



above

This odd remodel has a narrow depth façade attached to a small bungalow. From the side it looks like a movie set.

books will be your Encyclopedia Britannica. (See “Cheat Sheet” sidebar.)

Should you be without skilled hands, then you will need to seek hired help. Regardless of the type of contractor you will hire, it is of the utmost importance that you verify his or her experience doing vintage home restoration. You don’t want them learning their trade on your piece of Americana. Therefore, seek a professional. Don’t take their word for it; see their work for yourself. Ask to see something recent as well as something done more than two years ago. If you have a particularly large renovation project, you may need a general contractor and possibly even an interior designer. Caution should be exercised, as most of these professionals have little or no expertise with vintage home restoration and will likely perform inappropriate alterations, such as installing

CHEAT SHEET

Do your homework before home work.

- Historic neighborhood home tours: contact owners.
- Historic landmark building and house museum tours: ask docents questions.
- Historical and preservation societies: ask for leads for reputable contractors and other tips.
- Research other homes by your original builder to see missing pieces.
- Attend open houses of historic homes for sale to study details of restoration efforts.
- Acquire and read excellent books on bungalow restoration and refer to them often. Notable selections: *Bungalow Details: Interior*; *Bungalow Details: Exterior* by Jane Powell and Linda Svendsen; *Bungalow Colors: Exteriors* by Robert Schweitzer. Available from publisher Gibbs Smith. Visit gibbs-smith.com.

ceiling can lights. (For more on working with contractors, see “Dream Trip” on page 42.)

In future issues, I will offer restoration information covering a wide range of topics. These tips, although geared toward Craftsman bungalows, are useful for all vintage homes. Until then, nurture that cottage or bungalow. **CB**

Editor’s Note: This is Part I of an ongoing series offering professional tips for vintage homeowners and home enthusiasts. Michael Logan, painting contractor and Craftsman restorer, has owned Angelo Michael’s Painting since 1984. He specializes in interior Craftsman restoration in Southern California. Contact him at (626) 797-5300 or via e-mail at mmlogan2@hotmail.com.