

Stick—1880s

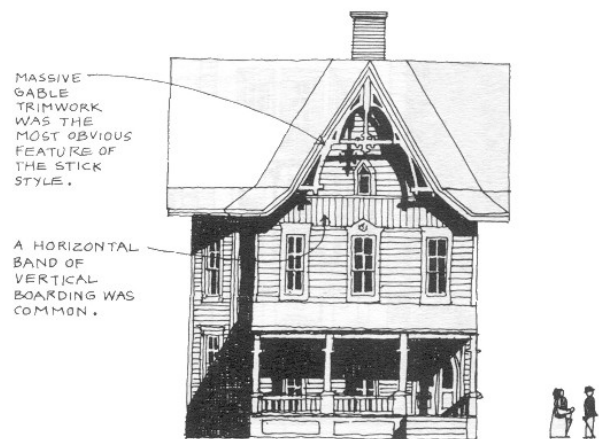
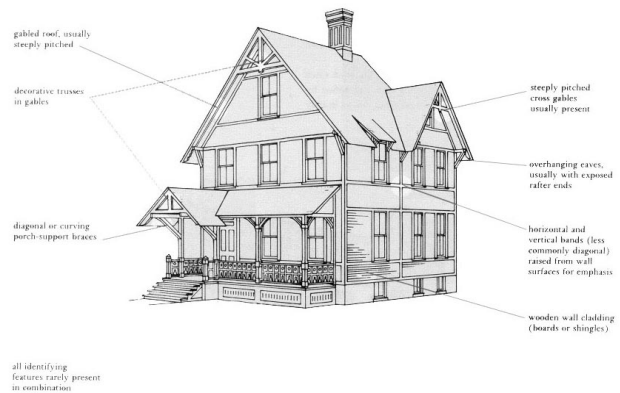


The Stick style of architecture was popular from the 1860s through the 1890s. It was one of several styles of architecture employed during the Victorian era. Architectural critics of the day were stressing honesty in architectural design, believing that a building should visibly reflect its materials and method of construction. This was a reaction against the excesses of the ornate Victorian styles. The linear geometric Stick style is a result of this reform movement. Of course, the actual structure of a Stick style is not visible; the stick pattern is purely decorative. However, this pattern was reminiscent of medieval English heavy timber building traditions, in which the actual structural skeleton of the building was visible from the building exterior.

Some early homes in Ontario were built in the Stick style, some of which were mixed with the Queen Anne style. The most prominent Stick style home in Ontario is the Oakley House, shown above.

Common Features

- Overhanging eaves, usually with exposed rafter ends
- Wood construction with boxy projections: bays, wings, and towers
- A grid-work of raised boards called "stick work" overlaying the clapboarded wall surface
- Irregular, asymmetrical forms and rooflines
- Vertical, horizontal, or diagonal boards applied over clapboard siding
- Angularity, asymmetry, verticality
- Roof composed of steep intersecting gables
- Large veranda or porch
- Simple corner posts, roof rafters, brackets, porch posts, and railings

*1 Features*

Windows

Windows were typically individual casement, double or single-hung wood frame windows. Stained glass windows were also used to accent an interior or exterior feature.

Doors

Doors were typically ornate, and could include stained or beveled glass panels. Glass sidelights with either stained or beveled glass to match front door were also used on larger homes, as were double doors for the front entrance.

Colors

Homes were typically painted in color schemes consisting of 5 to 7 colors. Palettes were very eclectic, ranging from bright colors to muted tones. Every detail was typically painted a different color to accentuate them.



Example of the Stick Style