Wooden and timber-framed churches (chapels) and belltowers/bellhouses

Wooden church (chapel)
A building whose bearing structure is wooden („Blockhaus“ – log-construction), framed or based on wooden posts. Outside it can be boarded or shingled (or covered with metal – in recent cases). A (even substantial) part of such church can be stone/brick built (one of walls, ante-room, etc.).

Half-wooden church (chapel)
Some of basic ground parts of such church (presbytery, nave) is wooden, the rest stone/brick built. It does not concern towers (see following).

Church with wooden parts
Only a part of such church is wooden – the most often the upper part of a tower (eventually only the upper-most storey), extension to the towers (or to westwerks), towers projecting from the roof area (Dachturm – „growing out“ from the roof trusses), ante-room, gable, one of the walls).

Timber-framed church (chapel)
A building whose structure is timber-framed (half-timbered). The infilling of the structure is made of masonry, bricks or daub. The not important volume of the building can be only of stone, brick or wood.
Half-timber-framed church (chapel)
Some of basic ground parts of such church (presbytery, nave, eventually the superstructure of the whole church) is timber-framed, the rest of masonry (stone, brick). It does not concern towers (see following).

Church (chapel) with timber-framed parts
Only a part of the building is timber-framed, most often the upper part of a tower (eventually its upper-most storey), extensions to the towers (or westworks), towers projecting from the roof area (Dachturm — „growing out“ from the roof trusses), ante-room, gable, one of the walls).

By analogy, but more likely only in theory, there can be also the combination of wooden (log-structure) and timber-framed parts or elements of these buildings.

Wooden belltower/bellhouse
Belltowers, in common, are the buildings serving for hanging the bells. A belltower is always separate/detached from the church, in small or often even substantial distance of the church. It stand in the area of a church (mostly the village one) or at least in the purposeful relation to it. Belltowers are of the great variety of construction types and shapes. The bearing structure is usually frame or posts, covering of shingles, boarding, or the structure is open. Only several countries (Norway, Russia) have developed the wooden-block structure of bell-towers.

The village belfries are not comprised by the building type of a bell-tower!
Village belfries are structures serving to the similar purpose (ringing the bells) but they do not have a relation to a church. They usually are smaller than belltowers (even have the simple fork-shape). They are usually situated within the village green or commons or in other place within the village.
**Wooden belltower/bellhouse attached to the church**
A belltower whose bearing structure is independent unit but it was attached (from any reason) to the church or in the very close contact to it. The belltower usually has square-built proportions (it does not have a form of a normal tower). Such belltowers are usually in case of the overall wooden churches.

**Half-wooden belltower/bellhouse**
A belltower, whose bottom (ground, or other above storeys) is brick or stone built, the upper part of timber, covered with boarding. Such belltowers could (have) serve also as a gate into the churchyard.

**Half-wooden belltower/bellhouse attached to the church**
An analogical case as above. Such belltower is attached right to the church or its close proximity. It can be called a belltower only in case it has square-built proportions characteristic of belltowers. On other cases it is a half-timbered tower.
**Timber-framed belltower/bellhouse**
A belltower, whose walls are timber-framed, infilled with daub or stones or bricks.

**Timber-framed belltower/bellhouse attached to the church**
An analogical case as above; such a belltower is attached right to the church wall or its close proximity. It can be called a belltower only if the building has typical square-built proportions. On other cases those are timber-framed towers. It is true that find a distinction or exact limit of those two building types is often problematic.

**Half-timbered belltower/bellhouse**
A belltower with masonry ground floor and the timber-framed upper part.

**Half-timbered belltower/bellhouse attached to the church**
An analogical case as above; such a belltower is attached right to the church wall or its close proximity. It can be called a belltower only if the building has typical square-built proportions. On other cases those are real towers. It is true that find a distinction or exact limit of an attached bell-tower and a tower is often problematic.

**Timber-framed-wooden belltower/bellhouse**
Such a belltower has timber-framed ground part and framed andboarded upper part (Exceptional case).

**Timber-framed-wooden belltower/bellhouse attached to the church**
An analogical case as above; such a belltower is attached right to the church wall or its close proximity. It can be called a belltower only if the building has typical square-built proportions. On other cases those are real towers. It is true that find a distinction or exact limit of an attached belltower and a tower is often problematic.
Masonry belltower/bellhouse
A structure, more exactly said their walls, is stone- or brick-built. It is a very variable building-type. Except forms resembling towers, there also the so called screen-belfries (bell-walls). Bell-towers of masonry are observed only to grasp the whole phenomenon of detached belltowers and in a context of the distribution of wooden ones.