

LOUISIANA CLASSICAL

Although the Louisiana Classical style includes influences from the earlier Greek Revival style, it is primarily based on Classical and Colonial Revival style houses from the early 20th century. The houses reflect the renewed national interest in Classicism which occurred in the late 19th century as well as the influence of the architecture created for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Significant examples of houses from this period can be found throughout South Louisiana.

The Classical Revival style is inspired by the work of such notable architects as Robert Mills and Benjamin Latrobe. Many houses from the period were constructed using pattern books such as Asher Benjamin's *American Builder's Companion*. Palladian compositions, documented in many English pattern books, were also a principal reference for many of the houses built during this period.

In the first half of the 20th century, the Colonial Revival style emerged in the United States as a recognized "American-born" architectural style. Colonial Revival style houses were derived from Anglo east coast colonial precedents which also incorporated eclectic interpretations of classical details on simple massing types.

Louisiana Classical style houses have a simple dominant main body (which can be one or two stories) to which side wings, rear wings, and pavilions might be added. Illustrations include both historic examples and ones built recently to illustrate the continuing use of this building tradition.

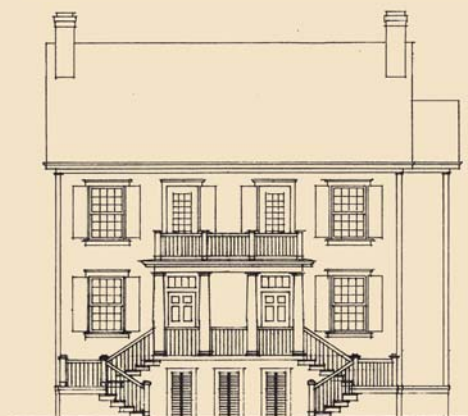
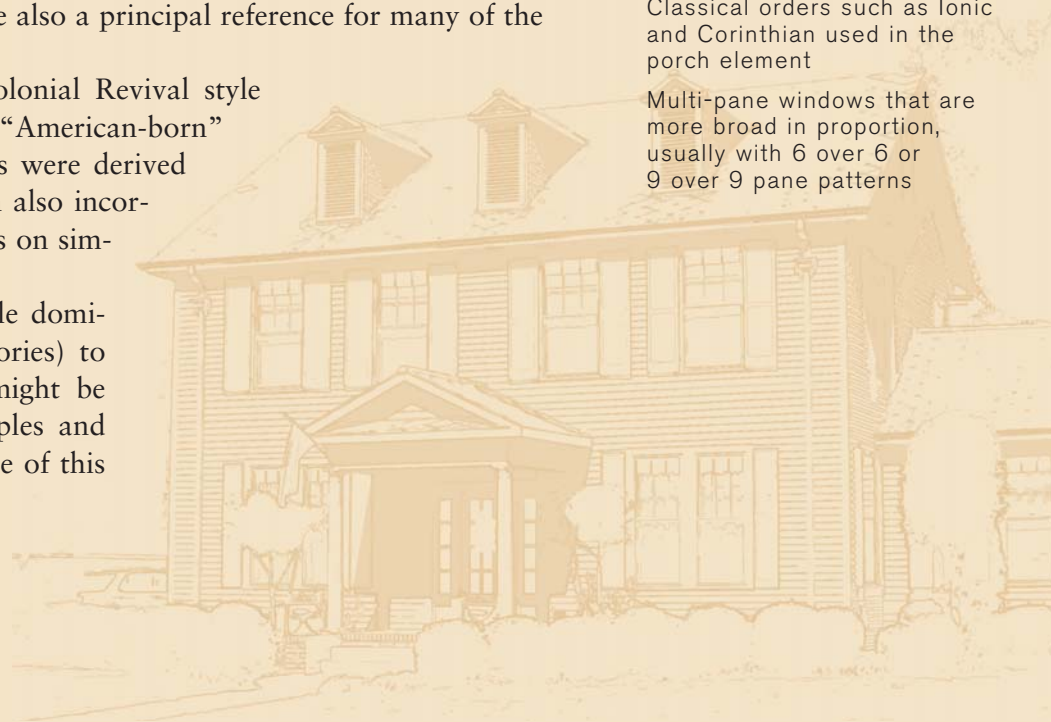
ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

Simple volumes with side wings and porches added to make more complex shapes

Symmetrical composition of doors and windows

Simplified versions of Classical details and columns, often with robust and exotic Classical orders such as Ionic and Corinthian used in the porch element

Multi-pane windows that are more broad in proportion, usually with 6 over 6 or 9 over 9 pane patterns



GALLERY OF EXAMPLES



Abbeville



Baton Rouge



Crowley



Lake Charles



Baton Rouge—Magnolia Mound



New Iberia



Hammond



New Iberia



New Iberia

MASSING & COMPOSITION

CLASSICAL MASSING

BROAD FRONT

- >> Hipped or side-gabled rectangular volume with roof pitches ranging from 6 to 8 in 12
- >> One-story shed or hipped porches are often located centrally on the front facade.
- >> One-story side wings often occur.
- >> Although porches are most often one-third or one-fifth the length of the main body, they may also be three-fifths or the entire length of the front facade.

NARROW FRONT

- >> Hipped or front-gabled box with roof pitches ranging from 6 to 8 in 12
- >> Three-bay compositions are common.
- >> Full front porches and one-story side wings are common to this massing type.
- >> Includes shotgun and double-shotgun massing types

FACADE COMPOSITION

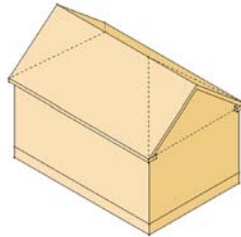
- >> Characterized by a symmetrical and balanced placement of doors and windows
- >> Entrance doors are typically located in the center of the composition.
- >> Typically windows align vertically from floor to floor.

MASSING

COMBINATIONS

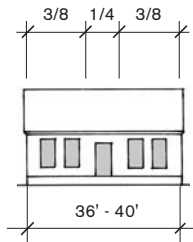
- >> Complex forms and larger living spaces may be created by combining side and/or rear wings with the main body.
- >> Gabled or hipped dormers may be added to introduce light into half-story and attic spaces.
- >> The architectural character of the attached parts should match that of the main body.

BROAD FRONT MASSING

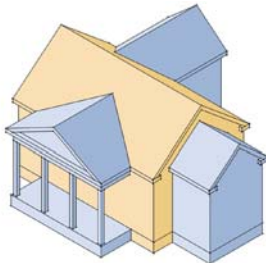


1- to 1 1/2-story Broad Front

FACADE COMPOSITION DIAGRAMS >>



POSSIBLE MASSING COMBINATIONS >>

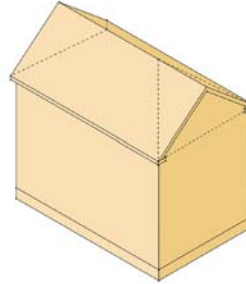


New Iberia

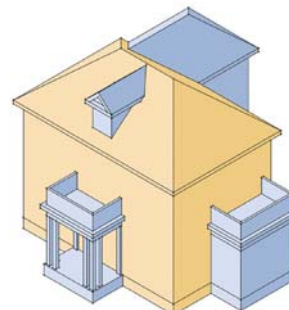
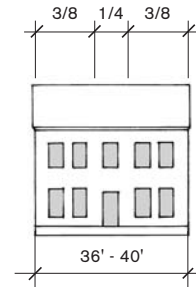


Crowley

BROAD FRONT MASSING



2-story Broad Front

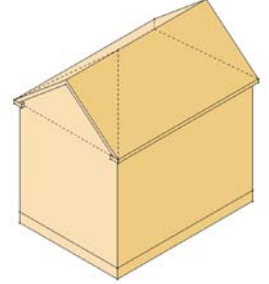


Baton Rouge

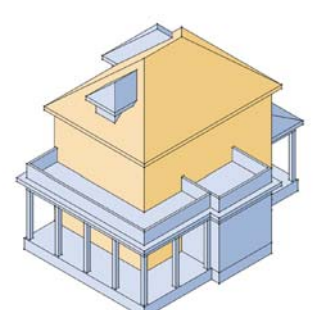
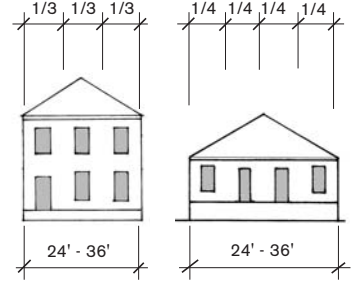


Baton Rouge

NARROW FRONT MASSING



1- to 2-story Narrow Front



New Orleans



Lake Charles

WALLS, EAVES & ROOFS

WALLS

- >> The first floor of the main body is typically set up to 4 feet above the finished grade.
- >> Recommended minimum floor-to-ceiling height on the first floor is 10 feet. For two-story houses, the second-story floor-to-ceiling height is typically 8 to 9 feet tall.
- >> The Louisiana Classical style is characterized by the vertical proportion of the window and door elements and well-detailed Classical eaves and cornices.
- >> Cladding materials: Smooth-finish wood or fiber-cement lap siding with 4- to 8- inch exposure, brick
- >> Corner boards are typically 6 inches wide at a minimum.
- >> Typical base detail has an 8- to 10-inch wide skirting board.

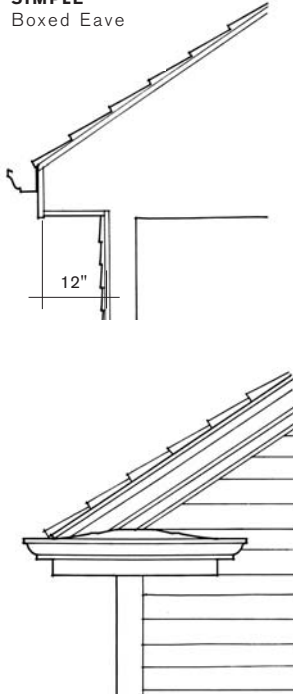
EAVES

- >> Boxed eaves are typical, with classically proportioned and detailed moldings.
- >> Frieze boards are typically 10 inches wide or wider.
- >> Boxed eaves often return on the gable end.

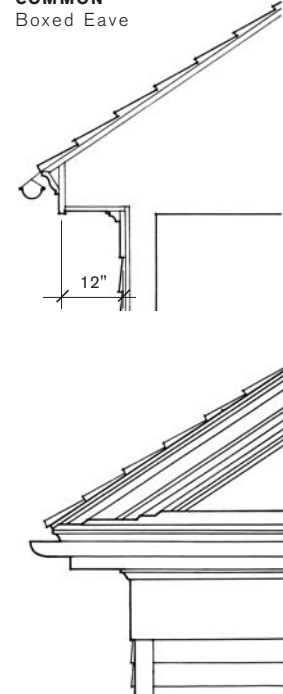
ROOFS

- >> Typically laminated asphalt or composition shingle, occasionally clay tile with flat or barrel profile, or 5-V crimp metal panels

SIMPLE
Boxed Eave



COMMON
Boxed Eave



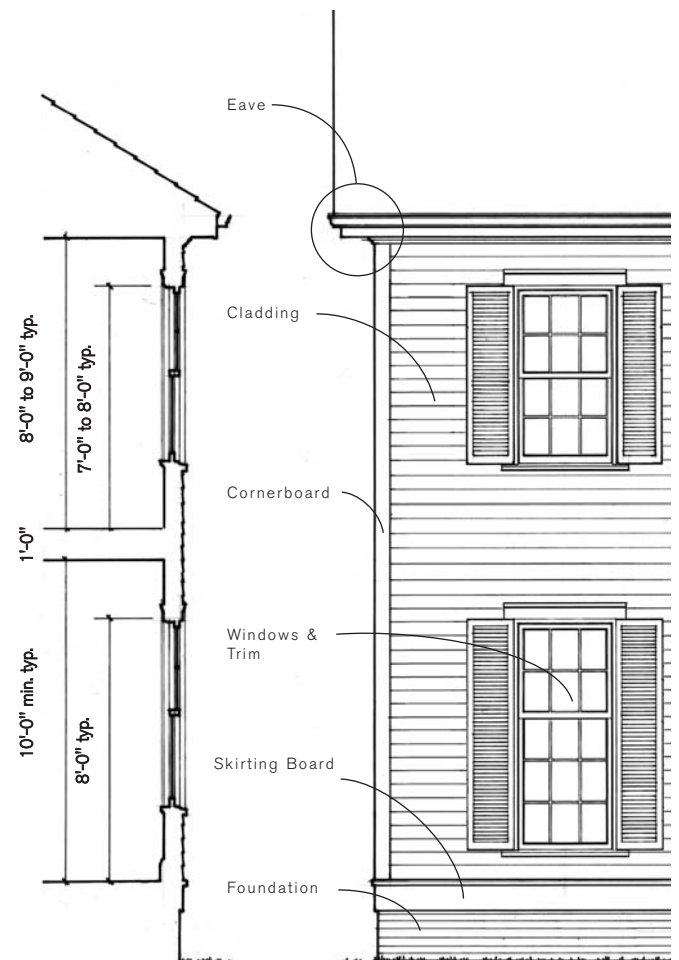
Common Boxed Eave



Baton Rouge



Ornate Boxed Eave



GREEN BUILDING

Overhangs

Roof overhangs on the south side of a house can be sized to provide shade in the summer when the sun is high in the sky, and direct sunlight and warmth in the winter when the sun is at a lower altitude. Overhangs also prevent water from draining directly onto the house and its foundation.

PORCHES

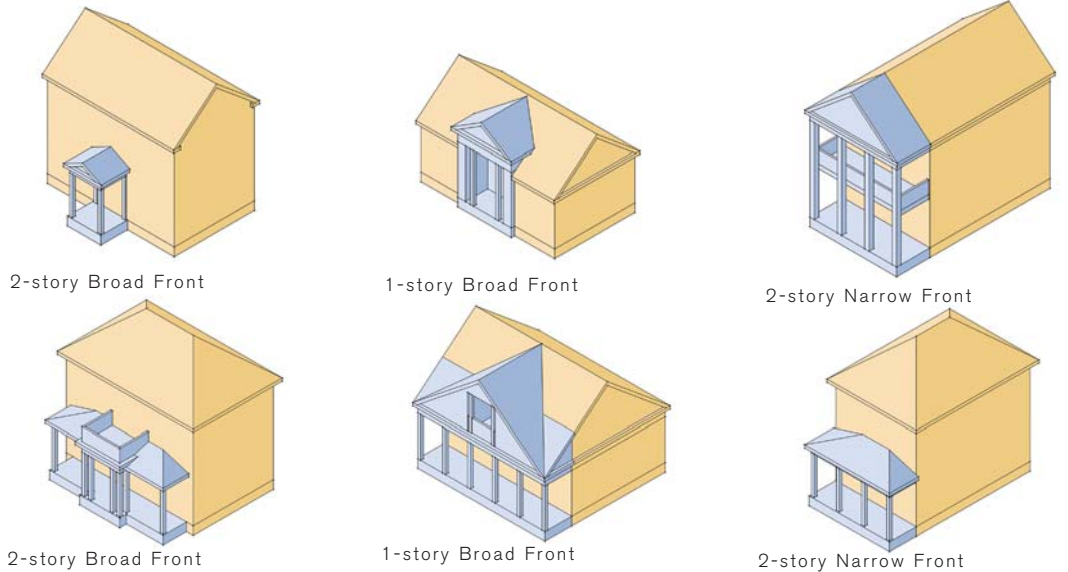
PORCH TYPES & LOCATIONS

- >> Broad Front massing types may have aedicules, porticoes, or porches. Porticoes typically have decorative gabled roofs, or shallow roofs concealed by a railing. Porch roofs are typically gabled or hipped; three-bay and full-length porches are common. Occasionally porches resemble the Acadian-influenced massing type and continue the roof line of the house. Two-story porches are common on larger houses, and may have grand, two-story columns.
- >> Narrow Front massing types typically have gabled or hipped roof porches or porticoes. Often the porch roof is an extension of the house roof. Full-length porches are common. Two-story porches are common on larger houses, and may have grand 2-story columns.
- >> Porches are generally centered in the facade composition.
- >> The minimum recommended porch depth is 8 feet.



One-story, Hipped Porch Partial Elevation

TYPICAL PORCH TYPES & LOCATIONS >>



Crowley

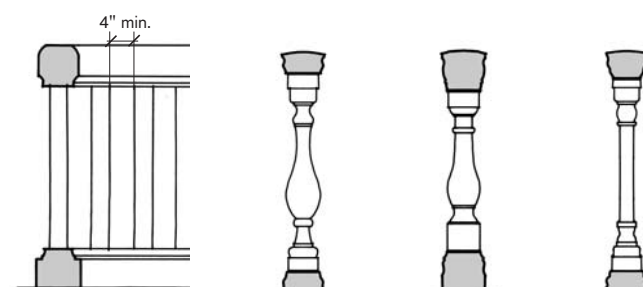


New Orleans



Thibodaux

RAIL DETAILS >>



New Orleans

PORCH ROOFS & EAVES

- >> Flat, shed, gabled, or hipped roofs
- >> Shed or hipped porches typically have a 2 to 4 in 12 pitch.
- >> Classically proportioned temple-front porch roofs typically have a 5 in 12 to 7 in 12 roof pitch.
- >> Porch eaves are often of the same type as the main house, but are typically more ornamented.

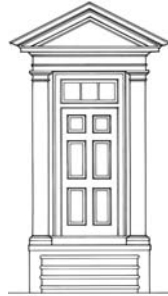
COLUMNS

- >> Single-story porches have 9- to 10-foot-tall columns, 10 to 12 inches in diameter.
- >> 2-story porches have 9- to 10-foot-tall columns, 10 to 12 inches in diameter on the first floor, and 8- to 9-foot columns on the second floor. Two-story grand order columns are much larger in dimension, and should be proportioned to the full height of the house.
- >> Greek Doric, Roman Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian columns are all common.

RAILINGS

- >> Balusters have a square or turned cross section, and should be spaced no more than 4 inches apart.

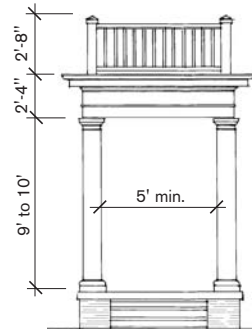
PORCH TYPES >>



Aedicule



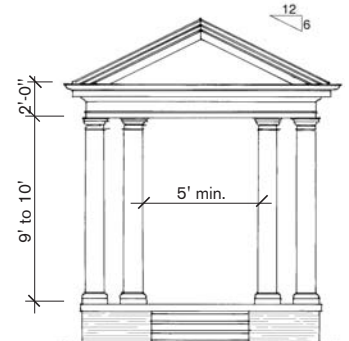
Aedicule



Portico with Railing



Portico with Railing



Pediment Porch



Pediment Porch

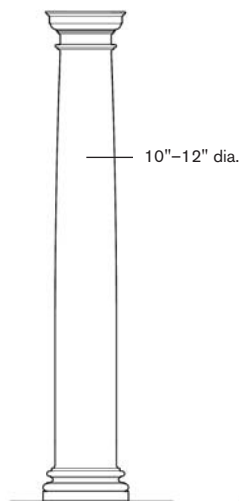
COLUMN TYPES >>



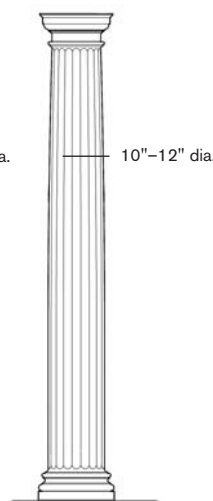
New Orleans



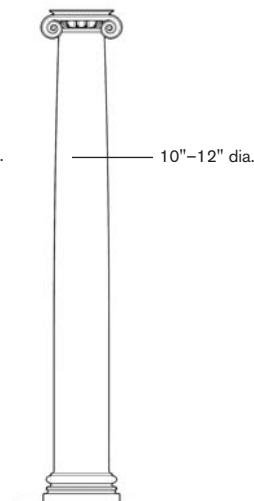
Lake Charles



Doric

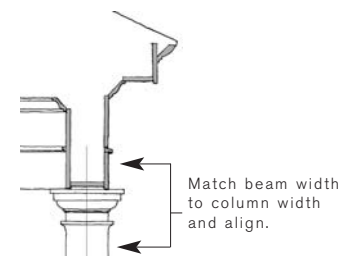
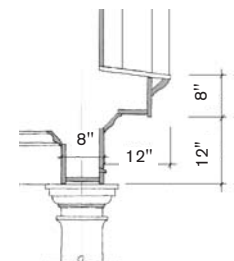


Doric Fluted



Ionic

EAVE SECTIONS



WINDOWS & DOORS

STANDARD WINDOWS

- >> Windows are typically double hung and vertical in proportion.
- >> Basic window muntin patterns include 6 over 1, 6 over 6, 9 over 1, 9 over 9, 12 over 12, and 9 over 6.
- >> First-floor windows are typically taller than second-floor windows.
- >> Range of sizes:
Width: 2'-8" to 3'-8"
Height: 4'-4" to 6'-0"
- >> Stone or brick jack arch lintels are typical.
- >> Materials: Painted wood or solid cellular PVC, or clad wood or vinyl with brick veneer only; true divided light or simulated divided light (SDL) sash with traditional exterior muntin profile (7/8" wide)

WINDOW ASSEMBLIES & ACCENT WINDOWS

- >> Palladian arched accent windows in gabled ends, dormers with gable or hipped roof, and the triple window with broad center sash (a hallmark of the Louisiana Classical style house)

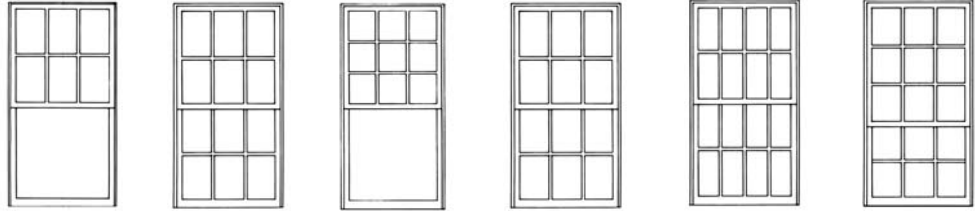


GREEN BUILDING

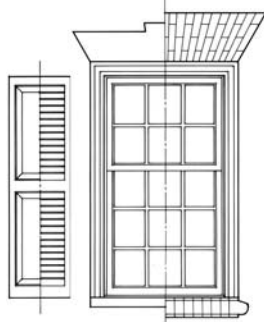
Shutters

Exterior shutters are an effective passive solar feature as well as a traditional and aesthetically pleasing design element of the Louisiana home. Operable shutters keep the hot sun out, while allowing breezes to ventilate and cool the house.

STANDARD WINDOWS >>



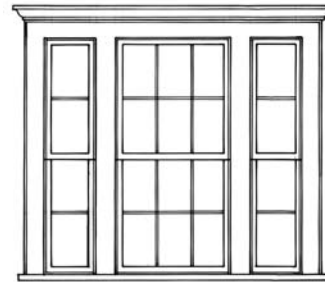
WINDOW ASSEMBLIES >>



SIMPLE
Window



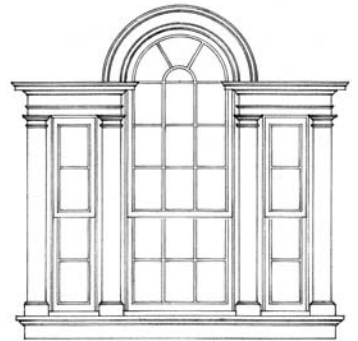
Baton Rouge



COMMON
Triple Window



New Orleans

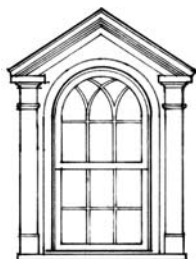


ORNATE
Palladian Window



New Orleans

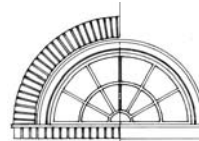
SPECIAL WINDOWS >>



Dormer



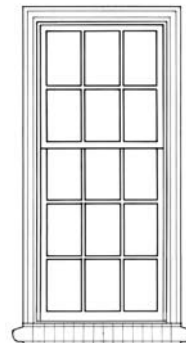
Crowley



Accent



Lake Charles



Floor-to-Ceiling
Window



New Orleans

DOORS

- >> Wood, fiberglass, or steel with traditional stile and rail proportions, panel profiles, and glazing patterns as illustrated below

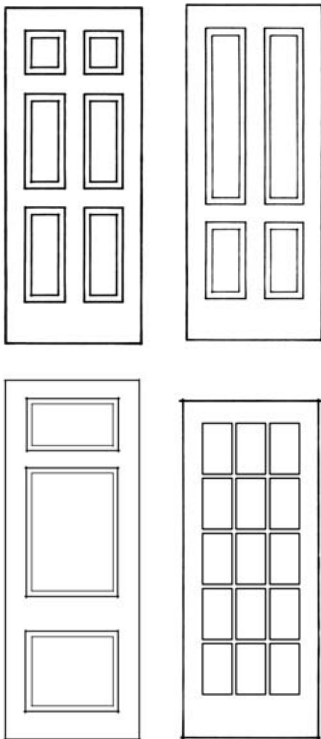
TRIM

- >> Wood, composite, cellular PVC, or polyurethane millwork in configurations illustrated below

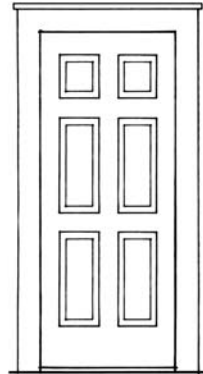
SHUTTERS

- >> Shutters can be louvered, raised panel, or flat panel
- >> Wood or composite, sized to match window sash and mounted with hardware so that they are operable

DOOR TYPES



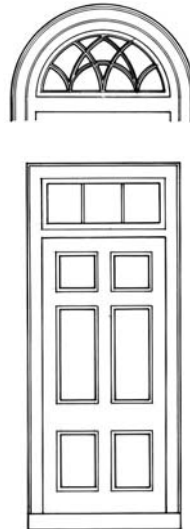
DOOR ASSEMBLIES >>



SIMPLE
Door



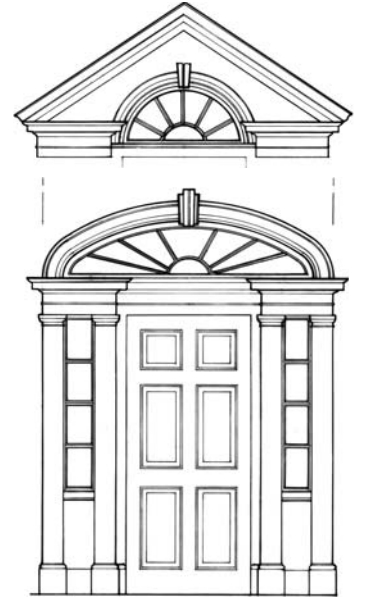
Baton Rouge



COMMON
Door with Transom



Baton Rouge

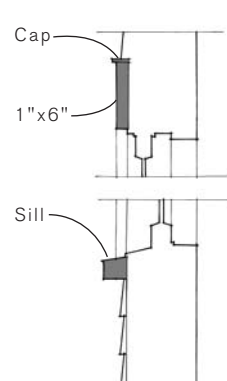


ORNATE
Door with Transom
and Sidelights

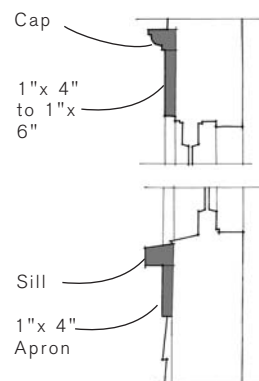


Baton Rouge

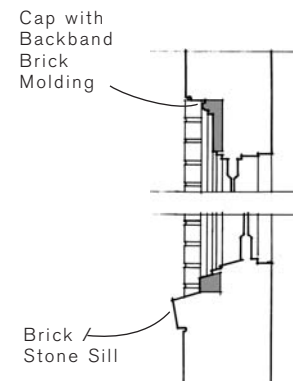
TYPICAL TRIM EXAMPLES >>



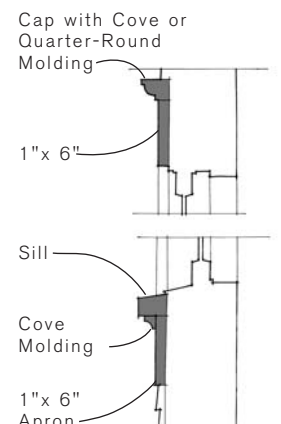
SIMPLE
Wood



COMMON
Wood



ORNATE
Brick



ORNATE
Wood