

11 Briton Hill Road, Sanderstead, CR2 0JG



A watercolour showing 11 Briton Hill Road c 1990. The building is as built except for the extension completed in sympathetic style in the late 1980s (seen on the right)

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Introduction

11 Briton Hill Road is a cedar clad wood-framed house in the American Craftsman style, a style which had resonance in Britain at a time when post first world war home construction was accelerating and many chalet bungalows associated with this style were being constructed. Whilst this house is of North American origin it is likely that the particular design was specifically for the UK market. Previous owners including the current one have informed the applicant that the house was constructed in kit form in Canada and shipped to England to be erected at the Ideal Home Exhibition. Evidence concerning the date of construction indicates that this would have been at one of the first two exhibitions following the resumption after the First World War from 1920. Ideal Home Exhibition catalogues for 1920 and 1921 are not available with the run of catalogues in the V&A Archives but we believe it must have been exhibited in one of these years. Following the exhibition the house was sold and re-erected on its current site, the construction being completed in 1922(1).

Historical Interest

In the years following the First World War housing stock was at a low ebb. David Lloyd George, conscious of the housing problems faced when troops returned from active duty, promised a "land fit for heroes". A surge of council housing and a sharp upturn in private development ensued, aimed at changing a population 80% of whom rented accommodation into a country of home owners.

This was a period when at the higher end, the Arts and Crafts influence was still present. Equally, methods of increasing the housing stock quickly, including the use of pre-fabricated homes, were being experimented with. 11 Briton Hill Road is very much part of these trends.

Research undertaken by the applicant indicates that the house was manufactured by the Alladin Company of Bay City, Michigan. Alladin by 1919 operated 9 mills in North America, three of them in Canada (2). Alladin became the largest kit home company in both USA and Canada and was the only American kit home company to export outside North America (even the mighty Sears Group confined itself to the USA (3)). A short history of Alladin is given at Appendix 1.

Architectural interest

11 Briton Hill Road is a prefabricated wood-framed kit home in the American Craftsman style, though of a design possibly adapted slightly for the prevailing British market. The American Arts and Crafts movement shared the British movement's reform philosophy, encouraging originality, simplicity of form, local natural materials, and the visibility of handi-craft, but distinguished itself, particularly in the Craftsman Bungalow style, with a goal of ennobling modest homes for a rapidly expanding middle class. Surviving kit homes from the 1920s period have a considerable following in America, thus the considerable web presence e.g. www.arts-crafts.com, www.antiquehomestyle.com, www.searsarchives.com.

Some technical details from the manufacturer's catalogue are set out in Appendix 3. Notable features include the prefabricated wood-frame construction and the external cedar shingle cladding. Apart from the method of construction, Alladin Houses, such as the Georgia and the Strathmore shown in Appendix 2, share features with 11 Briton Hill Road

including the protruding gables supported by triangular brackets, and the charming covered stoop or porch over the entrance door.

The roof and tile hung panels are made of cedar. At either end of the house are two brick built and rendered chimney breasts. The internal surfaces of the house are lathe and plaster, and again the lathes were of cedar wood.

It is believed that with one notable exception there are very few surviving Alladin Homes in Britain. The exception is the Austin Village near Longbridge, Birmingham. This village, now a conservation area, comprises 252 prefabricated Alladin kit homes imported in 1917 by Herbert Austin to house munitions workers. (See Appendix 4). The building at 11 Briton Hill Road is of a higher quality and was designed to attract professional and middle class people into home ownership.

Notes:

- 1 The completion date has been established through searches of the land registry (the land was conveyed in 1920), local directories and electoral rolls.
- 2 Richard Harris: Building the market, the Rise in the Home Improvement Market 1914-1960 (University of Chicago Press, 2012) p103
- 3 Harris, op cit, pp 103-4

Appendix 1: The Aladdin Company (sourced from Wikipedia)

Origins

Aladdin was founded by two brothers, W. J. Sovereign and O. E. Sovereign in Bay City, Michigan after W. J. observed the success of the Brooks Boat Mfg. Co. in selling knock-down boats. The company began by selling boat houses, garages and summer cottages. Almost immediately the company was also involved in the Canadian market, and eventually opened a branch office in the prestigious Canadian Pacific Building in Toronto, and several other regional offices in Canada.

Boom years

Aladdin quickly expanded to become one of largest mail-order house companies. By 1915 sales surpassed \$1 million. In 1918 Aladdin alone accounted for 2.37 percent of all housing starts in the United States, around 1,800 homes. The company's greatest success came from sales to industries which constructed company towns around new plants, mines and mills. The town of Hopewell, Virginia was largely developed by the DuPont Company using Aladdin homes. In 1917 Aladdin shipped 252 houses to Birmingham, England for the Austin Motor Company who built Austin Village to house workers for munitions, tank and aircraft manufacture during World War I. (See Appendix 3). Aladdin shipped homes to England, Liberia, Australia, Tahiti, and Switzerland, giving rise to the claim that "the sun never sets on an Aladdin home".

Decline

Aladdin began the development of a planned community called Aladdin City in southern Miami-Dade County, Florida, during the Florida land boom of the 1920s. The collapse of the boom not long after construction had begun proved disastrous. Aladdin's output fell below 1000 homes in 1928 on the eve of the Great Depression, and never recovered. It exited the Canadian market in 1952.[2] The company continued to produce catalogues, and maintained sales of a few hundred homes per year through the 1960s. During the 1970s sales fell further and by 1982 the company ceased manufacturing. The company ceased all operations in 1987.

In 2014, the Aladdin Company was re-established and the new owner has re-registered the original Company Trademark

Contributions

The Aladdin Company, along with other catalogue-home businesses played a key role in providing affordable housing to Americans in the period between the turn of the twentieth century and World War II. It also made key advancements in the prefabrication of housing

which would enable the post-war housing boom. Finally, it helped to propagate preferences across the U.S. and Canada for common architectural styles such as the Craftsman, Bungalow, Four-Square and Cape Cod homes.

Appendix 2 - Illustrations of some Aladdin House types in Craftsman style from original catalogues

Georgia No. 2 \$897.75

THE Georgia presents a most unusual combination of true bungalow and two-story house. Excellent judgment by the designers gives it character and distinction. Observe the manner in which the exterior walls are divided by a belt, apparently cutting down the height, while the lower story is sided and the upper shingled. Timber brackets balance the overhanging roof, which is splendidly proportioned. The porch is unusual in shape and type, the longitudinal section being covered by a roof that partakes of the form and pitch of the main roof, but is relieved by the jutting gable covering that section of the porch floor projecting away from the front door. Square tapering columns supported by pedestals and joined by a well designed railing complete the porch.

Note the paired casement windows which afford excellent light to the interior. The upper gable windows are given an interesting touch by the little bracket supported hood. Living room, dining room, kitchen, grade cellar entrance, three bed rooms, bath and closets constitute a complete housekeeping establishment. And everything about this home gives a feeling of quality and refinement. One purchaser alone erected ten Georgias in 1915, an unusual tribute to its popularity.

See General Specifications on pages 12 and 13. Detail specifications for the Georgia will be sent on request. See Terms on page 2.

Price, \$945.00
Cash discount, 5%
Net price, \$897.75

First Floor Plan—The Georgia No. 2

Second Floor Plan—The Georgia No. 2

The Stanhope \$638.40

ARE you not pleased with the Stanhope? Can you conceive how with straight architectural lines any more pleasing or substantial style of construction could have been worked out? Notice what a strong yet artistic appearance is given the entire front by the heavy porch pedestals, square porch columns and porch rail.

How in keeping are the small lights in bungalow door and the upper divided lights in all windows. And when it comes to interior plan, it would be very difficult to work out a more convenient arrangement. The wide arch between living and dining rooms gives an appearance of one large room 14x24.

The double action door leading to a kitchen large enough, yet none too large, completes the living part of this compact, cosy home. Three well lighted, suitable sized bed rooms, equipped with a modern closet, give as much sleeping room as is frequently found in a much larger home. In placing the bath at the end of the short hall it is sufficiently secluded, yet conveniently located. For any one desiring a six-room modern house all on one floor, the Stanhope is a great favorite. Study General Specifications on pages 12 and 13. Complete detail specifications will be sent you upon request. See Terms on page 2.

Price, \$672.00
Cash discount, 5%
Net price, \$638.40

Floor Plan—The Stanhope

Source: Online catalogues at

https://www.cmich.edu/library/clarke/ResearchResources/Michigan_Material_Local/Bay_City_Aladdin_Co/Catalogs/Pages/default.aspx



The Strathmore \$1,197.00

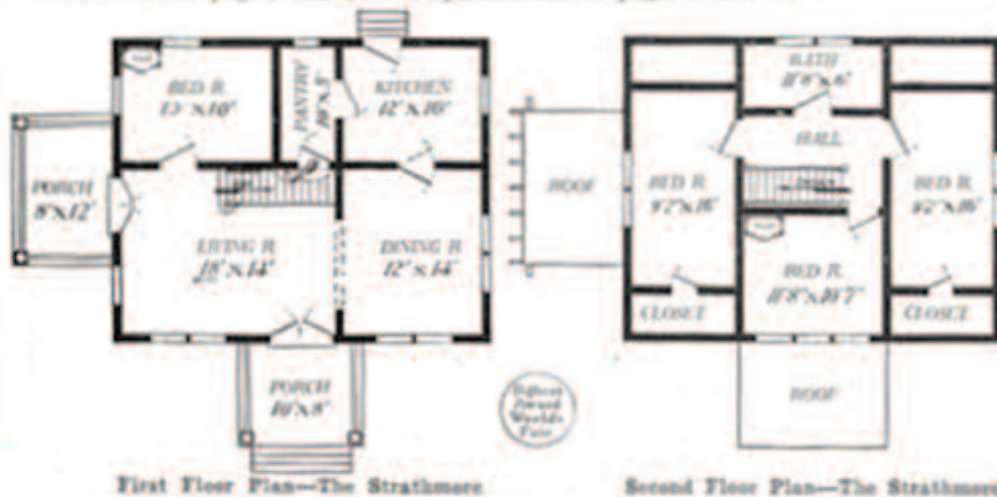
Price, \$1,200.00
Cash discount, 5%
Net price, \$1,197.00

THE Strathmore is different in design—it is a home of individual tastes. By noticing the photograph you will find that the special details are arranged in groups—double doors in front entrance, double windows balanced on each side, triple windows in dormer above. The double door feature owes its origin to architecture that was real popular in Colonial days. Today it is again coming into general favor in the largest and highest class homes on account of the pleasing effect it gives to both the interior and exterior of the home. The pergola porch at one side is another feature that pleases the average home-builder with modern ideas.

The interior arrangement will please you—notice the floor plan. The large living room is graced with a beautiful staircase. From the living room thru wide arch you enter the dining room with kitchen to the rear. One bed room downstairs with three more and bath on the second floor make just an ideal home.

This design gives plenty of opportunity for home-loving folks to express personality and character in the decorations. This one pictured here was painted in white and trimmed in green. Excellent effects could be had by painting the house a lead gray or a yellow with white trim, or house painted in brown and trimmed with white. The living room—the one room that belongs to the entire family—could be papered or frescoed in deep brown with white ceiling. Space alongside of stairway would make a handsome setting for a davenport, wide seat or a piano. Of course, everyone has ideas for the decoration of their new home, and to help them, the Aladdin Department of Service will gladly send many more—and this free of charge. Let us help you plan this ideal home—the Strathmore—for your home.

See Terms on page 2 and General Specifications on pages 17 and 18.



First Floor Plan—The Strathmore

Second Floor Plan—The Strathmore



The Pomona One-Story **\$1,296.75** Price, \$1,365.00
 Cash discount, 5%
 Net price, \$1,296.75



If there is such a thing as personality in a home the Pomona surely expresses the feeling in every angle and line. Bathed in a hot summer sun's rays, its wide eaves, shady porch and many windows offer cooling protection; or blanketed by winter's snows it nestles snugly compact, and inviting the traveler to its protection. Walls of siding and shingles, building paper; sheathing, studding and lath

and plaster are equally good non-conductors of heat and cold. Externally, many interesting ideas are worked out and each blends naturally into the whole. Observe the tapered porch pillars of stucco, surmounted by clean lined columns of the same design. The chimney outline matches this plan, as does the rafter ends and the projecting ends of belt encircling the house above the water table. Brackets supporting the eaves are shaped differently than any other bungalow you ever saw,

while the porch rail is embellished by a band running midway between the upper and lower rails. An especially notable feature of the interior arrangement is the abundance of unbroken wall spaces in all rooms.

Can't you just imagine where you would place each piece of furniture? Two plans are illustrated, one story and two story. In the one story, the front room is adaptable to use as den or bed room, in the latter case giving three bed rooms. Good closets are observable in both designs. Price, two-story, \$1,510. Net price, \$1,434.50. See General Specifications on pages 12 and 13. Detail specifications for the Pomona will be sent on request. See Terms on page 2.



Floor Plan—The Pomona with second floor

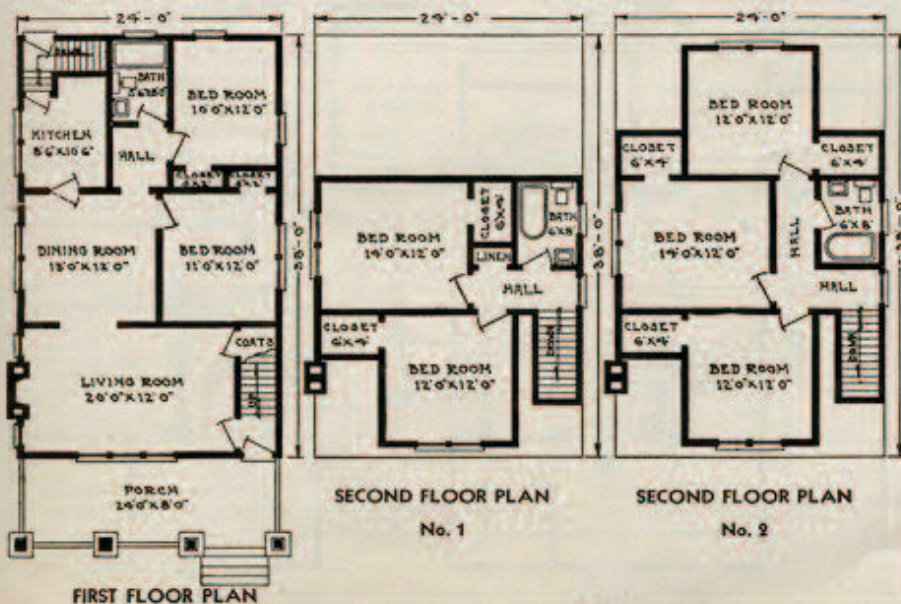


Floor Plan—The Pomona



THE PORTLAND—The Income Bungalow Type — \$1799 And We Pay the Freight

The Portland is designed for use by one family and as a one family home it will make its greatest appeal to most people. The first floor plan of the Portland includes a living room, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms and a bath. For the second floor you have your choice of two different plan arrangements. If you wish two second floor bedrooms, Second Floor Plan No. 1 will interest you. This plan includes two bedrooms and a bath. However, if you require three second floor bedrooms, you will be most interested in Second Floor Plan No. 2. In this plan a third bedroom is obtained by adding a dormer to the rear, the same as the large dormer shown in the illustration which provides for the front bedroom. The Portland is priced separately in both second floor plan arrangements. Whichever second floor plan you select includes the first floor plan as shown. This home is the Income Bungalow type because it is possible to reach the second floor from the front entrance without passing into any of the first floor rooms. For this reason it would make an ideal home for those who wish to rent one or more of the second floor rooms. Also, if Second Floor Plan No. 2 is used, the three second floor bedrooms could be made to serve as a living room, bedroom and combination kitchen and dining room—a complete apartment for a small family. The income derived from the rent of second floor rooms would help you to pay for the home and maintain it. As a one family home, the two bath rooms would be a convenience, but not a necessity. If not equipped as a bath room either of these rooms could be used for other purposes, such as a dining alcove, pantry, sewing room, store room, etc. The 24' x 8' porch is included with the home and the price also includes green slate-surfaced asphalt strip shingles for the roof. With the Portland you receive 6" x 8" built-up girders, 2" x 10" first floor joists on 16-inch centers and 2" x 8" second floor joists on 16-inch centers. The rafters are 2" x 6" on 24-inch centers and the roof has a one-third pitch with a two-foot eave projection. First floor ceiling height 9 feet. Second floor rooms have 8-foot ceiling height throughout with exception of closets where ceiling slopes. See complete specifications on Page 7.



THE PORTLAND	
Freight Paid Prices	
The Portland—	
No. 1.....	\$1799
The Portland—	
No. 2.....	1939
24'x8' Porch — Included in Price.	
Sub-Flooring, Wall Sheathing and Building Paper—	
Portland No. 1..	215
Portland No. 2..	243
Wood Lath—	
Portland No. 1..	104
Portland No. 2..	118
Asphalt Strip Shingles—Included in Price.	



The Marsden \$1,355.65

Price, \$1,427.65
Cash discount, 5%
Net price, \$1,355.65



Each year the sale of this attractive semi-bungalow far exceed the preceding year, and best of all its rapidly increasing number of owners are inevitably delighted with their new home. We wish you could read some of the entertaining letters, without solicitation, received from scores of Marsden owners. They will of course be sent on request. Just study the lines of this bungalow and note how artistically appointed is every part—the straight line dormer with exposed eaves in exact keeping with the eave of the front porch—the extended bay window with roof and brackets, breaking the gable-end—the windows of different sizes and styles and location—these and many other points make the exterior of the Marsden truly artistic. Also note photograph of Marsden on page 14.

In interior planning and arrangement, this modern bungalow presents what might well be said to be the last word in designing. On entering the large living room, 20'0", extending across the entire front, one is attracted by the beautiful bookcase with square top, the long and dining room. Situated in itself yet set into the range of its glass doors and adjustable shelves forms at once a convenient, attractive and useful piece of home furniture. Notice the abundance of built-in living and dining rooms, a well arranged kitchen with stairs leading to grade leading complete the first floor. According to the second floor by the semi-open stairs at end of living room, one enters a central hall from which easy access is gained to each of the three bedrooms and the bath. Please note the clothes closet with each bedroom—a most appreciated adjunct for every sleeping room. The price includes everything above the foundation to complete the bungalow. Front steps, grade entrance and other stairs. Siding can be substituted if desired for wall shingles at no additional cost. See Terms on page 2 and General Specifications on pages 12 and 13.

THE WILMONT

MODERN in design and arrangement. The Wilmont has many special features. A side porch with roof gable, built broadside, and steps leading off at one side give an excellent first impression. Broad belt separating siding on first story from shingles on second, with another belt on top window line in gable and dormer gable, form a harmonious appearance and break up the solid masses. Exposed rafter ends, with overhang of roof bracketed, give it a bungalow touch. The Wilmont floor plan is attractive and has plenty of room. This is a popular Aladdin design.



SPECIFICATIONS

Size, 20 x 30 ft. Price, \$1,012. Cash Discount, 5%. Net Price, \$960.00. See Terms on Page 2.

All lumber selected Yellow Pine, Red Cedar, and Hume Pine. Height of ceilings, 9 ft.; second floor, 8 ft. 6 in. Joists, 2 x 8 in. first floor; 2 x 6 in. second floor. Studs, rafters, and ceiling joists, 2 x 4 in. Joists, ceiling joist and studding spaced every 16 in. Flooring, pine and knotless sub-floor. Building paper, side walls, 1-in. sheathing and shingles or all shingles on all siding. Roof, 1-1/2 in. lumber, overlaid with shingles. Lath and plaster or patent plaster board. Base board, stairs, and all interior trim and finish clear and knotless Oregon Fir. Windows, two sliding sash, glass double strength, also special sizes. Doors, outside, 2 ft. 8 in. x 6 ft. 8 in.; inside, 2 ft. 8 in. x 6 ft. 8 in.; front door, special design. Porch columns square, with railing. Front steps. Hardware, locks, hinges, knobs, nails, stains and paint for two coats inside and outside.



The Vassar \$1,282.50

Price, \$1,350.00
Cash discount, 5%
Net price, \$1,282.50

HAVE you noticed that no matter from what angle you view an Aladdin house, it presents attractive lines and a pleasing appearance? The Vassar is certainly no exception to this rule. We wish you could walk around this attractive house to see how our designers have removed entirely the objectionable projections and unsightly additions so often found on the sides or at the rear of many houses.

Notice how all sides of this house are relieved of every monotonous appearance by the broken roof lines and the artistic selection and location of the different styles of windows. By including under the main roof of the house the back grade entrance to kitchen and cellar we have the most convenient, warm, and attractive arrangement of a very necessary, yet so often unsightly, part of every house.

Please study carefully the interior arrangements. How could they be more compact, convenient or artistic? Three large, well lighted bed rooms with large closets are nowhere evident from living or dining rooms, yet how could you have them any more conveniently located? For families requiring their sleeping rooms with ample closet room, this attractive bungalow is a great favorite. Brick for piers and chimney not included in price. Siding furnished in place of wall shingles, if desired, at no additional cost.

See Terms on page 2 and General Specifications on pages 12 and 13.



THE ALGERS

SUBURBAN or town home on straight lines. Breaking of roof with dormers is not over done, which often creates a "fixed over" appearance. Divided lights in upper half of windows conform to the general lines of this design. Siding on first story with double shingled side walls on second story are here very effective. The three rooms on first floor, living room with stairway, dining room and kitchen are all of good size. Two large sleeping rooms with closets and bath room are arranged on second floor.



SPECIFICATIONS

Size, 22 x 28 ft. Price, \$1,148. Cash Discount, 5%. Net Price, \$1,090.00. See Terms on Page 2.

All lumber selected Yellow Pine, Red Cedar, and Hume Pine. Height of ceilings, 9 ft.; second floor, 8 ft. 6 in. Joists, 2 x 8 in. first floor; 2 x 6 in. second floor. Studs, rafters, and ceiling joists, 2 x 4 in. Joists, ceiling joist and studding spaced every 16 in. Flooring, pine and knotless sub-floor. Building paper, side walls, 1-in. sheathing and shingles or all shingles on all siding. Roof, 1-1/2 in. lumber, overlaid with shingles. Lath and plaster or patent plaster board. Base board, stairs, and all interior trim and finish clear and knotless Oregon Fir. Windows, two sliding sash, also special sizes. Doors, outside, 2 ft. 8 in. x 6 ft. 8 in.; inside, 2 ft. 8 in. x 6 ft. 8 in. Porch columns square, with railing. Hardware, locks, hinges, knobs, nails, stains and paint for two coats inside and outside.



Read carefully pages 2-10, 101, and 127 of this catalog

General Specifications

We Absolutely Guarantee to Furnish Sufficient Material to Finish the House in Accordance with the Following Specifications:

WE ABSOLUTELY GUARANTEE that all our materials, whether the Fir and Cedar of our Western shipments, or the Fir, Pine, Spruce and Hemlock of our houses shipped from the East, will be of such quality as to command in all communities the uniform rating of "the best."

WE GUARANTEE that all bearing timbers and lumber will be of a size in accordance with the best engineering and architectural practice.

THE MATERIALS WE USE

LUMBER

Every piece of lumber in an "Aladdin House" has been carefully selected from thoroughly first-class stock, especially selected for quality. It is inspected by experienced men, and if not up to a high standard is not used. This is an extremely important point, and you should consider it carefully. Our facilities for buying high grades are unexcelled by any manufacturer in the country. This means much to the purchaser—to know that all the materials are the best, that they are well seasoned, sound, and of first quality throughout. All trim material is No. 1 stock and in common with Doors, Sash and Stairs is given a beautiful finish. In all houses, with the exception of the summer cottages, clear edge grain Fir flooring is supplied as a matched floor and all doors and interior trim are of clear Fir. You will have absolutely no cause for complaint of any of the materials supplied you. Can you say as much of those that can be purchased in your neighborhood?

HARDWARE

Our hardware comprises nails of all sizes and kinds required in doing a first-class job of work—glass for windows and glass doors—galvanized iron flashings for hips, chimneys, and window and door openings—window and door hardware in brush brass or oxidized old copper, or other tasteful finish of suitable size and pattern. All sliding sash windows have weights and pulleys (except in summer cottages).

PAINTS

For all our houses we supply the very best quality of ready-mixed paints or stains manufactured or sold in Canada—pure linseed oil—orange shellac—and where specified, the best quality of shingle stain.

PLASTER AND STUCCO

We supply wood lath for the interior walls, partitions and ceilings, and when the exterior walls are to be stuccoed we supply wood or metal lath at the customer's option. We do not supply plaster or stucco materials as we have found that more satisfactory results are had if the local plasterer supplies his own materials.

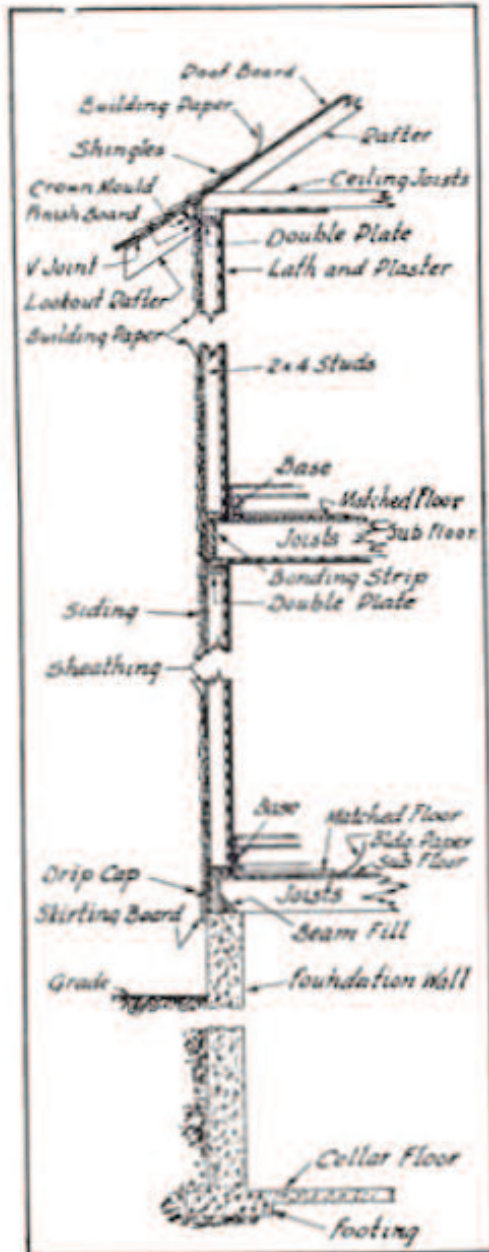
MASONRY

All excavation and masonry work must be done on the site. No money would be saved by our including stone, brick or concrete, for every section of the country produces these materials and prices vary but little. We furnish the foundation plans and will give you estimates, if desired, on the quantities of materials required. Fireplaces and chimneys can be placed wherever wanted in "Aladdin" houses.



Eleven

Detail Specifications



Our Standard Construction

We furnish double floors with building paper between, for both floors of all our dwellings, and our outside walls, as shown by accompanying cut, are the best in building construction. A plate is laid on the sub-floor and studding is set on this so that when the sheathing, builders' paper, and matched siding are placed on the outside of the studding, and the lath and plaster on the inside, the spaces in the wall between the studs are air-tight chambers which insulate the building from extremes of hot and cold weather better than solid brick. This construction, known and approved by the Building Departments of the Cities, and the Insurance Companies as a fire stop construction, prevents the circulation of air in the walls, and is ample to make our dwellings warm in the coldest climate.

FOUNDATIONS—When the house is to be placed on cedar posts or concrete piers we supply the necessary sills. When the house is to go on a masonry foundation we supply a heavy center sill only. We, of course, do not supply stone, concrete or brick for foundations, as they can commonly be purchased as cheaply in one locality as another. Do not start to put in your foundation without getting our blueprint Foundation Plan and our set of Instructions. The Instructions contain much valuable advice as to the laying out of building lines, the making of the excavation and the putting in of foundations of concrete, concrete blocks or bricks; also information and estimates of costs for concrete cellar floors, chimneys, fireplaces, etc.

CELLAR WINDOWS—Single sash, three lights 10" by 16" are included with material for house.

JOISTS—Our joists are sized for height and cut to length; and are of a strength in accordance with the best engineering practice.

SUB-FLOOR—A sub-floor of dressed inch lumber, cut to fit, is laid over the first and second floors of all our dwellings.

MATCHED FLOORING—Clear, edge grain British Columbia Fir.

STUDDING—2" x 4", dressed to uniform size, placed on 16" centres. All walls and partitions have 2" x 4" sill piece and 4" x 4" cap. Headers are doubled, over all door and window openings. All studding is accurately cut to fit.

WALL SHEATHING—The outside walls of all our dwellings are sheathed with 1" dressed lumber, cut to fit, which is covered with heavy building paper before the siding is put in place.

RAFTERS—2" x 4" and 2" x 6", all accurately cut to length, bevelled and notched.

ROOF SHEATHING—No. 1 dressed Hemlock or Fir. All roofs are close boarded.

BUILDING PAPER—Dense, tough fibre paper, overlying sub-flooring and outside wall sheathing.

DETAIL SPECIFICATIONS — CONTINUED

SHINGLES — XXX British Columbia Cedar or equal quality of Eastern shingles.

SIDING—First quality, $\frac{3}{8}$ " matched siding, cut to fit, or bevelled clear Cedar siding.

PORCH COLUMNS—Of size and detail illustrated in cuts.

OUTSIDE FINISH—All No. 1 dressing stock, dressed four sides, and cut to length.

WINDOW AND DOOR FRAMES—Finest dressing stock.



GLASS AND PAINT—We supply star and double diamond glass for all windows and glass doors. We supply best quality ready-mixed paint, linseed oil and shellac for three coats for the outside body of the house, outside trim, verandah floor and steps and verandah ceiling, and stain, shellac and varnish for inside doors and trim.

INSIDE WALL FINISH—For all inside walls and ceilings, we supply wood lath.

Dimensions on Floor Plans are inclusive of the Frame Work.



Design of Colonnade
Between Rooms
No. 1 Size

DOORS—We supply cross panel clear Fir doors.

INTERIOR TRIM—Our interior trim consists of bull-nosed casing, base blocks and three-piece Colonial Mantel Head, all clear Fir, finest dressing stock. The trim is cut to fit, ready to be nailed in place.

MOULDED BASE—We do not cut the base to fit, but we do better—we supply corner blocks, and anyone who has seen Base "coped" in at the corners will realize what an immense saving in time this means.

FINISHED HARDWARE—Our lock sets, hinges, window fittings, etc., are all of handsome Brush Brass, Old Copper or other attractive finishes.

BUILDERS' HARDWARE—We supply nails of all necessary sizes in excess quantities, galvanized iron, hip, valley and step flashings, and first quality heavy building paper.



Design of Colonnade
Between Rooms
No. 2 Size

Appendix 4 – Austin Village Conservation Area in Longbridge, Birmingham

Austin Village is a First World War housing estate of prefabs between Longbridge and Northfield, Birmingham.



Herbert Austin, who created the Austin Motor Company at Longbridge in 1905, had to take on more workers during the First World War when his factory became involved in making tanks and aircraft. In 1917, he built a new estate for his employees in Turves Green on land bought for £7,750. He imported 200 red cedar wood pre-fabricated bungalows from the Aladdin Company, Bay City, Michigan, USA.[1] They were shipped across the Atlantic and survived potential loss by U-boat attack. These were erected with twenty-five conventional brick-built semi-detached houses at intervals to create firebreaks.[1] They were fitted with coke-fired central heating, gas cooker, gas water boiler, sink and drainer, and a bathroom with bath.[2] The external size of the bungalows was 6.84 yards (6.25 m) wide by 11.75 yards (10.74 m) deep with an additional porch at the front and boiler room at the rear. The three bedrooms were each 9 feet 7 inches (2.92 m) square. The brick houses were also fitted with two gas fires.[2]

Two octagonal children's shelters were built in the islands in Rowan and Laburnum Way but these have now gone.[2] Hawkesley Farm buildings were converted to a village hall and club room.[2]

Mature trees were planted along the roads: Central Avenue, Hawkesley Crescent, Hawkesley Drive, Coney Green Drive, Cypress Way, Cedar Way, Laburnum Way, Rowan Way and Maple Way. The village was completed in eleven months and rented to Austin

workers with seven in each bungalow and twelve in each house.[

A wooden Baptist church (now demolished) was built opposite the north end of Central Drive and an Anglican church (Church of the Epiphany, now gone) was built on the corner of the Oak Walk.[3]

After the war the requirement for workers reduced and the bungalows sold. The estate is now occupied and surrounded by conventional suburban housing. It forms the Austin Village Conservation Area.[4]

1. Birmingham - The Building of a City, Joseph McKenna, Tempus Publishing Ltd. 2005, ISBN 0-7524-3489-6
2. The Austin Village, Austin Village Preservation Society, 2002, ISBN 0-9541312-0-7
3. Austin Village Preservation Society, H. W. Mason, 1998
4. Birmingham City Council - Austin Village Conservation Area