



# ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTER



THOMPSON PLACEMAKING



# Front Yard Fences

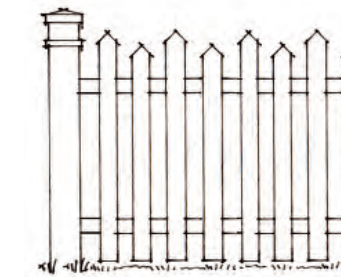
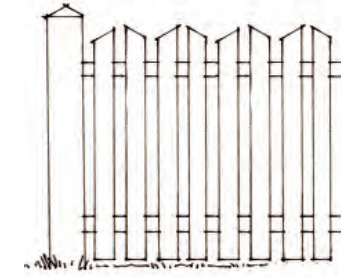


One of the secret ingredients in a TND that makes the transition between the public and private realm, is a traditional front yard fence. Many developments that try to be a TND often miss this ingredient. Another key TND ingredient, the front porch, cannot be as effective without a front fence. Think of the great places you love to visit where front porches are well used and loved. Most of the time, a front fence that gives a little separation from those passing by on a sidewalk, is exactly what's needed for one to feel comfortable sitting on that porch.

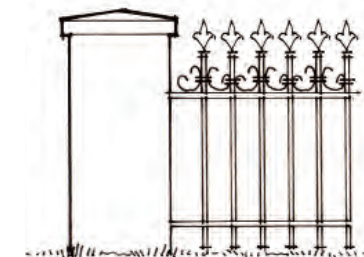
Articulation of property lines will help clearly distinguish between the private areas of the house lots and the common right-of-way areas, which include sidewalks, parks, streets and lanes. The edges of pedestrian zones shall be articulated in a consistent manner throughout the neighborhood, with partly transparent wood fences or hedge-like plantings.

In general, fences should enclose areas of exterior space, distinguished private yard areas from common pedestrian areas, rather than simply property lines. Where required, front yard fences and hedges should be continuous around the perimeter of the front yard and should have a gate or opening at the front walk.

In many zones, the front yard fence or hedge and the porch railing should work together to create the private zone of the usable front porch.



*Simple wood picket type fencing - most common*



*Decorative iron fencing, for urban areas or more refined houses only*



## Front Yard Fencing

Your front yard fence should compliment your house and the feel of your property. It can give a first impression that enhances walkable experience along the sidewalk.

In TND's, front yard fences create a transparent privacy that encourages interaction between the passer-by and the resident on the front porch.

Front fencing is optional but should compliment the house and work with landscaping to create a nice front edge along the sidewalk.

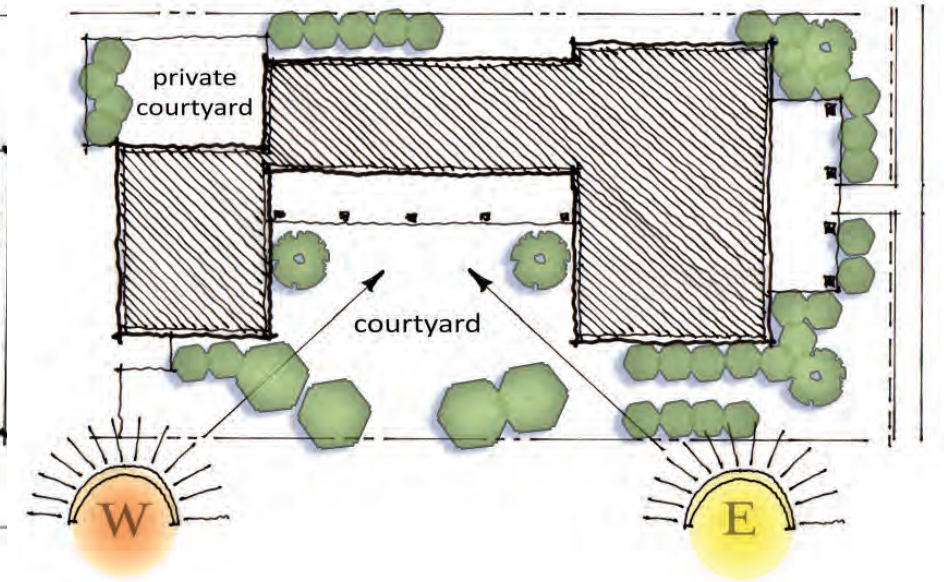
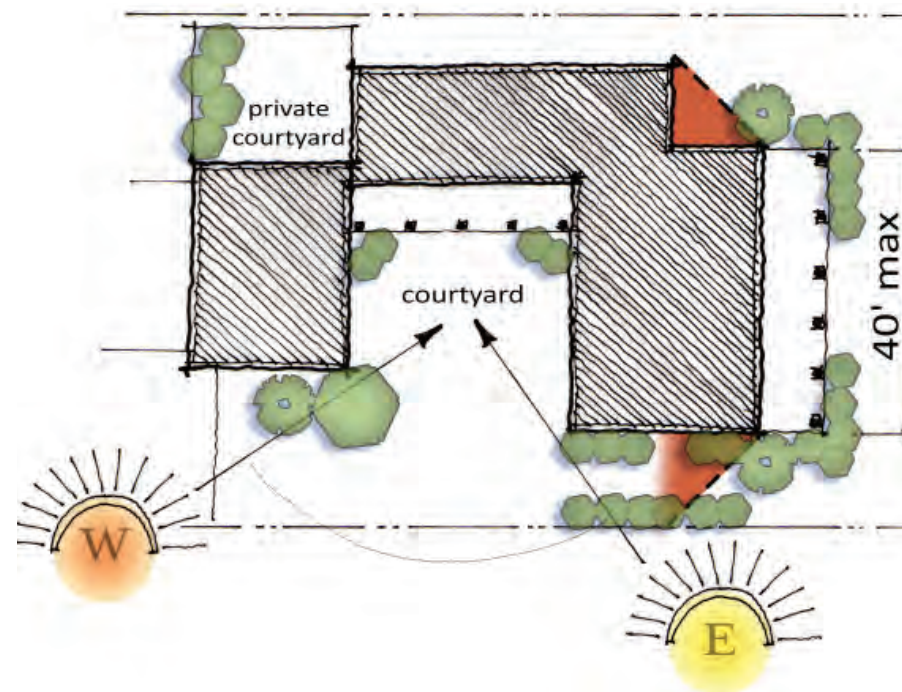
# Creating Your Courtyard Home

The styles in this section are uniquely southern. To use this pattern book most effectively, first decide which style suits you and your family best. What's more southern than an outdoor living room or great courtyard? A courtyard design will basically work with any of the styles you choose. We greatly encourage the design of courtyards, for comfort, but also value added to the house and your extended living space.

First, choose your style home. Some styles are going to be more on the simple side of construction - less detail, more simple shapes, and therefore, less costly construction. Other house styles are going to be middle of the road or lend themselves to the additional second level and porches, which increases cost a little, but gives a distinctive look. Finally, there are a few styles where the designs are more refined, with more detail and trimwork, and therefore tend to be more costly than others.

You can dial the architecture up or down or dial the detail up or down, and by doing so, dial your cost up or down to suit your budget and your dream home look. We encourage you to do this to stay in budget as long as the detailing works with the style you've chosen.

Arrange the house on site to take advantage of eastern and southern sun, and protect against western sun. Porches and courtyards work great together and should face south to give shade and provide sunshine that people can enjoy. Think of the courtyard as an outdoor room that you actually use. Porches and courtyards don't necessarily need to



face due south, they just need to take advantage of sun in the morning and mid-day, and protect from the heat in late afternoon and early evening. On any given block, courtyards need to face the same direction, and neighborly windows that face courtyards need to guard against viewing straight into the neighbors courtyard.

To add to the street appeal, windows should appear on the side walls of the house within the first eight feet from the corner. The Main Body of the house should be no greater than 40' wide for houses up to 4,800 square feet and no greater than 48' for houses above 4,800 square feet - not including wrap-around porches.

Narrow side and rear wings allow for more windows and better light through the house. These wings shall be no more than 1 1/2 stories in height and the maximum width and placement of wings is determined by a 45 degree line from the front corners of the Main Body of the house to a distance of 20 feet. Beyond 20 feet, the house may get as wide as it likes.



## The Courtyard

The courtyards of the home design with a Main Body and thin wings has influences from Spanish, French, and West Indies traditions but actually has its beginning roots in New Orleans Creole architecture when the city began rebuilding after the great fires of 1788 & 1794.

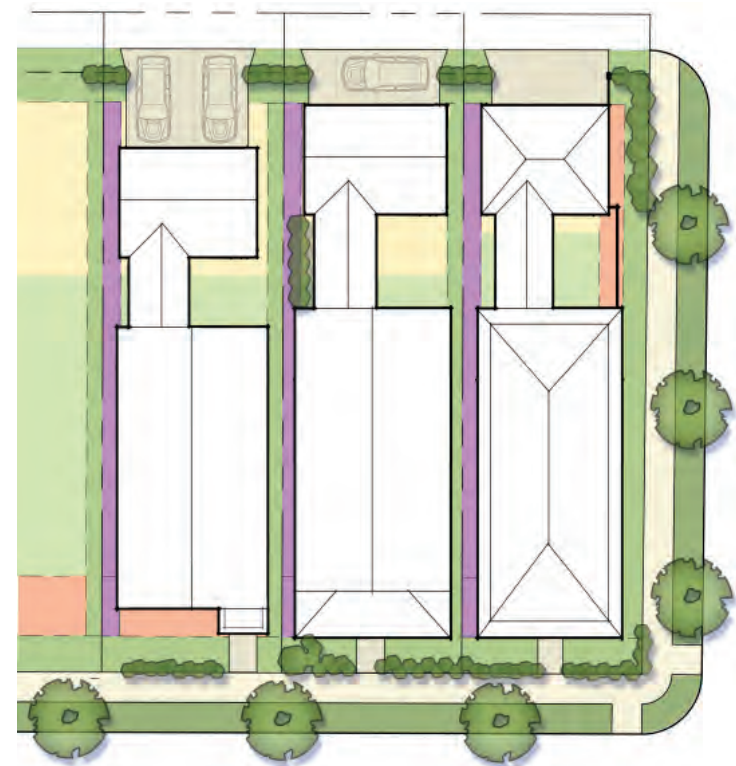
Particularly in more urban or dense developments, interior courtyards can play a vital part of any good house design - providing privacy in an outdoor living space as well as helping deal with the humid climate of the South.



# Sideyards, Courtyards, and Usage Easements



ZONES WITHIN THE SITE



PLACING THE HOUSE ON THE SITE

**Rear Lane Setback:** Since Property line is on center of rear lane, Min. 13'-6" or on RL R.O.W. for all structures at the Rear Lane.

**Side Yard Setback:** 5 feet.

**Side Yard Usage Easement** is located on the west or north side of lots. The easement is 5 feet (or to house face) and allows the neighboring house to use the 5 feet for their courtyard. This gets rid of the need for a privacy fence between houses. This easement is used by the neighbor to the west or north as an extension of their private courtyard. Houses have to be designed with this in mind to have the house windows facing their own private courtyard. Neighboring windows are limited to a single egress window allowed to face the usage easement and must be translucent, and any other windows have to have sills a minimum of 6' above finished floor and must be translucent. Windows within the first 8' of front wall (or in front of privacy fence) are allowed to be full height and clear.

**Front Setback:** 6 feet. No part of the structure can be closer than 6 feet to the sidewalk.

**Front Facade Zone:** Corner Lots: 12 feet deep. Mid-Block Lots: 10 feet deep.

**Garages** shall be placed within the Parking Zone. For corner lots, garages should be placed at the Rear R.O.W. if feasible with the design or maximum of eleven feet from Rear R.O.W. For mid-block lots, garages shall be placed either at the 5' or 15' Rear Lane Setback or greater (not between the 5'-15'). On corner lots, the privacy fence or courtyard wall must run continuous to the Rear R.O.W. Habitable dwelling space or unit over a garage may or may not have it's own entrance and stair, depending on it's use. Only single garage doors are allowed on lots over 32' wide. See encroachments. If 3 garage bays are used, a double width garage door is allowed adjacent to a single width door.

**Encroachments:** Because the rear property line is in the center of the Rear Lane, the house balcony may encroach/cantilever into the Rear Lane setback or R.O.W. above the ground floor a maximum of four feet in depth. The maximum width of the encroachment is twenty feet and should be designed over the garage door openings. Chimneys and bay windows are allowed to encroach setbacks a maximum of 24" if approved by City as an appurtenance.

**Private Zone Fences** along the Rear Lane may be 100% opaque to 6' feet. They may be located between houses at the back of the Front Facade Zone (or behind the first side window) and at the rear setback of the Private Zone and a max height of 6'. On corner lots, a 6' maximum privacy fence or courtyard wall may be used just behind the property line or sidewalk edge to screen the Private Zone from public view. Brick Courtyard walls are allowed to 7' max, set min. 12" from property line to allow for landscape screening.

**Front Driveways** are not permitted. Rear Driveways/curb cuts can be a maximum of 20' wide.

**Front Walks** shall be a minimum of 3 feet 6 inches wide and be perpendicular to the Main Body of the house.

**Front Yard Hedges** are required at the front property line if the porch face is within 8 feet of the property line. Front Yard Hedges should be continuous around the perimeter of the Front Yard, set just behind the property line (sidewalk edge) and max of 2 feet from the sidewalk, and should have a gate or opening at the front walk.



Lot Type Diagram

## Village Lots

Village Lots vary in size and shape, but are generally. The location and dimensions of the zones indicated in the diagrams on this page are typical for The Lamar's Village Lots.

Porches are located in the Front Facade Zone with the door-wall of the main body also being located on the Front Facade Zone line or within it.

Identical houses may not be repeated on the same street.

# Plant Palette

## Large Trees for Shade and Street

Genus	Species	Common Name	Native (N) Hybrid (H) Intro. (I)	Evergreen ( E ) Deciduous ( D )
Acer	Rubrum	Red Maple	N	D
Acer	barbatum	Souther Sugar Maple	N	D
Carya	aquatica	Water hickory	N	D
Magnolia	grandiflora	Southern Magnolia	N	E
Magnolia	grandiflora 'DD Blanchard'	DD Blanchard Magnolia	H	E
Magnolia	grandiflora 'Little Gem'	Little Gem Magnolia	H	E
Nyssa	aquatica	Tupelo Gum	N	D
Nyssa	sylvatica	Black Gum	N	D
Pinus	glabra	Spruce Pine	N	E
Pinus	taeda	Loblolly Pine	N	E
Quercus	falcata	Southern Red Oak	N	D
Quercus	falcata v. pagodifolia	Cherrybark Oak, Swamp Red Oak	N	D
Quercus	michauxii	Swamp Chestnut Oak	N	D
Quercus	nutallii	Nuttall Oak	N	D
Quercus	phellos	Willow Oak	N	D
Quercus	shumardii	Shumard Red Oak	N	D
Quercus	virginiana	Southern Live Oak	N	E
Sabal	palmetto	Cabbage Palm	N	E
Taxodium	ascendens	Pond Cypress	N	D
Ulmus	alata	Winged Elm	N	D

## Small Trees

Aesculus	pavia	Red Buckeye	N	D
Cornus	drummondia	Roughleaf Dogwood	N	E
Crataefus	marshallii	Parsley Hawthorn	N	D
Halesia	diptera	Two-winged Silverbell	N	D
Ilex	vomitaria	Native Yaupon	N	E
Lagerstroemia	indica	Crape Myrtle	I	D
Persea	palustris	Swamp Redbay	N	E
Pistacia	chinensis	Pistachio	I	D

## Shrubs

Camelia	sasanqua	Camellia Sasanqua	I	E
Cyrilla	racemiflora	Titi	N	D
Ilex	x attenuata 'East Palatka'	East Palatka Holly	H	E
Illicium	floridanum	Florida Anise	N	E
Itea	virginica	Sweetspire	N	D
Leucothoe	axillaris	Coast Leucothoe	N	E
Musa	spp.	Banana	I	D
Myrica	cerifera	Southern Wax Myrtle	N	E
Osmanthus	fragrans	Sweet Olive, Tea Olive	I	E
Rosa	spp.	Antique varieties	I	E
Sabal	minor	Dwarf Palmetto	N	E
Viburnum	nudum	Swamp Viburnum	N	E
Vitex	agnus castus	Chaste Tree	I	D

## Ground Covers, Ferns, and Perennials

Aspidistra	elatior	Cast Iron Plant	I	E
Cyrtomium	falcatum	Holly Fern	I	E
Liriope	muscaria	Liriope	I	E
Ophiopogon	japonica	Monkey Grass	I	E
Crinum	spp.	Crinum Lily	I	D
Ginger	spp.	Ginger	I	D
Iris	spp.	Iris	N&I	E
Hemerocallis	spp.	Daylily	I	D
Lantana	spp.	Lantana	N	E

## Vines

Campsis	radicans	Trumpet Vine	N	D
Ficus	pumila	Fig Vine	I	E
Gelsemium	sempervirens	Carolina Jessamine	N	E
Rosa	spp.	Antique varieties	I	E
Trachelospermum	jasminoides	Confederate Jasmine	I	E



Live Oak



Sweetspire



Holly Fern



Banana



Southern Sugar Maple



Drake Elm



Southern Magnolia



Cast Iron Plant



Southern Wax Myrtle



## Plant Palette

A street is bare without trees. A frontyard and porch are unwelcoming without vegetation. A courtyard is miserable without foliage. Landscaping can be used to make an outdoor room a wonderful place to be, a neighborhood street walkable and enjoyable, and a plaza inviting enough to take a seat and catch a breath.

Native plants are preferred. The more variety of plant types in a courtyard, the more real the experience. Southern trees and plants shade the outdoor space and help create a room worthy of being enjoyed in all weather.

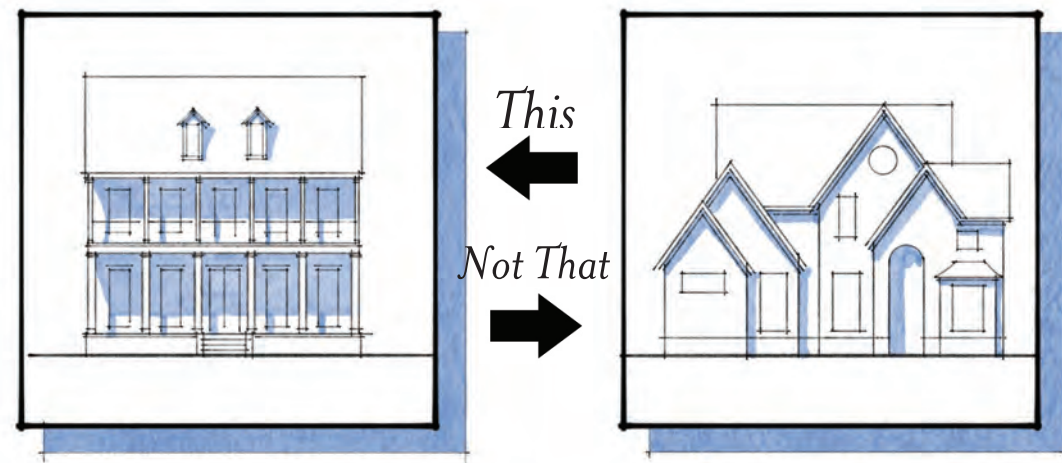
# THIS , NOT THAT

## *General Guidelines for Building a Traditional House*

*These simple guidelines will solve 80% of the troubling issues with most designs. By far, these are the typical design flaws seen on most contemporary construction sites and suburban house designs. These are the elements that are the heartbeat of traditional home construction.*

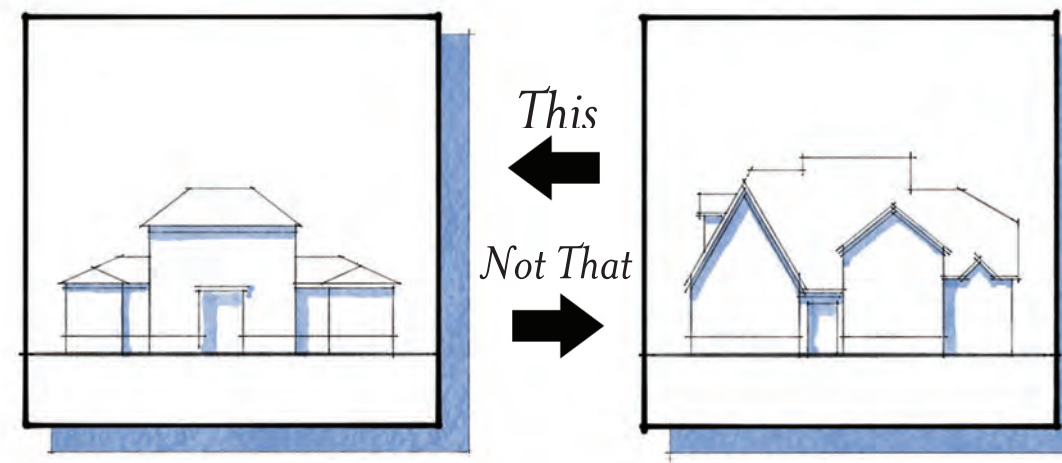
*The other 20% should be addressed by the style you've chosen for your home. In our review of architectural designs, these are the issues we will look for first. If these issues are resolved in your design, then we merely have to tackle the overall styling of your house and play by the pattern book rules for that style.*

# This, Not That (simple design guidelines for traditional construction)



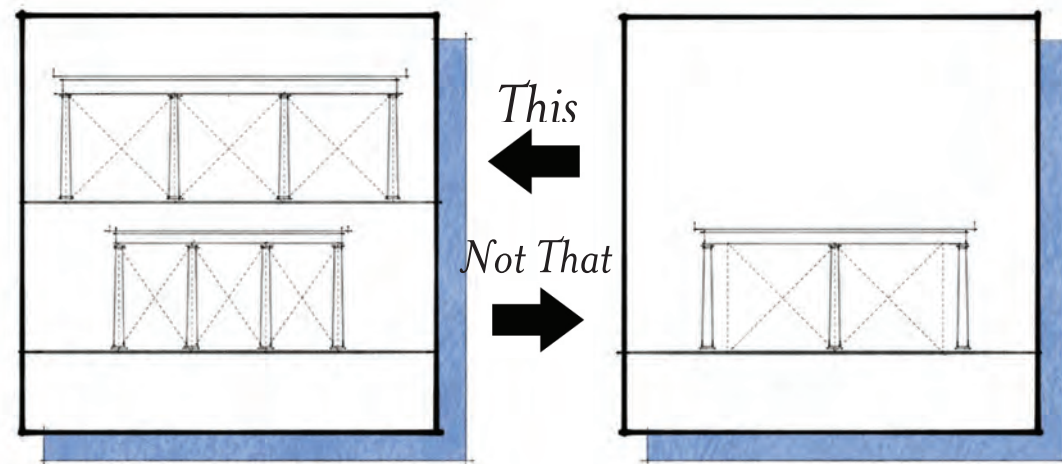
## Simplicity of Form

Traditional designs are simple in their shape and construction. Their elegance and timelessness are by-products of their simple and straightforward approach. As you design, work to simplify the massing, roof, and window placement on your house.



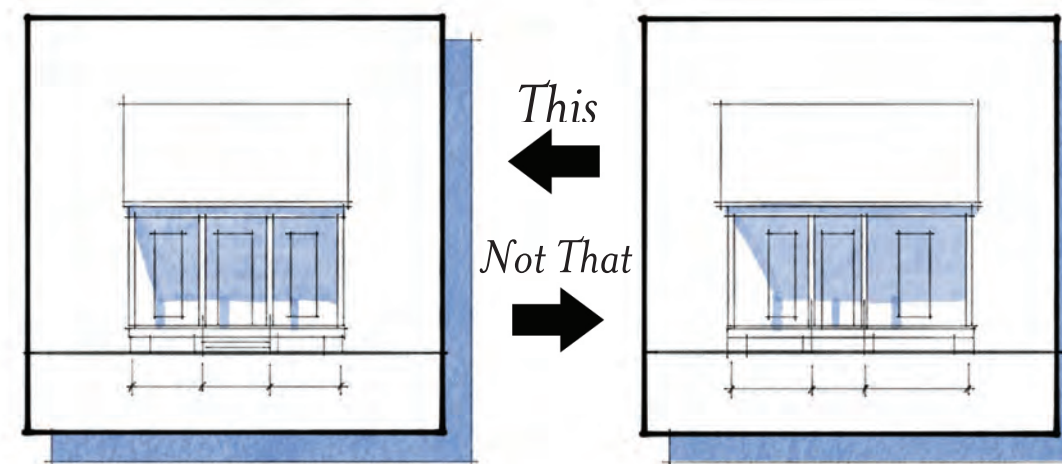
## Simplify Roof Pitches

Roof shapes can be one of the most costly elements to a home. Simplifying the roof shapes means simplifying the walls as well. As you design, work to keep the roof shapes simple and all the same pitch. Design all gables, or all hips. Of course, this is subject to the style you choose, but in general, keeping the pitches and type the same will make your house look more traditional and keep cost down as well.



## Main Body Massing

The picture on the left has classical massing and detailing – the porch element works together with a projection in plan to create a more classical front and hierarchy of the entry. The picture on the right is a house with some similar elements, but due to lack of properly massing the overall form and lack of hierarchy, it comes off like a ranch style house.

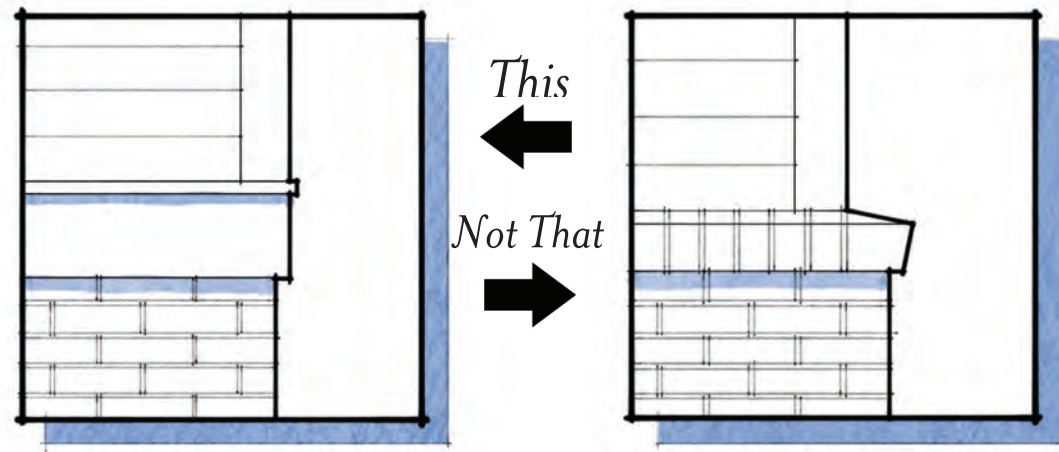


## Regular Column Spacing

Intercolumniation is the regular spacing of columns. As you design, work to keep the column spacing all the same. Don't vary the spacing based on window placement or door placement. Set the column spacing first, then work to align windows and doors within that spacing. In a few styles, such as Greek Revival, there is a precedent to pair columns together, but the overall spacing of those pairs still remains regulated.

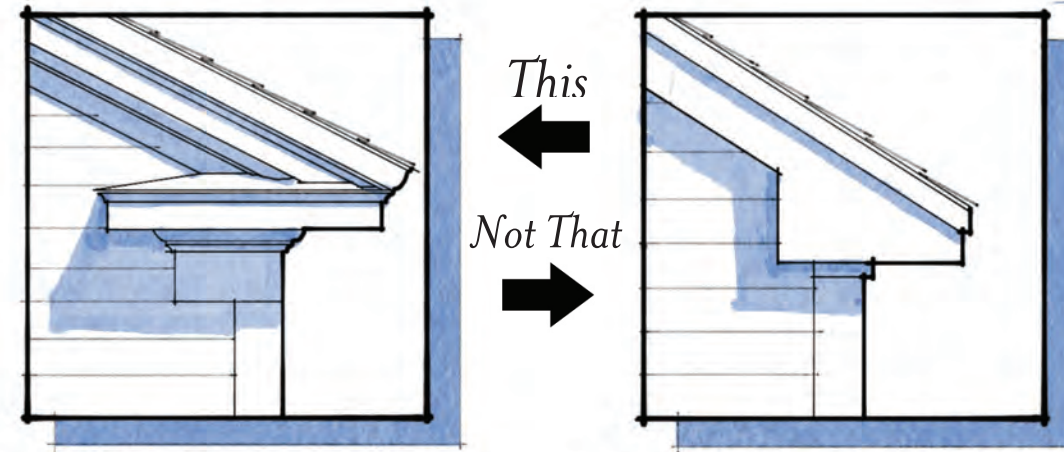


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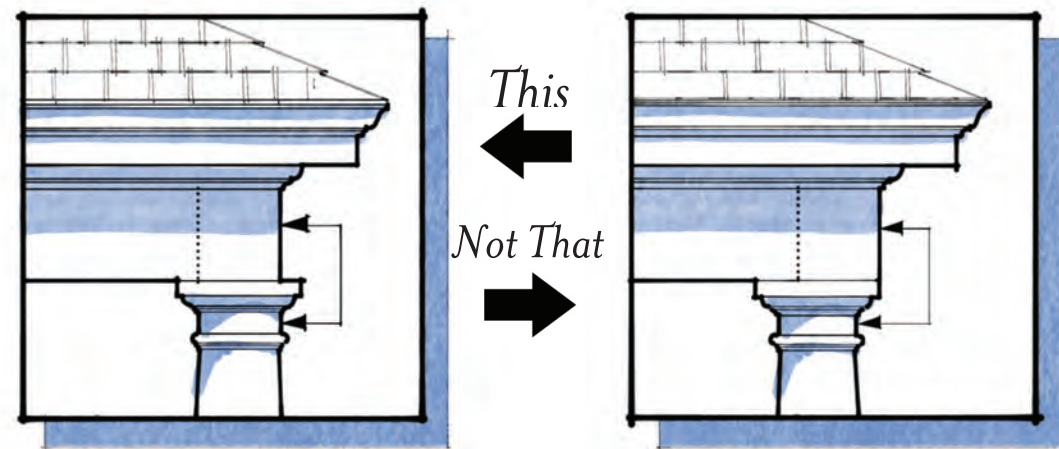
## Brick Base / Frame Wall

The face of the exterior stud wall should align with the face of brick or masonry foundation wall below. Traditionally, this was done because the masonry foundation wall was structural. Transitioning from siding to brick with a brick watertable only highlights the fact that the brick is a veneer. As you design, be careful to align the face of stud with face of brick below, then utilize a drip cap and skirt board at the base of the siding to make the transition, whether at the first floor or second floor transition.



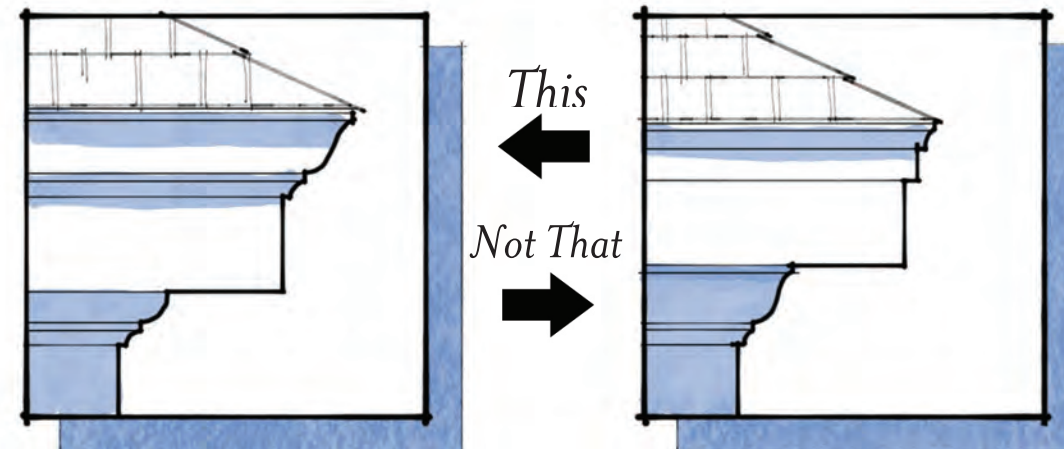
## Return Eave

A very common contemporary way to build an eave is depicted on the right – called a “pork chop eave.” As you design, the fascia should return around the corner and to the house wall. The raking cornice should be in the same plan and die into the return fascia cleanly. The eave cap on the return should be metal, usually at a slope of 1:12, but no greater than 2:12. The Cyma, or crown mould, should either return on the raking cornice using a split fillet.... OR....let the crown mould return on the lower eave return and have the raking crown die into the lower (poor man’s cornice).



## Column / Beam Alignment

As you design, always align both faces of the beam or entablature and the top of the column shaft. Allow the capital to extend beyond the face of the beam. This is a simple rule that must always be followed for traditional design. Even with the use of timber columns, set a timber beam on a timber column and the faces will align naturally. The capital trim can be added while standing in place. The only place we find any variation on this is in a vernacular detailing of Acadian houses where the timber beams resting on first floor large columns are more narrow than the column shaft and the alignment is kept on the front face, but not on the back face.

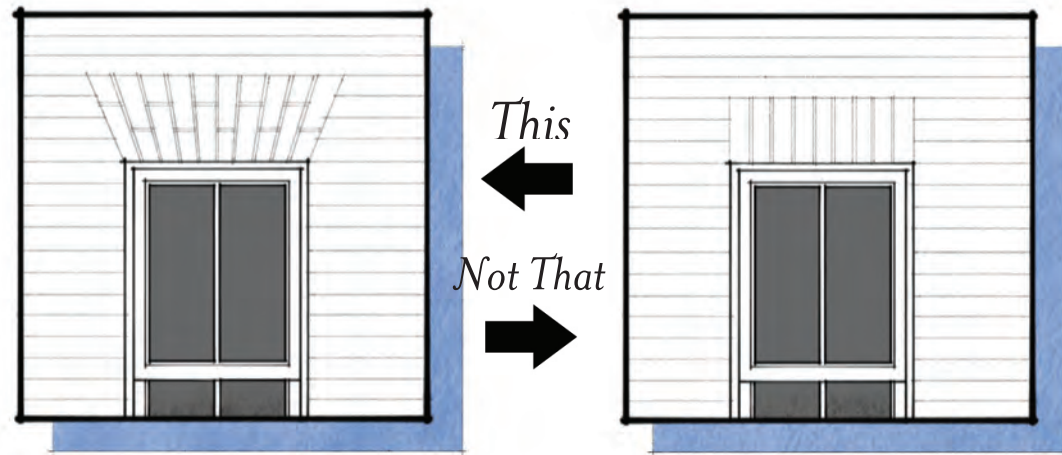


## Crown Moulding

As you design, always put the crown moulding as the crown of the entablature – at the very top. Crown moulding does not belong under the soffit/eave. Crown is for the head. Bed moulding, however, should be located in its proper supporting location – under the soffit/eave. In general, Crown mouldings have a shape that curves outward at the top, and supporting mouldings, or bed mouldings, have a shape that curves upward at the top.

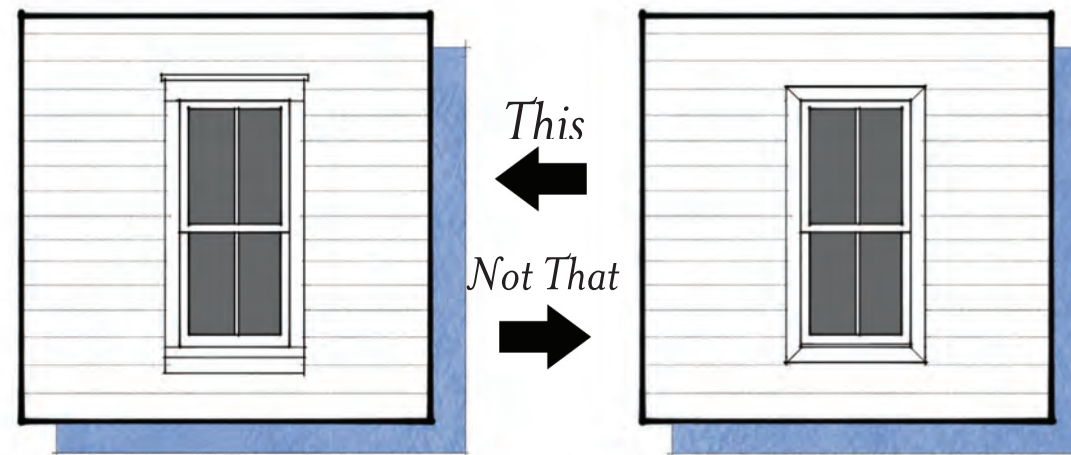


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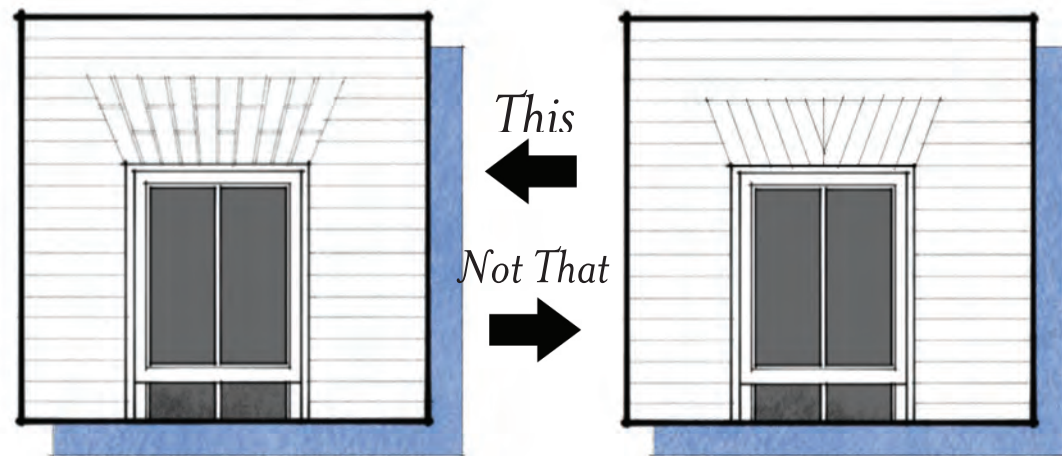
## True Jack Arch

Traditionally Jack Arches were used to span across an opening. They are self supporting because each brick is wedge shaped to carry the load. Today, most builders use steel lintels because the code requires them in certain areas. If code allows, work to design true Jack Arches using wedge shaped masonry units. Even if you use a steel lintel, fake the structural support with a true Jack Arch and not use a soldier course. Use an 8" Jack Arch for openings up to 40" wide, and 12" Jack Arch for openings up to 60". Wider openings may require the use of a triple rowlock arch.



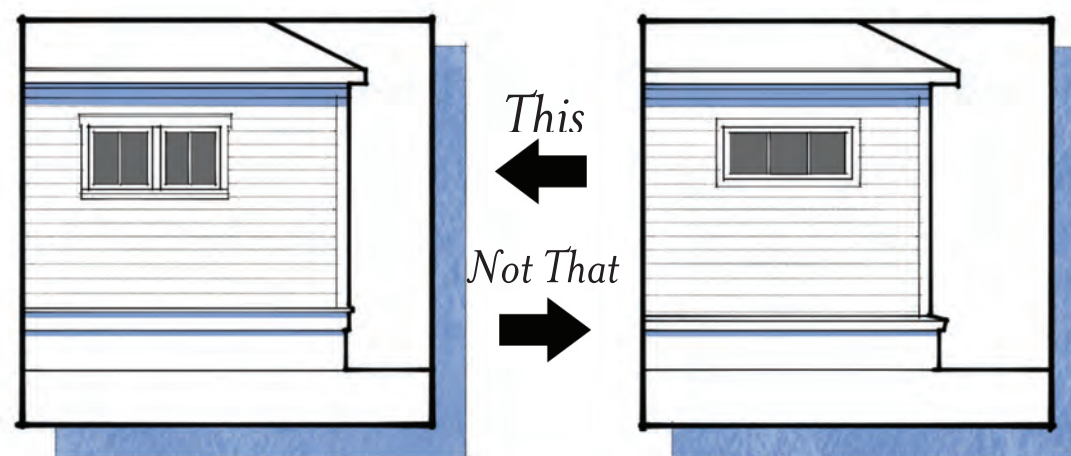
## Window Casings

As you design, use all the elements of a traditionally cased window: Drip cap, head, jamb, sill, and apron. All casings should be 5/4" thick and not 3/4" thick. Window casings should not be "picture framed". The Head casing should typically be taller than the Jamb casing width. Jamb casing should sit on a window sill that extends to the edge or slightly beyond. The Apron is optional depending on the style of the house.



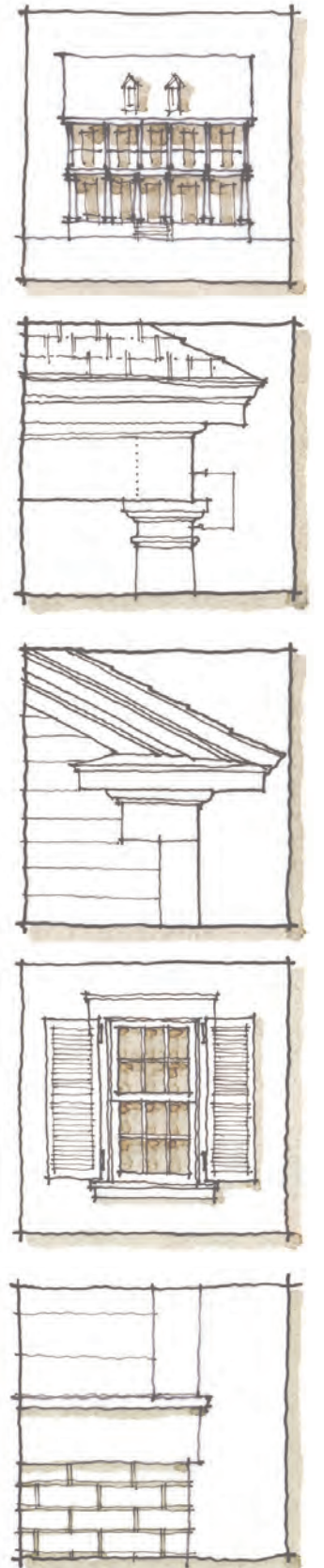
## True Jack Arch

Improper cutting of the brick for a Jack Arch just looks bad. It looks like a mistake and looks like the builder didn't know what they were doing. Either use actual wedge shaped brick from the brick company, or take the time to actually cut each brick in a wedge to create the Jack Arch. The brick are layed in a fan-like order so that the mortar joints all point to one center point.

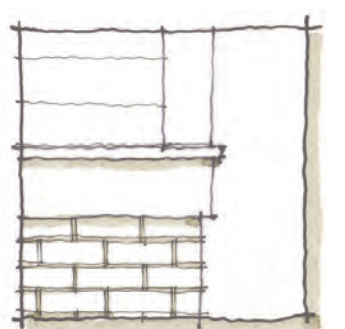
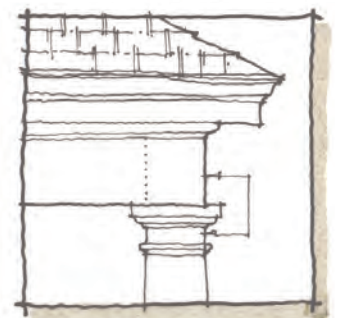
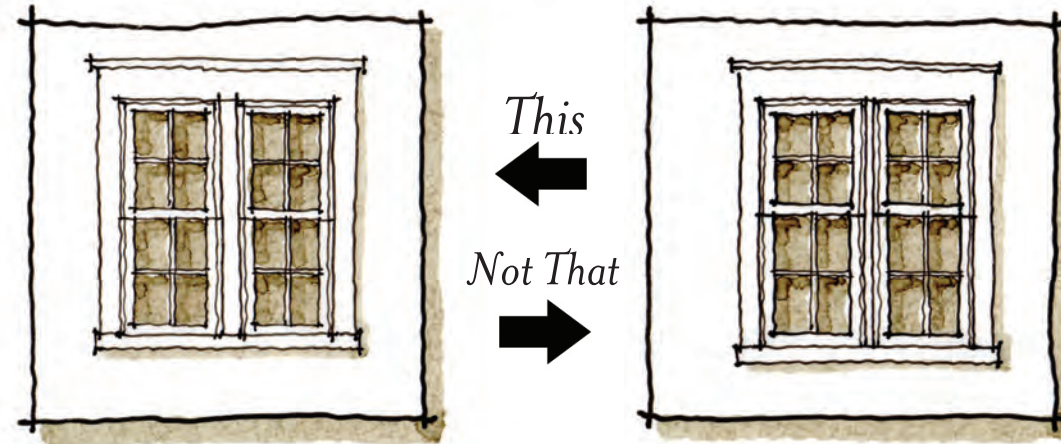
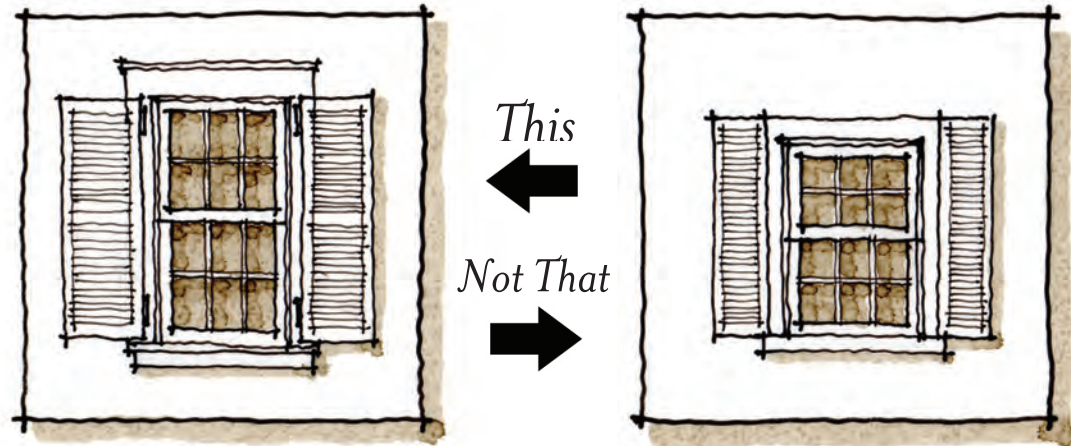


## Window Proportions

When you design smaller windows, use vertically or square proportioned window units instead of transom units. This situation normally occurs above a kitchen sink, above a toilet, or above a tub. It's strongly encouraged to use larger windows, with vertically proportioned window panes even in those areas.



# This, Not That (simple design guidelines for traditional construction)

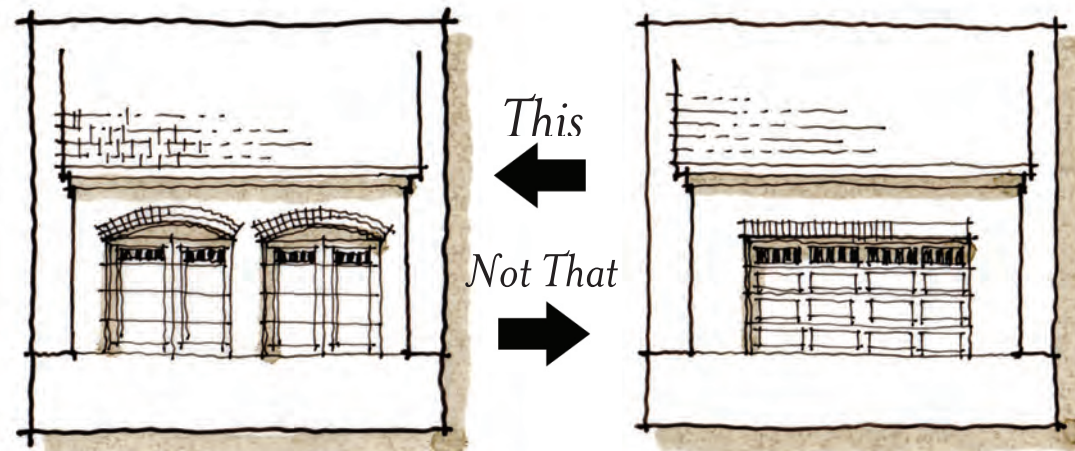
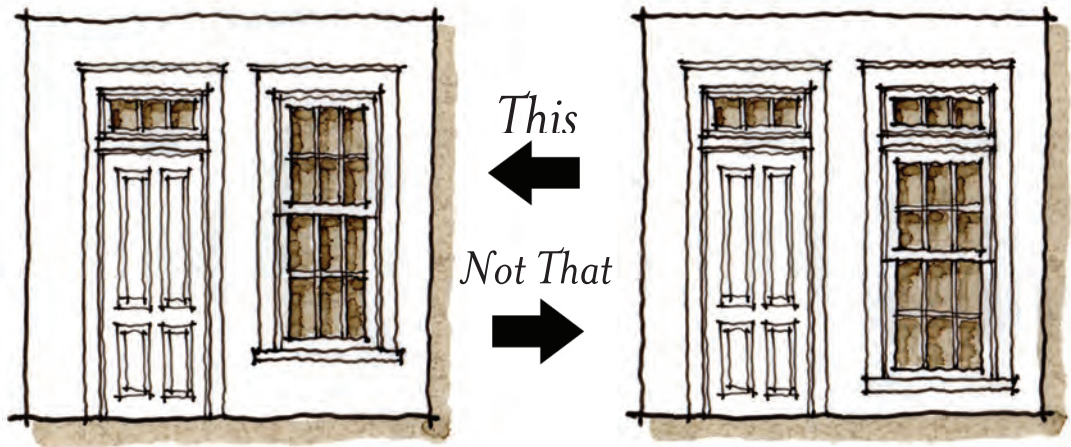


## Window Proportions

The overall window frame should be of vertical proportion, or at the very least, square proportion. The window panes should each be of vertical proportion as well. As you compose your elevations, design taller, vertically proportioned windows should always occur in the lower floor(s), while placing the shorter, or more squarely proportioned windows on the upper floor(s). Once you've selected your architectural style, consult the window proportions for that style more closely.

## Window Mullions

Traditional window openings were framed individually. As you design, work to place (2) 2x4 studs between ganged windows. For installations in siding, all casings should be 5/4" thick. Jamb casings should be at least 3 1/2". Head casing should at least match the jamb or slightly larger. The mullion casing board should be at least 3 1/2" wide.



## Transoms

Traditionally, transoms were only used over doors to give hierarchy and importance to the entrance. In recent years, they have come to be used over windows and even by themselves for small windows. As you design, work to follow the style architecture you've chosen and only place transoms over doors. It's not important that the window head and door/transom head align. Quite often, the entrance door with transom was taller than the adjacent windows. The only exception to this rule is when ganging a series of doors and windows with transoms over all.

## Garage Door Heads

Single garage doors, maximum of 9', are required on every garage except on townhouse or live/work units where lot widths are 24 feet or less. Double garage doors often sag over time. Single garage doors can easily be made to look like carriage doors.

Nine foot openings are too wide for jack arches, so as you design, create triple rowlock arches over single garage doors. Work to leave at least 3 brick courses between the top of the arches and the frieze board.



## The Southern Classical Style

The Southern Classical style takes its cues from historic classic styles such as Federal and Greek Revival with a dash of French Colonial thrown in. Federal style was the dominant style in America from 1780 - 1820 and largely derived from the "Adam" style and a refinement of the Georgian style. Greek Revival style picked up in the 1820's and was the predominant style till the Civil War. Its popularity led it to be called the National style. Publications of Robert Adam's work in the early 1770s led to wide application of the rich vocabulary he had derived from his studies of Roman buildings. The most popular pattern books and carpenter's guides by Asher Benjamin helped spread the details of the Greek Revival style.

Both Federal and Greek Revival styles are most often a simple box in shape, commonly with gabled roofs. The main difference in the two is in their treatment of the accent elements in massing. Both styles are most commonly symmetrical in their massing. Federal massing is more of a straight-forward box with emphasis on the centrally located entry. The Greek Revival style is particularly noted by the pediment front, usually centered in the front facade. Southern, more coastal versions, include some asymmetrical designs with the front gable element and side porches or wrap around porches. More elegant versions have the complete front pediment, while more vernacular versions simply have the front facing gable.

One of the most loved southern stereotypes in American architecture is the full-columnaded Greek Revival mansion or plantation home. This type was birthed from French Colonial influences in southern Louisiana. Much of that influence bled over into Mississippi and the Southeast region and is the reason that many of the Greek Revival homes in this area evolved to have full width living porches, many times on both floors. The main distinction of the Southern vernacular Greek Revival style and the French Colonial style is the enduring element of the pediment front or front gable. This one stylistic flair really makes a difference in Classical homes of the deep south versus those examples from the north and northeast.



# SOUTHERN CLASSICAL

### Key Elements of style

1. One- or two-story porches, often with gabled "temple front" facades.
2. Simple, well proportioned volumes with consistent roof pitches.
3. The use of side wings and porches are added to make more complex shapes.
4. Symmetrical composition of doors and windows.
5. Simplified versions of Classical details for eaves and cornices and columns on porches in either Tuscan, Doric, Ionic and Corinthian order.
6. Multi-pane windows that are either 6 over 6 or 9 over 9 pane patterns.



SOUTHERN CLASSICAL HOUSE

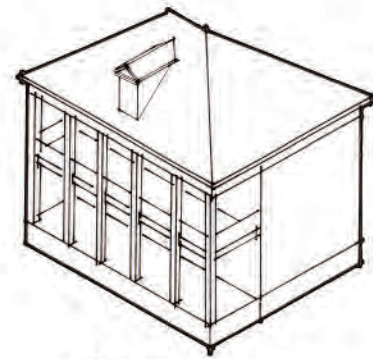
# Classical Massing

The Southern Classical house starts with a simple box form with additive features of side wings and a dominant central portico feature, which can be one or two stories. In general, detailing and proportions are simplified and applied to the common massing types found in the south.

More vernacular versions of the broad front mass have very simple detailing of the side gables. Front facing gables are always shown as a temple front, or pediment with a 5/12 to 6/12 pitch. Side gables can be either a pediment with a 5/12 to 6/12 pitch or open gable with return eave and a steeper pitch of 6/12 to 8/12, but more commonly the latter is found in the south. Hipped or gable roofs are suitable for the main body roof. Hipped roofs would be lower pitched at 5/12 to 6/12.

Porches are a common theme in the south, whether a central portico or a full length front porch. Examples in the Southeast are often full length front porches. Porticos quite often have a pediment front, but flat roof examples are also prevalent. Three bay and 5 bay porches are the most common with either shed or hipped roofs between 1/12 and 4/12 pitch. One-story side wings are common to this type, but front porches are rarely seen wrapping the corners of the main body to engage the side wings.

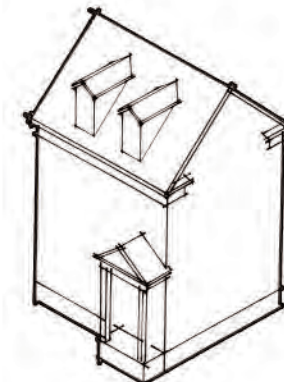
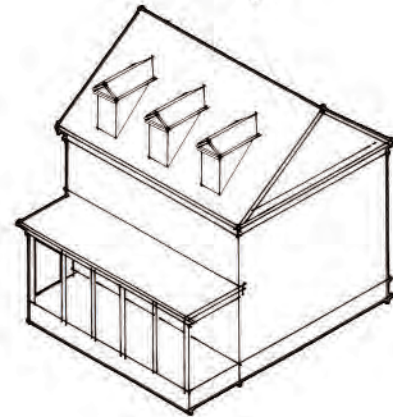
The basic volumes include the Main Body and Side and Rear Wings, which should all be similar in form, roof pitch, and character to the Main Body of the house. Larger living areas can take advantage of side and rear wings. Gabled or hipped dormers are more common on broad front roof, if a temple front gable is not present. The architectural character of the attached parts should match that of the main body. The main floor is typically 36" - 48" above grade. The first floor ceiling height is typically 10 feet, and the second floor ceiling height is commonly 9 feet, although many modern houses use 10 feet for both.



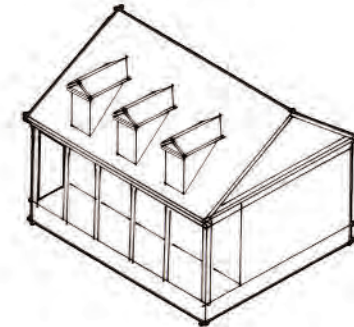
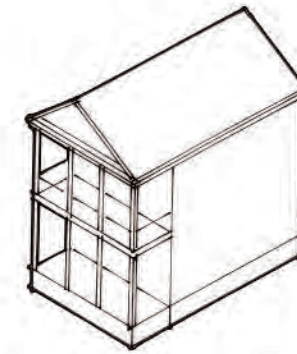
Mansion T3  
Main Body 40'-48' wide max.

Neighborhood General T3-T4  
32' - 40' wide

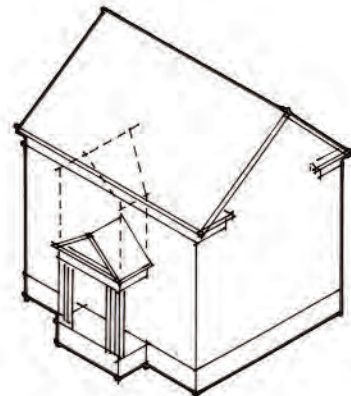
Urban T4-T5  
18' - 32' wide



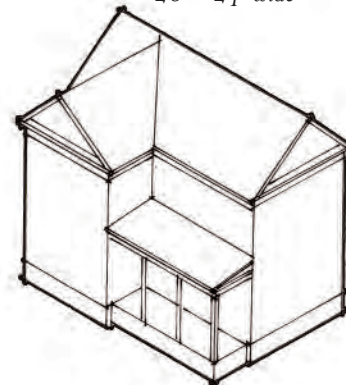
20' - 24' wide



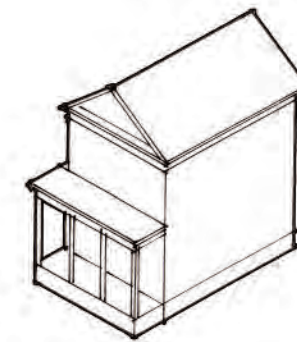
32' - 40' wide



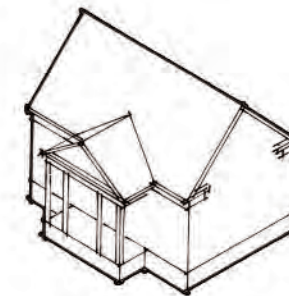
Symmetrical 5 Bay Most Common  
32' - 40' wide



Asymmetrical  
32' - 40' wide



Narrow Front, 3 Bay  
18' - 32' wide



Cottage, 3 - 5 Bay Most Common  
24' - 32' wide



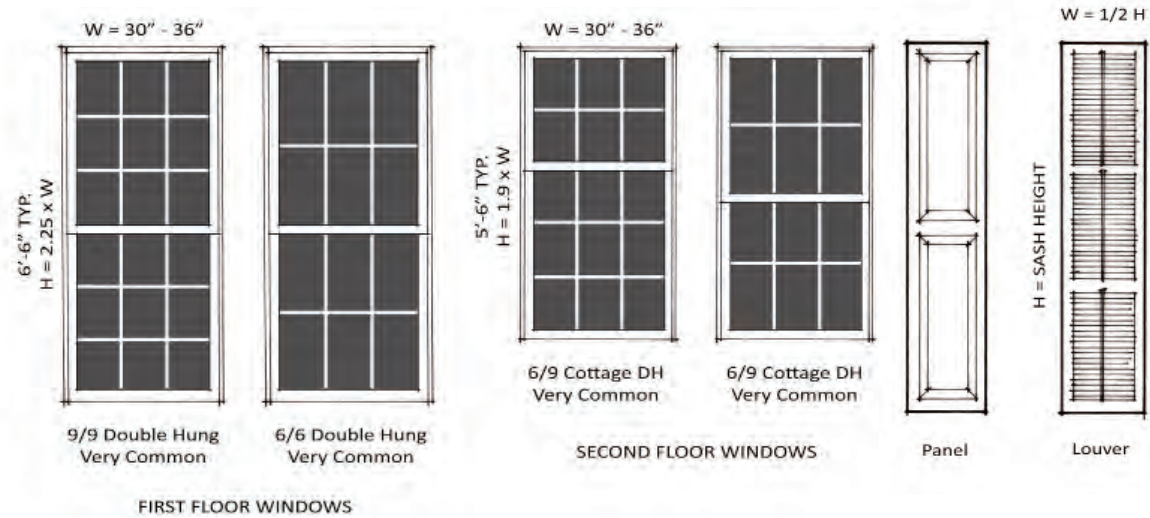
## Southern Classical

The Southern Classical house, in its most basic form, is a simple box with additive features of side wings and/or a dominant central portico feature or full length porch.

Double galleries are common on larger Classical homes in the south. First floor porch is most common in the south. Least common is the stoop, but it's very common in the north.

Low-pitched broad front, gable-ended roofs are most common with the signature pediment or single facing front gable marking the entry or center of the house.

# Classical Windows & Doors



## Classical Window Types

## Shutter

## Classical Window Lintels

## Classical Window Casings



Photograph by Steve Mouzon

Windows and panes should have vertical proportion. Most Common arrangements are 9/9 or 6/6, but other variations are also found. Casings for windows should be 1x4 minimum and 1x6 maximum. Muntins should be true or simulated divided lite only and 7/8" wide.



Photograph by Steve Mouzon

Photograph by Steve Mouzon

Photograph by Steve Mouzon



Triple paired windows are very common in this style, usually in special locations.

## Classical Special Windows



photograph by Steve Mouzon

In general, Classical trimwork is a little more substantive. Mullions are a minimum of 4" and quite often 6". Trim around doors often incorporates half-columns and an entablature. Solid paneled doors are very common, and in the Southern Classical vernacular, French doors are also found.

Transoms are rectangle or fan shaped.



The southern vernacular borrows from the French Colonial style with lower paneled French doors and more decorative transoms. Shutters are only used if no sidelites are present and the door surround is kept simple, with perhaps a capped head.

The door and surrounding glazing should be set in a larger, more decorative frame of wood or masonry, quite often resembling columns and beams. Sidelites should be narrow in width.

## Classical Door Types



## Classical Windows & Doors

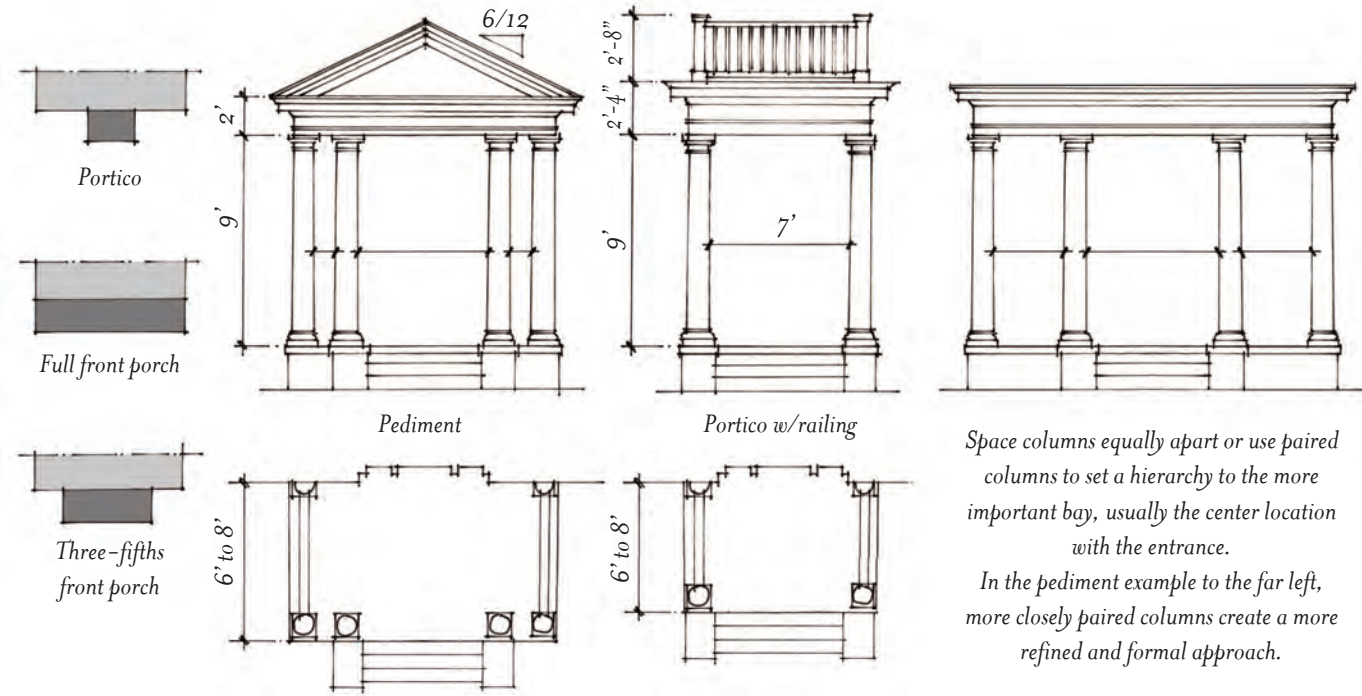
**Windows:** typically large vertical openings of double hung units. May be single, paired, or even tripled. Surrounds usually have some decorative element.

**Doors:** Wood doors with panels, usually solid with sidelites, but also may include large glass panes. Entry doors can be single or paired. Door surrounds are usually more decorative than window surrounds.

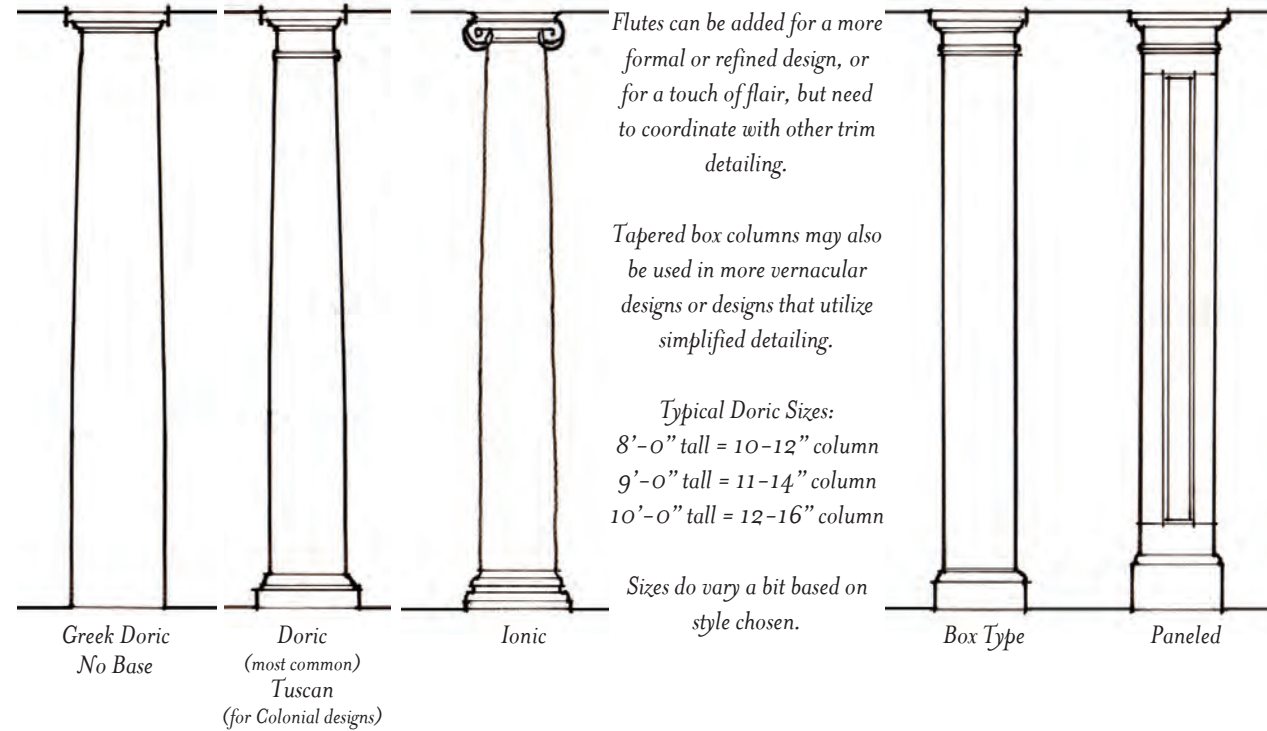
**Lintels & Sills:** Stone or brick arch lintels are common. Sills often match lintels and can be decorative.

**Shutters:** Louvered or solid panel shutters may be present only on single units, and must be fully functional.

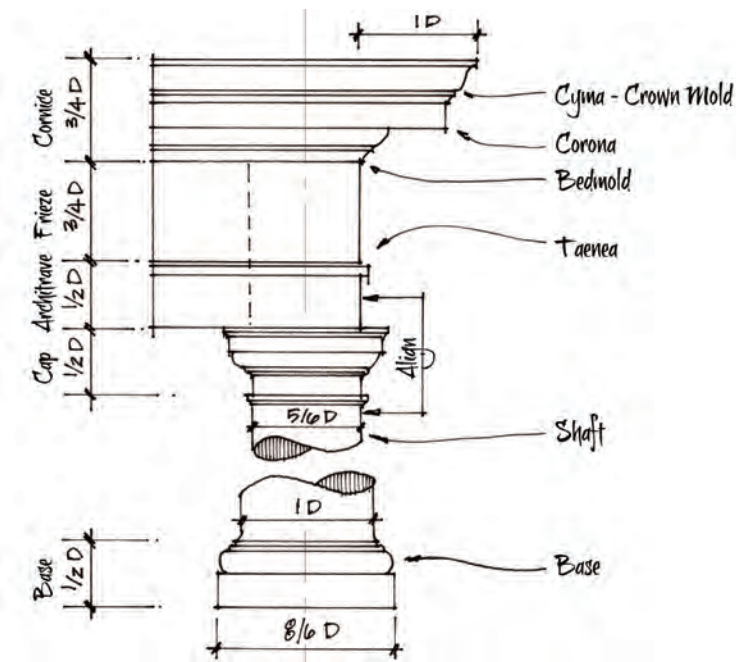
# Classical Elements



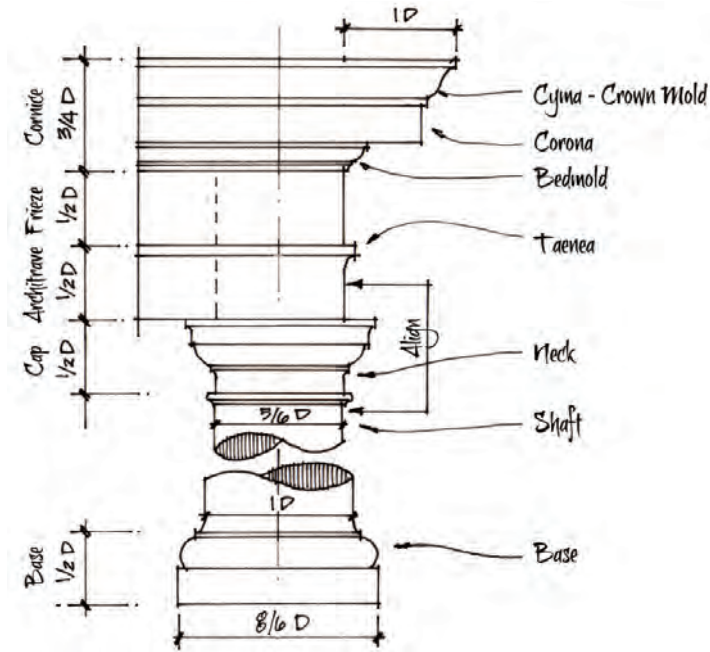
## Classical Porch Elements



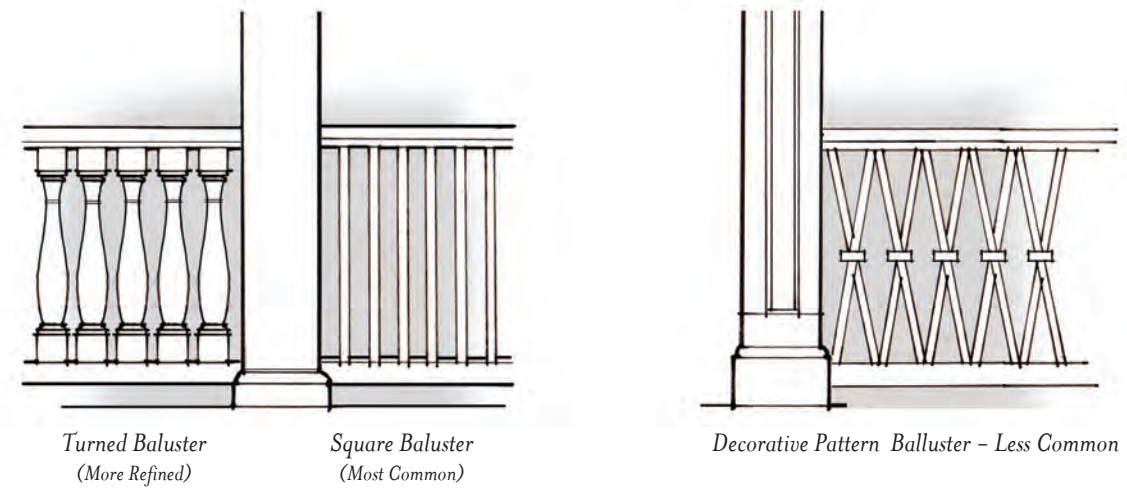
## Classical Columns



## Doric Entablature

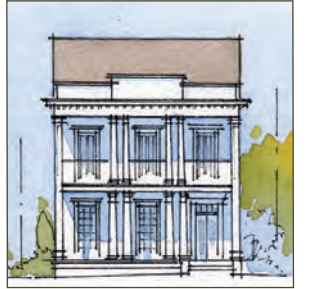
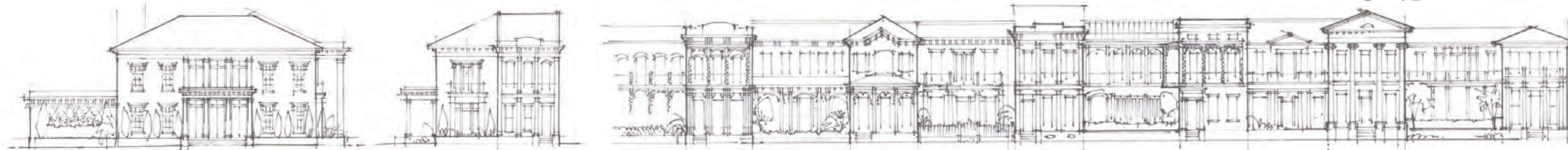


## Tuscan Entablature



## Classical Railing Types

See column types above. Handrails are always contoured. Decorative Ballusters vary greatly and are less common. Decorative wrought iron railings are more common than the turned baluster, but less common than the square baluster.



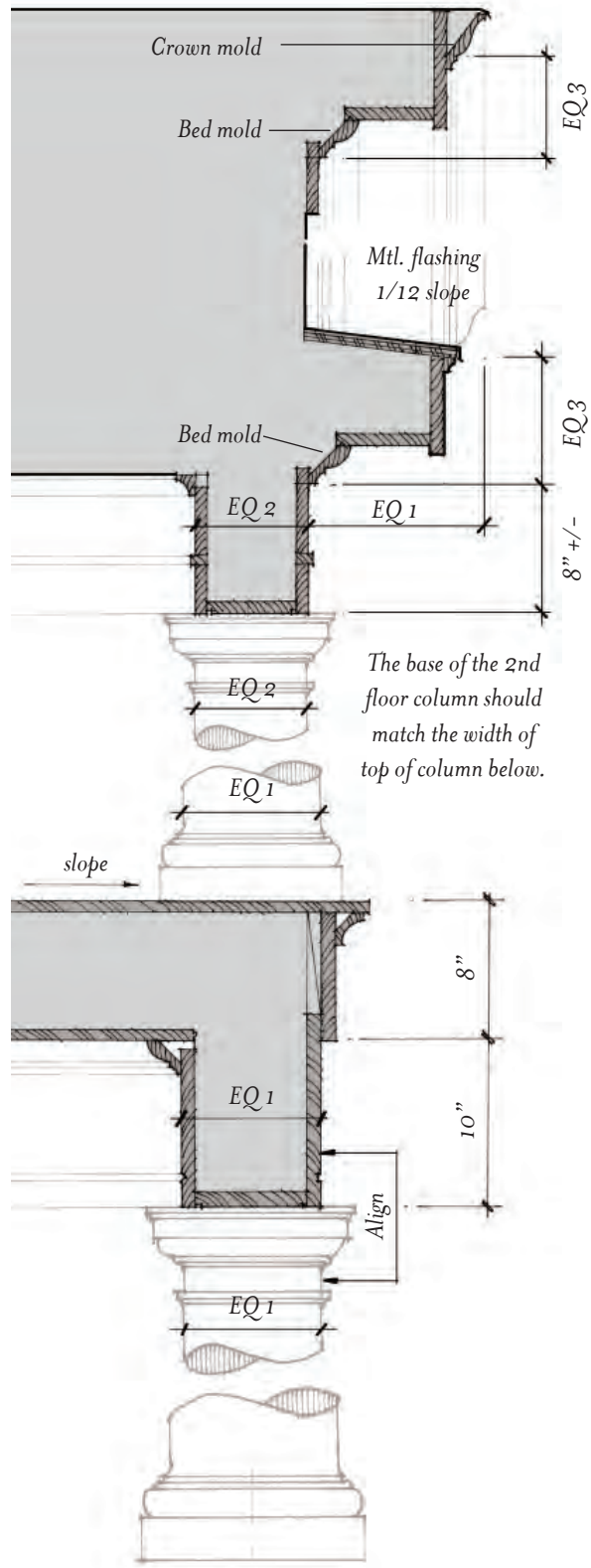
## Classical Elements

**Columns:**  
Classical round columns, Greek Doric, Doric, Tuscan, and Ionic. Box type columns, either straight or tapered, are more vernacular but often used in the south. Overall shape and dimensions of base and capital should mimic the Doric or Tuscan style.

Beams above columns must always be aligned with top of column shaft.

**Railings:**  
Railings are wood and either square, turned, or decorative pattern. Wrought iron railings can be used with classical columns or iron columns.

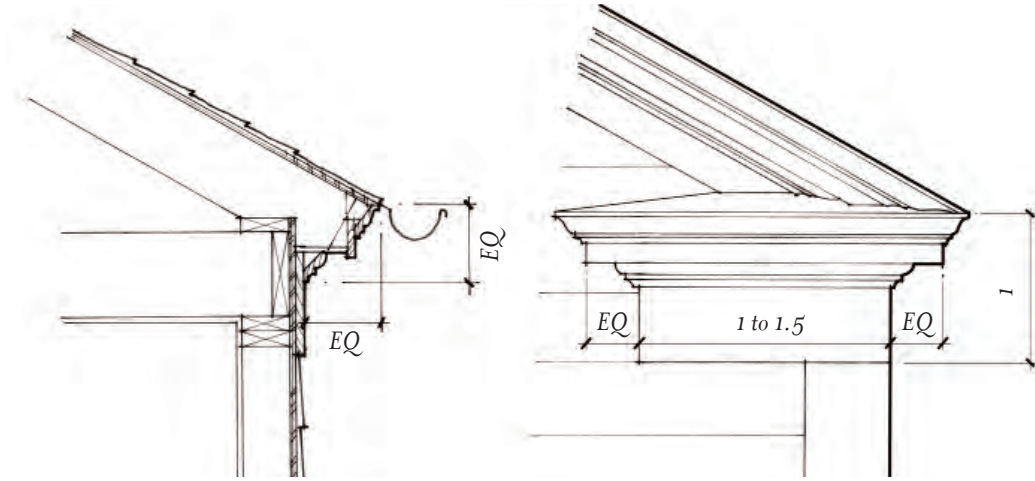
# Classical Elements



Front facing gables are always designed as a temple front, or pediment, with a 5/12 to 6/12 pitch.

Side gables can be either a pediment with a 5/12 to 6/12 pitch or open gable with return eave and a steeper pitch of 6/12 to 8/12, but more commonly the latter is found in the south.

Hipped or gable roofs are suitable for the main body roof. Hipped roofs would be lower pitched between 4/12 and 6/12.



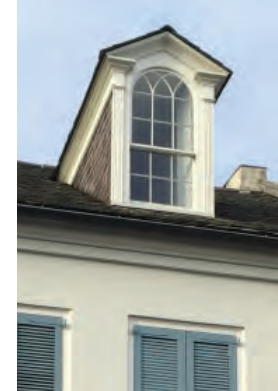
All gable ends must incorporate a return eave. Above the return, use low slope of 1/12 to 3/12 max with metal flashing and let the raking cornice resolve into itself.

The use of a half-round gutters with round downspouts is preferred. Ogee shaped gutters can be used if built into the cornice / cyma.

## Classical Eave & Return Eave



Dormers only have one window and are proportioned similarly to the windows in the wall below.



## Classical Dormers



<<<< Cornice enrichments range from the vernacular exposed rafter emulation of mutules and modillions in the far left example to the more refined Greek Revival cornice on the far right. >>>>  
The most common in Southern Classical are represented by the two examples above - clean closed eave, pediments, and returned eaves at gable ends.

## Classical Porch/Pediment Section Classical Cornice & Eaves



### Classical Elements

**Roofs:** Front facing gables are always designed as a temple front, or pediment, with a 5/12 to 6/12 pitch.

Side gables can be either a pediment with a 5/12 to 6/12 pitch or open gable with return eave and a steeper pitch of 6/12 to 8/12, but more commonly the latter is found in the south.

Hipped or gable roofs are suitable for the main body roof. Hipped roofs would be lower pitched between 4/12 and 6/12.

All gable ends must incorporate a return eave. Above the return, use low slope of 1/12 to 3/12 max with metal flashing and let the raking cornice resolve into itself.

The use of a half-round gutters with round downspouts is preferred. Ogee shaped gutters can be used if built into the cornice / cyma.

# Classical Variations & Inspirations



photograph by Steve Mouzon



## Classical

**Wall Materials:** Smooth finish wood or fiber cement lap siding with 5" exposure, brick base, brick, painted brick, or light-colored sand-finish stucco. Corner boards are minimum 1x6.

The main floor is typically 3' - 4' above finish grade at porch.

**Roof:** 5V metal roof, standing seam, slate or synthetic slate, asphalt shingles. All colors to be approved by ARB. Half round gutters with round downspouts are preferred. Ogee shape must be approved.

**Windows:** Wood or clad units with true or simulated divided lites.

**Trim:** Wood, composite, cellular PVC or polyurethane millwork; stucco, stone, or cast stone.



photograph by Steve Mouzon



photograph by Steve Mouzon



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*photograph by Steve Mouzon*



*photograph by Steve Mouzon*





## The Southern Farmhouse Style

The Southern Farmhouse style has its roots in the National Folk style that was prevalent across the country between 1850-1930. National Folk style is also very similar to Victorian styles where much of the massing we see is identical to Queen Anne and Folk Victorian homes of the late 19th century. Where National Folk style is simplified and fairly void of ornament, both Queen Anne and Folk Victorian fit more appropriately in the ornament category. Another way to say this would be, National Folk would be considered more "vernacular", and perhaps Queen Anne and Folk Victorian would be considered more "refined". Nonetheless, our Southern Farmhouse style is rooted in these forms.

Farmhouses, of course, were fairly common on a farm, where one could sit on the wide porch and view the land. In the south, it's quite common to see farmland with acres and acres of crops and no trees, then find a cluster of mature trees around a house near the front of the property or the middle of the property - an oasis of shade. Having a wide shaded porch, fully stocked with rocking chairs and a pitcher of ice tea was a welcome respite from the heat and open sun. These large porches across the front, or even wrap-around porches became an essential element of comfort in the midst of hard times, a truly southern comfort.

Farmhouse serves to describe more the shape of the house with the porch than the ornament of the house or elements on the porch. Farmhouses in the North and West tend to be more void of ornament, and Farmhouses in the Southeast tend to have more wrap-around porches and also ornament added to them. Ornament can also be an element of traditional vs. modernism, where more traditional types have more ornament, and more modern types tend to focus more on simplicity and lack of ornament. Elements like column brackets, spindlework, gable brackets, barge board brackets, and even shutters all have varying degrees of appropriate ornament that can be used to create the perfect farmhouse for each.



# SOUTHERN FARMHOUSE

### Key Elements of style

1. One-story porch, either across front or wrapping around the side.
2. Simple broad roof form with side gables.
3. Gable front element often accompanied by porch to the side.
4. The use of side wings and porches are added to make more complex shapes.
5. Most frequently timber or box type columns. Rarely turned columns.
6. Multi-pane windows that are most commonly 2 over 1, or 2 over 2. Other options are also seen on more refined types.



SOUTHERN FARMHOUSE

© Thompson Placemaking 2019

# Farmhouse Massing

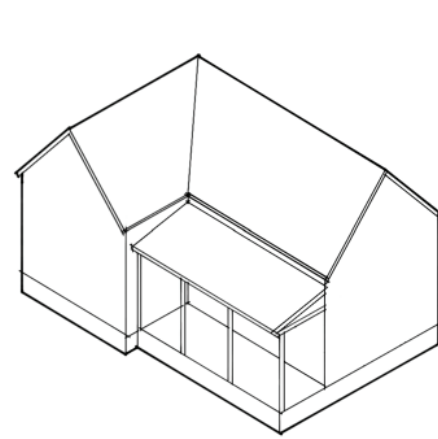
The Southern Farmhouse starts with a simple box form with additive features of porches and side wings. The porches are most commonly one-story, but the main body of the house can be either one or two-story.

More vernacular versions of the broad front mass have very simple detailing of the side gables. Front facing gables or the gable form are descendants of the Greek Revival Style so popular from 1830-1850. One-story homes with porches were more common in the Southeast during this time, but with construction techniques changing very rapidly, the two-story home gained popularity. One-story, more narrow shotgun forms were more frequent in the Southern states as well. Hence, the popularity of the front gable form.

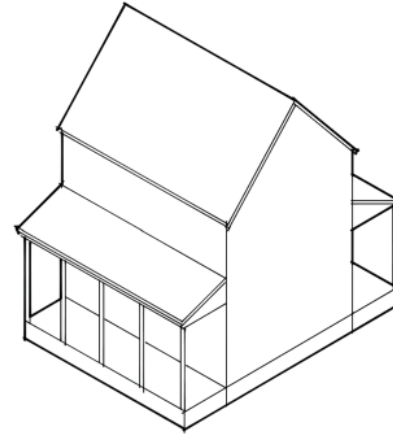
Roof pitches tend to be more steep, ranging between 7/12 and 12/12 for the main body of the house and much shallower pitches for the porches, usually between 2/12 and 5/12. Side gables should match the pitch of the main roof. Hipped or gable roofs are suitable for the main body roof, but less frequent.

Porches are essential to the style, whether a full length front porch, or porch adjacent to the front gable form (most common). One-story side wings are less commonly paired with two story front gables - typically the house is either a one-story or a two-story and not often mixed, and it's quite common to see front porches wrapping the corners of the main body to engage the side wings.

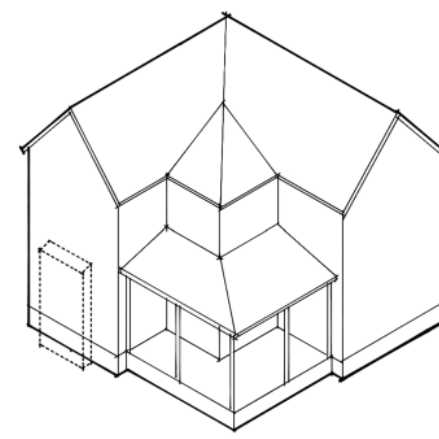
Larger living areas can take advantage of side wings. Gabled dormers are more common if present. The architectural character of the attached parts should match that of the main body. The main floor is typically 34"-40" above grade around the house. The first floor ceiling height is typically 10 - 12 feet, and the second floor ceiling height is commonly 9 feet, although many modern houses use 10 feet for both.



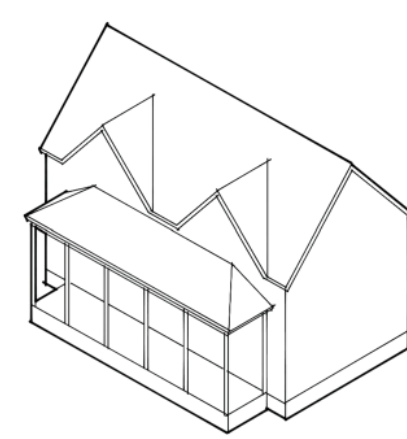
*One-Story Gable Front & Wing  
Most Common  
Main Body 30'-40' wide max.*



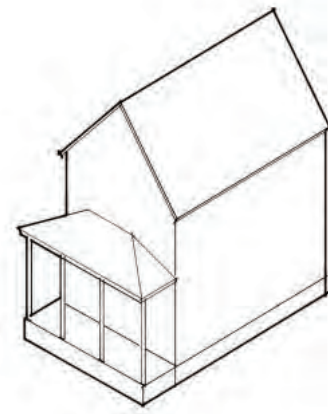
*Broad Roof w/Full Porch  
4 or 5 Bay  
Main Body 30'-40' wide max.*



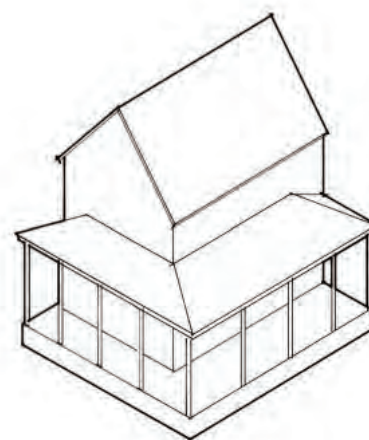
*Gable Front & Wing  
32' - 40' wide*



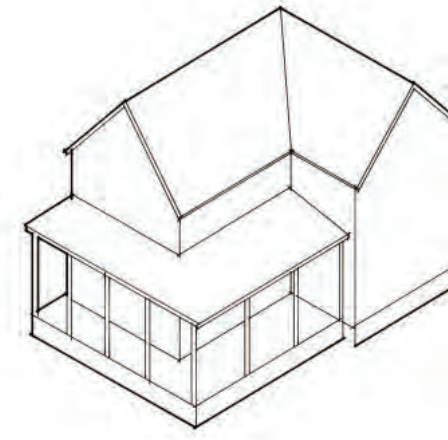
*Broad Roof w/Double Gable Front  
30'-40' wide*



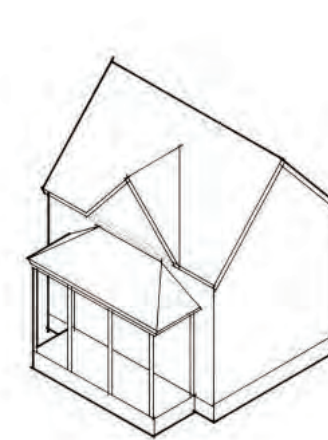
*Gable Front 3 Bay Very Common  
Typically 3 Bay  
18' - 24' wide*



*Gable Front w/Wrap-Around Porch  
28' - 34' wide*



*Gable Front & Wing  
28' - 40' wide*



*Broad Roof w/Gable Front  
Typically 3 Bay  
28' - 34' wide*



## Southern Farmhouse

The Southern Farmhouse is a most-loved style for its feeling of comfort and Southern Charm.

The first floor expansive porches add great character and charm. "Farmhouse" serves to describe more the shape of the house with the porch than the ornament of the house or elements on the porch. Farmhouses in the North and West tend to be more void or ornament, and Farmhouses in the Southeast tend to have more wrap-around porches and also ornament added to them.





# Farmhouse Elements



## Farmhouse Elements

**Columns:**  
Typically square timber or Box type columns. Timber columns range from 4" - 8" and box type columns are not greater than 10". Overall shape and dimensions of base and capital should mimic the Doric or Tuscan style.

Beams above columns must always be aligned with top of column shaft.

**Railings:**  
Railings are most often square wood but can also include turned or decorative pattern.

## Farmhouse Column Types

Columns are most often full height but occasionally on a raised base. Columns are more commonly square timbers and chamfered, and only more classic round or turned on more refined examples. Brackets, single or paired, often sit atop columns. Farmhouses have a wide variety of ornament, based on whimsy or local tradition.

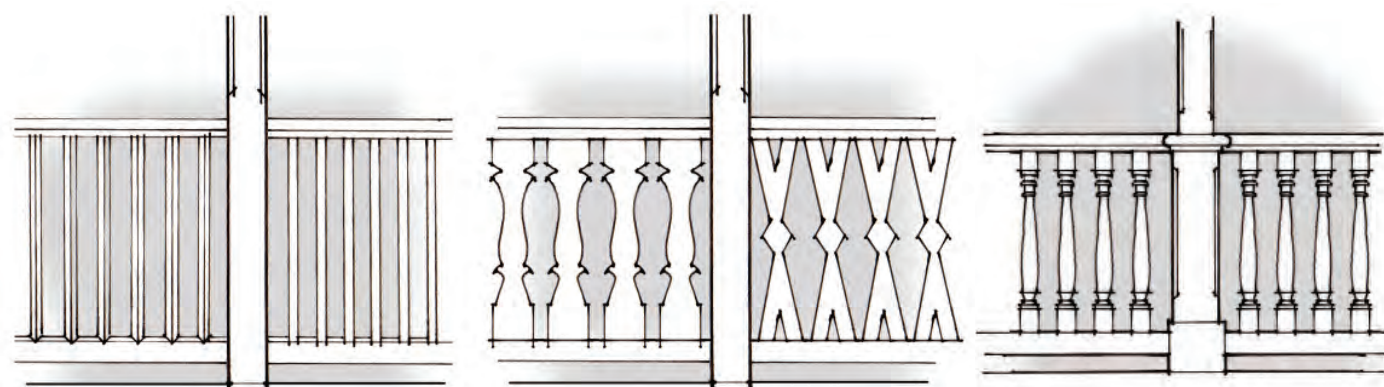
Farmhouse forms are fairly simple, with added porches and wings to provide more complexity.

Minimum depth of front porch is 8 feet. Porches are run the length of the facade or asymmetrical in their placement adjacent to a front gable form. Porches can extend beyond the main body of the house and wrap the side.

Porches are frame construction set up on masonry piers, rarely concrete and brick pavers except in the most refined types. It is preferred that the space between piers be filled in appropriately.

Columns have a regular spacing of 6 to 10 feet, with a square to vertical proportion (vertical preferred). Farmhouse columns are more slender than you would initially think, and in some cases doubled for ornament effect.

Porch eaves can be either open rafters or flush with the porch beam.



Rotated or Straight Square Balluster - Most Common

Decorative Plank Balluster - Less Common  
Victorian influence

Turned Balluster - Less Common  
Classic or Victorian influence

Handrails are always contoured. Decorative Ballusters vary greatly and are often only present with other ornamental elements like brackets.

## Farmhouse Railing Types



# Farmhouse Variations & Inspirations



photograph by Steve Mouzon



## Farmhouse

**Wall Materials:**  
Smooth finish wood or fiber cement lap siding with 5" max. exposure, brick base, brick, painted brick, or light-colored sand-finish stucco. Corner boards are minimum 1x6.

The main floor is typically 3' - 4' above finish grade at porch.

**Roof:** 5V metal roof, standing seam, asphalt shingles. All colors to be approved by ARB. Half round gutters with round downspouts are preferred. Ogee shape must be approved.

**Windows:** Wood or clad units with 7/8" true or simulated divided lites.

**Trim:** Wood, composite, cellular PVC or polyurethane millwork; stucco, stone, or cast stone.



photograph by Steve Mouzon



# Farmhouse Variations & Inspirations



photograph by Steve Mouzon



photograph by Steve Mouzon



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# Farmhouse Variations & Inspirations



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photograph by Steve Mouzon







## History of the French Colonial Style

Colonial dwellings in Louisiana in the late seventeenth century were heavily influenced by French Canadian explorers (Acadians), European French, and the French, West Indian Creoles by way of ships from France via the Haitian Creole community on the north coast of Haiti to the Louisiana colonies. Architectural influences from these three peoples are the roots of the French Colonial Style. In general, the Haitian Creole style is the least refined, the French Canadian style resembles architecture of early French Quebec and Normandy, and the European French style was a simplified French Renaissance style in basic form, strongly influenced by neoclassical principles.

Early buildings were rectangular with high pitched hipped roofs and European French embellishments such as French segmental arches over doors and windows. They were symmetrically designed, built low to the ground, and included shutters, French doors, casement windows, and fireplaces with chimneys. Creoles were much better prepared for the weather conditions in Louisiana than the European French, and therefore the European French style adapted with raised construction and added galleries to the basic rectangular forms. Porch roof forms evolved from simple lean-to roofs over porches to the double-pitched roof form we commonly recognize as French Colonial, and eventually to the single-pitched "umbrella roof", covering the main body and the galleries.

French Colonial inherits the early tradition of the more refined neoclassical, Greek Revival, and French Renaissance roots as well as the environmentally adapted elements of galleries, roof forms, and the more ornate and refined aspects of the Caribbean and Creole influenced columns. What seems to be a straightforward style, is really the evolution of Spanish, French, and English styles originated in Europe, evolved in the West Indies, and served up in southern Louisiana.

# FRENCH COLONIAL

### Key Elements of style

1. Steep pitched hipped roofs, usually broken by a shallower pitch over the galleries.
2. Deep porches and galleries most often recessed under one roof form.
3. One story & two story massing with large Classic influenced columns on 1st floor and slender colonnettes on 2nd floor.
4. Massing and column spacing is symmetrical. Window and door openings are typically centered in bay.
5. West Indian Creole/Colonial influences seen in the detailing.



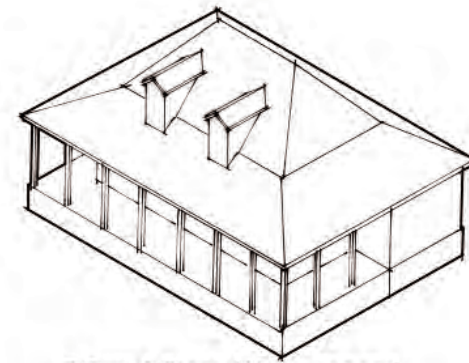
## FRENCH COLONIAL HOUSE

# French Colonial Massing

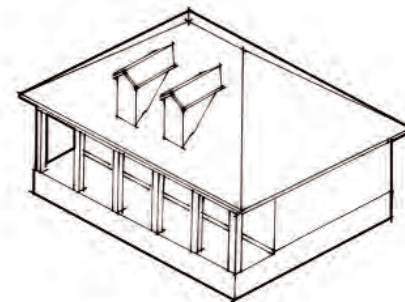
French Colonial houses are usually symmetrical in form and have their roots in a European French style. The most common bay arrangements are 3 bay, 5 bay, and 7 bay, which allow the front door to be in the center, but there are examples of 4 bay houses. The bay spacing is most commonly vertically porportioned. These points are all very similar to Creole and Acadian though. The main "tells" in identifying French Colonial houses are really the hipped roof shapes and the more refined level of detail.

The hipped roof form may also have a pitch break at the porch line. This double pitch likely evolved from the precedent of building a steeper pitched main roof over the main body then building a lower pitched roof over the porches or galleries. Porch roof forms evolved from simple lean-to roofs over porches to the double-pitched roof form we commonly recognize as French Colonial, and eventually to the single-pitched "umbrella roof", covering the main body and the galleries.

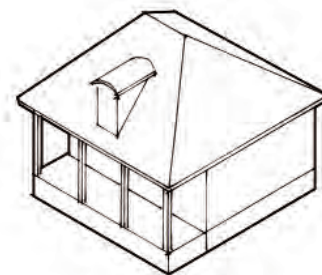
Doors and windows typically are more ornate with their muntin patterns or shapes - including springline arches or French arches and possibly the occasional Roman arch. Door and window treatments tend to be more ornate as well - using a variety of trims. Eave detailing and columns are also more refined than Creole or Acadian columns.



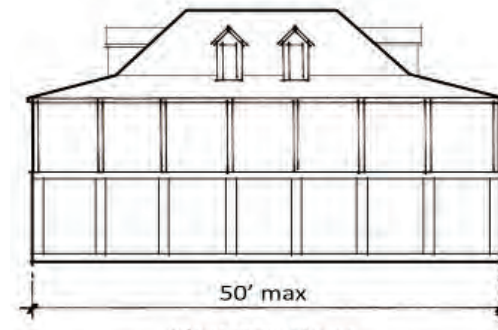
7 Bay, 1 Story Wrap-around  
Less Common



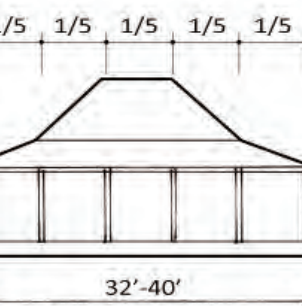
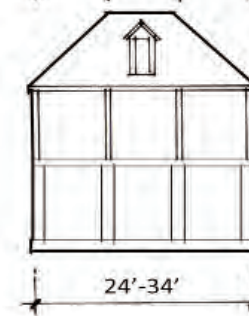
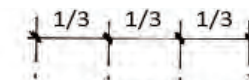
5 Bay, 1 Story  
Very Common



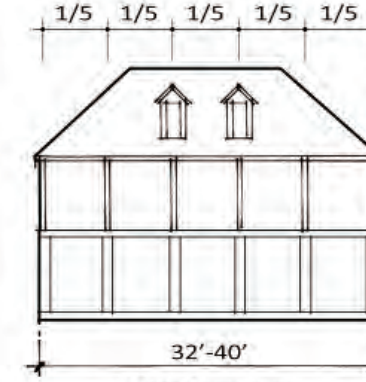
3 Bay, 1 Story  
Common



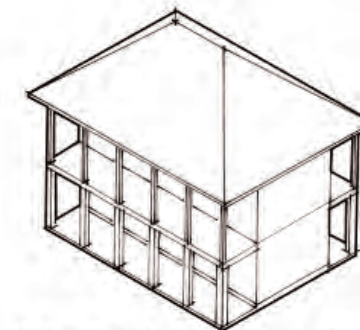
Plantation Home  
with wrap around gallery



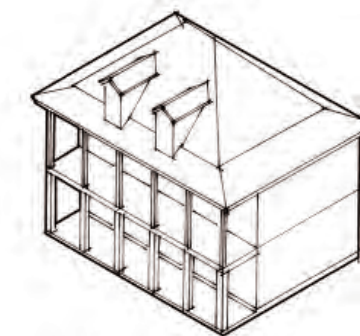
Made to look like  
porches were added



Very Common



5 Bay Double Arcade Front/Rear  
Common



5 Bay Double Arcade  
Very Common



## French Colonial

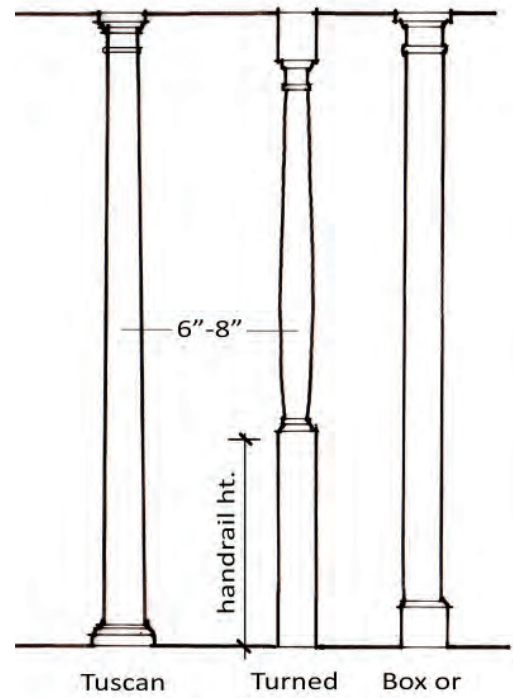
The two main "tells" in identifying French Colonial houses are the hipped roof shapes and the more refined level of detail.

The European French style was a simplified French Renaissance style in basic form, strongly influenced by neoclassical principles.

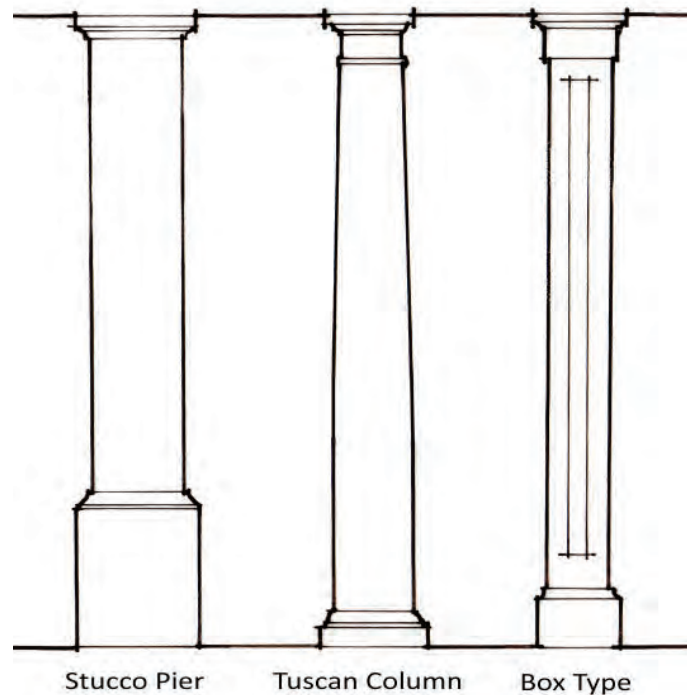
Early buildings were rectangular with high pitched hipped roofs and European French embellishments such as French segmental arches over doors and windows. They were symmetrically designed, built low to the ground, and included shutters, French doors, casement windows, and fireplaces with chimneys.



# French Colonial Elements



**French Colonial Column Types  
Upper Floor**



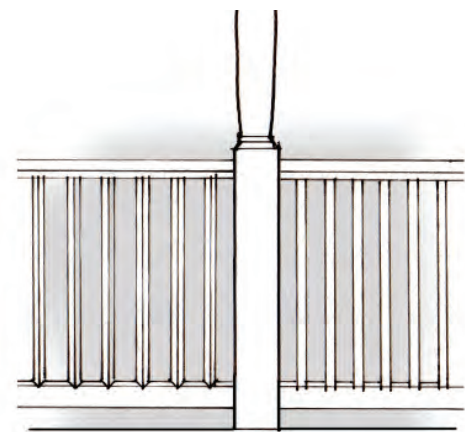
**French Colonial Column Types  
Lower Floor**

French Colonial elements have their roots in Classical architecture, but borrow from Spanish, French, English, and Caribbean traditions.

Essential elements include a raised first floor porch, deep one and two-story porches, vertically proportioned column bays, vertically proportioned windows and openings, French doors and full length windows on the ground floor with tall shutters.

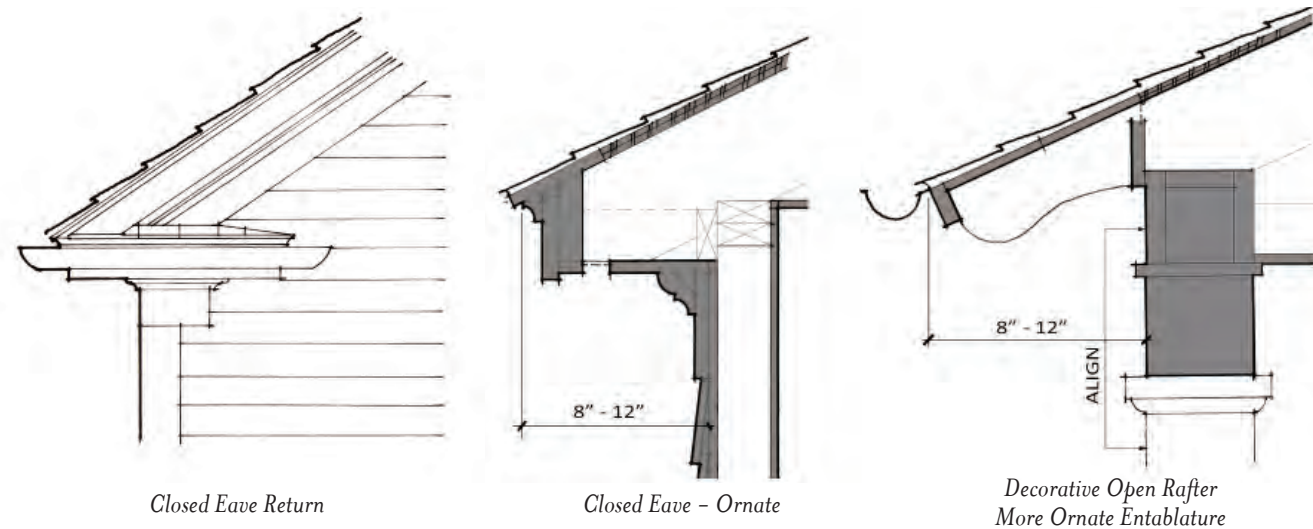
On two-story houses, the ground floor columns are typically 16"-20" and the upper floor columns are 6"-8". The ground floor porch of the one-story house is set roughly 3 feet above grade, and the ground floor porch of the two-story house is set roughly 1 foot above grade. However, refer to page 29 for the proper height of your porch as it relates to the setback and sidewalk.

Window head heights should be 8 feet above the floor.

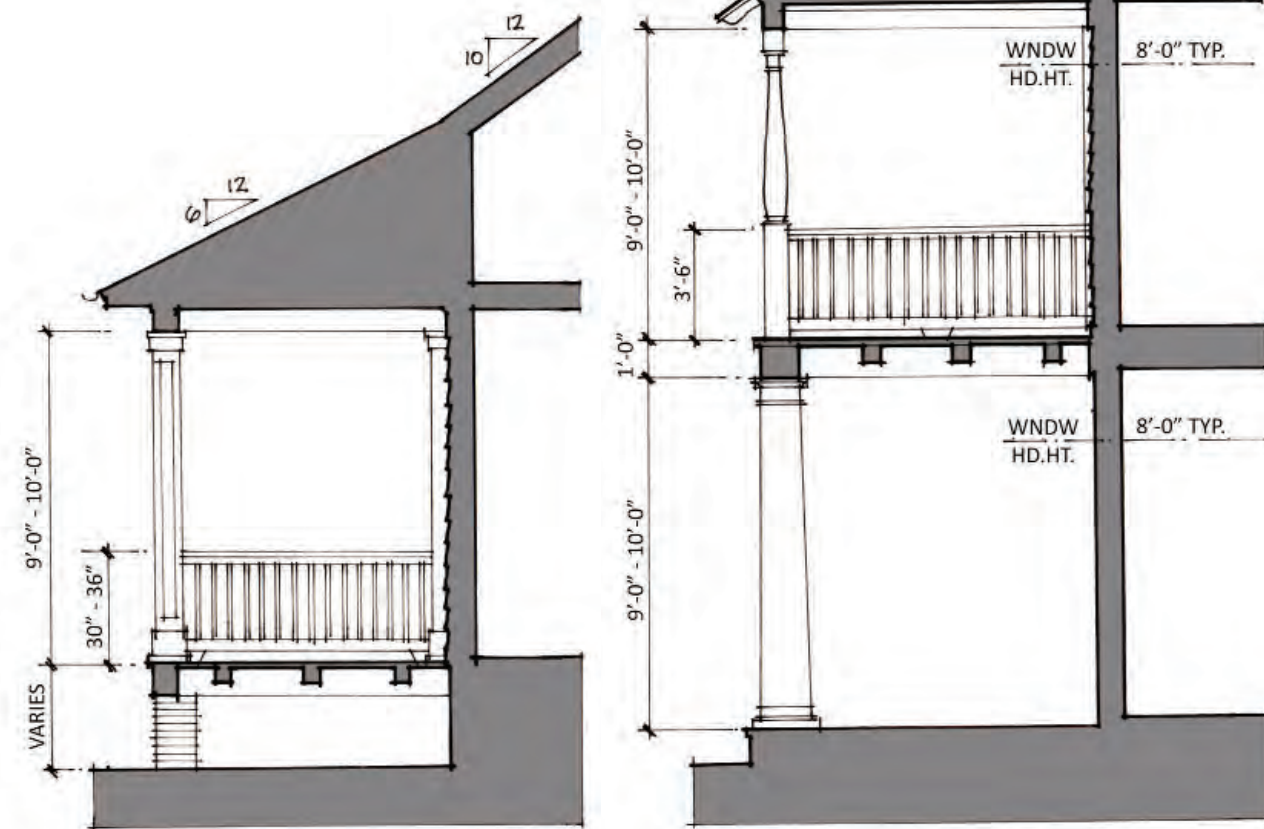


Rotated or Straight Square Baluster - Very Common

**French Colonial  
Railing Types**



**French Colonial Eave Types**



**One-Story Porch Section**

**Two-Story Porch Section**



## French Colonial Elements

**Wall Materials:**  
Brick or stucco on the first floor, smooth finish wood or fiber cement lap siding with 6" exposure on the second floor.

**Doors:** Multi-pane french doors are often used in lieu of windows on the first floor under the porch. Entry doors may or may not include a transom.

**Windows:** typically large openings of casement or double hung with more elaborate muntin patterns.  
**Shutters:** slatted panel, or plank (batten), louvered, or solid panel.

**Roof:** asphalt shingle, 5-V metal roof, standing seam mtl. roof, wood shake shingle.

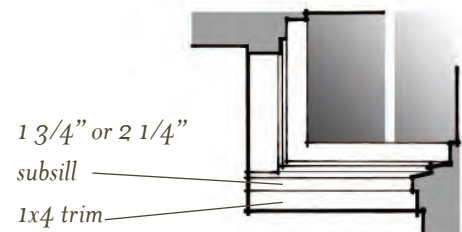
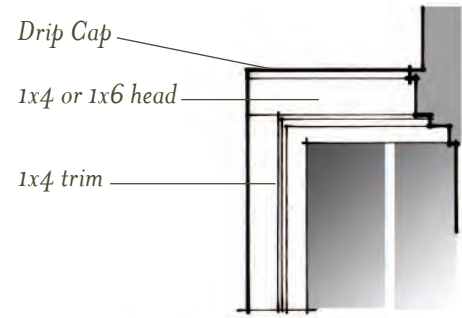
# French Colonial Elements

Windows are vertically proportioned and have square or vertically proportioned window panes. The most common muntin patterns are 6 over 6 or 9 over 9. Shutters should be louvered or raised panel and should be operable with proper hardware.

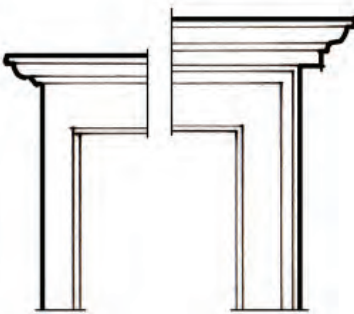
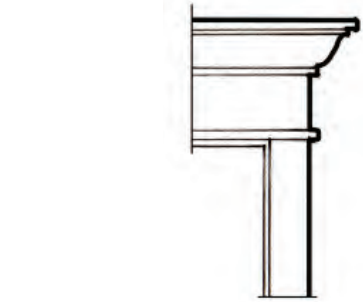
On porches, French Doors are often used place of full length windows. Entry doors are often multi-paneled with transoms, with or without sidelites. Transoms are only used over doors.

Lintels can be true brick jack arches or cast stone with square end or in jack arch shape.

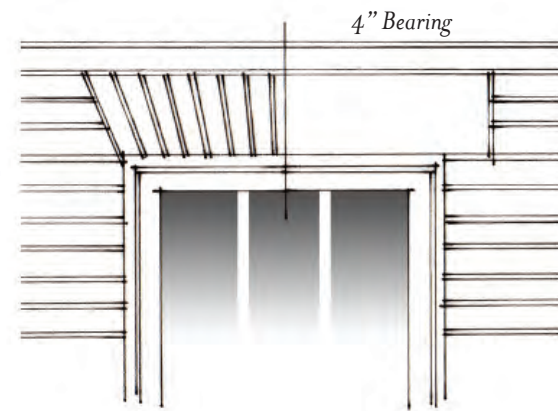
Window and door treatments are more classical, usually back banded or capped with a variety of trimwork. Entry doors sometime have more Classical surrounds with an ornate or fan-lite transom.



## French Colonial Window Trim Upper Floor

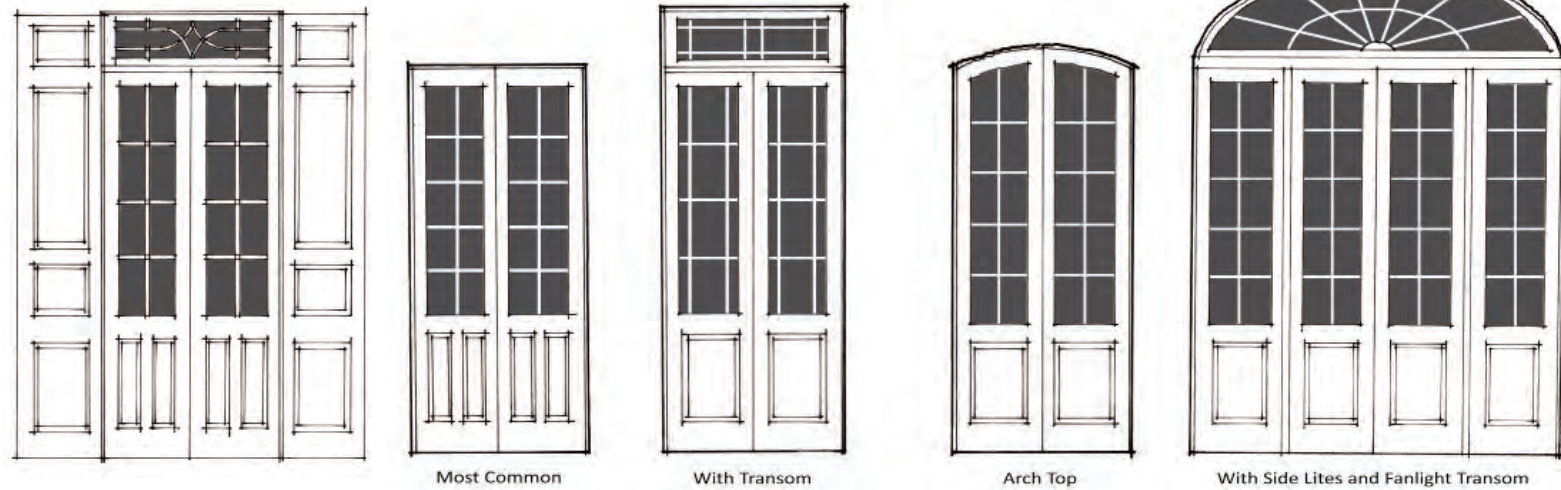


Window & Door  
Surrounds

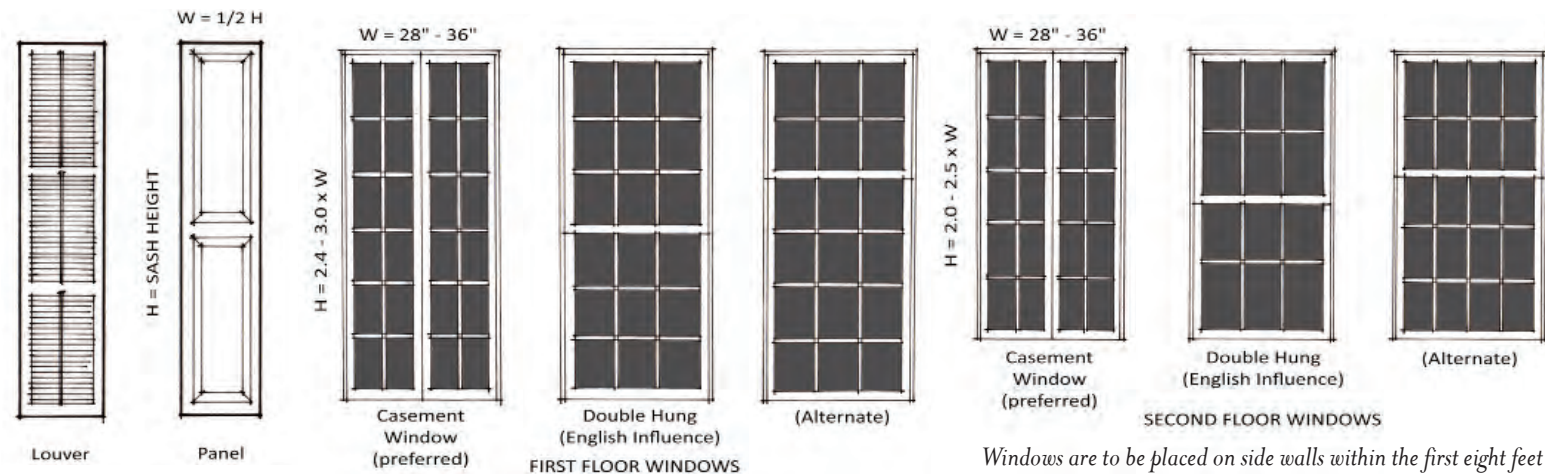


True Brick Jack Arch Limestone Lintel  
Steel lintels are not allowed, so both should be built to be load bearing. Limestone lintels can also be Jack Arch.

French Colonial Window Head  
Lower Floor



French Colonial Door Types



## French Colonial Shutter & Window Types



French Colonial Dormer Types



### French Colonial Elements

Wall Materials:  
Brick or stucco on the first floor, smooth finish wood or fiber cement lap siding with 6" exposure on the second floor.

Doors: Multi-pane french doors are often used in lieu of windows on the first floor under the porch. Entry doors may or may not include a transom.

Windows: typically large openings of casement or double hung with more elaborate muntin patterns.

Shutters: slatted panel, or plank (batten), louvered, or solid panel.

Roof: asphalt shingle, 5-V metal roof, standing seam mtl. roof, wood shake shingle.

# French Colonial Variations & Inspirations



*photograph by Steve Gross and Sue Daley*



## French Colonial Elements

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Brick or stucco on the first floor, smooth finish wood or fiber cement lap siding with 6" exposure on the second floor.

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*photograph by Philip Gould*



*photograph by Steve Gross and Sue Daley*



# French Colonial Variations & Inspirations



## French Colonial Elements

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## History of the Italianate Style

The Italianate style is categorized as a Romantic Style and part of the Picturesque movement of the 1800's. The Italianate style is often associated with the Victorian style. The style was created in reaction to the formal Classicism in art and architecture since the early 1700's. The first Italianate houses in America were built in the late 1830's and quickly became very popular. The style was made popular by the influence of pattern books by Andrew Jackson Downing published in the 1840's-50's and his "Cottage Residences." Other books published Italianate house plans, and suddenly, builders had homeowners had all they needed to build in this new style.

Although the Italianate style has its roots in the Italian Renaissance style and houses in rural northern Italy, it also has its roots in the Greek Revival style of the early 1800's. In the late 1850's houses that were built and were being built in the Greek Revival style gradually began adding Italianate features and ornaments. This is evident especially in cities like New Orleans, where an interesting mix of Greek Revival and Italianate design was made very popular by Henry Howard in mid 1840's and 50's.

By the 1860's, the style had become the most popular house style. The early years stylings were more simple in nature, but the addition of detailing to the designs of houses in the 1860's and 1870's brought us the highly detailed and elaborate stylings that remain in examples we see today. The decline of the style, along with the closely related Second Empire style, was due to the financial depression of the mid-1870's. Once prosperity returned late in the decade, new and other styles, like Queen Anne, began to emerge in popularity.

The Italianate examples we have in Mississippi and Louisiana are a southern variant of the style, partly adapting to the hot and humid weather conditions and partly incorporating more Greek Revival and Creole massing forms.



# ITALIANATE

### Key Elements of style

1. Large overhangs with decorative brackets in the cornice.
2. Prominent porch elements.
3. Decorative entry door surrounds.
4. Vertically proportioned windows with decorative crowns, heads, or hoods.
5. Symmetrical and Asymmetrical massing.
6. Tower or front gable element.



# Italianate Massing

American houses built between 1850-1880 were designed predominately in the Italianate style. It was very fashionable and common in the small towns and cities of the midwest and northeast. However, in the southern states, the Italianate style was not as wide-spread as other parts of the country. The destruction of the Civil War left the south desolated.

Although not as common in the southern states due to the Civil War's destruction and reconstruction efforts, there are many prime examples of the style because of the expansion of rail lines through the South and the ability to ship architectural details across the country. Along with the rail lines came construction workers and craftsmen sharing their trade.

An Italianate house, in its most basic form, is square with a low-pitched hip roof and wide overhanging eaves, always decorated and supported with large brackets. The massing is two or three stories, rarely one. Italianate windows are relatively simple, but adorned in the detail of the window heads, columns, and porch elements. For the first time, arched and curved window heads became common, along with the traditional rectangle top.

Italianate examples in the midwest and northeast are slightly different than examples in the south. Northeastern examples tend to have more three-story tower and cupola elements of the Italian Villa style, whereas southern examples tend to eliminate the tower and use the front gable feature as the tower element. Northern examples rarely have two-story porches, but double galleries are very common in the south. Low-pitched hip roofs are more common on Italianate examples in the north, southeast, and west. In the deep southern states of Louisiana and Mississippi, a variety of low-pitched and steeper pitched gable roofs are almost entirely used.



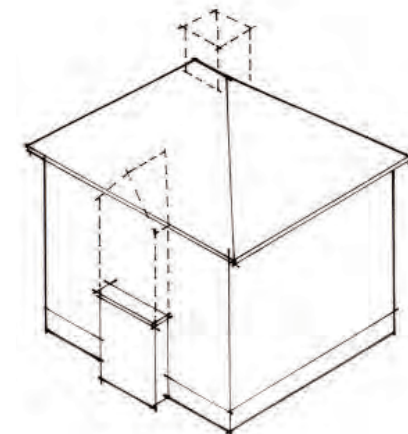
*Symmetrical Massing*

*Duplex, Asymmetrical Massing*

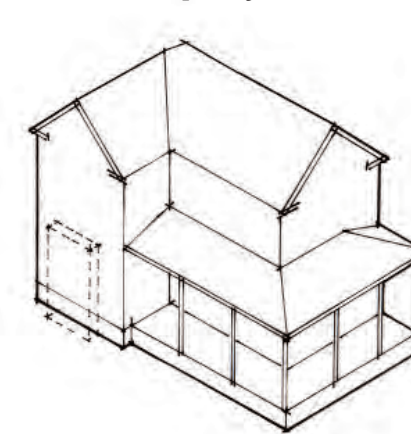
*Double Gallery, off-center entry*



*Italianate Creole Cottage*



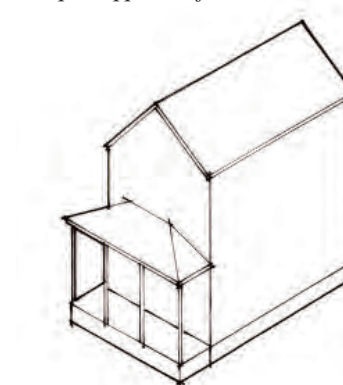
*Symmetrical Massing, with center entry  
Simple Hipped Roof, Common Center Gable*



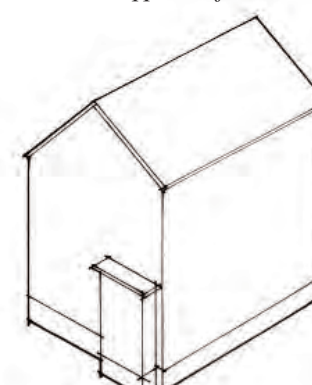
*Asymmetrical Massing (L-shaped)  
Hipped Roof, Porch, Common Gable Front*



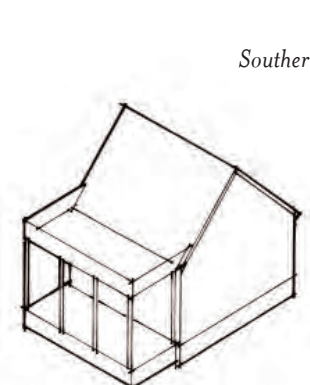
*2-4 Bay Double Gallery, Broad Roof  
Common in the South*



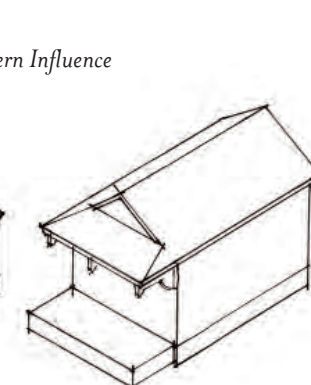
*Front Gable with Porch*



*Front Gable with off-center Stoop*



*2-4 Bay Cottage, Broad Roof*



*2-4 Bay Bracket Shotgun, front gable*

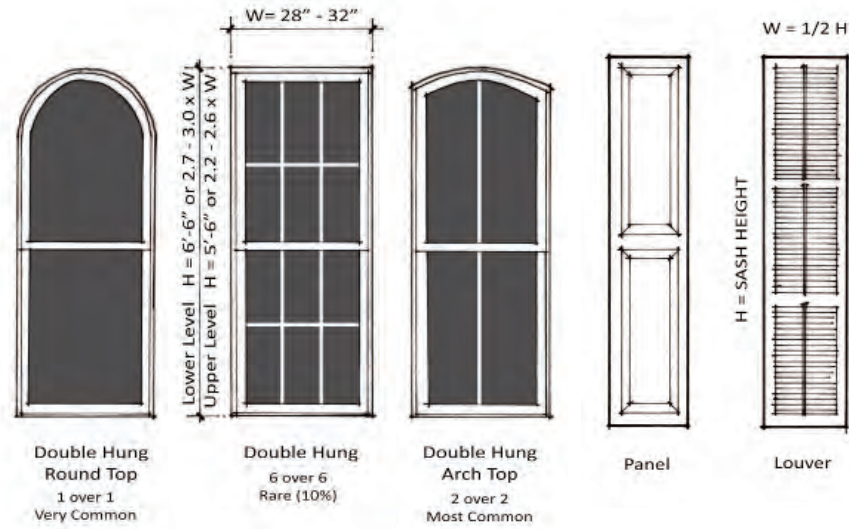
*Southern Influence*



## Mississippi Italianate

The Italianate house, in its most basic form, is square with a low-pitched hip roof and wide overhanging eaves, always decorated and supported with large brackets. Double galleries are very common in the south. Low-pitched hip roofs are more common on Italianate examples in the north, southeast, and west. In the deep southern states of Louisiana and Mississippi, a variety of low-pitched and steeper pitched gable roofs are almost entirely used.

# Italianate Elements



Windows are to be placed on side walls within the first eight feet from the corner of the Main Body.

Window pairings often occur in areas of importance - most commonly in the center bay on a symmetrical house, or in bay window location. Sometimes all the window locations on the front facade feature paired windows.

Decorative trim around windows is frequent. Small brackets under the sill and ornamented hoods are common.



Paired windows are most often 1 over 1 or 2 over 2. Bracketed heads are more common on rectangular windows and pairings.



## Italianate Windows & Doors

**Windows:** typically large vertical openings of double hung with simple muntin patterns. May be single, paired, or even tripled. May have flat, round-top, or arched heads. Bay windows often occur on asymmetrical front facades. Window surrounds should be more simple than door surrounds.

**Doors:** Wood doors with panels and large glass panes. Entry doors can be single or paired. Door surrounds are usually consistent with detail of windows and eaves but can be more ornate. May include rectangular, round-top, or arched transoms.

**Shutters:** Louvered or solid panel shutters may be present, and must fully functional.

## Italianate Window Types



## Shutter

Windows should be a tall, vertical proportion with large clear lites. Most Common arrangements are 1 over 1 or 2 over 2.

Cottage windows may be used as well with 2 over 4. Muntins should be 7/8" wide.

## Italianate Window Pairings



Casings for windows should be 1x4 minimum and 1x6 maximum. Sills are sometimes accentuated, extending beyond the casing and supported with brackets.

Window head should be minimum 8' above finish floor.



Photograph by Steve Mouzon Photograph by Steve Mouzon

Photograph by Steve Mouzon



photograph by Steve Mouzon

Flat, round-top, or arched transoms are common. Sidelights are only present with solid entry doors.

## Italianate Door Types

# Italianate Elements



Columns are square, often on a handrail-height base. Columns are also often chamfered, but never round (like Victorian). Brackets, single or paired, often sit atop columns. Beams are segmented arches, or, when flat, often have arched scrollwork/trimwork.

Closely paired columns are most common in Mississippi. Cities like Natchez and Vicksburg unique designs where trimwork between the closely paired thin columns ties them together as one.



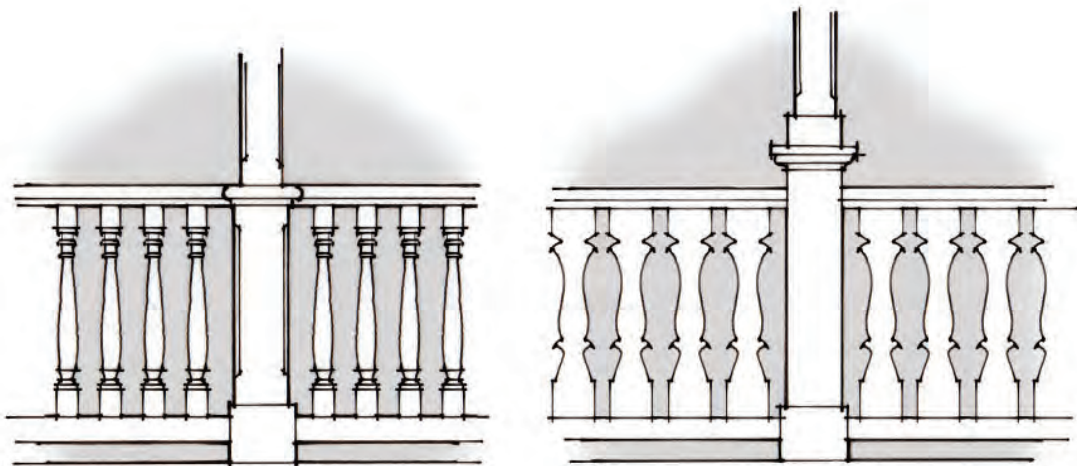
## Italianate Elements

**Columns:**  
Square columns, with or without a chamfer. Usually on a trimmed base, but not always.

Capitals are always detailed, usually with brackets above. Scrollwork, in the form of arches, or side brackets are usually present, but not always the case in more simple forms, or simple column/beam relationships.

**Railings:**  
Railings are wood and either turned or decorative pattern. Wrought iron railings can be used - usually with iron columns.

## Italianate Single Column Types



Turned Balluster - Very Common

Decorative Pattern Balluster - Less Common

Porch columns often sit on larger framed and trimmed bases. Handrails are always contoured. Decorative Ballusters vary greatly. Decorative wrought iron railings are usually used with iron columns, but can be used with wood columns.

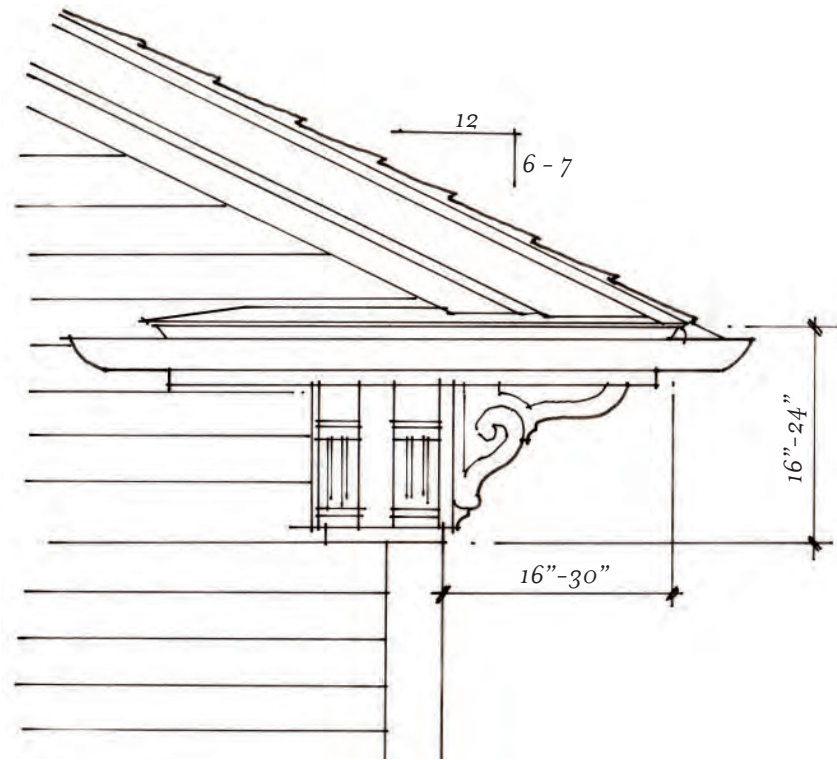
## Italianate Railing Types

## Italianate Paired Column Types



There are occasions that classical columns are used in the Italianate style. They tend to be Roman Doric or Corinthian styled columns. Henry Howard used these quite often in his work in Louisiana and New Orleans on Italianate house designs in the mid 1800's.

# Italianate Elements



Eaves are deep so that the brackets can fit. Brackets can be single or paired as a design feature aligned with another architectural element, like a window, or column, or bay.

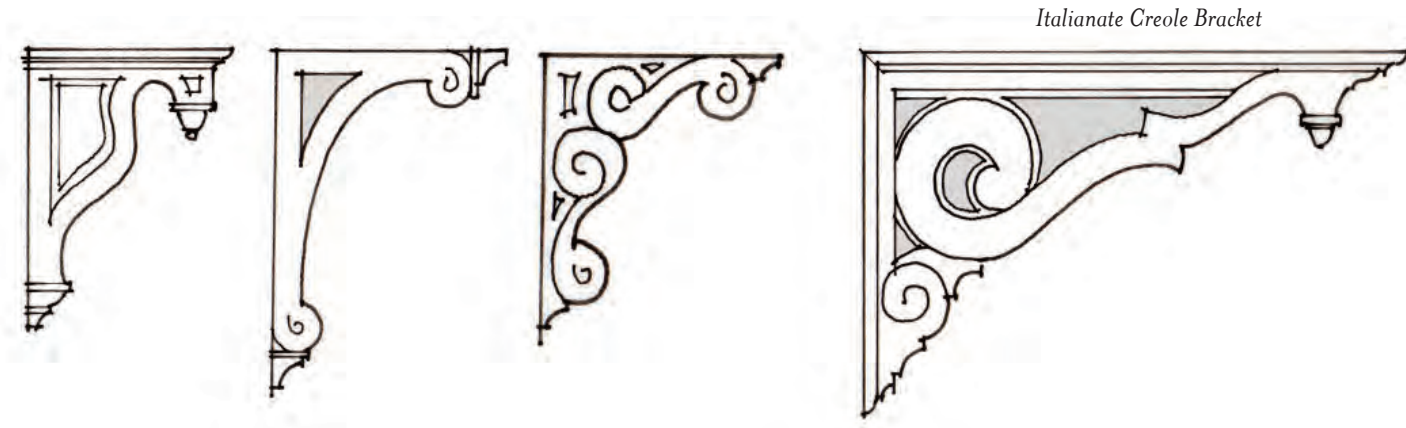
Main roof pitch should be 6/12 to 7/12. Side gable roofs on southern designs can be 12/12, if the main form and detailing is kept simple. Hipped roofs should be 4/12 to 6/12.

Secondary roofs over porches should be 3/12 to 4/12 pitch or nearly flat at 1/12, which requires standing seam or membrane roof.

Eaves on gable ends must be returned with a 1/12 pitch flashing over the return. Frieze board and brackets must return as well.

Italianate eaves are large and simple, except for the brackets. Brackets come in a wide variety of shape and designs. They should extend a minimum of 80% of the eave depth and many times, all the way to the fascia.

Quite often, large brackets and small brackets are used in the same eave. The large brackets are often paired, with the smaller brackets used similarly to dentils. It's not common for large brackets to be used in singles without the smaller brackets, but it does occur more often in the south as long as they are spaced at some regular interval around the house. Use historic examples for reference in design.



## Italianate Roof & Eaves



Brackets are treated as design elements, aligned with a roof element, like a gable, or aligned between windows or column. They can be single, paired, or even tripled, if designed well. The more vernacular and simple the house and it's detailing, the more simple the bracket and used more sparingly.

## Italianate Brackets



### Italianate Elements

**Columns:** Square columns, with or without a chamfer. Usually on a trimmed base, but not always.

Capitals are always detailed, usually with brackets above. Scrollwork, in the form of arches, or side brackets are usually present, but not always the case in more simple forms, or simple column/beam relationships.

**Railings:** Railings are wood and either turned or decorative pattern. Wrought iron railings can be used - usually with iron columns.

# Italianate Variations & Inspirations



photograph by Steve Mouzon



photograph by Steve Mouzon



## Italianate

**Wall Materials:**  
Smooth finish wood or fiber cement lap siding with 5" exposure, beveled or flush siding, brick base, or light-colored sand-finish stucco. Corner boards are 1x4 or 1x6.

Decorative foundation vents are common. Southern Italianate houses are often framed on piers with lattice between, or solid brick with foundation vents.

**Roof:** 5V metal roof, standing seam, slate or synthetic slate, asphalt shingles. All colors to be approved by ARB.

**Windows:** Wood or clad units with true or simulated divided lites.



photograph by Steve Mouzon



photograph by Steve Mouzon



# Italianate Variations & Inspirations



photograph by Steve Mouzon



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photograph by Steve Mouzon





## The Low Country Style

The "Lowcountry" was originally defined as the area along the South Carolina coast below the Fall Line or Sandhills, but it's the culture, architecture, and the cuisine that really speak to people. The slower southern pace of life in this area of the country makes it a favorite place to live, with palmetto trees, big front porches, rocking chairs, and a nice cold pitcher of sweet tea.

A distinctive element of the Lowcountry is the architecture styling of its houses, which developed in the late 1700's and early 1800's for the subtropical climate of the southeast. Roots of the Low Country Style can be found in the "Tidewater" Style. Wide shady verandas with ceiling fans and deep overhangs accented by columns keep the sitting areas on porches cool. Raised porches are on piers or pilings to keep the first floor raised, often over swampy ground and hurricane flooding. Raised porches also have the benefit of creating outdoor sitting areas that feel more private from the nearby walkway.

Architectural styling tends to be void of excessive trimwork or detailing - from the eaves to porch elements to windows and doors. Porch columns are simple timbers with chamfered corners, or simple but elegant box columns. Window framing is made with simple 1x material, and shutters are usually plank type or board and batten - made from material readily available and inexpensive. Whether simple or more refined, the styling has an air of elegance about it. The Low Country vernacular is slightly more refined but very similar to the Creole style of southern Mississippi and Louisiana since climates are very similar and tend to dictate the needs of the architecture. Features of the homes were built with practical living in mind, like sitting outside in the heat, and cooling the house with large windows. Many similarities exist between the two in both architecture and landscaping. Creole tends to run from Louisiana eastward, and Low Country tends to run from South Carolina south and westward with a mix of the two in the Alabama/Georgia region.



# LOW COUNTRY

### Key Elements of style

1. Large, raised verandas or front porches, frequently in a wrap-around fashion.
2. Simple massing of the main body with smaller appendages to side or rear.
3. Steep pitched roofs with side gables or broad hipped roofs over porches. Moderately deep overhangs.
4. Full height or tall, vertically proportioned double hung windows with tall shutters.
5. Tall front doors with transom windows above.
6. Large spacious rooms with tall ceilings and open plan.
7. Reflective metal roofing with exposed rafter tails for more vernacular character or an enclosed eave for more refined character.



LOW COUNTRY HOUSE

# Low Country Massing

Designed for the wet, hot climates of the Southeast coastline, a Lowcountry house is best known for having at least one expansive porch, protecting the house against the sun with a broad hip roof. In this way, they are designed similarly to French Colonial homes of the Gulf Coast. Our Low Country Vernacular home focuses on the more simple, more vernacular aspects of design while keeping some of the signature elements.

The vernacular house typically has gable ends with a broad roof over an expanded porch below. The porches span across the front and often around at least one side of the house. In more rural settings, along a coastline, the roof is typically a hip roof, but in more urban areas, like a neighborhood, the rooflines tend to be gable-ended. Likewise, on more coastline historic examples, we find the usual gable front dormer, whereas more recent and modern and urban examples of dormers are the simple shed roof type. The hipped roof had a pitch break which also helped control rain water runoff, where we typically see an actual roof break on gabled examples.



photograph by Jupiterimages Corporation

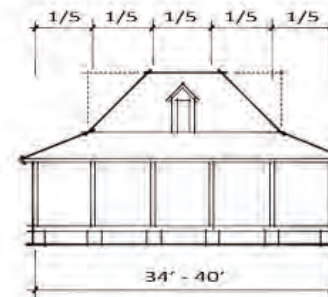
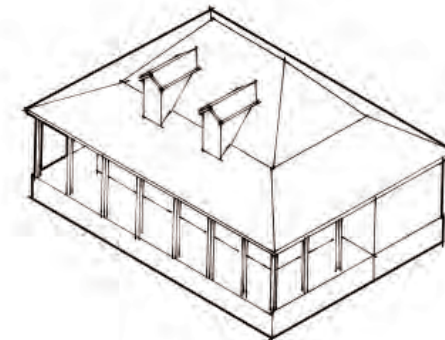
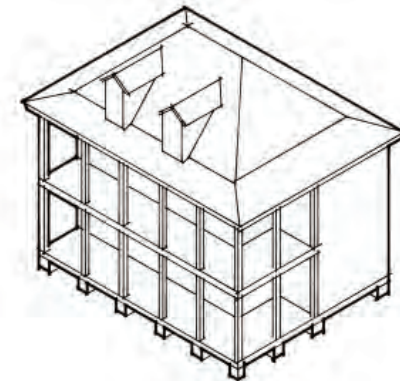
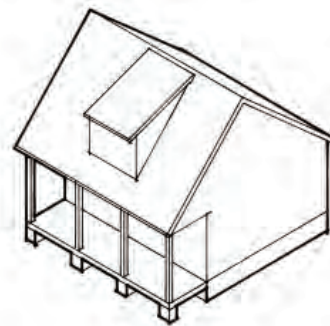
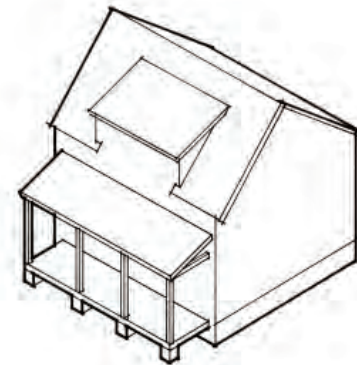
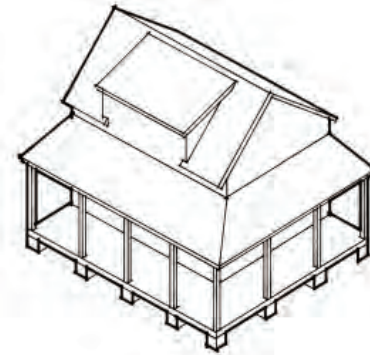
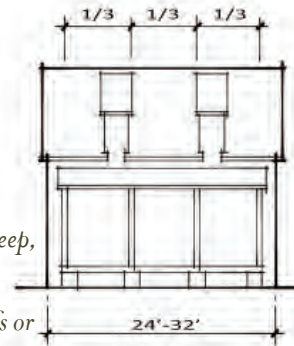


**NOTE:**

Main body roof pitches are more steep, between 8:12 and 12:12. Porch roofs or shed dormer roofs are lower pitch, between 2:12 and 5:12.

More Urban conditions tend to have gable ended roof with separated lower pitched roofs over the porches below. It is common and appropriate for a corner house to have a wrap around porch.

Shed dormers typically occur on 1 1/2 story houses with living space on the upper level.



**NOTE:**

More Rural conditions tend to have broad hipped roofs covering house and porch. Houses with more of a view to greens or water typically had double porches that wrapped around the house.

Gable front dormers typically occur when only attic space is above the main level of the house.



## Low Country

The Lowcountry was originally the region of the east coast of South Carolina below the Fall Line and Sandhills. The Low Country influence can be found in areas like Hilton Head island, Bluffton, Beaufort, and even around Savannah, but the charm of large canopy trees, big porches, large windows, and rocking chairs appeals to nearly everyone.

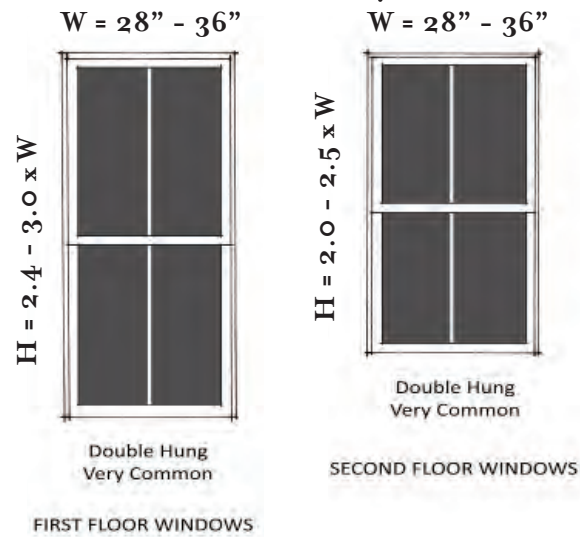
The eastern coast was settled by Europeans of English decent but also heavily influenced by subtropical climate, humidity, and heat.

This climate creates the need for deep porches and verandas covered by broad roofs. The porches often surround the entire house, but in modern construction we mainly see a full front porch and/or a wrap around porch to one side.

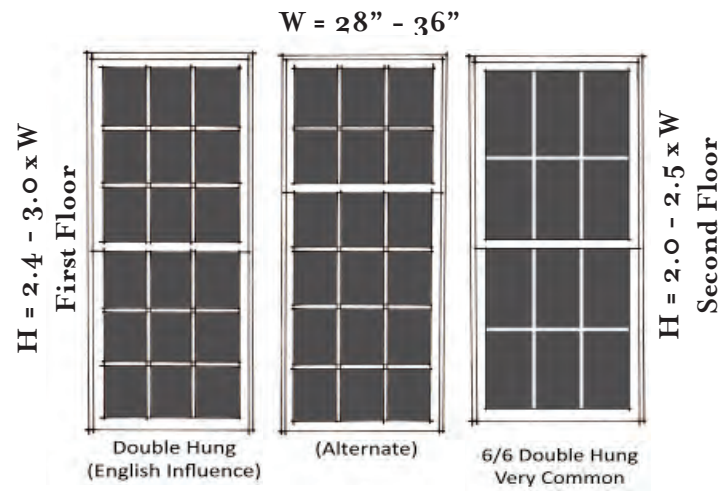
## Low Country Vernacular

## Low Country Refined

# Low Country Windows & Doors



Windows should be a tall, vertical proportion with large clear lites. First floor windows at the porch should be tallest and largest windows. Second floor windows can have a less tall proportion.  
Muntins should be 7/8" wide.



Window Types - more refined

Windows are to be placed on side walls within the first eight feet from the corner of the Main Body.  
Window trim is typically simple, and only slightly more decorative the more refined.



Window Examples



## Low Country Elements

Wall Materials:  
Smooth finish wood or fiber cement lap siding with 5" exposure, brick base, light-colored sand-finish stucco.

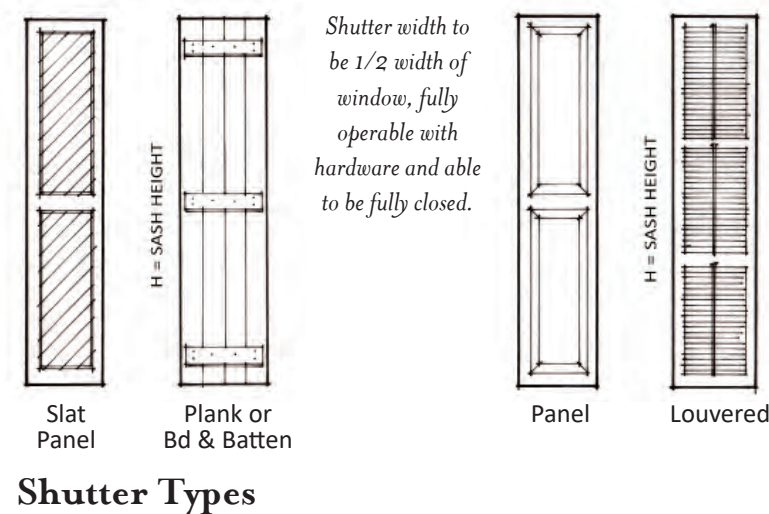
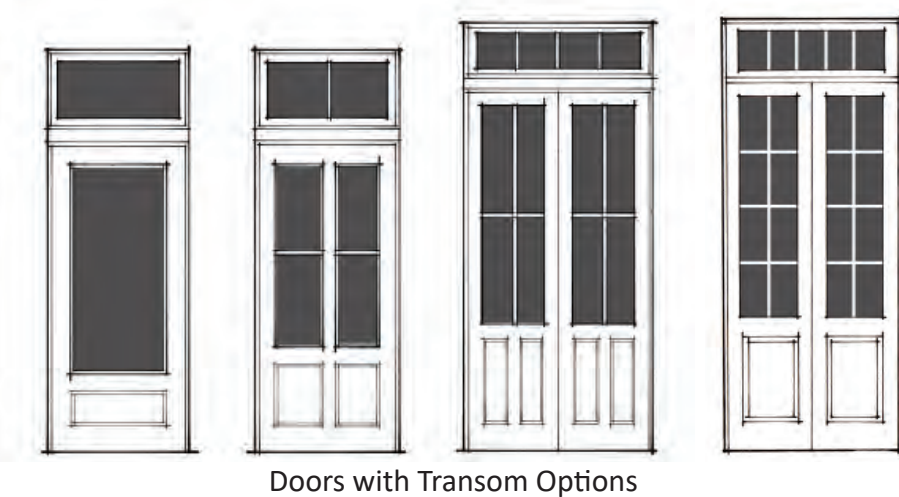
Doors: 3/4 glass or solid front doors with transom. Transom height ranges from 12" - 20". If using muntins, keep lites in square or vertical proportion.

Windows: typically very tall openings of double hung with simple muntin patterns.

Shutters: Shutters range from simple board & batten to elegant louver.

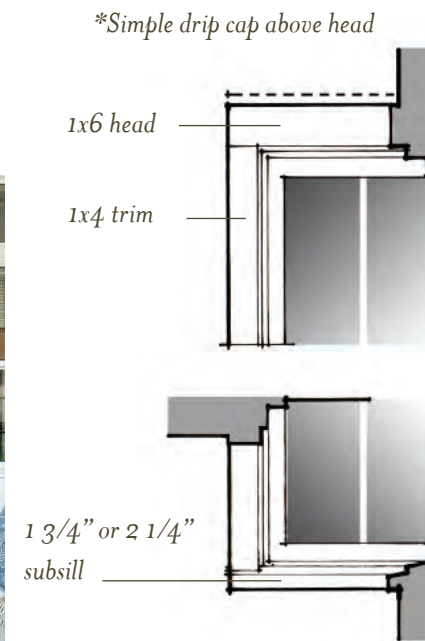
Roof: asphalt shingle or standing seam or 5-V metal roof

## Window Types - more vernacular

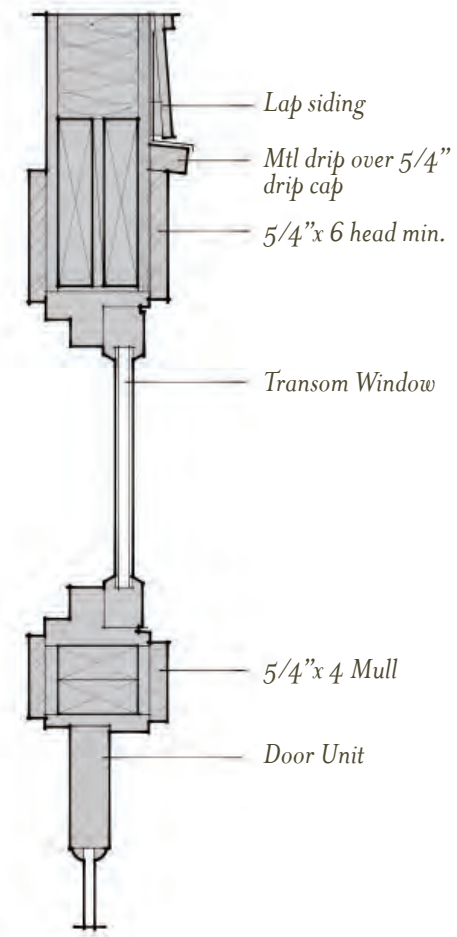


Shutter Types

Ganged windows or doors should have a minimum of a 4" mull, typically using 2 studs for framing and facing with 5/4"x4".  
All casings should be 5/4" when adjacent to siding material.



Typ. Window Trim Dtl.



Typ. Transom Detail



Low Country Vernacular Door Types

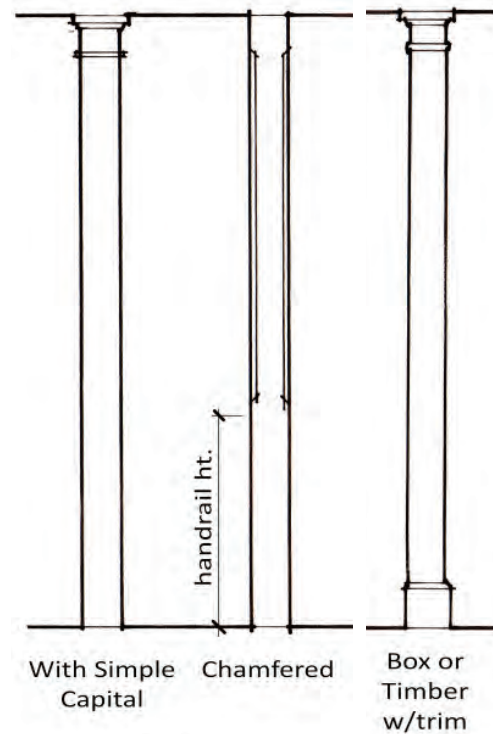
# Low Country Elements

Low Country columns are simple, quite often timber columns with a chamfer size ranging from 1/2" to 1 1/4" inches. If a railing is attached to the column, the chamfer always starts above the railing. The top of the chamfer usually stops within 4 - 8" of the top of the column, equal to the size of the column.

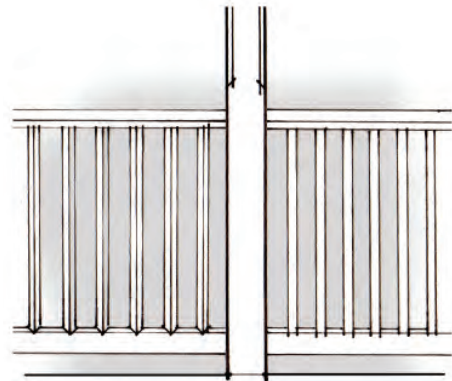
Timber columns range in size from 4" to 8" max. Box columns range in size from 6" to 10" max, unless unique or special design.

Low Country elements are simple, yet elegant in nature with minimal trim work.

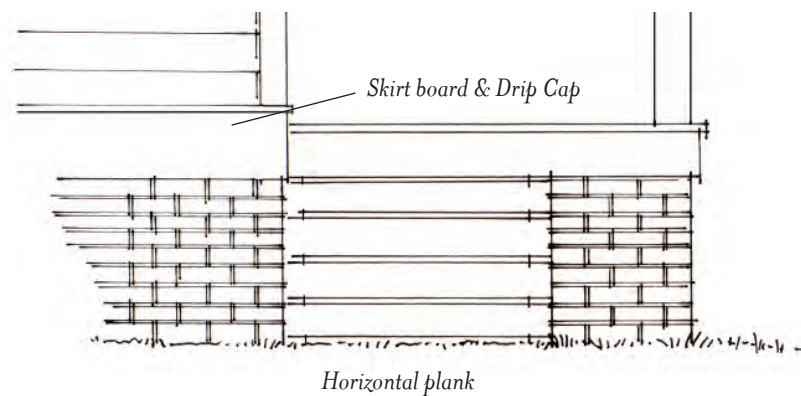
Minimum depth of front porch is between 8 and 10 feet to create an outdoor room. Porches are typically symmetrical and run the length of the facade, but can extend beyond the main body of the house and wrap the side.



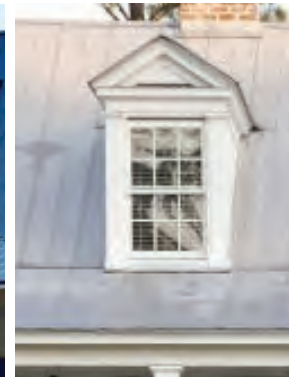
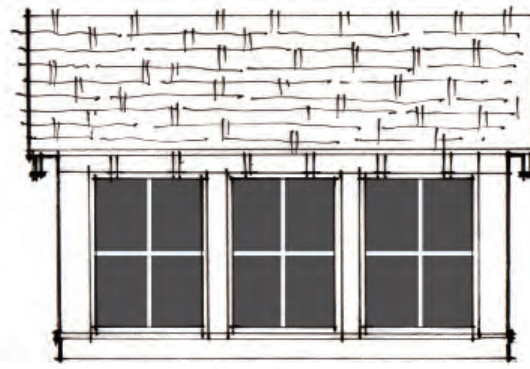
Column Types



Rotated or Straight Square Balluster - Very Common



Typ. Railing and Porch Details



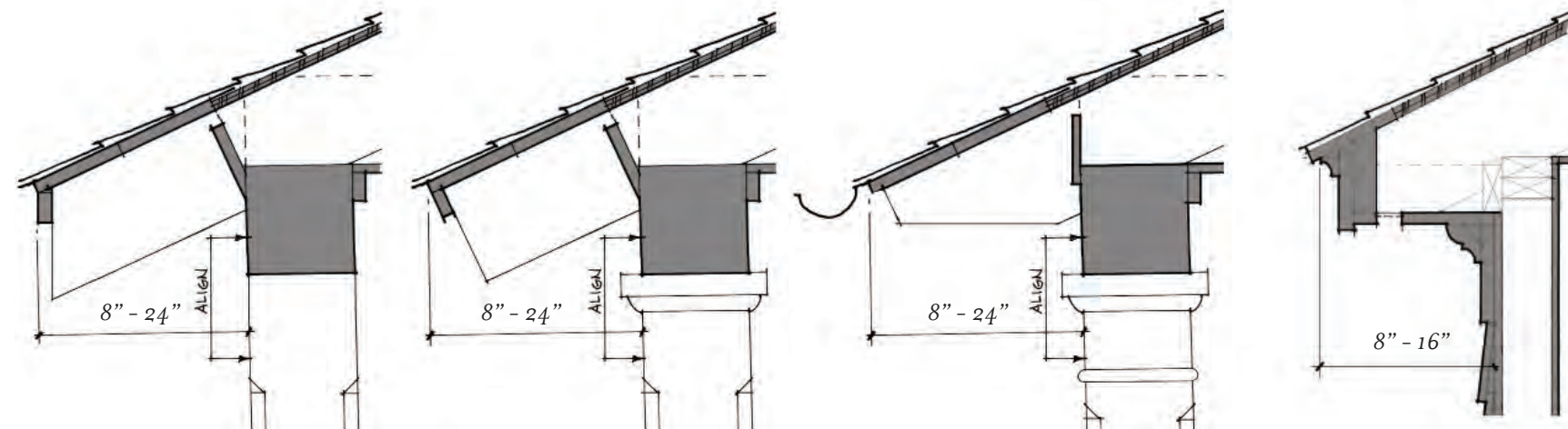
## Low Country Dormer / Window Types

Low Country vernacular dormers are most commonly shed roof type only when the upper floor has habitable rooms. Shed dormers most commonly have any number of windows, from a single, up to quadruple ganged window, separated by 4" mulls. Shed dormers usually have between a 2:12 and 4:12 pitch, but can be greater for more dramatic effect.

More refined (or rural and coastline) Low Country designs tend to have

double gallery porches with broad hipped roofs and utilize gable-front pitched dormers with single windows that typically only illuminate attic spaces.

The main body roof pitch is most commonly 9/12-10/12, but can range from 8/12 to 12/12, with secondary roofs being as low pitched as 6/12. Typical porch roof slope, or common pitch break, varies from 2/12 to 4/12.



Low Country Eave Conditions



## Low Country Elements

Wall Materials: Smooth finish wood or fiber cement lap siding with 5" exposure, brick base, light-colored sand-finish stucco.

Doors: 3/4 glass or solid front doors with transom. Transom height ranges from 12" -20". If using muntins, keep lites in square or vertical proportion.

Windows: typically very tall openings of double hung with simple muntin patterns.

Shutters: Shutters range from simple board & batten to elegant louver.

Roof: asphalt shingle or standing seam or 5-V metal roof

# Low Country Variations & Inspirations



## Low Country

Designed for the wet, hot climates of the Southeast coastline, the Low-country house is best known for having at least one expansive porch, protecting the house against the sun with a broad hip roof. In this way they are designed similarly to the French Colonial homes of the Gulf Coast.

Porches span across the front and often around at least one side of the house. Along the coastline, the roof is typically hipped with gable-front dormers, but in more urban areas, roofs tend to be more gable ended and dormers tend to be shed roof.



Thompson Placemaking



Moser Design Group



Moser Design Group



Thompson Placemaking



Moser Design Group



Moser Design Group

# Low Country Variations & Inspirations



Moser Design Group



Thompson Placemaking



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Thompson Placemaking



Moser Design Group



# RESOURCES

# COLOR PALETTE

*There's plenty of historical precedent for colors. If you have a historical example of a color palette on a house, you are able to present that to the ARB for review along with your proposed paint colors.*

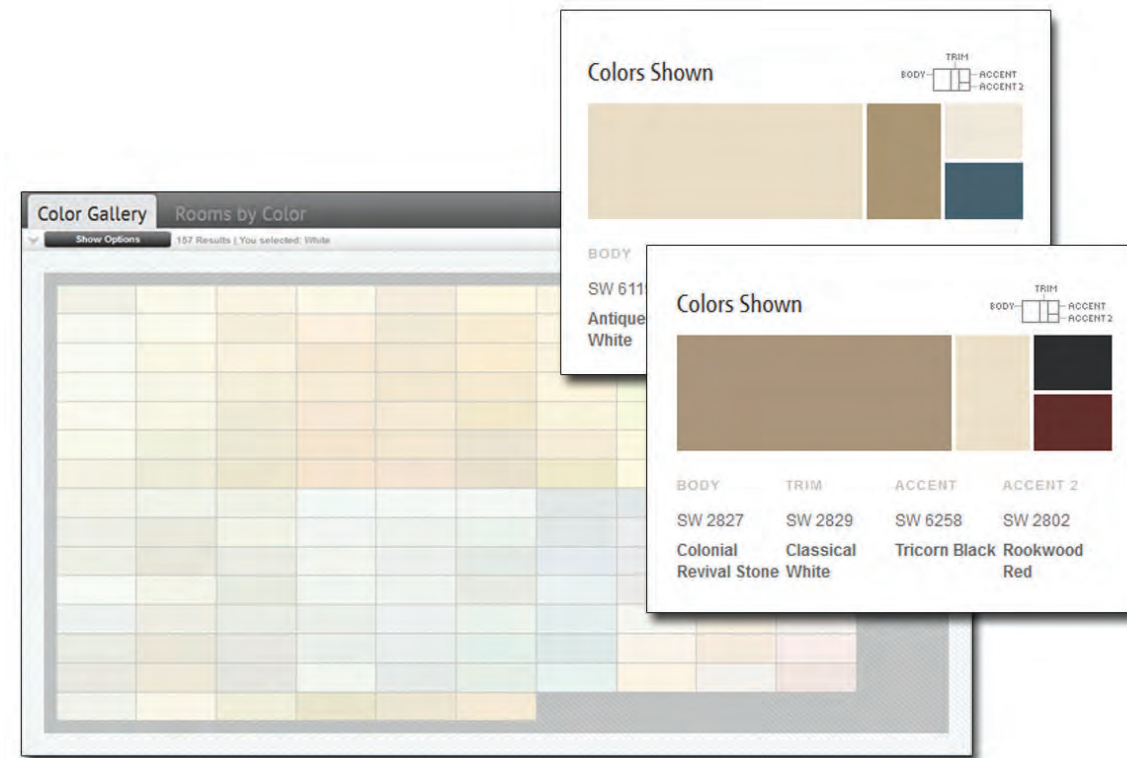
*In general, the color tones below should be followed:*

**Main body wall colors** can be in the family of cold and warm whites, lighter earth tones or natural wood tones, and light to medium shade colors in a historical palette. French Colonial homes should stay in the white and warm white tones. Victorian or Italianate houses tend to be more colorful but still in the light to medium tones. Brick colors are to be in the red and brown tones, typical for the local area. Painted brick is reminiscent of stucco and therefore needs to stay in the white, warm white, and lighter earthtone colors.

**Trim and Columns:** For the most part, trim and columns should be white, especially on a Classical house. Victorian or Italianate houses, although colorful, still tend to have white and very light colored trim and columns.

**Shutters:** shutters, on the whole, regardless of style, should be dark, contrasting colors. If looking at a fan deck of paint chips, select from the darkest two colors on the line-up.

*Historic pictures of French Colonial, Classic, Italianate, Farmhouse, and Low Country houses can be submitted for reference to color selections. Colors can be reviewed by an ARB.*



# MATERIALS

## Recommended Materials & Manufacturers

The following partial list of national manufacturers of building products is being provided as a starting point for homeowners in their search for appropriate materials for their design and construction. These products have been selected due to their appropriateness for the architectural styles outlined in this pattern book.

### Brick

Brick, painted brick, or parged brick - brick will be approved based on it being a color that would have been local and style that would have been manufactured pre-1900. Brick is not meant to be a fashion statement and can be chosen from brick selections by The Waterpointe ARB. The following are automatically acceptable:

1. Columbus Brick: Canal Street Genuine papercut, Mill Creek Genuine papercut, Wakefield genuine papercut, St. Augustine genuine papercut, Forest Glen genuine papercut.
2. Boral Brick: Briarwood Blend Queen, Granby Crossing Queen, New Orleans Queen.

### Columns

3. Turncraft - <http://www.turncraft.com>  
Architecturally correct round and square composite and wood columns
4. Column & Post - <http://www.columnpost.com>  
Architecturally correct round and square composite columns
5. Somerset - <http://www.somersetcolumns.com>  
Architecturally correct round and square and wood columns & pilasters
6. HB&G - <http://www.hbgcolumns.com>  
PermaPorch system: Cellular PVC, 2x2 square or turned balusters with Savannah top rail.

### Entry Doors

1. Simpson - <http://www.simpsondoor.com>  
Wood doors: Appropriate for all styles; hard-to-find Victorian and European Romantic doors
2. Jeld-wen - <http://www.jeld-wen.com/en-us/products/exterior-doors/styles>  
Wood doors: Classical and Colonial Revival styles, some Victorian and European Romantic doors
3. Therma Tru - <http://www.thermatru.com>  
Fiberglass and Premium Steel Series Steel Doors: Classical, Colonial

Revival and Victorian styles; acceptable European Romantic doors

4. Stanley - <http://www.stanleyworks.com>  
Fiberglass and steel doors: Classical, Colonial Revival and Victorian styles; acceptable European Romantic doors

### Exterior Siding - (smooth surface only)

1. James Hardie - <http://www.jameshardie.com>  
Hardiplank (fiber cement), lap siding, shingle, panel, and soffit products.
2. Georgia Pacific - <http://www.gp.com>  
Fiber cement cladding board
3. TruExterior - <http://www.truexterior.com>  
Engineered cladding board
4. Louisiana Pacific - <http://www.gp.com>  
LP Smart Siding - engineered wood or fiber cement

### Exterior Moulding, Trim & Brackets (synthetic)

1. Chemcrest - <http://www.chemcrest.com>  
Classic Moulding & Door: Crown, bed, casing, and brackets in polyurethane
2. Azek - <http://www.azek.com>  
Cellular PVC flat sheet (4'x8', 4'x10', 4'x12') for gables, soffits, etc. 3/4" thick trim boards, 5/4" thick trim boards (4" and 6" widths), tongue-and-groove paneling, and various trim pieces.
3. Royal Wood - <http://www.royalwood.com>  
Composite 1x trim boards, brickmould and T&G paneling for porch ceilings
4. Fypon or Dureflex - <http://www.fypon.com>  
Cellular PVC trim pieces
5. Windsor One - <http://www.windsorone.com>  
Trim boards, shiplap, paneling, and mouldings

### Garage Doors

1. Designer Door - <http://www.designerdoorm.com>
2. Clopay Doors - <http://clopay.com> (Coachman, Grand Harbor, Reserve Wood collection)
3. Real Carriage Doors - <http://www.realcarriagedoors.com>
4. Overhead Door - <http://www.overheaddoor.com> (Carriage House Collection)

### Gutters

1. Half round with round downspouts - Copper, aluminum, or galvanized
2. Ogee gutter with round downspouts - only allowed on more classic styles if used with closed eave and correctly built into the cornice. Must be approved by ARB.

### Windows

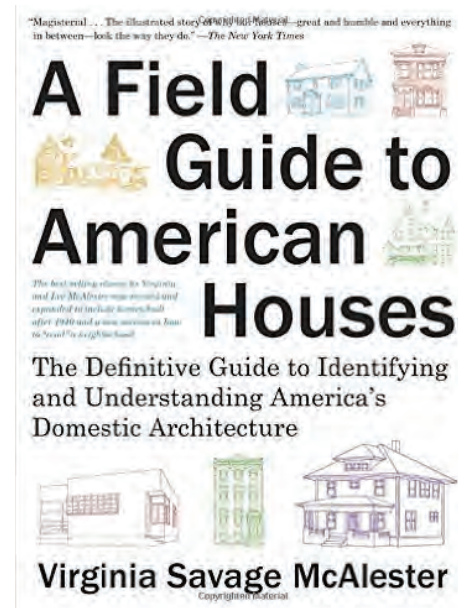
1. Windsor - <http://www.windsorwindows.com>  
Wood double hung and casement  
Cellular PVC Legend Series double hung and casement  
Wood or PVC simulated divided light (SDL)  
Direct set transoms and sidelights
2. Marvin - <http://www.marvin.com>  
Wood double hung and casement  
Next Generation Series double hung and casement with aluminum trim accessories  
Marvin Integrity Series - subject to approval per use  
Replacement sash w/profiled aluminum panning  
Wood or clad simulated divided light (SDL)  
French Doors and Bi-fold doors
3. Jeld-wen - <http://www.jeld-wen.com>  
Wood double hung and casement  
Siteline Clad double hung and casement with aluminum trim accessories  
Wood or clad simulated divided light (SDL)  
Direct set transoms and sidelights
4. Pella wood or clad - to be reviewed/approved by ARB.
5. Sierra Pacific aluminum clad - Monument series.
6. All muntins must be 7/8" or 1" simulated divided light (SDL) with spacer between glass, preferred shape is bevel, tall profile

### Porch Ceilings

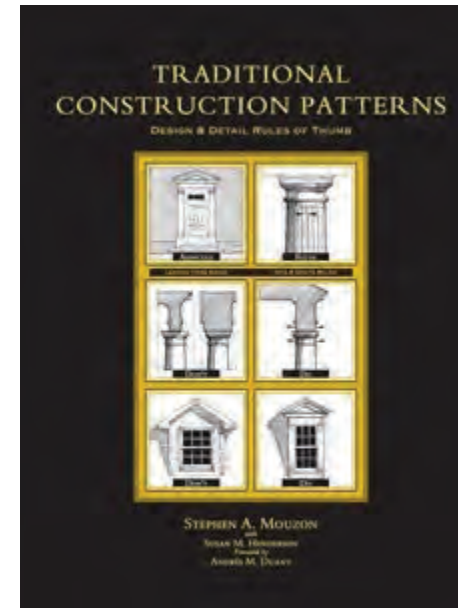
1. Georgia Pacific - <http://www.gp.com>  
"PlyBead Classic" or T&G beaded paneling  
Other options available.

### Roofing

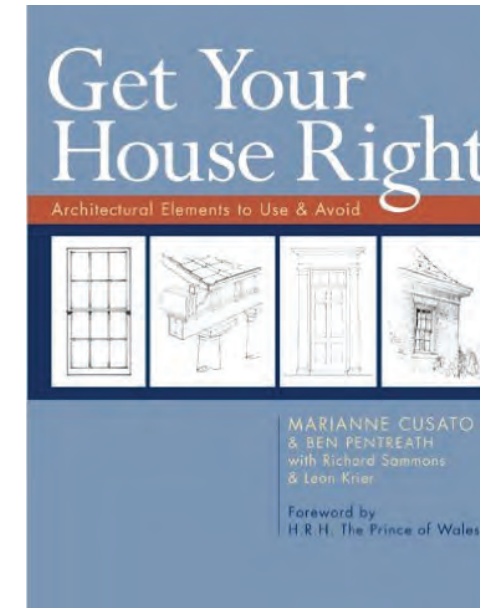
1. Timberline Ultra HD Shingles, all colors except Sienna Sunset - 40 year architectural shingle
2. Timberline HD Shingles, Barkwood, Charcoal, Driftwood, Shakewood, Slate, and Weathered Wood - 40 year architectural shingle
3. Metal Roofing - 5 V mtl or standing seam, galvanized color or approved painted color
4. Owens Corning  
Mira Vista specialty roofing; synthetic shakes, slate, copper, and metal.  
Berkshire Collection: composite shingles
5. Brava Roofing Products (others to be submitted for approval)  
Brava Old World slate composite shingles



An invaluable source for helping anyone identify almost any style house built in America.



This book, by Stephen Mouzon, is an excellent resource for traditional details and creating a house that looks right and is built right.



Marianne Cusato's book is perfect for getting various details on your house right.

# ARCHITECTURE RESOURCES

## Some of my favorite books:

- Architecture of the Old South, Colonial & Federal.* Lane, Mills 1996 | A Beehive Press Book
- Classic New Orleans.* Mitchell / Lockhart 1993 | Martin~St. Martin
- Coming Home, The Southern Vernacular House.* Strickland, James Lowell 2012 | Rizzoli
- Great Houses of Mississippi.* Miller / Carter 2004 | University Press of Mississippi
- Henry Howard, Louisiana's Architect.* Brantley / McGee 2015 | Princeton Architectural Press
- Historic Buildings of the French Quarter.* Vogt, Lloyd 2002 | Pelican Publishing Co.
- The Louisiana Houses of A. Hays Town.* Vetter / Gould 1999 | Louisiana State University Press
- A Classical Journey, The Houses of Ken Tate.* Sully, Susan 2010 | Images Publishing Group

