



HISTORIC COLOR CONSULTING

Exterior Consulting Service by Robert Schweitzer

Web site: www.historichousecolors.com

Do you wonder how those classy Victorians, Bungalows and Architect/Designer homes turn out so stunning? It was not by chance. Creating a stunning exterior require knowledge, planning and a sense of color. Now there is a service that will assist you in developing an exterior paint color scheme for your home, office or commercial building.

Planning

color placement may well be the most important part of painting your home, wrote John Masury in his book on house painting in 1868. That maxim is still true today! Taking the time to carefully choose your colors and plan their placement can enhance the final look of your house enormously.

The color you paint your house is more important than the color you choose for a car or for a tie or a wardrobe. The house color remains constant through the years and is the residents' statement of their feelings towards their home and their neighborhood. I have designed color schemes for major landmarks and modest Bungalows as well as for buildings by such noted architects as Robert A.M. Stern, and Stanford White. Adding an appropriate color scheme to your building increases its value, not merely in terms of dollars, but in how the entire neighborhood is perceived.

Historic colors increase personal pride in ownership. The house just feels good to come home to. Once hidden features now delight not only the owners, but casual observers as well. Buildings take on a new charm, a whole new

identity when the enhancing colors are applied.

The Service

involved in determining house colors can be accomplished through the U.S.Mail and even faster by email. I have prepared exterior paint color schemes for virtually every architectural style of building constructed in the United States. I treat each commission on an individual and personal basis. I employ no assistants nor do I use stock color combinations.


Color placement is a very important issue



I have taught architectural history and historic preservation at the university level and have been advisory board member for *American Bungalow* magazine as well as a columnist for *Victorian Homes* magazine. I've recently published the acclaimed "Bungalow Colors" book. By understanding the architectural history of your building, I can develop paint schemes that reflect the original intent of its design and highlight the important design features. I've been researching and teaching in this field for over 25 years and have consulted with home owners and businesses in nearly every state and in Canada.



The Process

- involves:
- 1) You taking photographs of the house (see the enclosed "Photo Hints" sheet) and mailing them to me with the enclosed Data Form and a check. Digital photos of high quality are also acceptable. I will analyze the buildings architecture and suggest appropriate color options. I first determine what architectural style your building is (Queen Anne, Bungalow, Italianate, etc.), and its appropriate paint color period (Victorian, Arts & Crafts, Moderne, etc.). Many buildings are mixes of styles and color schemes often can reflect that fact.
 - 2) Employing the information you supply on the Data Form, I suggest appropriate colors options in a sequence that allows you to easily work your way through the selection process for the body, trim and accent colors.

It should be noted that you, the resident, have to live in the building every day and see it every time you approach the front facade, so that personal color preference, if any, is an important factor I consider.

- 3) I will first provide you with several appropriate body colors to consider. After you decide on a body color, I will supply suggestions for several different trim & accent combinations. These are sets of colors that "work together" to highlight major elements and show off the architectural style of the

reference materials. These include old painting manuals, paint supply catalogues and historic photographs.

4) Owners are strongly urged to "test paint," and I provide a method proven from years of research that will greatly assist you in the decision process. I recommend testing colors at each stage to ensure your comfort with the selections. Finalized colors are illustrated with colored pencil on grayscale prints of your photographs to create "color maps". These pages provide you with an overall idea how things will look as well as specifics about what colors go where on porches, windows and other architectural details. The maps will also likely save you more than the consulting fee alone because they allow for more accurate estimates from your paint contractor.

This is an interactive process that follows your time schedule. We work together through combinations and themes and refine them to fit your own taste. In the end what we both want is something that looks stunning & improves the presence of the house on the street, or shows off the architectural features of the building to their best advantage. I do supply specific color information that can be reproduced by your local paint store and employ national brand colors that are easy to acquire.



Fees - include reviewing your photos to determine the building's "style" and significant architectural features, making computer reproductions of your photos (for color maps), looking at the information you provide about your preferences, pulling together appropriate color combinations for you to test, providing testing instructions and finally preparing a set of color placement map pages.



Fee Structure

BASIC: Deposit \$400, then \$150 at color map preparation - total \$550.

TOP: \$550 up front. Quicker turn-around time with a higher place in the queue.

RUSH: \$640 up front. Quickest turn-around & Overnight shipping of your "color placement maps." Be sure to note shipping options on the Data Form.

Additional Services

Coordinating new roof colors. This service will provide you with assistance to select and build your new roof colors into the overall building color scheme. \$70
Porch design assistance. This service will provide you with examples of period porches and porch details to assist in rebuilding, reconfiguring, or restoring damaged or removed porches. Examples will be provided from period sources such as plans books, builders' manuals and millwork catalogues. These can then be adapted by your contractor or architect into the new historically appropriate porch design. \$85

Be sure to check the appropriate boxes on the data form and include the extra fee amounts in your check total. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Please look over the enclosed materials and let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached by phone or email and look forward to working with you to produce a house exterior we can both be proud of. To get started just complete the enclosed *Data Sheet*, take a few pictures according to the *Photo Hints* page and mail them with your check to me at the address listed below.

This brochure information is also available at my web site.

References and Examples

Please visit my web site at: www.historichousecolors.com to view a "Clients" page, as well as "Completed Projects - Examples"

Contact Information

Robert Schweitzer can be contacted at: 3661 Waldenwood Drive, Ann Arbor, Mi. 48105

Phone : (734) 668-0298

Email; robs@umich.edu

web site at:

www.historichousecolors.com



"There is one color . . . frequently employed by house painters, which we feel bound to protest against most heartily, as entirely unsuitable, and in bad taste. This is white, which is so universally applied to our wooden houses of every size and description. The glaring nature of the colour, when seen in contrast with the soft green foliage, renders it extremely unpleasant to an eye attuned to harmony of coloring, and nothing but its very great prevalence in the United States could render even men of some taste so heedless of its bad effect."

Andrew Jackson Downing, 1842, *Cottage Residences*

HISTORIC COLOR CONSULTING

Exterior Consulting Service by Robert Schweitzer

Web site: www.historichousecolors.com

Articles, Lectures & Media information - Rob in the News

- Rob's book "America's Favorite Homes" is mentioned in the October 31, 2005 issue of the **Wall Street Journal**.
- Rob's service was named to the "Best Building Pros in America" list published by **This Old House** Magazine in September of 2005.
- See Rob's article in "**Old-House Interiors**" magazine for July 05.
- Read an interview with Rob in the May 05 issue of "**Period Homes**" magazine.
- Read about and see examples of Rob's work in the January 27, 2005 issue of "**The Columbian**" (Washington)
- **HGTV 12 Days of Christmas Specials** - see Rob's suggested colors for a Tudor makeover on "**Cube Appeal**." Seen throughout December 2004.
- Rob presented a lecture at the "**Craftsman Weekend**" in Pasadena in October 2004.
- See one of Rob's transformed houses on HGTV's **Restored America** - show #812
- See one of Rob's Bungalow transformations in **San Diego Magazine**, July 2004
- Rob is assisting Kelly Moore Paints in developing a new "**Historic Lifestyles**" color card. Look for it in stores in 2005.
- ABC's "**Little House on the Prairie**" series will feature Rob's work. Through Touchstone pictures Rob has designed colors for the town featured in the mini-series.
- **Victorian Homes** magazine, August 2003, "Rose Colored Glasses"
- **This Old House** magazine, June 2003, "New Paint"
- **Style1900** magazine, Four articles throughout 2003
- **This Old House** magazine, June 2002, "Stick-Style Paint Schemes"

HISTORIC COLOR CONSULTING

Exterior Consulting Service by Robert Schweitzer

Web site: www.historichousecolors.com

Testimonials

I am often asked by prospective clients, "what is the most common response people have about your historic color service?" The answer to that is simple:

"Jeff & I feel that your input was the best money we ever spent. If you ever need a reference please feel free to use us." (Jeff & Kimberly Krisan, Mt. Dora, Florida)

"Best money I ever spent. Neighbors were most impressed." (Greg Winters, Lockport, Illinois)

Below are other comments by recent clients.

"You will not believe how different our house looks. It is beautiful! The colors are perfect! Our modest Victorian, once a plain, nondescript house, is now one of the prettiest houses in town.

The front porch is a stand out. We love the striped porch floor, and so does everybody who sees it. People passing by on foot or in cars stop and gaze at the house all the time. Everybody really loves the dark sash color (most of the other houses in town have white sashes). The front door colors are also a favorite. Our neighbor across the street told us, "your house is like a polished jewel". He said he never tires of looking at it. He especially loves the red-shingled roof (another one of your suggestions which we wisely followed). The lady who heads the local Historic Preservation Committee wants to feature the house in their next video on "found" houses in Havre de Grace. The first video they put out last year described "lost" historic structures.

People always ask us how we came up with colors that go so well together. They want to know if we "researched" the color combination. That's when I tell them about you, our historic paint consultant. Hiring you was the smartest thing we ever did.

Thank you for being so patient and helpful in guiding us through the initial paint testing and color choices. Thanks for answering all my questions so promptly via email. Our association with you has truly been a pleasure, and your fee was the best money we every spent. I hope you will hear from some of the people in town whom I referred to you We Love You!!" Kathy & Arlene, Havre de Grace, MD

"It would be my pleasure to give you a reference.

Rob is an incredible find. Not only did he do the paint design but he also educated us on almost every aspect of our home. We had no clue but through Rob learned it was an English Cotswold Cottage design (as pictured on page .. of his book "Americas Favorite Homes", along with many features and designs that were in the original style. I think he is the country's greatest authority on "Colorization of Historic Homes" and it is his passion to collect and publish information on historic homes. We contacted him from a one year old magazine ad as we were ready to begin painting because we had no clue what color or where to begin. He immediately addressed our project and within two weeks we had the color map that turned our house from a bland whitewashed building into a house from fairyland. I think the paint job added 30% to the value of our house overnight. He painstakingly addressed each and every piece of trim, each crevice, brick, window frame, cornice, etc with great detail and then produced a road map for our painter. I think it came out to about nine colors in all. His "dapple" formula transformed our chimney from a non noticed vestige to a cobblestone look like Hansel & Gretel's house. He recommended special trim moldings to conceal ugly areas and even gave us the catalog number and manufacturer. Many, many times I emailed or contacted him with a question and it was always promptly answered. I paid him up front, in full and he amazed us at the speed and efficiency of the completed project as well as his pride. He takes a real personal interest in your home and when it is finished you won't believe that any one person could accomplish such a dramatic change for such a little price.

Go for it, it will be the best decision you ever made regarding your home. Believe me, you are in good hands." Sincerely, David F. Johnston, Miami, FL

Testimonials continued

"All in all, we are extremely pleased with the outcome of the whole project. A passing Somerville policeman, speaking to our contractor's project manager as the final cleanup of the yard was being done, called the renovation of the house "a glorious transformation." I think that sums up very well Glenn's and my feelings as well as those of the community around us. Certainly the coloration of the exterior plays a major-- probably the major--role in this glorious transformation. We thank you once again for leading us down a path which we never could have chosen by ourselves. We couldn't have imagined when we started this project where we would end up, but we couldn't be happier with the final result."

Caroline Freeman and Glenn Hoffman, Somerville, MD

"We continue to be stopped by everyone we know to tell us how much they like the house. We are very happy with the job and we never would have had the confidence to carry off the intensity of the color ourselves. We were in NYC and New Rochelle, Larchmont in mid-August and saw some pretty incredible paint jobs on the few Victorians there, ours could stand with the best of them and we owe that to you. -- Your guidance is what helped us reach this point with so much satisfaction and we sincerely appreciate that. Thank you very much!"
Dr. Anne, Little Current, Canada.

"Jeanne and I are overjoyed with the outcome. The house, a real landmark in this community, now has our own identity stamped upon it. We have "locals" come up to us, offering much praise. This has only served to reinforce what we already know: the home is beautiful and has been made better by the new paint scheme. Details, which were previously lost, are now emphasized. The colors on the shutters make a real statement. We couldn't be happier! Thanks so much for your help." Phil Carspreso, Keokuk, Iowa

"I wanted to let you know that people stop in front of our house and point and stare, if we go out on the porch, they can't tell us enough about how wonderful our house is. Thanks again for a lot of bang for the buck. You were probably the best money that I've ever spent." Bridget of Santa Monica, California, writing about her bungalow.

"We think the house turned out beautifully. It has certainly been the talk of the town this summer due the color scheme. We received a thank-you note from a neighbor a block away that we don't know! Many people have asked where we came up the colors and we have recommended you highly. It really is spectacular and should be seen in person!" Louis & Kooney, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

"I can't thank you enough. I am so thrilled that you offer this service. If it weren't for your help, I suspect we still would have selected the maple for the body of the house, but we'd probably have painted everything else in an off-white. (How blah!) But you went well above and beyond just supplying your color recommendations. Your responsiveness, patience with us (me!), helpfulness and support were absolutely incredible. We will be thinking of you with appreciation often as we enjoy our "new" old house." Karen, Portland, OR

"Dear Robert, last year you advised us on colors for our home and we were pleasantly surprised to see it on your web site. I wanted to drop you a line to let you know that our home was recognized last night by the Big Rapids Good Neighbor Association "for the bright and historically accurate paint scheme." They presented us with a nicely framed picture of our house and a certificate.

We couldn't have put it together without your assistance. Thanks again." -Kathy Hess, Union Like, MI

"The old girl looks magnificent when all dolled up the way she should be. We really appreciate all of your efforts that went into this. I'm sure it is a bit of a love affair you have had with architectural jewels that keeps you in your vocation. In any case, we were struggling mightily and you have put us on a very right and pleasant path." Bob Arnoldini, Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC COLOR CONSULTING

The Process

1. You take photographs of your building, digital images or standard prints (see [Photo Hints](#)), then fill out the [Customer Data form](#) with information about your property. Next send the photos and form to me, along with your payment: [Pricing Page](#). [Digital photos can be emailed or sent on a CD, the Customer Data form can be completed on-line.]
2. When I have your materials in-hand, I first determine the architectural style your house (Queen Anne, Bungalow, Italianate, etc.), and its approximate period of construction. Many buildings are mixes of styles, and my color suggestions often can reflect that fact. The house's architectural style will provide clues indicating some suggested color schemes.
3. Employing the information you supply on the [Customer Data form](#), and an extensive check-list of items such as location, roof color, amount of detail, I determine which of the four methods or theories of coloration might be applied to your building:
 - a) Original colors (what was on it when it was built)
 - b) Appropriate to the period colors (what could have been done when the house was new)
 - c) Colors it might have been during another historic period.
 - d) Post-modern colors (something like the "Painted Ladies") using modern colors and themes to decorate the building.

It should be noted that you, the resident, have to live in the building every day and see it every time you approach the front facade, so that personal color preference, if any, (especially for the body color) is an important factor to consider.

3. When your materials reach me I will email you preliminary information as well as instructions on collecting some color cards. After a full analysis of your materials I will provide you with several suggested body colors to consider. (assuming the building is not brick) These colors will likely be culled from historic period sources such as paint brochures, house plan books and magazines. I will also provide you with my "Color Testing Instructions." These have proven very successful in assisting my clients in the color decision process. After you decide on a body color, I supply suggestions for several different detail color combinations. (trim and accent colors) These are sets of colors that "work together" to highlight major elements and show off the architectural style of the building and are based on historic color schemes in my reference materials. These include old painting manuals, paint supply catalogues and historic photographs. The colors I suggest will match readily available national brand paints.
4. Since color is such an individual choice, I urge clients to "test-paint" and to suggest changes or variations in color intensity. In today's world of "computer matching," any paint color can be reproduced. We can use period paint sources, and modern exam-

HISTORIC COLOR CONSULTING

Exterior Consulting Service by Robert Schweitzer

Web site: www.historichousecolors.com

The Process— continued

ples of "historic colors" provided by national paint manufacturers. This testing of the various colors allows you to see the "real color" in your light conditions in your landscape. The finalized color scheme is marked up with colored pencil on computer reproductions of your photographs to create "color placement map pages". This device provides an overall idea how things will look as well as specifics about what colors go where on porches, windows and other architectural details, to give to your painter. Paint contractors love these "map" pages as it makes price quotes and paint placement much easier.

5. This is an interactive process that works with your schedule. I work with a priority system where "Rush" clients have first call on my time followed by "Top" and then "Basic" level clients. We work together through combinations and themes that you can take *"as is"* or adjust to fit your own taste. In the end what we both want is something that looks stunning and improves the presence of the house on the street, or shows off the architectural features of the building to their best advantage. I do supply specific color information that can be reproduced by your local paint store and employ national brand colors that are easy to acquire.

P.S. If you are reroofing or planning on renovating an exterior feature, a porch for example, I would be happy to offer suggestions to assist you in these projects as well. See the "Extra Services" section of the "Pricing" page.

▶ Mr. Schweitzer can be reached via:

Email: robs@umich.edu

U.S. mail: 3661 Waldenwood Drive, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105

Phone: 734/668-0298.

HISTORIC COLOR CONSULTING

Exterior Consulting Service by Robert Schweitzer

Web site: www.historichousecolors.com

How To Get Started

TWO OPTIONS

Option A - **Electronically**

1. Complete and submit the [Online Customer Data form](#). It will be sent directly to me.
2. Take photographs of the house. For **digital images** you can send them on a CD or email them to me. Please email me first for specific instructions. For **standard prints** refer to my [Photo Hints](#) and mail me the photos.
3. Make your payment: see [Pricing](#) and [Payment Methods](#) pages.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Robert Schweitzer
Historic Paint Consulting
3661 Waldenwood Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Email: robs@umich.edu

I will email you when your materials arrives and we can get started.

Option B - **By-Mail**

1. Print this page, the [Data Form](#), and the [Photo Hints](#) page.
2. Fill out the Data Form.
3. Take photographs of your house, following the guidelines on the photo hints page. (photos can be digital)
4. Send the data form, your check (see [Pricing](#)) and the photo prints or digital images on a cd to:

Robert Schweitzer
Historic Paint Consulting
3661 Waldenwood Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

I will email you when the packet arrives and we can get started.

If you have questions, please email me at robs@umich.edu or call 734-668-0298 (eastern time, evenings).



Historic Color Consulting by Robert Schweitzer

Customer Data Sheet 2006 -- Complete and return

Please Print –Use back of form for extra space if needed

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email address (if available- please print **very clearly**) _____

SERVICE REQUESTED <input type="checkbox"/> BASIC two payments \$400/\$150 (\$550 total) <input type="checkbox"/> TOP \$550 up front <input type="checkbox"/> RUSH - \$640 up front EXTRA Services: <input type="checkbox"/> Roof (\$70) <input type="checkbox"/> Porch (\$85) <input type="checkbox"/> Colors for Garage or other outbuilding (\$40)	Shipping for "Color Placement maps" - Options <input type="checkbox"/> Free (via Standard U.S. Mail) <input type="checkbox"/> Priority Mail - \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight - \$35 (included with Rush Orders) TOTAL amount enclosed \$----- (First check should include any "EXTRA" services amounts)
---	---

Building Location Information: Building faces in what direction? _____

Relation to other buildings; (by itself, on a block with others, other useful site information)

Building Data

Age (when constructed, if known) Architectural style (optional) _____

Special architectural features of note: Windows (will these be painted?)

Color of roof (Will it be changed in the near future? If so, what color(s) are you thinking about using?)

Brick, block or stone colors

(You can reference your color photographs if the color reproduction is accurate)

Color Preferences (optional)

List your general color choices for the body and trim. If you have a specific color swatch, attach it. If not, note shade preferences (i.e. light body with dark trim or, dark body with light trim.)

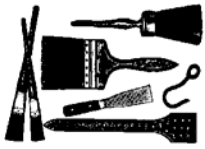
Your Color Scheme Preferences

Are you specifically interested in historical colors, modern colors, or developing a detail highlighted "painted lady" color scheme? On a scale of 1 to 10, how much detail do you wish to highlight? What words would you use to describe your "idea" color scheme. Examples include; classic, stunning, bold, colorful.

When do you plan on painting?

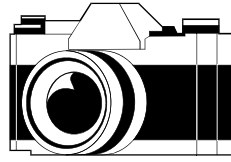
Please make checks payable to Robert Schweitzer

Return to: Robert Schweitzer, 3661 Waldenwood Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48105, along with your **check**.



HISTORIC COLOR CONSULTING by Robert Schweitzer

"Photo-Hints" How to Photograph your house for paint detailing



Digital Camera Images

I am equipped to receive your electronic images, either scanned or from a digital camera. You can send me a CD with images or attach them to an email message. The best formats are JPG or TIF. I employ Photoshop software to print them.

Standard Film Images

1) EQUIPMENT

A) Secure a camera. A 35mm type is best. The "Point & Shoot" variety work fine as do the standard manual focus SLR's. If you don't own a camera, neighbors or relatives are a good source to borrow one from. Often they will take the pictures for you. Also many stores now sell disposable cameras.

B) Purchase film. Any type of inexpensive 35mm color film will work. Rolls come in 24 & 36 exposure and typically a 24 exposure roll is sufficient.

2) WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- a) all four sides of house, as best you can. I know this is not always possible. Be sure to fill the viewing frame with the house and not leave too much "white space" around the structure.
- b) general large architectural details such as porches (front & back), gables and towers.
- c) special details such as a typical window and changes in siding types.
- d) special details such as bay windows, entryways, doors, brackets and roof cornices and especially close-ups of details on porches. Inside porches you may want to use a flash.

A simple rule of thumb is - if you are going to put paint on it, then take a photograph of it for me. If you miss important items as I will get back to you about taking any additional images that may be needed. I don't need a large number of photos - complete coverage can be had in usually 15 to 20 images.

3) WHEN TO PHOTOGRAPH

Try to take the pictures on a cloudy day. If the sun is out, make sure it is shining on the face of the part of the building you are photographing. Having a shadow over the surface conceals the details. With this in mind it may take a day or two for you to be able to photograph the house in the best lighting conditions. You can use the camera flash when taking photos at close range.

a) Have the film developed and prints made. Your local drug store or mall will have a developing service. The prints need not be costly. Please remember to get the largest standard size available, usually **4 x 6**. You may want an extra set for you own records, as prints are not returnable. Some stores now offer the ability to have your camera images placed onto a CD. I can work from those images as well.

b) Check over the prints. Select the ones that best show the building and its details or just send them all to me. Place the photos into an envelope, marked "DO NOT BEND -- PHOTOGRAPHS." Mail them, along with your "Data Form" and check, to:

Robert Schweitzer - 3661 Waldenwood Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

Web site www.historichousecolors.com

I will email you the day your packet arrives and we can get started.

HISTORIC COLOR CONSULTING

Exterior Consulting Service by Robert Schweitzer

Web site: www.historichousecolors.com

Frequently Asked Questions

How much does the service cost?

The basic service is \$550. More information on the different levels of service and additional services such as roof color and porch repair/replacement is available on the [pricing page](#).

How long does it take?

We can get started the day I receive your packet of materials. The time it takes to complete the process depends on your schedule and the amount of consideration and testing of the colors I recommend. The final step in the process, the preparation of the Color Placement Map pages somewhat depends on how long my queue of projects is at the time you are ready for that stage. I attempt to be very responsive in getting the Color Maps to you promptly. Rush fee clients have preference in that queue. I have completed the entire service from start to finish for some clients in as short a span as ten days. However, most clients take several weeks or longer to ponder, test and work through my suggestions. Knowing when you can get a painter in to start, if you are rushed, is the most important timing issue.

What kind of paint/stain will you recommend?

My color selection suggestions will be for nationally available brands from major manufacturers. I have taken the time to match my historical documents (paint brochures and swatches) to the modern "fan-decks" to allow me to recommend colors that are historical but locally available and that don't have to be custom mixed.

How many color options will I receive?

Unlike some color services I do not have a limit on color suggestions. We work through suggestions and your reactions to them to develop a set of colors you are happy with. That can happen in the first set of suggestions or it could take several iterations. My goal is a great looking building and a satisfied customer.

What if I'm thinking of changing my roof at the same time I'm painting?

This is often a great time to change a worn or oddly colored roof. I can work with you to develop a color scheme that incorporates the new roof color. I can also suggest manufacturers and specific colors for your new roof that are more architecturally accurate for the house than the roofer or the sales rep. at the home center. For example, the George Barber designed house seen in my "Completed Projects" section has a roof color and shingle pattern design I recommended that was drawn directly from the Victorian age architect who designed the house.

I want to restore or alter my porch, can you help?

I'm often asked to assist with this task. I can supply you, your contractor or your architect with actual period images of porches and porch details that can be adapted or copied to fit your home. Often the most difficult task in porch renovation is knowing what the final product should look like. My images, drawn from such sources as period millwork catalogues and house plan books, can show you what you need. Be sure to check the appropriate box on the Customer Data Form to receive this service.

Can I give you digital photos?

Yes, I have facilities to receive, adjust and print digital photos. They need to be a fairly high resolution/quality to ensure that all the necessary architectural details are viewable. Regular prints are fine as well as they provide excellent quality and I can scan them and adjust them to my specifications. If you have questions about digital or photo images just drop me an email at robs@umich.edu.

Continued on next page

What photos should I take?

I have compiled a [photo hints](#) page that will assist you in taking the right photos. But don't worry too much about the photos, I will let you know if I need any additional images once we get started.

Do you take credit cards?

Yes — you can pay for the service via with a credit card by using the buttons on the payment page of the web site. You can also pay via PayPal.com and its "Send Money" feature. This feature will cost slightly more because I really try to keep the costs down and I'm going to pass on the processing fee to those who wish to use that service. You can always pay the ole fashioned way - by checks. Include the check in the packet you send me with the Customer Data Form and photos and we can get started.

Do you consult on more modern homes and buildings?

Yes, modern architecture needs appropriate colors to look its best just as historic buildings do. I've consulted on Retro Ranch style homes and even modern subdivision houses. I also work with new home construction projects.

Could you tell me the colors you used for a specific building in your book, "Bungalow Colors," or on your web site?

Choosing a color scheme involves time and effort and the results remain with you for a long time. Just picking one from a book or because a house you see looks nice is not always the best choice. I prefer to work with the building owner to develop the right set of colors that will enhance their particular property. There are many items I take into consideration that have an impact on the colors you paint your house. To develop a really good color scheme you need to keep a lot of things in mind. Your house is unique and I'd prefer to treat it and you accordingly. However, if you are just interested in my supplying the colors for a particular scheme I've already completed, the charge is \$150.



HISTORIC COLOR CONSULTING

Exterior Consulting Service by Robert Schweitzer

Web site: www.historichousecolors.com

Completed Project Examples

Federal Style



This Federal style building was built in the 1840s. It reflects the symmetrical architecture of the colonial period with its columned porch. The paint scheme is reflective of the middle 19th century with dark colored sashes, a light body with darker trim and shutters.

The owners reported “The response to the new colors has been fantastic. When we first painted the house, people would stop when we were outside to tell us how much they liked the new color scheme. We thought the money spent for your consulting was well worth it!”



A side view of the home shows its Greek Revival influences with the return cornice and wide eaves. Many homes of this type are painted in stark white, and while appropriate to the historic period, show off the architectural detailing less than this multi-colored gem. The home sports an historic period gray body with a bronze trim.

Copyright 2004: Robert Schweitzer.

HISTORIC COLOR CONSULTING

Exterior Consulting Service by Robert Schweitzer

Web site: www.historichousecolors.com

Completed Project Examples

Late Victorian -- as seen on "Restore America" HGTV in January 2004, show #812



Before - A typical "before" paint scheme with white paint and lots of potential in Kershaw, South Carolina.



After - New life with a 19th century olive body and an off-white trim matched to an 1886 paint brochure. The roof stripes, on the newly painted metal roof, were recreated for a typical Victorian fashion statement.

Copyright 2002 - 04: Robert Schweitzer

HISTORIC COLOR CONSULTING

Exterior Consulting Service by Robert Schweitzer

Web site: www.historichousecolors.com

Completed Project Examples

Colonial Bungalow in Oxnard, California

Colo-

One of the most interesting and least understood bungalow types is the "Colonial Bungalow." This 1922 example illustrates the simplicity of the standard bungalow plan but with columns and pediments.



"It looks great and we get so many compliments. The comments include that it looks very 'period' and 'rich.' The Ventura County Museum of History and Art used our house for a fundraising tour and everyone loved the house. These pictures probably don't do the finished product justice. Thanks so much for your help. Lisa and I really appreciate it. We know we would have never made the selection of these great colors without your help. They really make the house show its character." ...Tom H



Compared to the warm autumn tones of the classic Craftsman Bungalow, the Colonial Bungalow employs brighter contrasting colors often in richer tones.

From a 1922 paint catalogue I selected a warm colonial yellow for the body and a colonial white trim. These were paired with a 20s green window sash and a special deep red accent.

Copyright 2002-05: Robert Schweitzer.

HISTORIC COLOR CONSULTING

Exterior Consulting Service by Robert Schweitzer

Web site: www.historichousecolors.com

Completed Project Examples

New, Not So Big House



This new construction was taken from a design in Sarah Susanka's "Creating the Not So Big House" book. The modern color scheme reflects the owners desire to adhere to the architects original color recommendations. Contemporary homes can be just as visually exciting as historical ones when appropriate colors are employed in a thoughtful manner.



Terra Cotta, rice, dark green and amber were combined to provide a stunning color combination to this home new in Angola, Indiana.

Copyright 2002: Robert Schweitzer.

HISTORIC COLOR CONSULTING

Exterior Consulting Service by Robert Schweitzer

Web site: www.historichousecolors.com

Completed Project Examples

Jakes' Run Condominiums in Portland, Oregon

A new development in an historic neighborhood in the Arts & Crafts style. The colors selected were taken from early 20th century sources. They were designed to specifically highlight the gables and oriel windows. The entire color scheme is reminiscent of the English Arts & Crafts homes of C.F.A. Voysey.

This building won an AIA Design Award. Congratulations to Dale A. Farr & Nick Stearns!

