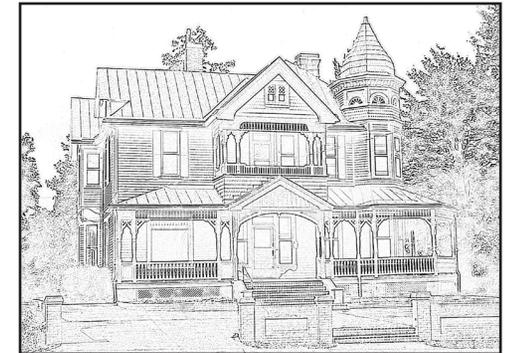
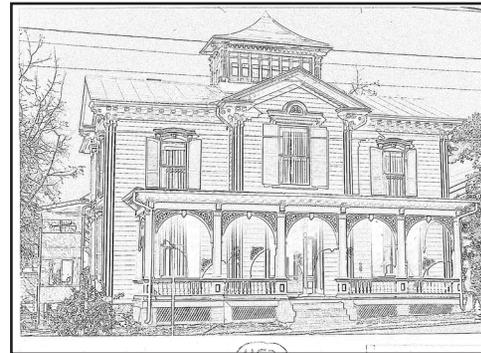
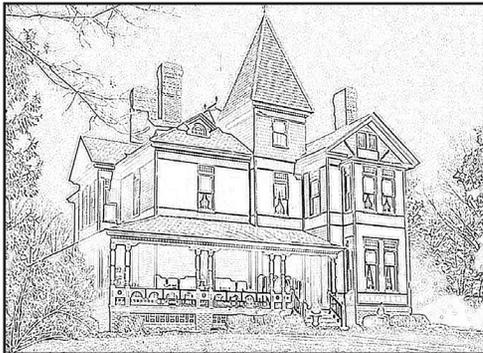


Color a Painted Lady

A Selection of Houses Awaiting Your Color Designs



***Four houses listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register
and National Register of Historic Places***

Virginia Department of Historic Resources



Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland County

Mount Pleasant is a three-story Queen Anne-style house built in 1887 by John E.R. Crabbe on property that had been in the Lee family for six generations. The frame house, covered by shiplap clapboard cypress boards, features a variety of dormer windows on the gables. The interior fabric of the dwelling maintains its historic appeal with original walnut woodwork and bronze-plated, cast iron hardware on the first floor. A magnificent three-story walnut and chestnut stairwell is fitted with a leaded glass skylight. Gaslights illuminated the house through an acetylene plant Mr. Crabbe built on the property. Ten of the house's original gasoliers have survived and are in their original locations. When Mount Pleasant was built, it was one of the first and few examples of Late Victorian architecture in Westmoreland County.



Anthony Hockman House*, Harrisonburg

One of Harrisonburg's local builders, Anthony Hockman designed and built this elaborately ornamented Italianate-style residence for himself in 1871. An excellent example of the architecturally spirited dwellings of prosperous small towns of the late 19th century, the frame dwelling retains the traditional symmetrical plan characteristic of early country and town houses while incorporating fancy stylish ornament on both the exterior and interior. Its lacy sawn trim is typical of Harrisonburg houses in the last decades of the century, reflecting the town's growing awareness of architectural fashion. The house is set apart from more standard dwellings by its multi-windowed cupola with its eye-catching concave curved pyramidal roof. A highlight of the interior is the elaborated stenciled decorations on the dining room ceiling.

*The Hockman House illustrates Italianate design, a popular architectural style in the U.S. between the 1840s and 1890s that came before then overlapped with popular Queen Anne-style architecture. "Painted ladies" generally refers to Victorian era Queen Anne-style houses.

Avoca, Lynchburg

Designed in 1901 by Lynchburg architect John Minor Botts Lewis for Thomas and Mary Fauntleroy, Avoca is one of the state's foremost expressions of the Queen Anne style, a style distinguished by complex rooflines, a variety of surface treatments and window types, and numerous porches and projections. Avoca's interior has no less visual interest than the exterior. The hall is dominated by a grand staircase with a rounded balcony projecting from a landing. Avoca is also the site of an earlier dwelling, Green Level, the home of Revolutionary War patriot Col. Charles Lynch. It was on Lynch's land that area Tories were flogged by locals for allegiance to the British crown, giving rise to the term Lynch Law. Avoca now houses a museum and historical society. On the grounds are several outbuildings predating the present house.





John Waddy Carter House, Martinsville

Built in 1896, during a period of architectural gusto nationwide, the John Waddy Carter house is a textbook example of the American Queen Anne style. With its sawn ornaments, shingled surfaces and spindle friezes, the house, known locally as "The Gray Lady," displays the virtuosity of the Victorian carpenter. A dominant characteristic of this country's interpretation of what began as an English revival of vernacular forms is the variety of porches which accommodated America's sociability and warm summers. The interior features large pocket doors, a stained-glass window, and handsome brass hardware. The house was built for local attorney and later city mayor John Waddy Carter for his bride. The house remained in the family until 1987 when it was purchased Rives S. Brown who restored the house and opened it public in 1989.

About Queen Anne-style Architecture and Painted Ladies

(Information from Wikipedia, with edits)

In the United States, **Queen Anne-style architecture** was popular from roughly 1880 to 1910. The style bears almost no relationship to the original Queen Anne-style architecture in Britain (a toned-down version of English Baroque that was used mostly for gentry houses) which appeared during the time of Queen Anne (who reigned from 1702 to 1714). The American style covers a wide range of picturesque buildings with "free Renaissance" (non-Gothic Revival) details, rather than being a specific formulaic style in its own right.

Queen Anne-style buildings in the United States came into vogue during the 1880s. The popularity of high Queen Anne style waned in the early 1900s, but some elements continued to be found on buildings into the 1920s, such as the wrap-around front porch (often L-shaped).

Distinctive features of the American Queen Anne style may include—

- asymmetrical façade
- dominant front-facing gable, often cantilevered beyond the plane of the wall below
- overhanging eaves
- round, square, or polygonal towers
- shaped and Dutch gables
- a porch covering part or all of the front facade, including the primary entrance area
- a second-story porch or balconies
- pedimented porches
- differing wall textures, such as patterned wood shingles shaped into varying designs, including resembling fish scales, terra cotta tiles, relief panels, or wooden shingles over brickwork, etc.
- dentils
- classical columns
- spindle work
- oriel and bay windows
- horizontal bands of leaded windows
- monumental chimneys
- painted balustrades
- wooden or slate roofs
- front gardens with wooden fences

In American architecture, **painted ladies** refers to Victorian-era (Queen Anne-style) houses and buildings repainted, starting in the 1960s, in three or more colors that embellish or enhance their architectural details. Writers Elizabeth Pomada and Michael Larsen first used the term for San Francisco's Victorian houses in their 1978 book *Painted Ladies: San Francisco's Resplendent Victorians*. Although polychrome decoration was common in the Victorian era, the colors used on these houses are not based on historical precedent.

Here is a link to an article about historic paint colors for houses: <https://www.oldhouseonline.com/repairs-and-how-to/guide-to-period-appropriate-paints>.