



GLOSSARY

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Acanthus	The ornamental leaves on the Corinthian capital.	Bracket	A small support, usually decorated, which projects from the face of a wall and supports projecting architectural elements such as cornices.		sometimes directly below the eaves of the roof.
Arcade	A range of arches supported on piers or columns.			Course	A horizontal row of stones or bricks in a wall.
Arch	A form of construction in which wedge-shaped stones or bricks (voussoirs) are set in the form of a curve.	Bond	The pattern in which bricks are laid for design and structural solidarity.	Cupola	A terminal structure, square, octagonal or round in plan, rising above the main roof.
Architrave	The bottom-most division of an entablature which rests directly on the capitals of the supporting columns or piers and which supports the frieze. The molding surrounding a window or door opening.	Buttress	A mass of masonry projecting from or built against a wall for additional strength.	Doric Order	The lowest Order of the Greeks distinguished by plain or fluted shafts and unadorned capitals.
Baluster	A small upright which, in series, supports a handrail.	Capital	A top member of a column, pier or pilaster.	Dormer Window	A window that projects through the slope of the roof.
Balustrade	A row of balusters supporting a handrail and forming an enclosure for a stair, porch or balcony.	Clapboard	A board that is thinner along one edge than the other to facilitate horizontal overlapping for weatherproof exterior wall covering.	Entablature	A horizontal superstructure supported by columns or piers which is composed of architrave, frieze and cornice.
Batten	A narrow strip of board covering the vertical joint between two boards on Board and Batten Siding.	Corbel	A bracket form produced by extending successive courses of masonry beyond the wall surface.	Facade	The main elevation or front of a building.
Bay	The section of a plan or building between adjacent columns or piers. The vertical division of a building wall represented by one window or door opening and the surrounding wall.	Corinthian Order	The highest Order of the Greeks distinguished by a fluted shaft and a capital of ornamental acanthus leaves and curled fern shutes.	Fanlight	A window, usually semi-circular or elliptical, above a door with radiating muntins suggesting a fan.
		Cornice	The upper-most division of an entablature. A horizontal, projecting molding along the top of a wall and	Fluting	Shallow concave grooves running vertically on the shaft of a column, pier or pilaster.

Flashing	Sheet metal placed between abutting surfaces to prevent the entry of water.	Joist	A horizontal member in the framing of a floor or ceiling.	Pilaster	A flat representation of a column projecting from a wall.
Frieze	The middle division of an entablature between the architrave and cornice.	Lintel	A horizontal member spanning a rectangular opening.	Pitch	The degree of slope of a roof.
Gable	The triangular upper section of an end wall directly below a double pitched roof.	Louvered Shutters	A shutter composed of a series of horizontal slats tilted to admit air and exclude rain.	Plate	The horizontal member capping the exterior wall studs and supporting the lower ends of the rafters.
Gable Roof	A pitched roof with one slope on either side of the ridge.	Mansard Roof	A pitched roof with two slopes on all four sides, the lower slope of which is much steeper than the upper and is punctuated by dormer windows.	Rafter	A diagonal or sloping member in the framing of a roof, between the ridge and the plate.
Gambrel Roof	A pitched roof with two slopes on each side of the ridge.	Mullion	A vertical divider between a series of window and door openings.	Return	A right angled change of direction, as around a corner, of a molding such as a cornice.
Header	The top cross piece of a window or door frame.	Muntins	The horizontal and vertical bars in a window which separate the panes of glass.	Ridge	The peak of a roof. The top horizontal member of a sloping roof, against which the upper ends of the rafters are fixed.
Hipped Roof	A pitched roof with one slope on all four sides.	Order	A definite arrangement of column, capital and entablature, each with its own set of rules for correct use and its own ornamental features.	Sash	A frame for glass panes to close a window opening, usually two to a window. Double hung sash are two movable balanced sash, one sliding over the other vertically. Single hung sash are one movable and one fixed sash.
Hood Mold	A projecting molding above a window or door opening to throw off rain from the wall.	Parapet	A low wall along the edge of a roof.	Shaft	The section of a column between the base and the capital.
Ionic Order	The middle Order of the Greeks distinguished by fluted shafts and a capital with spiral scrolls (volutes).	Pediment	A gable in which the roof cornice returns horizontally across the wall to form an enclosed triangle.		
Jamb	The side of a window or door opening against which the window sash or door shuts.				

Shed Roof	A pitched roof sloping in one direction only.
Shoe	The horizontal member on which the studs are set.
Sill	The horizontal member directly on top of the foundation wall which supports the exterior wall studs. The bottom cross piece of a window or door frame.
String Course	A projecting horizontal strip, usually between floor levels, across the wall of a building.
Stud	The vertical framing members of a wall.
Transom	A narrow, rectangular window above a door, hinged for ventilation.
Truss	A framework of straight members designed so as to be self-supporting and to span long distances between walls.
Vergeboard	A decoratively cut rafter set out away from the exterior face of the wall along the edge of the roof.

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