

Department of Construction

CONS 6A18 Design Context and History

NZ Architectural Styles/Eras

1. Post Colonial Early Cottages (1860-90's)

Small square or rectangular floorplan, low to the ground, steep pitch gables, sited parallel to road front, long roof slope to rear.

2. The Square Villa (1890-1900)

Square floorplan, centre hall, Little or no ornamentation , then later there was tracery on verandahs, small front porches with plain windows later became larger verandahs with sidelights to front door, and ornate chimney tops.

3. The Centre Gutter House (early 1900's)

Sloping front roof over verandah, roof pitched in 4 directions and often had a lean-to over washhouse at rear.

4. The Bay Villa (1895-1915)

The majority were built in and around 1910-15. High studs, long gables, bullnosed corrugated iron roof over verandah. Centre hallway. Bay section extended beyond square floorplan and toward roadfront. Highly ornate fretwork tracery on verandah between posts. Use of friezeboards and corbels under soffit and gable. Rusticated weatherboards to the roadfront, scarfcut weatherboards to sidewalls. Chimneys!

5. Bungalows (1915-20)

Floor areas larger than the bay villas. shingled hoods over windows, shingled gabled end, staining glass to selected windows.

6. Bungalows (1920-30's)

Floor plans becoming rectangular, 2 storeys at times, shingled hoods over windows, shingled gabled end, staining glass to selected windows. Low pitch roofs (10-20). Porches larger. Floorplan influenced by American/Californian bungalow with built in wardrobes, large windows, often with fanlight windows incorporated. Verandahs on at least 2 sides of the building, open plan, bay windows, built-in bathrooms.

7. Early English Cottage revival (1915 – 30's)

Steep pitched (45-60), 2 storey, small and few in number leadlight windows, stucco and/or weatherboard cladding. Chimneys !! Oakpanelling interiors. Dormer windows.

8. Art Deco (1930's)

A style borrowed from Europe, sometimes referred to as 'Moderne'. Napier was rebuilt after the 1931 earthquake in the Art Deco style. Single and 2 storey , parapets, often long sloping roofs behind parapet. Corrugated steel roofs. Stucco or weatherboard clad. Rounded walls (living room) plus rectangular floor plan. Half round windows, above door height, pastel greens, pastel orange/reds, chrome feature lights internally. NB Other projects in 1930's (worldwide depression) tended to be highly crafted early English or bungalow design. First State House sold to private buyer in 1936.

9. Immediate Post ww2 (1945-early 50's)

Materials were scarce. Used whatever materials were available , whether untreated , roughsawn timber etc. Floor layouts were simple rectangle, with low pitched roofs. State Housing including apartment style blocks started to be built

10. Adventurous Period (later 1950's, 1960's, 1970's)

Later 1950's – 'The Group' (wild,wilson and co) Houses designed for NZ conditions and for specific clients- 'the Elegant Shed'. Low pitch roofs.

- Timber treatment plants initiated in 1956.

- Group Housing (Keith Hay etc) subdivisinal mass produced housing began.

- Low pitch , and flat asphalted roofs, weatherboard.

1960's – First Building Code Guidelines brought in 1964, steeper pitches (30+), brick veneer and tile roofs, rusticated weather boards. Urban Planning rules (1957 first Town Planning Act) introduced. Split level. Carports. Under house garaging.

1970's - Plans to suit actual sections. Split level, open plan, banana plan floor layouts. Modular layouts, hollow blockwork started to be used. Pole houses (late 70's on).Dormer windows reintroduced.

11. 1980's onwards – see separate notes provided as a handout later in semester.