

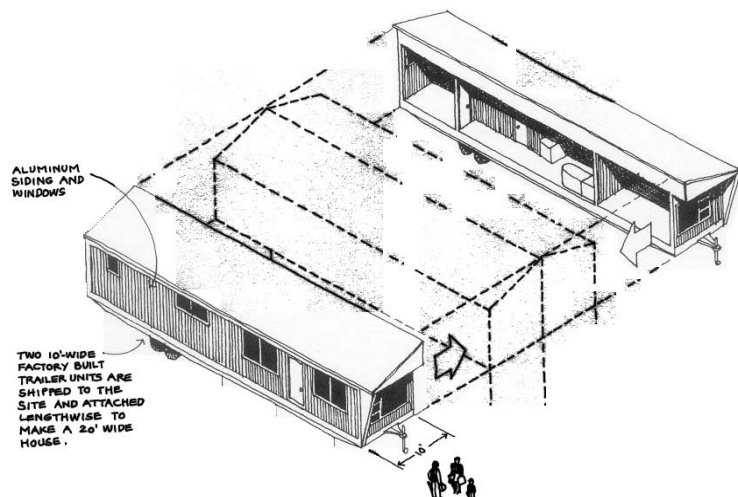
Prefab/Modular—1940s to Present



Prefabricated and modular housing varies from detailed factory-built houses to mobile homes. This type of housing became popular after World War II, when there was a great demand for housing. It was dependent upon pre-fabricated industrial construction schemes used so effectively during the war.

Homes were typically consisted of a linear plan, composed of a line of rooms taking access from a central hallway. The style developed during the post-war era out of the house trailer, popular during the 1950s and 1960s, but differs from in that once positioned, it usually remained permanently stationed, having foregone its original mobility as it grew in size and complexity of its made-to-order interior furnishing and appliances.

Many prefab/modular homes have been constructed in Ontario, both on individual lots and within mobile home parks. Within Southern California, the best examples of manufactured homes are the Kaiser Community Homes built by Henry J. Kaiser. The community was constructed in the late 1940s, and consisted of 3,000 homes within Panorama City, an area of the San Fernando Valley, north of Los Angeles. Homes were constructed of prefabricated wood framed wall and roof panels erected on pre-poured foundations, which were finished on the job site (pictured top left), and featured factory-made bathroom and kitchen modules.



Modern prefabricated homes typically consist of structures constructed in whole, or in sections, assembled on-site and placed on pre-poured foundations, as pictured right.

Common Features

- Rectangular shape
- Linear in plan
- Long hallways



Windows

Windows were typically simple, with metal frames.

Doors

Doors were typically simple wood doors. Main entrances may have had glass panels.

Colors

Homes were typically painted a variety of color schemes.