

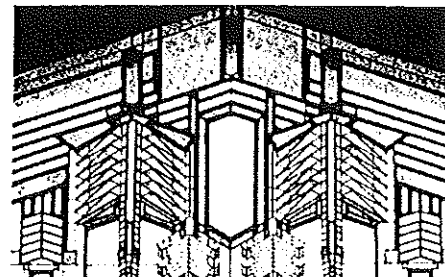
# Glossary of Art and Architectural Terms

**Abstraction** A system in art and design where forms are represented by simplified shapes and patterns.

Butterfly



Abstract Butterfly window design created with geometric shapes; Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.



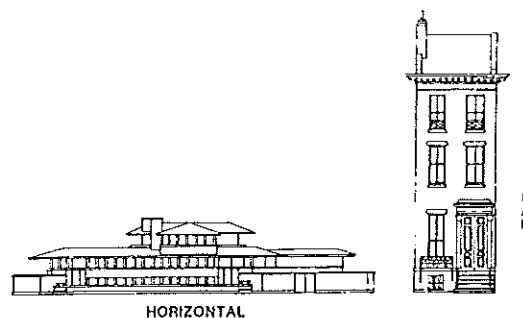
**Arch** A structure forming a curved, pointed, or flat edge to an open space; arches are often curved and support a wall above. *See picture below.*

**Architect** A person whose work is to design and draw plans for a building.

**Architecture** The science, art or profession of designing and planning buildings.

**Asymmetric** Having unlike forms on either side of a central line.

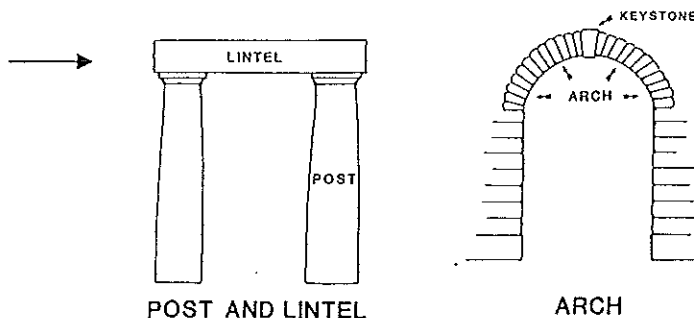
**Axis** The direction of emphasis in a building (vertical or horizontal).



**Barrel vault** An arched ceiling that resembles the inside of a barrel.

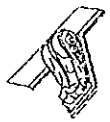
**Beam** A piece of steel or wood lying in a horizontal position and supported at each end. *Can also be called post and lintel.*

Beam

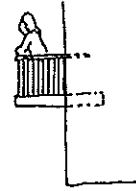


**Bracket**

A triangle or "L"-shaped piece supporting a projecting roof or floor.

**Cantilever**

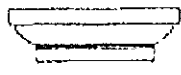
A horizontal projection with no visible means of support.  
A diving board or a balcony is a good example of a cantilever.

**Capital**

The top or crowning feature of a column.

**In the Classical order**, a system of design that is based on ancient Greek architecture, there are three major orders and kinds of capitals:

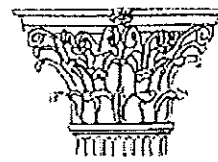
- **Doric** there is no decoration on the capital, and the column is thick;
- **Ionic** the capital has a scroll design, and the column is sometimes ribbed;
- **Corinthian** the capital has a leaf design, and the column is thin and ribbed.



Doric



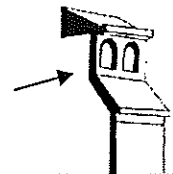
Ionic



Corinthian

**Clerestory window**

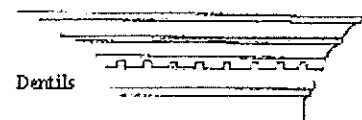
A window located in the upper part of a wall.

**Decoration**

Something added to a structure to make it more beautiful.  
Examples include brackets and dentils.

**Dentil**

One of a band of small, square, tooth-like blocks.



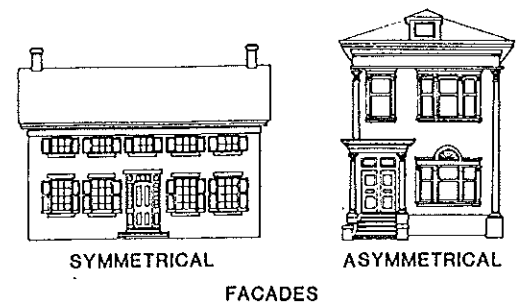
Dentils

**Eave**

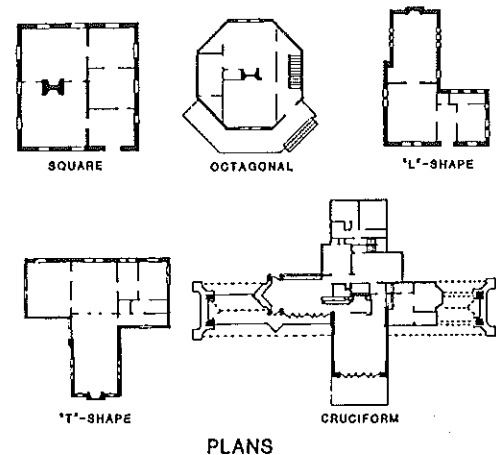
The edge and under part of a roof that projects over an outside wall.

**Elevation** A drawing showing the details of one side of a building; an elevation does not use or show perspective.

**Facade** The exterior of a building, often the front side.



**Floor plan** A drawing that illustrates in simple terms the size and arrangement of rooms in a building.




**Form** The shape of an object.

**Foundation** The base on which a building stands and is supported.

**Function** The reason and activity that a building is designed for. For example a school is designed

**Froebel blocks** Geometric blocks, a part of the Froebel Gift play materials developed by German educator Friedrich Froebel, for child development. Frank Lloyd Wright said they were a great influence in his life.

**Geometric shapes** The shapes made from points, lines, angles and planes in geometry. Examples include circles, triangles, squares, spheres and cubes. Natural forms may be considered as the opposite of geometric forms.

<b>Hand-crafted</b>	Made by hand rather than by machine.	
<b>Horizontal</b>	Flat and straight across.	
<b>Inglenook</b>	A small, room-like area around a fireplace, usually designed for sitting.	
<b>Keystone</b>	The highest and central wedge-shaped piece in an arch. <i>See picture of arch.</i>	
<b>Landmark</b>	A place that has special cultural, aesthetic or historic value.	
<b>Leaded glass</b>	Glass panels made of many small panes of glass separated by lead or zinc dividers (called comes); either colored or clear glass can be used.	
<b>Logo</b>	An identifying symbol used in addition to or in place of words.	
<b>Materials</b>	Anything of which an object is made. Building materials include wood, brick, steel, glass and concrete.	
<b>Natural form</b>	A shape based on nature, which blends into its environment; not made by people; not artificial.	
<b>Natural color</b>	A color found in nature, such as those in a landscape, often green or brown tones.	
<b>Porch</b>	A roofed structure with open walls connected to the exterior of a house.	
<b>Plan</b>	<i>See Floor Plan.</i>	

**Prairie School** The term describing the work originated by Frank Lloyd Wright and 5 other architects around the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, which was designed to be a truly American form, free of European influences, and inspired by the environment. Characteristics include:

- two crossing axes of the floor plan;
- low, horizontal design that reflects the Midwestern prairie;
- geometric forms;
- windows grouped in a series—or band—known as light screens;
- limited exterior materials (wood, stone, brick, stucco), usually only one or two;
- built-in furniture;
- interior floor plan designed as one large room with small barriers creating adjacent spaces;
- wood banding or trim on walls.

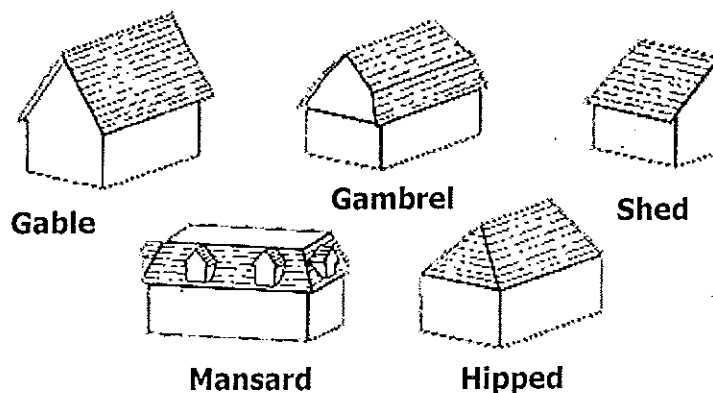
**Preservation** Preventing further change or destruction to keep a building or object as it is.

**Proportion** The relationships of parts to a whole or parts to one another in an art work or building's design. Architects must be concerned with the relationships of size, space, volume, materials, site and use of a new building.

**Renovation** Adapting a building to modern functions, leaving as many original elements as possible while adding new ones as needed.

**Restoration** Taking a building back to exactly the way it looked at a certain time. The Robie House is being restored to the period of 1909.

**Roof** The outer covering on the top of a building. Different types include:



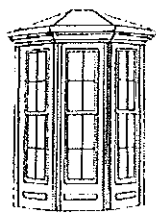
*Not pictured:*

- **Flat** one horizontal plane
- **Dome** a spherical form

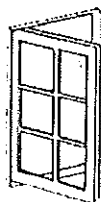
<b>Sculpture</b>	1) The art of carving, modeling or casting designs or figures. 2) The 3 dimensional object created through this art.
<b>Shingle</b>	A thin piece of wood or other material placed in overlapping rows on the roof or walls of a building.
<b>Site</b>	The place or location of a building.
<b>Stucco</b>	Rough-textured cement or plaster used to coat the outside of a building.
<b>Symmetrical</b>	Having identical forms on either side of a center line.
<b>Terrace</b>	An outdoor space next to a house, often used for lounging and eating.
<b>Transom</b>	A window located above a door.
<b>Turret</b>	A tower-like structure rising from the upper floors of a building.
<b>Vertical</b>	Straight up and down; upright.
<b>Victorian</b>	A style of house popular in the mid-19th century. Main aspects of the style included a strong vertical direction; a steep roof; windows located randomly, providing one or two per room; and box-like rooms. Often the houses were colorful, decorative and with great amounts of applied detail. Opposite of Prairie Style.

## Window

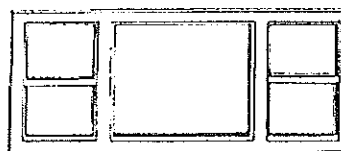
An opening in a wall or roof that allows light, air and a view.  
Types of windows include:



Bay

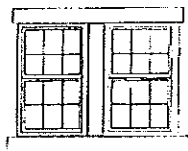


Casement



Chicago

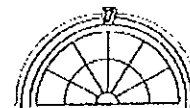
- **Bay** a group of windows that projects out from the wall;
- **Casement** a window hinged on one side that opens like a door—the preferred window of the Prairie School;
- **Chicago** a large, stationary window with movable windows on either side;



Double-hung

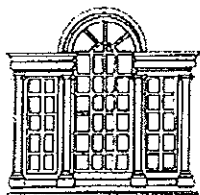


Gothic

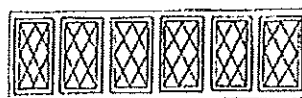


Lunette

- **Double-hung** a window with two sections which slide over each other vertically;
- **Gothic** a window with a gracefully arched or pointed top;
- **Lunette** a fan-shaped (semi-circular) window, often found above a door;



Palladian



Ribbon

- **Palladian** a window unit with a central arched window with rectangular windows on either side—named after the Renaissance architect Andrea Palladio;
- **Ribbon** a series of windows separated only by frames, which forms a horizontal band; Wright and other Prairie school architects often used such groupings.