

Pacific Northwest Style Intent Statement DRAFT

Pacific Northwest architecture is defined by the extensive use of unpainted wood in both interiors and exteriors. It may incorporate elements of the rustic, craftsman, and Cascadian styles, as well as elements inherent to Japanese architecture, such as strong interrelationships to the surrounding site and environment. It is sometimes known as Northwest Modern or a regional variant of the International style.

The Pacific Northwest style often responds to and takes advantage of the climate and with design elements that provide weather protection. The design may leverage solar access with south facing windows and respond to the micro-climatic conditions of the site. Design may represent the state of the practice in sustainability and green building emphasizing energy efficiency, water conservation, and other eco-friendly elements.

Common architectural and design features emblematic of Pacific Northwest or Northwest style include:

- Strong interrelationship with the surrounding site and environment with direct points of access and visual connections between indoor spaces and outdoor spaces. Buildings may be built into topography and designed to blend within the setting; architecture may appear to rise from the landscape.
- Architecture that accentuates, connects with, enhances, and frames views of the outdoors and unique natural elements (forests, water, mountains, etc.).
- Generous glazing; often including large windows that extend the full length of walls along signature spaces and extensive windows to optimize the relationship with natural light and to provide visual connections with the outdoors.
- Extensive use of timber/wood and other natural materials such as rock and stone; use of wood shingles and wood panels for siding material; cedar is a commonly used type of wood along with other wood native to the Pacific NW.
- Exposed timber/wood structural elements—posts and beams and other details. In modern buildings, the use of steel and timber combined in the structural detailing is common.
- Exposed concrete foundations and walls, which may be board formed or have other distinctive finish treatments.
- Exaggerated overhangs and architectural treatments that provide weather protection, such as wide overhanging eaves, roof extensions, and structural (steel, wood, glass) awnings.
- Traditional forms often include sloped roof elements, while more modern forms often include more gently sloping or shed roof lines, as well as clean lines, right angles, horizontal emphasis, and other elements of pronounced geometry in the architecture.
- Design emphasis on a neutral, earthtone color palette that blends buildings into surroundings and integrates well with wood. Sometimes accent colors are used (blues, greens, warmer colors).
- Distinctive and unique features and rustic architectural elements, which could include curved roof elements/overhangs, juxtaposing or butterfly roof lines, Native American art from tribes of the Pacific Northwest, and other types of integrated art features.

- Accent lighting, architectural lighting, and site lighting that highlights elements of building architecture, pedestrian areas, and other features while minimizing light pollution across the site.
- With multiple buildings as part of a district, campus, or master site development, architectural design styles, colors, and materials are often cohesive across the entire project, and while there may be differences in various types of buildings, there are elements of continuity to that help the development feel cohesive and unified, often in a village character.

Photos/Image Examples:

Following are a few representatives examples of Pacific Northwest design style, including site development scale examples. We are building a full catalogue of images that we will issue to City Council for review soon.



The Outpost Mixed Use Project, Hood River, OR by Skylab Architects



The Outpost Mixed Use Project, Hood River, OR by Skylab Architects



Barbur Blvd Shops Project, Portland, OR



Rendering of the Woodinville Schoolhouse District project in Woodinville, WA, GGLO Architects and Main Street Properties



Aegis Senior Living, Mercer Island, WA



Indoor Community Space; Exposed Posts and Beams; View to Water



Indoor Multiuse Space with Views to Outside; Exposed Beams and Artwork



Old Mill District, Bend, Oregon



BIRDSEYE VIEW GROVE_NW CROSSING

NorthWest Crossing Commercial and Mixed Use, Bend, Oregon, Hacker Architects

Resources:

Examples of this style incorporated into commercial, mixed use, and multifamily residential may be found at:

- Willows Lodge, Woodinville, Washington, GGLO Architects
- Woodinville Schoolhouse Mixed Use Project (Under Construction) Woodinville, Washington, GGLO Architects
- Downtown Woodinville Retail/Commercial Buildings, various architects
- Tacoma Paper & Stationery, UW, Tacoma, Miller Hull Partnership
- Olympic College, Poulsbo, WA, Miller Hull Partnership
- 8th and Republican Mixed Use, Seattle, WA, Miller Hull Partnership
- Heron Flats + Lofts, Redmond, WA, GGLO Architects
- Carter on the Park, Redmond, WA, GGLO Architects
- Ballard Library, Seattle, WA, Bohlin, Cywinski, Jackson
- Bryant Heights Residential, Seattle, WA, Mary Johnston/Johnston Architects
- University of Washington, Bill & Melinda Gates Center for Computer Science and Engineering, Seattle, WA, LMN Architects
- Architecture of various buildings in Whistler Village, British Columbia
- Elison S. Floyd Cultural Center, WSU Pullman Campus, GGLO Architects
- NorthWest Crossing mixed use (retail, work, living) Bend, OR, Hacker Architects
- Various Other Buildings/Development in the Old Mill District, Bend, OR, multiple architects
- Gunbarrel Center Mixed Use/Multifamily, Boulder, CO, BAR Architects

Toward a New Regionalism: Environmental Architecture in the Pacific Northwest
(*Sustainable Design Solutions from the Pacific Northwest*) by David E. Miller

Northwest Style: Interior Design and Architecture in the Pacific Northwest by Ann Wall Frank

<https://www.contemporist.com/20-awesome-examples-of-pacific-northwest-architecture/>

<https://guides.lib.uw.edu/c.php?g=341445&p=2303671>

<https://guides.lib.uw.edu/c.php?g=341330&p=2298183>

<https://blog.360modern.com/defining-characteristics-northwest-regional-style/2017/03/>