

Art Deco / Moderne



The Art Deco/Moderne style enjoyed popularity in Los Angeles in the late 1920s to the early 1940s.

The Art Deco style was introduced at the Paris Exposition in 1925. The term "Art Deco" comes from the French phrase "Arts Decoratifs". The style reflects the modernity of science and industry from this time period and was influenced by the Bauhaus in Europe. More high-style variants are sometimes referred to as "Zig Zag Moderne", because of the geometric patterns used as decoration in the style.

Art Deco/Moderne structures are symmetrical and stylized, with recessed, vertical or horizontal rows of windows, "wedding cake" setbacks, and sometimes stylized ornamentation of animals, water, and sunbursts. Residential structures are typically one or two stories, while commercial structures are sometimes multi-storied.

Features of the Art Deco/Moderne style are often mixed with the Prairie style and the Spanish Colonial Revival Style.



Art Deco/Moderne - Common character defining features

<p>Windows (pg. 61)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One-over-one or single pane ▪ Glass block ▪ Rectangular or round ▪ Arranged in vertical or horizontal bands ▪ Decorative crowns and spandrel panels 	<p>Porches (pg. 69)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Relatively restrained ▪ Cantilevered awnings 	<p>Doorways (pg. 66)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Paired or single ▪ Large pane glazing ▪ Rectangular ▪ Decorative crowns
<p>Roofs (pg. 73)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flat ▪ Symmetrical ▪ Central tower with receding stepped lower floors (wedding cake set backs) ▪ Parapets (most often curved) 	<p>Wall surfaces (pg. 79)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stucco ▪ Concrete ▪ Glass Block ▪ Stainless Steel ▪ Aluminum 	

Notes on styles section:

This text may be customized to include information related to this architectural style that is unique to your HPOZ. Although you may use an alternate approach, you may wish to review the recommended five paragraph approach towards writing this section as outlined below:

- *The first paragraph contains an overview of the period of development of the style. You might want to include information about the dates such styles were popular regionally and more specifically within your HPOZ.*
- *The second paragraph contains background information about the style's development. It may include a description of the origin of the style and its relationship to other contemporary movements.*
- *The third paragraph includes information on the identifying hallmarks of the style. This is where you describe the main components of this style that differentiate it from others.*
- *You may wish to add a fourth paragraph to detail more specific examples of this style within your HPOZ, including a discussion of any prominent local architects who worked in this style. Other related information regarding your local HPOZ could be added. This paragraph will most likely be unique to your HPOZ only.*
- *The last paragraph discusses the styles with which this style is commonly found mixed. It is important to illustrate how styles are not necessarily exclusive of each other, and that elements of many different different styles may be found a single structure.*

The Art Deco style was used both in residential and commercial buildings. The text to the right contains references to the style as used in both types of buildings. If the style is only used in one type of building in your HPOZ, you may want to modify the text to reflect that fact.

Suggested graphics are included to help illustrate the text. They may be replaced or augmented by the graphics to the right, or you may wish to substitute local photos or other graphics illustrating buildings or styles within your HPOZ.

The chart to the left contains information to help identify buildings of this style in the community. There may be additional unique locally occurring features that characterize this style in your neighborhood which you may wish to add.

Additional graphics:

