

SPANISH REVIVAL or SPANISH ECLECTIC (ca. 1900-1930)

One of the stars of the Panama Pacific Exposition in 1915 was the California Pavilion, among the many buildings designed in the Spanish Revival style by architect Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue. The earliest versions of this style reflect the simplified design of the California Missions, most of which were constructed during the Spanish colonization of the Californias, while later interpretations draw on a sophisticated interpretation of Moorish, Byzantine and Renaissance as well as Spanish European traditions. Although the pitched roof tradition was dominant in the Mexican territory of California, flat roofs were common throughout the former Spanish territories of North America. Flat roofed types may feature parapeted walls and narrow tile-covered shed roofs above the entry or window. This stylistic variation was widely adopted in the Southwest, southern California, and fashionable resort areas in Florida through the 1930s.

Spanish Eclectic I houses are generally one story with a combination of low-pitched gable, shed and flat roofs. Other characteristics included Roman or semi-circular-arched arcades and door and window openings, canvas awnings, and decorative iron trim. Most of the local examples are residences, including small houses, although this style was also applied to commercial buildings. Landscaping contributed to the period setting, and often included partially enclosed patios and gardens with decorative tile work, fountains, rear gardens, and arcaded walkways.

Character-Defining Features

- Typically one story, rectangular or L-plan
- Low pitched roof, typically gabled
- Red tile roofing
- Eaves with little or no overhang
- Heavy wooden doors, often carved and glazed
- Small porches
- Roman or semicircular arches above doors, principal windows or beneath porch roofs.
- Tall, double hung windows
- Large focal window, triple arched or parabolic.
- Smooth masonry walls, usually stucco, white
- Carved, low relief ornament
- Spiral columns, pilasters, carved stonework or patterned tiles.
- Decorative window grilles of wood or iron, balustrades of iron or wood on cantilevered balconies.
- Stucco or tile decorative vents, or niches
- Towers, round or square
- Arcaded wing walls

