

4.0 glossary

Arcade: An arched roof or covered passageway.

Arch: A curved structure supporting its weight over an open space such as a door or window.

Asymmetry: The balanced arrangement of different elements without a common axis.

Balustrade: A series of vertical supports surmounted by a rail.

Bay Window: A window projecting outward from the main wall of a building.

Board and Batten: Vertical siding composed of wide boards that do not overlap and narrow strips, or battens, nailed over the spaces between the boards.

Bracket: A support element under overhangs that is often more decorative than functional.

Canopy: A fixed, roof-like covering that extends from the building as protection from the sun and rain.

Canilever: A projecting overhang or beam supported only at one end.

Casement Window: Window with hinges to the side and a vertical opening either on the side or in the center.

Clapboard: A long thin board graduating in thickness with the thick overlapping the thin edges; also known as weatherboard.

Colonnade: A row of columns supporting a roof structure.

Column: A vertical support, usually cylindrical, consisting of a base, shaft and capital.

Cornice: An ornamental molding along the top of the exterior wall.

Cupola: A lookout or similar small structure on the top of a building.

Curb Cuts: The elimination of a street curb to enable vehicles to cross sidewalks and enter driveways or parking lots.

Dormer: A vertically framed window which projects from a sloping roof and has a roof of its own.

Double-Hung Window: A window with an upper and low sash arranged so that each slides vertically past the other.

Eaves: The overhang at the lower edge of the roof, which usually projects out over the walls.

Elevation: A two dimensional representation of the exterior face of a building in its entirety.

Facade: The exterior front face of a building, sometimes distinguished from other faces by elaboration of architectural or ornamental details.

Fanlight: A semi-circular window over a door or window.

Flat Roof: A roof that has only enough slope for drainage.

Gable: The triangular part of an exterior wall, created by the angle of a pitched roof.

Gable Roof: A roof with a central ridge and one slope at each side.

Gambrel Roof: A roof with a broken slope that creates two pitches between eaves and ridges, often found on barns.

Hipped Roof: A roof with four uniformly pitched sides.

Infill: A newly constructed building within an existing development area.

Lot: A designated parcel, tract, or area of land established by plat, subdivision, or as otherwise permitted by law, to be used, developed, or built upon as a unit.

Masonry: Wall construction of such material as stone, brick, and adobe.

Massing: The three-dimensional physical volume of a building, composed of simpler forms such as cubes, cylinders, pyramids, and cones.

Mullion: A vertical wood or metal member that separates the panes in a multi-paned window.

Muntin: A horizontal wood or metal member that separates the panes of glass in a window.

Proportion: The ratio of dimension between elements, such as height to height, width to width, and width to height ratios.

Parapet: The part of a wall that rises above the edge of a roof.

Pediment: A low-pitched gable that crowns a façade or that is used as an ornament above a door, window, or portico.

Pilaster: A column attached to a wall.

Pitch: The slope of a roof expressed as a ratio of height to span.

Porch: An outside walking area having a floor that is elevated above grade.

Portico: A large porch, usually with a pedimented roof supported by columns.

Rafter: A sloping structural member of the roof that extends from the ridge to the eaves and is used to support the roof deck, shingles, or other roof coverings.

Rhythm: The regular or harmonious recurrence of lines, shapes, forms, elements or colors, usually within a proportional system.

Ridge: The highest line of a roof when sloping planes intersect.

Sash: The part of the window frame in which the glass is set.

Scale: The measurement of the relationship of one object to another object. The scale of a building is often described in terms of its relationship to a human being.

Shake: Split wood shingles.

Shed Roof: A sloping, single planed roof.

Slate: Thinly laminated rock, split for roofing, paving, etc.

Street Frontage: The total linear dimension of all property lines that coincide with the edge of an adjoining street right-of-way.

Stucco: An exterior finish, usually textured, composed of portland cement, lime, and sand mixed with water.

Symmetry: The balanced arrangement of equivalent elements about a common axis.

Terra-cotta: Earth colored baked clay products formed into molds and used ornamentally.