
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING STYLES

VERNACULAR

In the Canemah Neighborhood the most prevalent extant architectural style is Vernacular, built between 1867-1929. Important style characteristics as found on houses in the Canemah District to be used for new construction are noted below.



Built: 1867

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STYLE

Site

- No uniform front setback; South of 3rd Street: houses may face front or side depending on topography.
- Lots range from 50x100 to 100x100 and contain a single house.
- Properties edges often not defined; Where fenced, primarily picket or low slat at front with side or partial returns.
- Planting: South of 3rd Street: forest setting, native and ornamental plantings form visual screen and sense of privacy; Elsewhere on the more level portions: lawn and planted area around buildings.
- House Placement: to suit the existing topography and most level lot portion especially south of 3rd Street.
- Retaining walls: stone, mortared or stacked basalt, or concrete south of 3rd Street, especially in proximity with street.
- Garages: Not found historically; informal graveled or paved parking next to street or along house; New garages to be located along side or behind house. Where topography is a concern, locate garage offset from building primary façade, close to street with direct access.
- Accessory Buildings: detached, behind along side of house and located to allow use of particular function.
- Streets: South of 3rd Street: narrow, without curbs or sidewalks; casual pedestrian paths and connecting stairs are encouraged.

Building Form

- Form easily allows additions and alterations such as increases in family size, activities or changing technology; generally smaller in size than McLoughlin.
- Shape: rectangular in plan, with smaller rectangular combinations to primary form; Rectangular or square form reinforced on façade. L-plan, T-plan options.
- Height: Maximum 1 ½ stories in height; Basement option.
- Proportions: Height (eave) to maximum width: 1:1 Height to Depth: can vary greatly.
- Roof: gable, of not less than 8:12 pitch, 10:12 and steeper are preferred. No cross-gable roofs; Possible wing or addition with lower ridgeline that is perpendicular or is offset.



Built: 1875



Built: 1864

Design Composition

- Lacks rigid system of exterior detailing that makes it a clearly definable architectural style; allows design flexibility and is inherently varied.
- Designed and built without assistance of a trained architect. Collaborative design evolved with homeowner and builder, based on familiar styles, features and products.
- Can combine features from other architectural styles popular during the historic period; simpler designs than McLoughlin.
- Porch: full or partial length at the front entry; if close to the ground, no railings; at main story only.
- Dormers: None.
- Materials: local, readily available.
- Windows: 1:1, double hung windows.
- Siding: horizontal board siding; typically shiplap, or channel; occasionally bevel.
- Ornament: Exterior decoration is modest, consisting of scroll-work brackets at the top of porch pillars, plain cornerboards and simple window trim. Most houses do not feature spindlework in the peaks of their gable roofs.
- Interior fireplaces and chimneys.



Built: 1885

BUNGALOW

The second most common architectural style in Canemah is the Bungalow, built between 1909-1928 in the later portion of the historic period. While many of the homes in this style are located on the river side of McLoughlin Boulevard, others are scattered on the hillside up to 4th Street, but generally on more level lots. Use of this style south of 3rd Street requires analysis of adjacent context houses to ensure necessary variety. Important style characteristics as found on houses in the Canemah District to be used for new construction are noted below.



Built: 1920

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STYLE

Site

- No uniform front setback; South of 3rd Street: houses may face front or side depending on topography, and may be irregularly situated.
- Lots range from 50x100 to 100x100 and contain a single house.
- Properties edges often not defined; Where fenced, primarily low slat or picket at front with side or partial returns.
- Planting: South of 3rd Street: forest setting, native and ornamental plantings form visual screen and sense of privacy; Elsewhere, lawn, and planted area around buildings.
- House Placement: to suit the existing topography and most level lot portion especially south of 3rd Street
- Retaining walls: stone, mortared or stacked basalt, or concrete south of 3rd Street, especially in proximity with street.
- Garages: Not found historically; informal graveled parking next to street or along house; New garages to be located along side or behind house. Where topography is a concern, locate garage offset from building primary façade, close to street with direct access.
- Accessory Buildings: detached, along side or behind house and located to allow use of particular function.
- Streets: South of 3rd Street: narrow, without curbs or sidewalks; casual pedestrian paths and connecting stairs are encouraged.

Building Form

- Building form is difficult to modify for additions, but has versatile floor plan.
- More emphasis on the horizontal than Vernacular; this extends into porch, dormer and window design; more 'ground hugging'.
- Shape: floor plans are either rectangular, or square
- Height: One, or more often one-and-a-half stories high; possible basement.
- Proportions: Height to width approximately 1:1½; Height to Depth: 1: no more than 2 for main building portion not including front porch.
- Roof: Low-pitched (6:12 minimum) gable roof; front or side facing.
- Bays: possible single story, cantilevered, and rectangular located on side of house.
- Porch: Prominent front porch, roof supported with simple posts (less bulky than in McLoughlin); roof often continues down to create cover over porch; at main story only.



Built: 1916



Built: 1913

Design Composition

- Front façade can be symmetrical or asymmetrical
- Porch: full, not typically wrap-around front porches.
- Roof Overhang: wide, over-hanging eaves and exposed rafter tails; decorative knee brackets under eaves.
- Dormers: single front facing; with lower slope gable or shed roofs
- Chimneys: at interior or projecting on side of house, usually brick.
- Siding: horizontal board siding; typically bevel profile (occasionally shiplap), shingle siding; or a combination, such as horizontal boards on the first floor with shingles on the second floor, or just in the gable or dormer.
- Windows: double-hung; 1:1; large fixed window flanked by two smaller double-hung windows.
- Windows At Dormers: smaller, often grouped at shed dormers; fixed or casement style where smaller.
- Finishes: generally earth tones; no white doors or windows.