



APPENDIX A GLOSSARY

GLOSSARY

Architectural Features: The visual arrangement of the exterior of a structure, including but not limited to type, color, texture of materials, components, and finishes. The features include but are not limited to windows, doors, lights, and signs.

Architrave: In classical architecture, a horizontal element resting on columns or piers; in current usage, the trim elements around window and door openings.

Baluster: Vertical member, usually of wood, which supports the railing of a porch or the handrail of a stairway.

Balustrade: Railing or parapet consisting of a handrail on balusters; sometimes also includes a bottom rail.

Bay: A spatial structural unit of a building, sometimes marked by fenestration or vertical elements such as columns or piers. A structure protruding out from a wall.

Bay Window: A projecting bay that forms an extension of the interior floor space. If curved, it is also called a bowfront. If the projection extends from an upper story, the proper term is oriel window.

Belt Course: A horizontal band around the exterior of a building, often of a contrasting material or finish.

Beveled Siding: Tapered wood siding that overlaps for weather protection. It is applied horizontally to buildings of frame construction.

Bond: The method of masonry construction which is used to hold multi-wythe brick walls together (Ex: Common bond, Flemish bond, English bond).

Bracket: A projecting member, often decorative, which supports an overhanging element such as a cornice.

Bulkhead: The unit that occupies the lowest level of a storefront and can be described as the base which supports the display window.

Capital: The uppermost part of a column or other support.

Casement Window: A type of window with side hinges and a sash that swings outward.

Column: A supporting post consisting of base, shaft, capital; may be fluted or smooth.

Coping: The capping member of a wall or parapet, often consisting of masonry units.

Corbel: A bracket form produced by courses of wood or masonry that extend in successive stages from the wall surface.

Cornice: The projecting uppermost portion of a wall; often treated in a decorative manner with brackets.

Detail/Craft: The method of assembly of the building components and the quality of work and material used in the assembly of the building image.

Dormer: A structural extension of a building's roof intended to provide light and headroom in an attic space; usually contains a window or windows on its vertical face.

Double-Hung Window: A window with two balanced sashes, with one sliding over the other vertically.

Double Pitch: A roof having two slopes on each side of a central ridge.

Efflorescence: An unsightly crystalline deposit caused by evaporation of alkaline salts either in the building materials or transported by capillarity from the ground.

Entablature: The construction above the classical column, consisting of architrave, frieze, and cornice.

Fabric: A connotation relating to the physical aspects of a building, structure, or city, referring to an interweaving of its component parts.

GLOSSARY

Facade: The architectural “face” of a building, though it can be applied to all sides.

Fascia: A flat horizontal member used as a facing at the ends of roof rafters.

Fenestration: Pattern of window and door openings in a wall.

Finial: The decorative, pointed terminus of a roof or roof form.

Flashing: Flat metal or other material that is used to keep water from penetrating the joint between different surfaces and materials, such as around the chimney on a roof.

Form: The geometric shape of the building components and their interaction to create a whole image.

Frieze: A band member in the vertical plane, sometimes decorated with sculpture relief, occurring just under a cornice.

Gable: The triangular section of the end wall of a pitched roof. A gambrel or double-pitch roof forms a non-triangle gable.

Gambrel: A form of roof in which the angle of pitch is abruptly changed between ridge and eaves, with larger than a 180 degree change.

Glazing: Glass fitted into windows or doors.

Hoodmold: Decorative, projecting element placed over a window; may extend down the sides of a window as well as surround the top.

Infill Buildings: Any new building to be constructed on a site with one or more of its walls adjoining buildings on adjacent sites.

In-Kind: Replacement of one element of a building with another of the same material, design, size, and appearance.

Jamb: The side of a doorway or window opening.

Lights: Openings between the mullions of a window, usually glazed; an individual pane of glass.

Lintel: Horizontal structural element at the top of a window or door; it carries the load of the wall above and may be of wood, stone, or metal.

Maintenance: The repair or replacement of an existing product, finish, or material without making any alteration.

Massing: The interaction of height, width, depth, and proportion, thus forming a visual image of size.



Double Hung Windows



Bay/ Oriel Window

GLOSSARY

Mullion: A vertical member that divides window sash, doors, or panels set close together in a series.

Muntin: The pieces that make up the small subdivisions in a multi-pane glass window.

Oriel Window: See Bay Window.

Orientation: An applied and incorporated decoration used to embellish the building. Examples are cornices, window hoods, columns, and quoins.

Pane: A sheet of glass for a comparatively small opening in a window sash or door as opposed to a large sheet of plate glass, as in a display window.

Parapet: The portion of an exterior wall that rises entirely above the roof, usually in the form of a low retaining wall; the parapet may be shaped or stepped.

Pattern Book: An illustrated guide to architecture including measured drawings of a building's elevations, plans, sections, and details. Most popular in the United States during the 18th and 19th centuries, these books were utilized by carpenters, architects, and their clients, primarily in domestic design.

Pediment: The triangular face of a roof gable; or a gable which is used in porches, or as a decoration over windows, doors, and dormers.

Pier: A vertical structural member, more massive than a column, often square or rectangular in plan, which supports a load.

Pilaster: A member appearing to be an engaged pier with its base, shaft, and capital, but providing no support.

Plate Glass: A high-quality float glass sheet, formed by rolling molten glass into a plate that is subsequently ground and polished on both sides after cooling.

Portico: An entrance porch, usually supported by columns and sheltering only the entry.

Prism Glass: Small panes of prismatic glass, usually set in wood or metal framework in the transom over a storefront or entrance, used to diffuse or direct natural light into a deep, poorly lit space.

Proportion: The relationship in size, dimension, scale, etc. of the various elements of the building to themselves and the image as a whole.

Quoin: In masonry, a hard stone or brick used to reinforce an external corner or edge of a wall: often distinguished by size, formal cutting, more conspicuous jointing, or difference in texture from adjacent masonry.

Repointing: The process of removing deteriorated mortar from the joints of a masonry wall and replacing it with new mortar.

Return: The continuation of a projection or cornice in a different direction, usually around a corner at a right angle.

Sash: The framework of the window that supports the glass. Sash may be fixed, sliding, hinged, or pivoted.

Sill: The framing member that forms the lower part of a window or door opening.

Setback: The distance between the front of a land parcel and the facade of a building.

Sheathing: A subsurface material, usually wood, which covers exterior walls or roofs before application of siding or roofing materials.

Sidelight: A glass panel, usually of multiple panes, at either side of a door; often unused in conjunction with a transom.

GLOSSARY

Soffit: A flat wood member used as a finished undersurface for any overhead exposed part of a building, such as a cornice. Commonly found on the underside of eaves.

Spalling: A condition of brick or stone in which layers break off parallel to the plane of the building and fall away. This is usually caused by internal pressures due to water or salt crystallization.

Spandrel: In frame construction, the spandrel is the blank space between windows in successive stories.

Style: The characteristic form, features, and elements, as of a specific period in history. Examples are Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Tudor, International, Modern, etc.

Texture: The feel or shape of a surface visually created by shadows and tangibly created by physical characteristics.

Transom: A glass panel, which is placed over a door or window to provide additional natural light and ventilation to the interior of the building. Used on both residential and commercial buildings.

Turret: A corbelled projection, usually located at a corner.

Vapor Barrier: A waterproof material that is used to prevent moisture from migrating from damp to dry areas, where it may condense and cause problems.

Vernacular: Architecture that draws more on folk traditions and forms, stressing basic functionalism, economy, and utility rather than the rules, principles, and ornamentation of high-style architecture. May contain secondary high-style design elements.

Wythe: A continuous vertical section of masonry one unit in thickness. A wythe may be independent of, or interlocked with, the adjoining wythe(s).



Portico



Spalling