



## LESSON 11 LEVEL C BUILDINGS

## PAINTED LADIES: Colorful Victorian Houses

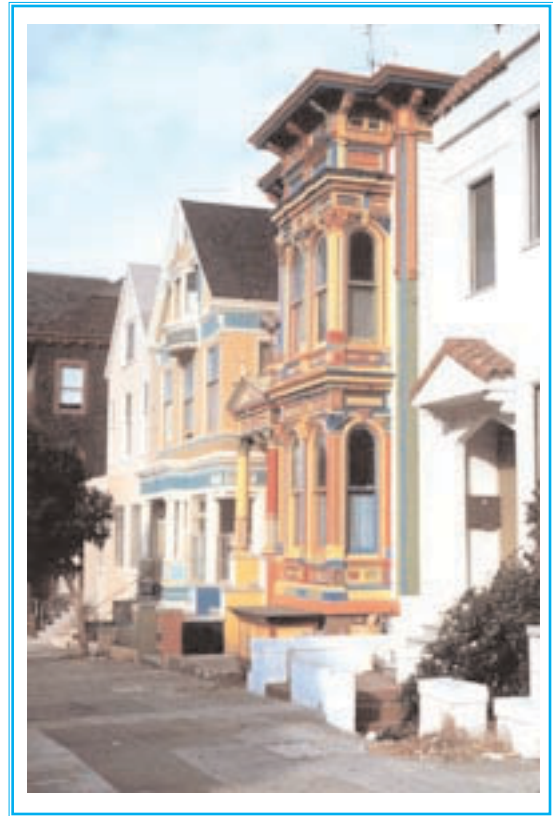
### WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

representing a Victorian façade (front) with crayon and watercolor

### WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

white construction or drawing paper; crayons; pencil; watercolors; #12 brush; water container; paint rag; optional: construction paper; scissors; paste

**“TIPS”:** Victorian houses were built over a period of many years in the 19th century, in different parts of the world, and in many styles. Many American Victorians have been renovated, repainted, and fitted with modern conveniences. They have been photographed for magazines, calendars, and books, so pictures are widely available in case actual houses are not. Compare a number of photos for similarities and differences before you start to draw.



Photograph by Kay Alexander

**GETTING STARTED:** Waxy crayon outlines keep the watercolor within the lines when you draw firmly to enclose each shape. You will want to sketch lightly with pencil first. Then go over your lines with heavy crayon. Don't be afraid to use bold, wild colors! Draw the geometric

shapes you see: the triangles, cones, rectangles, diamonds, and semi-circles, as well as the fancy trimmings and the shapes of the shingles.

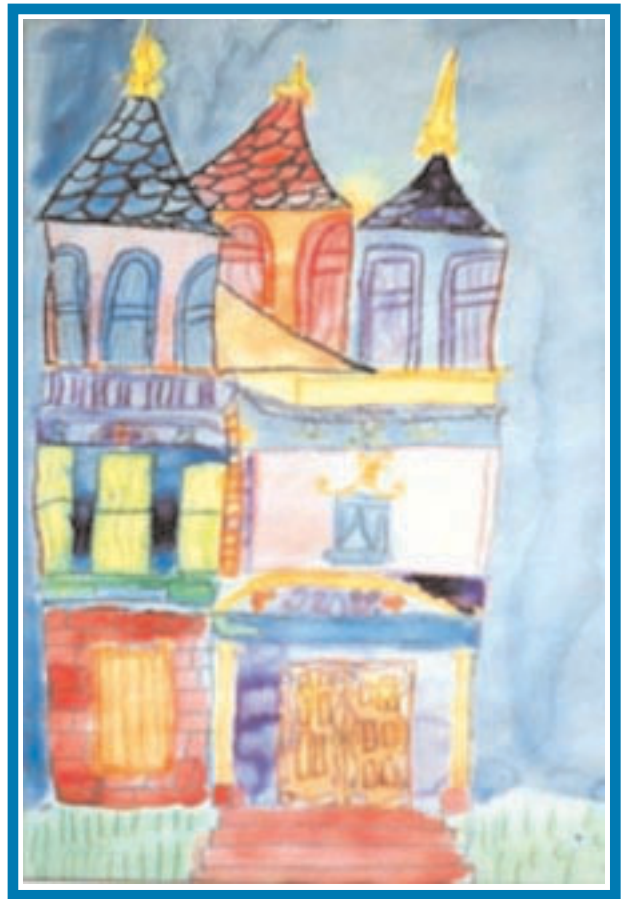
1. You may draw one of the Victorians from a photograph or put together parts from several pictures to make your very own building. Sketch lightly, making sure the outline fills the paper well.



2. Go over your pencil sketch with different colors of crayon for the different parts of the façade (front or face) of the house. Press firmly and be sure the lines enclose shapes. Be sure to include some of the interesting patterns and moldings, stairways and window frames.

3. With a watercolor brush and paints, fill in the shapes of the building the way you would like to color the real façade.

4. Add some details of the surrounding space. . .some garden flowers, perhaps, or a tree and a fence. Or cut out your house and paste it onto a piece of colored construction paper.



Katerina Age 11

**TALK ABOUT IT:** Did you make a colorful picture with some interesting patterns and unusual details? What geometric shapes did you include? How does it look from across the room?

**CLEAN UP:** Clean your brush and point it with your fingers to remove the extra water. Blot your paints gently with a damp sponge. Put your materials back where they belong. Be sure your work area is clean. You will make someone very happy.

**MORE IDEAS:** Do another drawing of a Victorian house and finish it with just a black fine line pen.

**CONNECTIONS:** Find out about Queen Victoria of England, during whose reign so many Victorian Houses were built. Does your community have a group of people concerned about "historic preservation," the saving of old buildings? Ask your librarian to help you find one or more Victorian houses on your community's historic register.