

Glendale Design Guidelines for Residential Buildings in Adopted Historic Districts

Roofs

Roofs are a principal structural element of houses and, in form and material, help define the character of historic architectural styles. Whether gabled, hipped, or flat, roofs can be simple or complex in form. Historic houses in Glendale are most commonly clad with shingles or clay tile.



Left: Red tile roofs are generally low-pitched and are used frequently in the Mission Revival, Spanish Colonial, Mediterranean, and Monterey styles.

Right: The rolled-over roof edges in some Tudor houses provide a storybook character.

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character-defining features

Determine roof shape, pitch and orientation, for instance:

- Low-pitch side-facing gable
- Steeply-pitched front-facing gable
- Cross gable
- Front or side facing gable
- Flat roof with low parapet
- Flat with eaves
- Hip roof
- Gambrel
- Jerkinhead (also known as clipped gable or hip-on-gable)
- Pyramidal

Identify subordinate details of the roof design or construction:

- Multiple eave lines
- Dormer, if present, may be gabled, hipped, or shed
- Half-story wall dormer
- Eyebrow dormer
- Central or flanking chimney
- Castellated parapet
- Decorative or simple bargeboards

Identify the type of eave and any related detail:

- Open eaves
- Boxed eaves
- Wide eave with bracket or exposed rafter tail
- Flared eaves
- No eave

Identify the original roofing material:

- Red clay half-barrel tile
- Wood shingles
- Composition shingles
- Slate shingles
- Composition roll roofing
- Tar and gravel

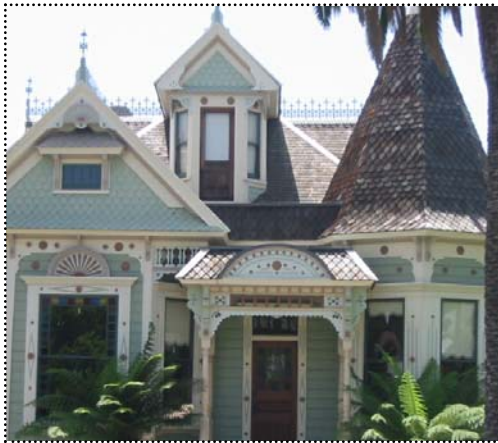


Above: Modern homes tend to have flat roofs with little or no decorative detailing.

Below: The parapet in this Mission Revival house is a character-defining attribute.



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Above: The preservation of the multiple gables, towers and dormers add to the historic value of this Victorian.

Below: In this Colonial, a gabled roof is used to cover the porch.



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design guidelines

- The original roof form should be preserved.
- Historic specialty roofing materials, such as original tile, slate, or rolled composition roofing should be maintained in place whenever possible.
- Retain and repair roof detailing.
- Original eave overhangs should be maintained. Cutting back roof rafters and soffits, boxing in exposed rafter tails, adding fascia boards where none existed, or otherwise altering the historical roof overhang is generally inappropriate.
- Repair of historic roofing is always preferable to replacement.
- Limit replacement to severely deteriorated roofing elements.
- Maintain flashing and gutters in good condition to reduce water damage.
- Remove debris from gutters to maintain proper drainage and reduce water damage to eaves.
- If a new roof is necessary, match the shape, material and pattern of the original as closely as possible.
- New roof materials should match the original in scale and texture as closely as possible. Keep in mind that the materials used historically may not be available or may not be allowed under local building code.

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- The use of plastic or concrete simulated materials is not appropriate.
- Composition roofing is an appropriate substitute for wood shingles in a complete replacement.
- Imitation slate and wood are generally appropriate replacements for original materials in the case of complete roof replacements.
- Removing or correcting earlier, inappropriate repairs or additions is encouraged.
- Skylights, solar panels, vents, satellite dishes or other rooftop devices should be located to eliminate or minimize the visual impact from the public right-of-way. Installing these elements on the primary façade is generally inappropriate.
- Skylights should be located lower than the ridgeline. Flat skylights that are flush with the roof plane may be considered on secondary or rear roofs.



Above: Most Craftsman houses have a forward-facing, prominent gabled roof.

Below: Maintaining the original roofing materials provides an historic context with the surrounding environment.

