

**APPENDIX B:**  
**ARCHITECTURAL STYLES FOUND IN THE SURVEY AREA**



## ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

The following descriptions of architectural styles are derived from *A Field Guide to American Houses* by Virginia and Lee McAlester and *Architectural Details* by Marcia Reiss.

### Folk National

Folk National buildings were constructed from the 1850s through the mid-1900s. The development of this style is almost always locally linked to the arrival of railroads, which made possible the shipment of building materials, particularly milled lumber from sawmills, across great distances. Where earlier homes would have been built by stacking logs or timbers hewn on-site, these lighter wood-framed buildings were generally covered with milled wooden siding. Although generally modest and unassuming, Folk National houses often incorporated early advancements in construction technology, such as balloon framing.

The arrangement of rooms and placement of front doors and porches create several families of building forms within the Folk National style, including gable-front, gable-front-and-wing, hall-and-parlor, I-house, and pyramidal shapes. Regional variations were common; one of the best-known of these is the shotgun house of New Orleans, but other house-forms are particularly common in the Midwest or Northeast or Tidewater South.

In the Phase II survey area, many Folk National houses are small four-square plans with a small gabled porch covering, often supported by brackets rather than posts.



Two examples of typical Folk National cottages found in the Phase II area:  
(left) 1004 East Liberty; (right) 901 East Liberty.

## Queen Anne

Between 1880 and 1900, this was the most popular style of residential architecture in the United States. The style featured irregular rooflines and asymmetrical facades; bay windows and textured siding or masonry walls were common, and two-story versions often featured towers and turrets. The style is often characterized by decorative details such as turned wooden porch supports and wooden spindlework, which was used above or below the porch roof, inside roof gables, and below the overhang created by cutaway bay windows.

One variation on the Queen Anne style, known as “free classic,” became popular after 1890. It incorporates classical details such as Palladian windows, cornice-line dentils, and classical columns, often in clusters. Several examples of this are found in the survey area.



*Two Queen Anne cottages: (left) 808 East Main; (right) 606 East Main.*

## Folk Victorian

The Folk Victorian style merges the building forms of the Folk National style with the decorative details found on Victorian-era buildings such as Queen Anne cottages. These decorative elements were most frequently applied to porches; rooflines might have featured boxed and bracketed eaves. Folk Victorian houses differ from Queen Anne styles in two specific ways: the Folk Victorian façade is symmetrical, and its wall surfaces are flat and plain, without the bay windows and varying material textures found in Queen Anne buildings.

*The addition of decorative Victorian spindlework and turned posts to a Folk National form identifies 103 South Black as a cottage in the Folk Victorian style.*



## Craftsman

Craftsman bungalows date from 1905 to the 1930s; they are often one-story and typically feature a low-pitched gabled roof with wide, bracketed eaves, and a porch. The Craftsman style was based on the work of the architect brothers Charles and Henry Greene of California, and their designs and ideas were disseminated widely in magazines, as well as through builder's pattern books and prefabricated house "kits". Round Rock has several excellent examples of Craftsman bungalows.



*Two typical Craftsman homes: 703 East Liberty and 508 East Main.*



## Tudor

Most popular during the 1920s and early 1930s, the Tudor style was a fanciful interpretation of late Medieval English houses. The characteristics of this architectural style include:

- Steeply pitched, front-facing gables
- Decorative half-timbering
- Patterned brick, stone, or wooden wall surfaces (sometimes stuccoed)
- Large, prominent chimneys
- Arched doorways
- Casement or sash windows, often in groups of two or three



*Two typical Tudor homes: (left) 603 East Liberty; (right) 402 East Main.*

## Minimal Traditional

The Minimal Traditional style was common from 1935 to about 1950. During the Great Depression, architectural styles became stripped of ornament and decoration. The Tudor and Craftsman styles especially were adapted in this way for post-World War II suburban tract housing.



*A variety of stylistic influences can be found in Minimal Traditional houses such as these:  
(left) 700 East Liberty; (right) 209 North Stone.*



## Ranch

The Ranch style was developed in California, where architects expanded the compact one-story suburban “Rambler” to take advantage of larger lot sizes. The Ranch style is characterized by a wide front façade, usually incorporating a built-in garage, and a low-pitched roof, which may be hipped, cross-gabled, or side-gabled.

Ranch homes may be built with wood, brick, and fieldstone veneer, often in combination. Spanish Colonial variations may include small enclosed courtyards or patios at the front entrance, along with arched windows. Craftsman or Prairie elements are also common.

The Phase II study area includes a wide variety of ranch homes from the 1950s through 1970s, including the four shown below.



*Examples of Ranch houses: (left) 205 Sunset, 1953; (right) 204 North Stone, 1960.*



*Examples of Ranch houses: (left) 108 Vista, 1965; (right) 1105 Brushy Creek, 1975.*

## Contemporary

Contemporary houses were most in vogue in the 1950s and 1960, when architects began to incorporate the International style into their residential designs. The gabled variation shown below married the stark International forms with more familiar Craftsman and Prairie elements, including wide overhanging eaves and exposed beams.

The Contemporary style is typically expressed in a one-story form, clad with a combination of exterior materials.



*Several contemporary style homes are found in the Brushy Shores subdivision, including this one at 309 Rye.*

## Neoelectic

Builders incorporate a variety of traditional stylistic elements into new construction. The results often fit nicely into existing historic neighborhoods without appearing to be replicas of historic homes. Neo-Victorian styles, as shown in the photo of 905 East Liberty below, have become particularly popular.



*Neoelectic houses take many forms: (left) 609 East Main; (right) 905 East Liberty.*