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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

### Arcade

A group of columns or pillars which are either freestanding or attached to a wall and forms a covered pedestrian space or walkway.

### Architectural details

Components or features of a building or structure that express its style and character.

### Architecturally significant

A structure or building that has architectural value due to its style; character, or its architect or time period when it was built. Architecturally significant buildings or structures may or may not be in a historic district.

### Architrave

A main beam resting across the tops of columns, or a molded frame around a building opening such as a window or doorway.

### Awning

A fabric-covered structure mounted on the face of a building above a window, entrance, or storefront opening, providing weather and/or sun protection.

### Awning valance

The vertical front face of an awning, parallel to the face of the building to which it is mounted. Also referred to as a skirt or apron.

### Balcony

A platform with a walking surface that projects from the wall of a building in front of a window or door, and is surrounded by a railing, balustrade, or parapet.

### Baluster

A miniature column that is an upright support or post for a railing or balustrade.

### Balustrade

A railing consisting of a row of balusters supporting a top rail.

### Band, band course, band molding

A flat, horizontal member of relatively slight projection, marking a division in the wall plane. Also referred to as a belt course, architectural band, belly band.

### Bargeboard

The vertical face board following, and set back under, the roof edge of a gable, sometimes decorated by carving. Referred to as vergeboard when ornately carved.

### Bay window

A section of a building that protrudes beyond the façade with windows on all sides.

**Bevel siding**

Building cladding material consisting of beveled boards hung horizontally.

**Board and batten**

Wall construction consisting of wide boards or sheets, alternating with projecting, narrow wooden strips set vertically to obscure joints in the boards. Can be used for exterior building cladding or interior wall paneling.

**Bollard**

A short post generally used to define an area of block vehicular access.

**Bracket**

A supporting member for a projecting floor or shelf, sometimes in the shape of an inverted L and sometimes as a solid piece or a triangular truss. Often used for architectural ornamentation in a gable. See also, knee brace, outlooker.

**Bulkhead**

A low wall below a storefront window, typically containing a dimensional panel.

**Buttress**

A projecting pier which supports and reinforces a wall, sometimes with a decorative inner arch.

**Canopy**

An architectural structure made of permanent materials such as metal or wood, mounted on the face of a building above a window, entrance, or storefront opening, providing weather and/or sun protection.

**Capital**

The top member of a column, shaft, or pilaster.

**Casement window**

A window frame that is hinged on one vertical side, and swings open; often occurs in pairs.

**Clapboard siding**

Building cladding material consisting of long, thin flat pieces of wood with edges horizontally overlapping in series.

**Clerestory**

The upper portion of a wall rising having a series of windows admitting daylight to the interior.

**Clipped gable**

A gabled roof with a shortened ridge pole creating a truncated end.

**Corbel**

A structural piece of masonry, wood, or metal extending from a wall surface to support a weight, as a bracket form, sometimes with a decorative profile.

**Cornice**

A molded and projecting horizontal member that crowns an architectural composition such as a window, door, or building wall.

**Course**

A horizontal range of units the length and thickness of the wall.

**Coping**

The capping or top course of a wall, usually adapted to the protection of the wall from weather.

**Crenellation**

A sequence of alternating, raised and lowered wall sections at the top of a high exterior wall or parapet.

**Cupola**

A domed roof or ceiling, or a small structure that surmounts and rises above the main roof.

**Cut-off shields**

An element of a lighting fixture that limits light emission above a horizontal plane.

**Dentils**

A series of small, block-like projections forming a molding.

**Dormer**

A subordinate gable in a pitched roof, usually containing a window or windows on its front vertical surface.

**Double-hung window**

A window with two sashes that move independently of each other.

**Eave**

The edge of a roof that projects over an outside wall.

**Escutcheon**

A flat piece of metal for protection and ornamentation around a keyhole, door handle, or light switch.

**Façade**

The face of a building, especially the principle front.

**Fanlight**

A semicircular or semi-elliptical window set above a door or larger window, typically with glazing bars radiating like an open fan; a type of transom window.

**Fenestration**

The disposition of windows in a building façade.

**Finial**

A terminal form at the top of a spire, gable, gate post, pinnacle, or other point of relative height.

**Frieze**

A broad horizontal band, sometimes decorated with sculpture relief, occurring at the top of a wall just under a cornice.

**Gable**

The generally triangular section of a wall occupying the space between the two slopes of the roof on a pitched roof, often used for architectural ornamentation.

**Gabled roof**

A roof with two slopes, joining at a single ridge line.

**Gambrel roof**

A ridged roof exhibiting two slopes; the lower slope being steeper than the upper slope.

**Gazebo**

An open, roofed pavilion that offers a view of the surrounding area.

**Gingerbread**

Intricate and superfluous decorative details on a building; typically in the form of scalloped or zig-zag designs.

**Head**

The top of a door or window frame.

**Hipped roof**

A roof with four sloped sides, meeting at a ridge at the center of the roof; two sides being trapezoidal and two sides being triangular.

**Hood mold**

A vertical molding projecting beyond a lower one in a parallel plane over a door or window.

**Horn, sash horn**

The short protrusion on either end below the center bar of the upper window sash, often with a decorative profile, used to prevent the window from opening too far.

**Jerkinhead**

A gabled roof having a hipped end truncating the gable.

**Jigsaw work**

Curves and curlicues cut into wooden boards using a saw with a small, thin blade.

**Kick plate**

A vertical element, typically of metal, applied at the bottom of a door surface to protect against scuffing.

**Knee brace**

A supporting member of a structure that is placed diagonally from one to another of two adjoining principle members. See also, bracket, outlooker.

**Lancet windows**

A high narrow window with an acutely pointed head, typical of Gothic architecture.

**Lap siding**

A building cladding material consisting of overlapping beveled boards wider and longer than clapboards.

**Louver**

One of a series of horizontal slats, set at an angle to exclude rain but allow air to pass through.

**Mansard roof**

A four-sided hipped roof featuring two slopes on each side, the lower slope being very steep, almost vertical, and the upper slopes being extremely shallow.

**Mass**

The perception of the general shape, form, and size of a building, created by the building elements and their relationship with each other and to humans.

**Milled**

Having a serrated, patterned surface in circular forms that are created by turning the item during cutting.

**Modulation**

Variation of a flat façade using recesses and offsets in wall surface for architectural effect.

**Motif**

A repeated pattern, image, idea, or theme.

**Mullion**

An upright structural division member between windows or doors of a close series.

**Muntin**

A rigid bar member separating adjacent panes of glass in a sash or door.

**Newel**

A post terminating the handrail of a stairway at top, bottom, or on a landing.

**Oriel**

A projecting window with its walls corbeled from beneath or supported by brackets.

**Outlooker**

A projecting member that supports the portion of a roof extending beyond the face of a gable. See also, bracket, knee brace.

**Palladian window**

A large window consisting of a central arched section flanked by two narrow rectangular sections.

**Parapet**

A low wall at the edge of a roof.

**Pediment**

The triangular upper face of a roof, typically surrounding a portico of columns. May also be seen surmounting a door or window. Most commonly seen in classical style architecture.

**Pergola**

An arbor or colonnade supporting open roof timbers, either freestanding or attached to another structure.

**Pilaster**

An ornamental rectangular column, typically projecting slightly from a wall, to give the appearance of a supporting column and to articulate the wall extent.

**Pitch**

The angle at which a roof slopes from its peak to its eaves.

**Plinth**

A heavy base piece supporting a column, statue, or monument.

**Portico**

An entrance porch supported by columns or enclosed by walls.

**Pyramidal roof**

A roof with four sloped sides, meeting at a central point of the roof; all sides being triangular.

**Quoins**

The corner stones of a wall when emphasized by size, more formal cutting, more conspicuous jointing, or difference in material or texture.

**Rail**

The cross or horizontal member of the framework of a window sash or other panel assembly.

**Rafter**

One of several internal beams extending parallel from the eaves to the peak of a roof and constituting its framework.

**Reticulation**

A decorative arrangement characterized by circular shapes resulting in a netlike framework, particularly in elaborate masonry.

**Reveal**

The depth of wall thickness between its outer surface and a window or door set in an opening.

**Ridge**

The topmost horizontal member of a sloped roof.

**Roundel**

A small circular window or panel.

**Sash**

A portion of a window holding glass that is set into the frame or jamb.

**Shed roof**

A roof having only one sloping plane.

**Shingle**

A wedge-shaped piece of wood used in overlapping courses to cover a roof or exterior wall surface. The bottom edge may have a decorative shape.

**Shiplap**

A beveled or rebated jointing of boards to produce an exterior surface without gaps. Often used for siding.

**Shutter**

A hinged panel, typically made of wood, fixed outside a window or door jamb for security, privacy, or to limit the passage of light.

**Side light**

A narrow window with a vertical emphasis set alongside a door or larger window, usually stationary.

**Sill**

The lowest horizontal member forming the bottom of a window or exterior door frame.

**Single-hung window**

A window with two sashes and only the lower sash is operable.

**Skirtboard, skirting**

A baseboard or finishing board at the junction of the interior wall and floor.

**Soffit**

The enclosed, finished underside of an architectural structure such as an arch, balcony, or overhanging roof eaves.

**Spindle**

A short lathe-turned wood element used for ornate architectural detailing.

**Stile**

A vertical framing member of a window or paneled door.

**Streetscape**

The scenery and elements that a person would visually experience in the street space, including buildings, storefronts, signage, sidewalks, street furnishings, and amenities.

**Stucco**

Finished plaster covering for exterior walls.

**Sunburst**

An architectural design feature consisting of rays or beams radiating out from a central disc.

**Tongue and groove**

Wood planking in which adjacent boards are joined by means of interlocking ridges and grooves down their sides.

**Tower**

A narrow, vertical structure that is attached to and higher than the surrounding building.

**Transom window**

A window with a horizontal emphasis set above the transom of a door or larger window, usually stationary or tilting.

**Trellis**

Latticework as an outdoor screen, often used to support vegetation.

**Turret**

A small tower that reaches from the surrounding grade to a point above the surrounding building to which it is attached.

**Vestibule**

A small entrance hall or passage between the outer door and the inside of a house.

**Wainscot**

Wooden paneling applied to the lower portion of a wall.