upper window sashes with multiple panes, and exterior brick or cobblestone chimneys.



The Craftsman Bungalow was typically a compact structure of one or one and one half stories. These bungalows have long sweeping gable roofs, overhanging eaves, large tapered porch posts and exposed rafters. Ready to build houses could be purchased by mail order, with materials, fixtures and assembly instructions delivered to the nearest railroad station. Working plans for owner built homes were also available, for houses costing less than \$1,000 to construct.

The two most typical of this group are Dormer Front Bungalow and Gabled Front Bungalow. The side facing gable Dormer Front Bungalow, features a full width inset porch and a shed or gabled dormer. The front slope of the roof extends to form the roof of the porch. The Gabled Front Bungalow, with a narrow front facing gable, is especially suited to city lots. Craftsman Bungalow designs were sometimes influenced by other cultures or styles, such as the Oriental, the Swiss, Colonial, and the Tudor.

### *Additional Character Defining Features:*

#### **Primary**

- One or one and one half stories
- Low pitched roof, sometimes peaked or flared gable or hip roof
- Wide, unenclosed eave overhang, may be flared

- Exposed roof rafters
- Decorative beams or knee braces under the gables
- Porches, full or partial width, with roofs supported by tapered square columns, paired columns or dwarf piers
- Casement or grouped multiple pane over single sash, squared bay windows, wide window and door casings
- Built-in cabinetry, beamed ceilings, simple wainscot commonly in dining and living room.
- Large fireplace often with built-in cabinetry, shelves, or benches on either side

### **Secondary**

- Columns, and columns on pedestals, may extend to the ground level, floor to ceiling column more common before 1910.
- Exterior doors may include multipane sash.
- Window boxes or balconies
- Dormers, gabled or shed
- Interior or exterior chimney
- Wall surfaces may combine various materials, principally clapboard or shingle siding, while chimneys, posts and pedestals may incorporate wood, stone and brick.

## **COLONIAL CRAFTSMAN (1900-1930)**

The Colonial Revival style predates the Craftsman, and was incorporated into architectural design by the late nineteenth century, and was merged with the Craftsman during the twentieth century. Similar to the Craftsman Cottage, this is typically a one story side facing gable with a symmetrical façade. The partial width front porch is covered by a moderate or steeply pitched gabled roof supported by Tuscan columns. There may be an arch within the gable, and a pergola on one or both sides of the entry. Windows may be one over one, fixed or casement sash associated with the Craftsman style or taller French windows. The front entry door is generally more representative of the Colonia Revival style, of solid wood, painted, and with one or multiple panels.

### ***Additional Character-Defining Features***

- One story, side facing gable
- Symmetrical façade, central entry flanked by windows
- Partial width porch with roof supported by rounded Tuscan columns
- Pergola.
- Arch within porch gable
- Steeply arched gabled porch
- Solid wood door
- Interior or exterior chimney



### ***CLIPPED GABLE COLONIAL SUBSTYLE (ca. 1900-1930)***

The Clipped Gable Colonial is a sub style of the Colonial Craftsman. Typically a one story building, this may be a front facing, side facing or cross gable. The gable roof will appear to have had its gable point “clipped off.” This style may also feature gabled, hipped or eyebrow dormers.

#### ***Additional Character-Defining Features***

- One story, front, side or cross gable with ends clipped off.
- Gabled, hipped or eyebrow dormers



### ***AEROPLANE CRAFTSMAN (1920-1930)***

The Aeroplane Craftsman is one of the most distinctive of the Craftsman sub styles and relatively uncommon throughout the country. This style is characterized by a setback second story and a low pitched roofline. The wide overhanging eaves of the porch are supported by posts and pedestals which give the impression of airplane wings. The building may have a front, side or cross gabled roof, or multiple overlapping gable sections



#### ***Additional Character-Defining Features***

- Front, side or cross gable, or multiple overlapping gables
- Low gable roof with wide, unenclosed eaves
- Front porch with wide overhanging eaves supported by posts and pedestals

## CRAFTSMAN COTTAGE (1910-1930)

The Craftsman Cottage is the smallest and most modest of the Craftsman sub styles. This design is sometimes identified as the “workers cottage” for its frequent use as worker housing in company towns, and its frequent appearance in working class neighborhoods. Typically a one story gable, this style features a compact rectangular plan with a symmetrical façade. The central entry, often with a partial width gabled porch or canopied stoop, is flanked by windows. Bungalow courts consisted of individual units, usually the modest Craftsman Cottage, which formed a “U” shape around a central courtyard.

### *Additional Character-Defining Features*

- One story side facing gable
- Symmetrical façade, central entry flanked by windows
- Partial width gabled porch supported by tapered square columns, or gabled canopy supported by knee braces
- Casement or grouped multiple pane over single sash windows, wide window and door casings

