

Representative Architectural Elements

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Common Materials

“The development of building materials may be considered evolutionary rather than revolutionary.” (Jester 14) The modern period of 1940-1970 saw the continued use of traditional materials, but the materials were used in new ways and with new stylistic treatments. In the United States, the scarcity of labor combined with the low cost of materials provided a constant motivation for use of technology to develop building products that were more efficient to produce and install.

World War II was the catalyst for many changes in material production and use. Mobilization for war resulted in large scale construction projects that contributed to the standardization of building systems. Wartime demands led to the development of new technology and the refinement of existing technologies, leading to greater efficiency and a decrease in cost. The development of plastics, aluminum and pre-cast concrete systems were all advanced during the war years.

The postwar building boom resulted from pent-up demand for new construction. During the Depression and war years, there was little domestic construction. After the war, servicemen were returning home, marrying, and starting families. The GI Bill assisted veterans in buying homes. In addition, demand for consumer goods led to increased construction in commercial and manufacturing areas. The explosive demand for construction drove the process and resulted in the further standardization and efficiency. Technological advances in material production continued through the postwar years.

Modern styles were heavily influenced by technological developments. The Art Moderne style featured the smooth, streamlined components of glass block and glazed brick. The Miesian style made use of standardized components of glass, steel and aluminum to create functional structures with clean lines. Brutalism and New Formalism were concerned with the expression of concrete through pre-cast and cast-in-place units.

The industrial state of Ohio was well placed to contribute to the building boom of the postwar era. Many traditional building products manufacturers were already located in the state. Existing businesses developed and marketed new technologies, and new manufacturing companies also were founded. Some examples of existing Ohio manufacturers include Belden Brick of Canton (masonry products), Libbey-Owens-Ford of Toledo (Vitrolite structural glass) and Owens-Illinois of Toledo (glass block). The Permastone Company of Columbus was founded

in the late 1920s and marketed a simulated masonry product that was widely used in the Modern era. The Lustron Company, also of Columbus, manufactured pre-fabricated porcelain enameled steel houses.

The period 1940 through 1970 witnessed a great deal of development of new materials and new treatments of existing materials. These changes were reflected in the stylistic evolution of architecture during the era.

Concrete

Concrete Block

Concrete Block was developed during the early 20th century. It became popular because it was inexpensive, easy to manufacture, made from readily available materials, and installed quickly.

Decorative Concrete Block

Concrete block was not only a solid building material, but it could also be used decoratively. Blocks were designed to form patterns when laid in a prescribed way.



Recessed diamond pattern
Sprague Electric Company (1962)
300 W. National Rd., Vandalia
MOT-05432-13



Projecting diamond pattern
Pingle's Trophies and Engraving (1965)
5312 N. Main St., Dayton
MOT-05336-09



Vertical reveal
Fill It Up Car Wash (1970)
5505 N. Main St., Dayton
MOT-05334-09



Angled pattern
Merkle Pharmacy (1960)
7600-2 N. Main St., Dayton
MOT-05329-12

Elongated split face block

Elongated split face block mimicked rough face stone and was often laid in an offset bonding pattern.



Dr. Stanley Scott office (1962)
2234 Salem Ave., Dayton
MOT-05262-36

Ornamental concrete block

Ornamental concrete block was usually square with decorative patterns and voids and was used to form a screen. Although more common in non-residential settings, this treatment was also found in some houses.



Screen integrated into façade
Vandalia State Bank (1950)
4600 N. Dixie Dr., Dayton
MOT-05407-09



Used as a porch screen
4624 Christopher Ave., Dayton (1956)
MOT-05350-39



Standalone screen with signage
First Finance (1964)
1013 N. Main, Dayton
MOT-05344-44



Applied ornament
Hoover Skate Arena (1965)
4623 Hoover Ave., Dayton
MOT-05556-32

Reinforced Concrete

Reinforced concrete was widely used because it was readily available, durable, and could be used architecturally to emphasize Modern styles. It was cast in place around steel reinforcement. The completed appearance was influenced by the formwork, as the angles and patterns of the forms created an architectural effect.



Decorative formed finish
Globe Motors (1968)
2275 Stanley Ave., Dayton
MOT-05513-50



Decorative formed finish
Kettering City Hall (1970)
3600 Shroyer Rd., Kettering
MOT-05488-06



Formed concrete panels
Wright Elementary School (1967-68)
480 W. Funderburg Rd., Fairborn
GRE-01202-10

Architectural Pre-cast Concrete

Architectural pre-cast concrete was developed and refined during the World War II era. It was manufactured, which offered control over quality and price. Standardized pieces allowed ease of assembly, and many different finish options were available. Pre-cast concrete could be used in different ways, including structural elements, decorative panels, and curtain wall cladding. Several treatments were observed in the Dayton survey, including use as a decorative element, exposed aggregate finish, smooth finish panels, and structural elements – canopies, columns, and beams.

Decorative elements

Pre-cast concrete allowed the use of non-rectangular sculptural forms. It was observed on a few buildings, primarily of the New Formalism style.



Globe Motors (1968)
2275 Stanley Ave., Dayton
MOT-05513-50



Third National Bank (1970)
205 E. National Rd., Dayton
MOT-05433-13

Exposed aggregate finish

An exposed aggregate concrete finish is created by removing the outer layer of cement paste to reveal the aggregate layer beneath. Aggregates may be mixed into the concrete, seeded into placed concrete, or mixed with a topping material and applied as an overlay. Aggregate size, shape and color determine the appearance of the final product. Several examples of exposed aggregate finish were observed in the surveyed properties. This finish was seen mostly in walls and spandrel panels. Aggregate materials included rock chips, pebbles and pea gravel; colors were generally beige, tan or golden.



Curtain wall system
Roesch Library,
University of Dayton (1969)
300 College Park Ave., Dayton
MOT-05158-60



Spandrel
Beerman Building Annex (1967)
5 W. Monument Ave., Dayton
MOT-05208-15



Spandrel
Fox Kettering Theatre (1967)
1441 E. Dorothy Ln., Kettering
MOT-05557-06



Spandrel of ribbon wall system
Trotwood Government Center (1970)
3035 Olive Rd., Trotwood
MOT-05469-08



Wall system

A&W Root Beer Drive-In (1962)
1727 Woodman Ave., Dayton
MOT-05644-63

Panels

Large pre-cast concrete panels were thick, boxy forms used on buildings that were weighty and massive in form, such as those of the Brutalism style. These panels were seen on a few buildings in the Dayton survey area.



United States Post Office (1970)
1111 E. Fifth St., Dayton
MOT-05160-57



Taylor Administration Center
Sinclair Community College (1967-72)
444 W. Third St., Dayton
MOT-05202-15

Structural elements

Pre-stressed concrete was used in structural elements subject to loads, such as beams and slabs. Several examples of concrete structural elements were observed in the surveyed buildings.



Beams

Fire Station 74 (1966)
14 W. Trotwood Blvd., Trotwood
MOT-05481-08



Canopy

Imperial 300 Car Wash (1966)
2536 Wilmington Pike, Kettering
MOT-05493-06



Piers

Eugene W. Betz, Architect office (1965)
2223 S. Dixie Hwy., Kettering
MOT-05492-06

Masonry

Brick

Brick was one of the oldest and most commonly used building materials in the Dayton area, and it continued to be widely used in the Modern era. It was readily available from factories in Ohio and surrounding states. Factories produced standardized pieces, allowing ease of assembly. Modern era brickwork varied from the traditional in color, shapes, finishes, and bonding pattern. Colors included shades of red, orange, buff, yellow, cream, gray, brown and black. Elongated brick was commonly seen, and some featured a rusticated horizontal band. Other finishes included scored, textured, and split face. Bonding patterns included stretcher, offset, stack and projecting, with stretcher and offset the most common. Brick construction of this era was also different than its predecessors. Face brick was manufactured with holes in the top and bottom to ensure even firing. In addition, brick was usually laid as a one-wythe veneer tied to a structural framing system of wood, metal or concrete.



Elongated with scored finish
1711 E. 3rd St., Dayton (ca. 1960)
MOT-05269-57



Elongated with rusticated horizontal band
5764 Barbanna Ln., Trotwood (1955)
MOT-05521-08

Ornamental Patterned Bonding



Alternating projecting pattern
Fairview Baptist Church (1965)
6401 N. Main St., Dayton
MOT-05332-09



Corner treatment
Merkle Pharmacy (1960)
7600-2 N. Main St., Dayton
MOT-05329-12



Elongated split face with offset bond
Fox Cleaners & Laundromat (1947)
4333 N. Main St., Dayton
MOT-05339-09



Elongated with offset bond
Kitty Hawk Elementary (1959)
5758 Harshmanville Rd., Huber Heights
MOT-05518-14



Elongated with offset bond and projecting pattern

Capri Motel & Coffee Shop (1956)
2700 S. Dixie Hwy., Kettering
MOT-05498-06



Ornamental treatment with contrast

Vandalia Evangelical United Brethren Church (1963)
200 S. Dixie Dr., Vandalia
MOT-05437-13



Stack bond

Fairmont East High School (1962-65)
3000 Glengarry Dr., Kettering
MOT-05491-06



Stack bond with contrasting accents

Vandalia Evangelical United Brethren Church (1963)
200 S. Dixie Dr., Vandalia
MOT-05437-13



Wall with recessed reveals
Rothenburg Medical Building (1963)
1131-33 Salem Ave., Dayton
MOT-05258-42

Glazed Brick / Ceramic Block

Glazed brick and ceramic block were used for emphasis and accent. The sleekness of appearance reflects attributes of the Modern style. Factory-manufactured standardized pieces ensured quality and ease of assembly. Bricks and blocks were available in different shapes and a variety of colors. Bonding patterns include stretcher, offset and stack. The survey revealed that earlier uses of these materials tended to be as accent striping, though later it was used to fill larger fields.



Elongated glazed brick with color accent
John F. Kennedy Jr. High School (1967)
5030 Polen Dr., Kettering
MOT-05496-06



Horizontal panels of stack bond
Richards Electric Supply (1961)
1569 Stanley Ave., Dayton
MOT-05514-48



Large field used to emphasize entrance
 Rushmore Elementary (1964)
 7701 Berchman Dr., Huber Heights
 MOT-05517-14



Used as an accent
 PMF Associates (1946)
 1280 McCook Ave., Dayton
 MOT-05508-48

Lava Rock

Lava rock was a popular stylistic treatment in the Modern era. It was found in panels and as a wall cladding. This treatment was found on a few residential and non-residential buildings, but it was not common.



Lava rubble used as wall cladding
 Falcon Motel (1967)
 36 N. Broad St., Fairborn
 GRE-01205-10



Vertical panels
 2139 Salem (1965)
 2139 Salem Ave., Dayton
 MOT-05261-41

Simulated Masonry

Simulated masonry became a popular treatment during the period because it was more affordable and quicker to install than traditional stone. Concrete products, applied either to lath or directly to other masonry, was formed into a simulated stone using molds and stamps. It was used in both new construction and renovation. Permastone, an Ohio product, was readily available in the Dayton area. Simulated masonry was observed in curved, flat, and accent panels. This treatment was observed on a number of residential and non-residential buildings in the Dayton area.



Curved panel

Salem Professional Center (1957)
1217 Salem Ave., Dayton
MOT-05260-42



Flat panel

1711 E. 3rd St., Dayton (ca. 1960)
MOT-05269-57



Accent panel

3740 Salem Ave., Dayton (1956)
MOT-05264-09



Accent panel

500 W. Sherry Dr., Trotwood (1957)
MOT-05478-08

Stone

Stone was a traditional material that was used in new ways. Large rubble stone walls or piers were used as a contrast to the surrounding materials. This feature was observed on several buildings in the survey.



Large panel and planter
Shelton Pharmacy (1962)
1525 Wayne Ave., Dayton
MOT-05205-60



Front wall
Siebenthaler Garden Center (1960)
6000 Far Hills Ave., Centerville
MOT-05218-03



Side wall
Greystone Medical (1965)
2033 E. Stroop Rd., Kettering
MOT-05502-06

Thin Stone Veneer

The cutting and manufacturing process to create thin stone veneer developed during the early part of the era. Veneer was used extensively with the curtain wall systems that became prominent during the period. Factory manufacture offered standardization, quality, attractive pricing, and a variety of options. Types of stone offered as veneer included limestone, marble, and granite.

Limestone

Limestone was locally available in the Dayton area and predominates in this type of treatment in the surveyed properties. It was often used to accent entrances.



Wayne High School (1959-75)
5400 Chambersburg Rd., Huber Heights
MOT-05516-14



W. W. Wurst, Architect office (1954)
4699 Salem Ave., Dayton
MOT-05267-08

Marble / granite panels

Seen rarely in the survey, marble or granite was used to frame entrances or as an accent area.



Ohio Bell (1970)
21 S. Pleasant St., Fairborn
GRE-01211-10



Wilbur Wright High School addition (1951)
1361 Huffman Ave., Dayton
MOT-05278-59

Metals

Aluminum

Aluminum “came of age” during the postwar era due to advances in production and cost reduction. It was available in many different finishes as well as being lightweight and resistant to corrosion. The survey revealed extensive use in curtain wall systems and other types of window framing. It was also seen in residential construction, especially in windows and ornamental elements. Aluminum became popular as a replacement siding on older homes during this period.



Extruded mullions
Fairview Baptist Church (1965)
6401 N. Main St., Dayton
MOT-05332-09



Vertical panel cladding
University of Dayton Arena (1969)
1801 S. Edwin C. Moses Blvd., Dayton
MOT-05157-64

Porcelain Enameled Steel

In addition to being lightweight, durable and strong, porcelain enameled steel gave a Modern, streamlined look to both commercial and residential structures. It was used both as decorative panels and as cladding for an entire structure. The Lustron Company was based in Columbus, Ohio, and produced pre-fabricated enameled steel houses from 1947-1950. The surveyed properties featured this material as decorative panels, spandrel panels, and panel cladding.



Decorative panels
David's Reliable Glass (1959)
3306 N. Dixie Dr., Dayton
MOT-05405-09



Spandrel panels
Burroughs Corp. Business Machines (1964)
131 Salem Ave., Dayton
MOT-05291-43



Panel cladding
Chapman-Lustron House (1949)
3007 Cornell Dr., Dayton
MOT-05162-38



Panel cladding
White Tower (1940-42)
200 E. Fifth St., Dayton
MOT-05156-15

Stainless Steel

Stainless steel became popular due to its resistance to corrosion, sleek appearance and Modern styling. It was observed in railings and ornamental applications.



Hand rails

135 W. Dorothy Ln., Kettering (1963)
MOT-05499-06

Steel

Steel roofing was observed on several non-residential buildings in the survey. Almost all examples were standing seam roofing.



Wolf Creek Company (1962)
6051 Wolf Creek Pike, Trotwood
MOT-05482-08



Memorial Presbyterian Church (1948)
1541 S. Smithville Rd., Dayton
MOT-05174-61

Wrought Iron – Decorative

Decorative wrought iron was used extensively in Modern-era residential properties, primarily as porch elements and screen doors. This porch treatment was observed in many types of homes, including Cape Cod cottage, Ranch and homes with no distinctive type or style. The use of decorative wrought iron was found to have extended from the early 1940s until the mid-late 1960s. During the same time period, wrought iron was also used as a railing material in multi-story apartments and motels in the Dayton area.



Porch elements, including screen door
1643 Academy Pl., Dayton (1958)
MOT-05232-36



Balcony elements
Richard Fisher House (1962)
5835 Kimway Dr., Dayton
MOT-05564-03



Post
Jerry's Barber Shop (1963)
5200 Markey Rd., Dayton
MOT-05338-09



Railings
Dayton Motor Hotel (1950)
1639 N. Keowee St., Dayton
MOT-05403-48

Doors and Windows

The evolution of windows and doors reflects the developments in materials. Metal window and door frames, which were made from steel in the 1940s, were later produced from aluminum. Glazing also experienced new developments in technology, which reduced costs. As the years progressed, more and more glass was used in buildings.

Windows and doors reflected Modern styles. Corners were emphasized by the placement of windows and entrance doors. Expansive use of glazing became a hallmark of Modern era buildings. Although usually more traditional, residences also featured Modern styling in windows and doors.

Door Types

Blonde wooden entrance doors were commonly found on houses of the 1940s and 1950s. These doors usually had one to three lights, often in diamond or rectangular shapes. A large number of houses retain these original front doors, although some have been painted. Double entrance doors were sometimes found on houses built in the 1960s.



Residential entrance – blonde and painted
724-728 Adams St., Fairborn (1954)
GRE-01196-10



Residential entrance - double
506 W. Sherry Dr., Trotwood (1966)
MOT-05479-08



Residential garage door
220 Burgess Ave., Harrison Twp. (1960)
MOT-05484-09

Door Treatments

Stylized handles

Stylized door handles were found on several commercial establishments.



White Tower (1940-42)
200 E. Fifth St., Dayton
MOT-05156-15



Antioch Shrine Temple (1955)
107 E. First St., Dayton
MOT-05304-15



Sears, Roebuck & Co. (1967)
5200 Salem Ave., Trotwood
MOT-05297-08



3816 E. Third St., Dayton (1966)
MOT-05289-59



Airline Theater (1947)
246 N. Dixie Dr., Vandalia
MOT-05465-13

With sidelights

Sidelights were more commonly found in residential settings, as most commercial doors were of the storefront type (see below).



Eugene W. Betz, Architect office (1965)
2223 S. Dixie Hwy., Kettering
MOT-05492-06



Residential door with sidelights
272 Balmoral Dr., Kettering (1950)
MOT-05543-06

Window Types

Awning

Awning windows were observed in the Dayton area in both residential and non-residential settings, beginning in the early to mid-1950s and continuing into the early 1960s.



Individual

3740 Salem Ave., Dayton (1956)
MOT-05264-09



Grouped

Dayton Boys' Club (1956)
601 S. Keowee St., Dayton
MOT-05457-60

Art glass

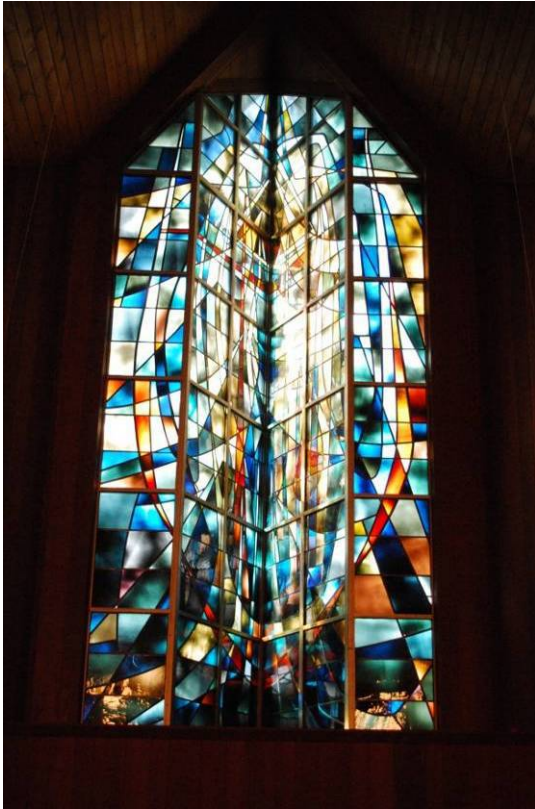
Some traditional art glass was found in Dayton-area churches, but the predominant type of art glass treatment was *dalle de verre*. *Dalle de verre* was developed as a new glass technique in France during the 1930s. Instead of using shapes cut from sheets of colored glass, *dalle de verre* used heavy faceted glass pieces. Originally, the glass pieces were set into a metal mesh that was then covered with a Portland cement mixture. Cement was not very practical, as it made for very heavy panels and had a long cure time. Eventually the metal mesh and cement combination was replaced by a specially developed epoxy resin. Aggregate was seeded into the newly poured resin to create a surface treatment. Also observed were several examples of panels of colored glass set in an offset pattern.



Leaded – traditional pattern
Central Christian Church (1957, 1962)
1200 Forrer Blvd., Kettering
MOT-05504-06



***Dalle de verre* panel**
Central Christian Church (1957, 1962)
1200 Forrer Blvd., Kettering
MOT-05504-06



Leaded – abstract pattern
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (1963)
6540 N. Main St., Dayton
MOT-05331-09



***Dalle de verre* - detail**
Church of the Incarnation (1969)
7415 Far Hills Ave., Dayton
MOT-05593-03



Dalle de Verre - curtain wall
St. Rita's Catholic Church (1964)
5401 N. Main St., Dayton
MOT-05335-09



Colored offset lights
First Church of the Nazarene (1964)
7031 N. Main St., Dayton
MOT-05330-09

Casement

Steel casement windows were observed in both residential and non-residential settings in Dayton. These types of windows were mostly found in buildings dating from the 1940s and 1950s. By the late 1950s, aluminum generally had replaced steel as a window framing material.



Trailmobile (1949)
1749 Stanley Ave., Dayton
MOT-05505-48



3325 Lenox Dr., Kettering (1949)
MOT-05548-06

Fixed wood with transom

Although this treatment was seen rarely in the surveyed buildings, a similar type of treatment was observed on some picture windows in residential housing (see Picture type).



3761-63 Salem Ave., Dayton (1956)
MOT-05265-09

Glass block

Glass block was used both as a decorative element and as a method of filtering light. It was very common in 1940s Art Moderne buildings, but it was also used in the 1950s in the Dayton area.



Used in large windows

Rolling Fields Intermediate School (1955)
2900 Acosta St., Kettering
MOT-05490-06



Used in entrance

Dayton Builders Exchange (1961)
2077 Embury Park Rd., Dayton
MOT-05386-09



Used in rounded corners

Univis Lens Company (1941, 1944)
401 Leo St., Dayton
MOT-05507-48

Hopper

Hopper windows were found both as individual windows and in groups. They were usually of aluminum and were found from the 1950s through the mid-1960s.



Individual

Electricians Union Building (1962)
1407 E. Third St., Dayton
MOT-05270-57



Banded with colored lights

Calvary Brethren Church (1962)
2850 E. Dorothy Ln., Kettering
MOT-05489-06

Horizontal slider

Horizontal slider windows began appearing in the Dayton area in the mid-1950s and were common on both residential and non-residential buildings. The popularity of horizontal sliders continued through the 1960s and beyond.



Capri Motel and Coffee Shop (1956)
2700 S. Dixie Hwy., Kettering
MOT-05498-06



Salem Professional Center (1957)
1217 Salem Ave., Dayton
MOT-05260-42

Jalousie

Although not common in Ohio due to lack of weather resistance, jalousie windows were found on several enclosed porches.



229 North American Blvd., Vandalia (1953,
enclosure date unknown)
MOT-05463-13

Steel

Steel windows were found on earlier 1940s buildings. The survey results indicate that steel had been replaced with aluminum-framed windows by the mid- to late 1950s.



PMF Associates (1946)
1280 McCook Ave., Dayton
MOT-05508-48

Window Treatments

Clerestory

Clerestory windows were a common feature in the Modern style. They were found in both residential and non-residential properties in the survey, beginning in the 1950s and continuing through the rest of the period.



Continuous
Aggarwal Dental Center (1957)
2640 Salem Ave., Dayton
MOT-05163-36



Angled
Fill It Up Car Wash (1970)
5505 N. Main St., Dayton
MOT-05334-09



Corner
John F. Kennedy Jr. High School (1967)
5030 Polen Dr., Kettering
MOT-05496-06



Above adjacent roofline
5764 Barbanna Ln., Trotwood (1955)
MOT-05521-08

Horizontal banded

Horizontal banded windows were common features of the Modern era. They were found primarily on non-residential buildings from the early 1950s through the mid-1960s. Most of these windows were aluminum-clad, although steel-clad examples were occasionally found.



Continuous - turning corner
General Diaper Service (1955)
1407 Stanley Ave., Dayton
MOT-05506-48



Turning corner
Harrison Twp. Fire Station #94 (1958)
5190 Markey Rd., Dayton
MOT-05337-09



With wingwall
Rolling Fields Intermediate School (1955)
2900 Acosta St., Kettering
MOT-05490-06



Two-story with piers
Fairmont East High School (1962-65)
3000 Glengarry Dr., Kettering
MOT-05491-06



Turning curved corner
Chaminade High School (1951)
505 S. Ludlow St., Dayton
MOT-05207-56



With surround
Board of Education Building (1954)
348 W. First St., Dayton
MOT-05150-15

Rounded corner with curved glass

Only one curved glass window was observed in the survey area. Rounded corners in other Art Moderne buildings were usually filled with glass block.



440 W. Main St., Fairborn (1949)
GRE-01192-10

Picture

The survey data showed that picture windows were very common in residences built in the 1940-1970 period.



Wooden, multi-pane
330 North American Blvd., Vandalia (1955)
MOT-05464-13



Aluminum, multi-pane
312 Leshar Dr., Kettering (1954)
MOT-05546-06



Flanked by casements
2550 England Ave., Dayton (1958)
MOT-05354-39



Flanked by awnings
4223 Breezewood Ave., Dayton (1959)
MOT-05353-39



Flanked by double hung

214 Curtiss Wright Blvd., Vandalia (1943)
MOT-05460-13



Full height

12 Mario Dr., Trotwood (1957)
MOT-05468-08

Glazed Aluminum Curtain Wall and Storefront Systems

Glazed Aluminum Curtain Wall

Glazed aluminum curtain wall was one of most prominent stylistic elements of Modern design. Its clean lines reflected the “machine aesthetic” that was a common theme of Modern styling. Framing systems featured prominent use of aluminum. Spandrels were comprised of many different types of materials, including porcelain enamel, exposed aggregate reinforced concrete, and ceramic tile. Curtain wall systems were found in many non-residential buildings in the Dayton area.



With entrance system
Kettering Masonic Center (1958)
2251 S. Smithville, Kettering
MOT-05503-06



With entrance system
Bomberger Recreation Center (1955)
1306 E. Fifth St., Dayton
MOT-05161-57



With entrance system
Wayne High School (1959-75)
5400 Chambersburg Rd., Huber Heights
MOT-05516-14



Horizontal ribbon window system
Globe Industries, Inc. (1954)
1784 Stanley Ave., Dayton
MOT-05509-48



With exposed aggregate spandrel panels
Beerman Building Annex (1967)
5 W. Monument Ave., Dayton
MOT-05208-15



With porcelain enamel metal spandrel panels
Linden Professional Building (1964)
2838 Linden Ave., Dayton
MOT-05200-61



With piers
Dayton Auto Club (1959)
825 S. Ludlow St., Dayton
MOT-05206-56



With piers
Taylor Administration Center,
Sinclair Community College (1967-72)
444 W. Third St., Dayton
MOT-05202-15



With vertical concrete panels
Financial South Office Building (1968)
5335 Far Hills, Kettering
MOT-05494-03

Storefront System

Storefront systems consist of glass entrance doors with metal framing that are surrounded by glass panels. These systems were found not only on retail establishments, but as entrances to churches, schools, and office buildings.



With porcelain enamel metal spandrel panels
Brandt Medical Center (1963)
5173 Brandt Pike, Huber Heights
MOT-05520-14



Church entrance
Central Christian Church (1957, 1962)
1200 Forrer Blvd., Kettering
MOT-05504-06



School entrance
Rolling Fields Intermediate School (1955)
2900 Acosta St., Kettering
MOT-05490-06

Finishes

Ceramic Tile

Ceramic tile was used to provide color accents. Mosaic tile was the most frequent type observed, usually in school or church settings.



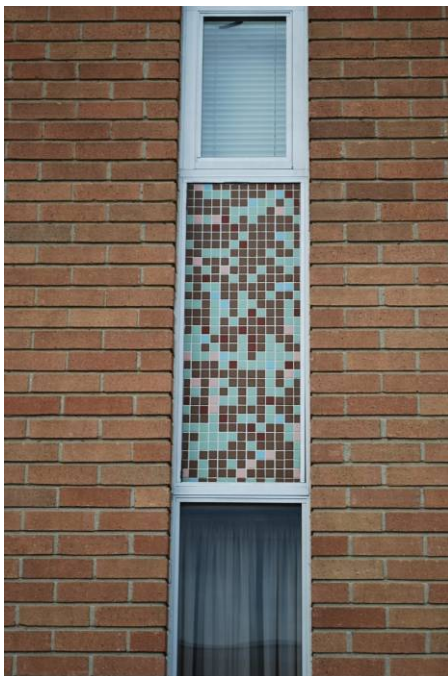
Accent on facade

Fairmont East High School (1962-65)
3000 Glengarry Dr., Kettering
MOT-05491-06



Used in a canopy

Dayton Towers (1963)
425 Dayton Towers Dr., Dayton
MOT-05159-57



Used in spandrels

St. John's Lutheran Church (1958)
122 W. National Rd., Vandalia
MOT-05466-13



Used in spandrels

John F. Kennedy Jr. High School (1967)
5030 Polen Dr., Kettering
MOT-05496-06



Large ceramic dimension tile
Tower Heights Middle School (1970)
195 N. Johanna Dr., Centerville
MOT-05594-03

Signage

Neon and light bulb

By 1940, exposed light bulb and neon signs had been in use for many years. Both types featured lights attached to a hollow-core metal base. Neon was popular due to the malleable quality of the neon tubing and wide variety of colors. Despite the popularity of neon, the exposed light bulb remained an important element of mid-20th-century signs. Many sign manufacturers took advantage of both lighting technologies well into the 1960s. Both neon and exposed light bulb signs were found in the survey.



Combination neon and exposed light bulb
Esther Price Candies (1952)
1709 Wayne Ave., Dayton
MOT-05195-60



Exposed light bulb
Command Motel (1960)
130 N. Broad St., Fairborn
GRE-01206-10



Neon with plastic panel
 Dixie Drive-in (1959)
 6201 N. Dixie Dr., Dayton
 MOT-05413-09

Plastic and metal hollow core

Plastics for signs began to be used in the late 1940s and remained a staple of sign construction through the 1970s. Plastic panels, whether or not back-lit, also provided the ability to create a sign's wording with individual letters. This allowed signs to take on even greater dynamic proportions and irregularity in shape. Hollow-core metal sections were sometimes intermixed with plastic hollow-core sections. A number of period plastic and metal hollow core signs were observed in the survey area.



Plastic hollow core – individual letters
 Westtown Shopping Center (1957)
 4227 W. Third St., Dayton
 MOT-05300-32



Plastic hollow core – pole mounted
 Price Stores (ca. 1950s)
 50 S. Jefferson St., Dayton
 MOT-05298-15



Plastic hollow core – detached with planter
 Charles Davis Florist (1968)
 3817 Wilmington Pike, Kettering
 MOT-05501-06



Plastic and metal hollow core – pole mounted
 Imperial 300 Car Wash (1966)
 2536 Wilmington Pike, Kettering
 MOT-05493-06

Ornamental metal

Ornamental metal was attached to the building and contained simply a name and/or logo. Though not common, several examples of this type of signage were found in the survey area.



Plaque
 Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. (1959)
 3760 Salem Ave., Dayton
 MOT-05314-09



Individual letters
 Montgomery County Family Court Center (1961)
 303 W. Second St., Dayton
 MOT-05151-15

Ornamental cast stone

Ornamental case stone signage was integral to the wall and was inscribed only with a name. This type of sign was not common among the surveyed properties.



Oakview Manor (1951)
3219-3223 White Oak Dr., Dayton
MOT-05177-62



Dayton Boys Club (1956)
601 S. Keowee St., Dayton
MOT-05457-60

Other

Asbestos/asphalt shingles

Although asbestos and asphalt shingles had been produced since the early 20th century, wood grain siding shingles became popular in the 1940s and 1950s. This type of siding was found on a few houses in the survey area. Asphalt roofing shingles were found on nearly every house in the survey. A few examples of patterned roof shingles were observed.



Wood grain siding

1113 Mendota Ct., Kettering (1954)
MOT-05537-06



Patterned roof shingles

2816 Ghent Ave., Kettering (1956)
MOT-05532-06