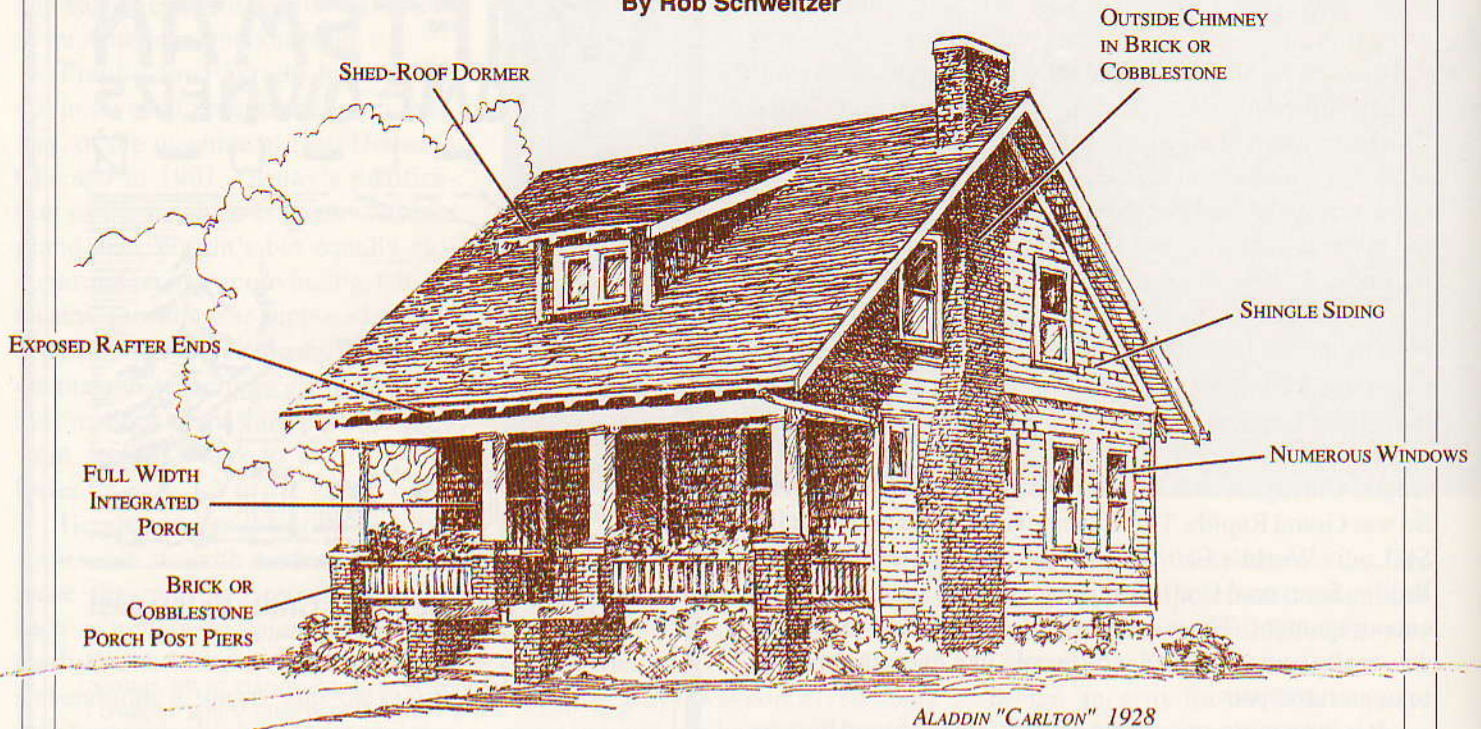


THE SHED-ROOF BUNGALOW

By Rob Schweitzer



ALADDIN "CARLTON" 1928

TO MANY PEOPLE the term "bungalow" simply means any small house, in particular any one-story house. But the word actually describes an entire family of house design – in fact an entire culture that began in America in the early years of the 20th century, peaked in the Teens and Twenties, and lasted into the late Thirties. These we call "Bungalows" with a capital "B" to denote them as a style of architecture.

In terms of modest Bungalows our research has discovered six distinctive types. Among those types are several styles such as Colonial, Tudor, and Arts & Crafts.

One of the most popular Bungalows is the Arts & Crafts Shed-roof type. It is characterized by a side-gable plan with a sloping front roof. Above the porch is always a front roof dormer. sometimes it is small as on the Aladdin "Carlton," but it can be large as on the "Marsden" plan.

This Shed-roof Bungalow has rustic detailing; shingle, stucco or clapboard siding, cobblestone or brick chimney and porch piers. The roof has a wide overhang showing exposed rafter-ends; many times there are also brackets of simple stick

like materials. All these reflect the influence of the Arts & Crafts spokesmen such as Gustav Stickley and the Greene brothers who helped popularize the larger, more ornate versions of the style. But the more modest homes were designed for the "first time" buyer and were mass produced by ready-cut companies like Aladdin and Sears or by developers who purchased stock plans from Keith's or Garlinghouse.

Bungalows became popular because they were more efficient and less costly than the ornate, irregularly-shaped Queen Anne and Colonial Revival houses of the 1890s. They were small (sometimes only 2 bedrooms and an unfinished second story) with less woodworked detail, but still contained a large number of windows and a big front porch like their Queen Anne brethren.

While thought of as a "West Coast" style, Bungalows are found in almost every city and town in the U.S. and Canada. They were built on narrow city lots close to street car lines and in suburban developments; they even replaced some older farm houses in the countryside.



ALADDIN "MARSDEN" 1914



ALADDIN "FAIRFIELD" 1937