

Postmodern—1970 to present



Postmodern architecture is cited as an international style with examples beginning in the 1950s; however, it did not become a recognized style until the late 1970s. Postmodern architecture replaces structured modernist form and function with an eclectic blending of borrowed styles. Influential early large-scale examples of postmodern architecture are Michael Graves' Portland Building in Portland, Oregon (pictured top left), and Philip Johnson's Sony Building (originally AT&T Building) in New York City (pictured below right), which borrows elements and references from the past and reintroduces color and symbolism to architecture.

Within the City, there are not any known buildings constructed in this style; however, the style would be compatible for use in most areas of Ontario.

Common Features

- Use of features from earlier modern architectural styles, such as Art Deco and Streamline Moderne
- Use of classical columns, usually Tuscan order (or variations thereof)
- Use of arches, typically with keystone
- Circular and Lunette windows
- Prominent entrances
- Occasional use of pediments
- Deliberate placement of incompatible geometric forms
- References to aspects of historical or vernacular architecture
- Traditional and modern construction techniques juxtaposed for effect
- References to the form or detail of adjacent buildings



Windows

Windows were typically rectangular for majority of windows. Circular, arched and lunette windows used at entrances, and other areas to accent building.

Doors

Doors were typically simple and can include a variety of different shaped glass panels

Colors

Buildings were typically painted in bright colors. Typically, 3 to 5 colors were used.