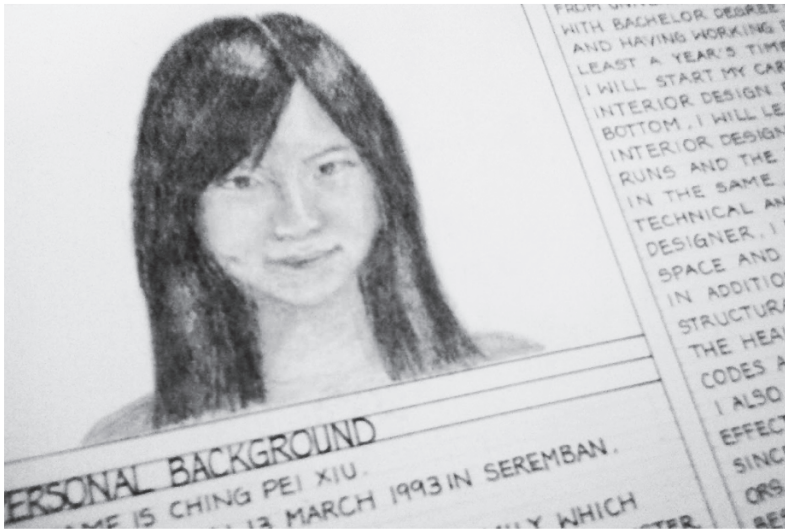


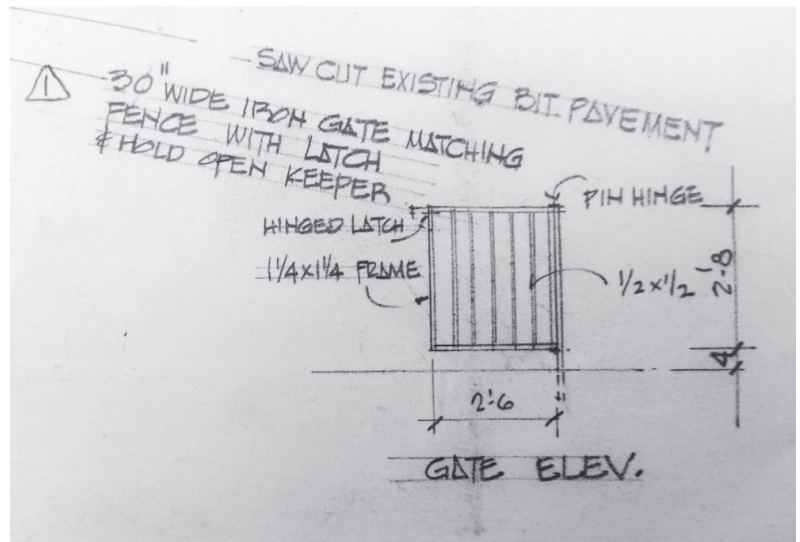
ARCHITECTURAL LETTERING



WE WILL USE THIS STYLE
OF WRITING FOR
SKETCHBOOK LABELS
AND DESCRIPTIONS.

- ARCHITECTURAL LETTERING WAS ESTABLISHED AGES AGO SO THAT WRITING ON BLUEPRINTS WAS LEGIBLE, AVOIDING COSTLY MISTAKES .

- PRACTICING THIS LETTERING IS STILL PART OF THE CURRICULUM IN MOST ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN SCHOOLS, BECAUSE IT IS STILL A NECESSARY PART OF THE JOB.



- BAD HANDWRITING TENDS TO MAKE ANY DESIGN LOOK AMATEUR. ALL HANDWRITING SHOULD MATCH THE QUALITY OF THE DESIGN.

- PRACTICE IS NECESSARY TO DEVELOP THE SKILLS NEEDED TO LETTER LEGIBLY. JUST AS EACH INDIVIDUAL HAS A UNIQUE HANDWRITING, THEY WILL ALSO HAVE A UNIQUE LETTERING STYLE.

- ARCHITECTURAL LETTERING HAS AN ANIMATED QUALITY WHILE APPEARING VERY UNIFORM AND NEAT. AS YOU PRACTICE, YOUR LETTERING WILL DEVELOP ITS OWN PERSONALITY!

EXAMPLES OF ARCHITECTURAL LETTERING

GUIDELINES:

Guidelines are drawn very light and will not be erased: the text box is part of the beauty of this hand-drawn lettering style.

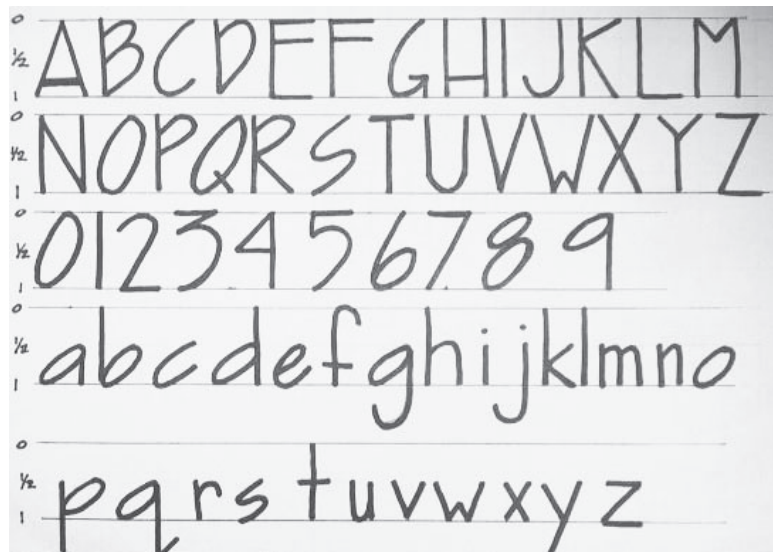
- Draw guidelines with a sharp H pencil in regular intervals.
- Sets of lines should be drawn to the width of your text box or label.

LETTERING:

Lettering can be written by using sharp B pencil or technical pen.

- Use light guidelines
- When learning, it is helpful to use a straight edge to draw the vertical lines for the letters
- Letters are written in all caps
- Letters should all be the same width
- Skip a space between each line

In this example, note how all vertical strokes are perpendicular to the guidelines. The horizontal strokes are located high or low of center. Rounded letters slant forward.



ABCDEFGHIJKLM
NOPQRSTUVWXYZ
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNO
PQRSTUVWXYZ&12
34567890(\$.,!?)

This example preserves a hand-drawn personality by slanting the letters slightly backward and extending the ascenders above the guideline.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD LETTERING CANNOT BE OVER-EMPHASIZED. THE LETTERING CAN MAKE OR BREAK AN OTHERWISE GOOD DRAWING.

PENCIL LETTERING SHOULD BE DONE WITH A FAIRLY SOFT SHARP PENCIL AND SHOULD BE CLEAN-CUT AND DARK. ACCENT THE ENDS OF THE STROKES.



AS YOU PRACTICE, YOUR LETTERING WILL DEVELOP ITS OWN PERSONALITY!

A large rectangular area with horizontal lines, intended for freehand lettering practice.