

## *Glossary*

**Accessory structure** – A detached structure on the same parcel of property as the principal structure, the use of which is incidental to the principal structure, such as a shed or detached garage.

**Adaptive use** – The conversion of obsolescent or historic buildings from their original or most recent use to a new use.

**Arbor** – A lattice or light frame structure generally spanning a path or walkway and intended to support plant materials.

**Architrave** – The lower-most division of an entablature that rests on the capitals. See entablature.

**Awning** – A roof-like covering that projects over a door or window to provide shelter from the elements. Historically they were constructed of fabric, but contemporary materials include metal and plastic.

**Bay** – Any number of principal divisions of a building that are marked by vertical elements.

**Bay window** – A window in a protruding bay.

**Beyond repair** -- When the level of deterioration of a historic feature or material is so extensive that much of it will be lost as a result of repair, making replacement the best option.

**Board-and-batten** – A wood siding system composed of vertical boards with narrow wood strips placed over the joints where the boards meet.

**Bond** – An arrangement of masonry units (headers and stretchers) laid in a pattern that provides a brick wall with strength, stability, and in some cases, a design or stylistic feature.

**Bracket** – A support projecting horizontally or diagonally under eaves or other overhangs, either decorative or functional.

**Brick veneer** – A non-structural facing of brick, usually single width.

**Building** – A permanent structure with a roof and walls created to shelter human activity.

**Building envelope** – The outermost walls and roof of a building that define its overall shape.

**Bulkhead** – (1) A structure on the roof of a building covering a water tank, shaft, or service equipment, (2) A structure, as on a roof, covering a stairwell or other opening, (3) A horizontal or included door giving access from the outside of a house to a cellar or a shaft, (4) The member of an entrance frame which forms a base for a sidelight adjacent to a door.

**Canopy** – A projecting roof structure that shelters an entrance to a building.

**Capital** – The topmost member of a column or pilaster.

**Cast stone** – Manufactured products that resemble stone, usually composed of Portland cement and stone aggregate.

**Cementitious siding or fiber cement siding** – A composite siding material made of cement reinforced with cellulose fibers.

**Character** - Character refers to all those visual aspects and physical features that comprise the appearance of every historic building.

**Character-defining feature** –Character-defining elements include the overall shape of the building, its materials, craftsmanship, decorative details, interior spaces and features, as well as the various aspects of its site and environment.

**Cladding** – A non-structural material used as an exterior covering on a building.

**Clapboard** – One of a series of long narrow boards used to cover the outer walls of frame structures; also known as weatherboard or siding.

**Column** – A vertical support or pillar.

**Commission** – The Historic Preservation Commission. In the past tense, “Commission” may refer to the Historic District Commission, which was replaced by the Historic Preservation Commission in 2005.

**Context** – The historical and cultural background and physical setting of a resource, used to evaluate its significance and integrity.

**Contributing resource** – A building, structure, site, district, or object with qualities of historical or architectural interest. Generally contributing resources were constructed within the Period of Significance.

**Coping** – A flat or sloping cap or covering at the top of a wall.

**Corbelling** – A slightly projecting, stepped, decorative element on exterior masonry walls.

**Cornice** – A continuous molded projection that crowns or horizontally divides a wall. Also, the uppermost portion of the entablature, which surmounts a column. See entablature.

**Deck** – (1) The flooring of a building or other structure, (2) A flat open platform, commonly constructed of wood or a composite material and intended for outdoor living at the rear of a house, (3) The structural system to which a roof covering system is applied, and (4) The top section of a mansard or curb roof where it is nearly flat.

**Demolition** – The intentional destruction of all or part of a building, structure, or feature.

**Demolition by neglect** –When a historic property or part thereof suffers severe deterioration, potentially beyond the point of repair due to the lack of normal maintenance or repair.

**Diameter at breast height (DBH)**- the diameter of a tree measured at 4.5 feet above the ground.

**Display windows** – On a commercial storefront, the windows intended to display goods, usually extending from the transom or cornice/frieze to the bulkhead and consisting of one plane of glass.

**Divided light** – A window or door in which the glass is divided into smaller panes.

**Door frame** – The fixed portion of a door opening comprised of two jambs, a lintel, and a sill.

**Dormer** – A projection on a roof that includes a window.

**Double hung window** – A window with two sashes that slide past each other vertically.

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

**Entablature** – A horizontal element that is physically or visually supported by columns or pilasters and is composed of a cornice, frieze, and architrave.

**EPDM** – Ethylene propylene diene monomer, a waterproof rubber roofing membrane.

**Façade** – The exterior face of a building which is the architectural front, sometimes distinguished from the other faces by elaboration of architectural or ornamental details. In some cases the term is modified by “rear” or “side” to refer to other exterior walls of a building.

**Feature** – Any part or characteristic; in terms of architecture, any part or characteristic of a building.

**Fenestration** – The arrangement and design of windows in a building.

**Frieze** – The middle horizontal member of a classical entablature, above the architrave and below the cornice.

**Gable end** – The exterior wall of a building at the peaked end of a gable roof.

**Gable roof** – A pitched roof with two inclined planes having equal angles that meet at a peak in the center.

**Gambrel roof** – A ridged roof with two slopes on each side, the lower roof having the steeper pitch.

**Gazebo** – An open-sided decorative shelter in a garden or park.

**General maintenance** – Ordinary maintenance needed to keep a building or structure in good repair; generally requires minimal or no change in materials.

**Head** – The uppermost member of a door frame or window frame.

**Hipped roof** – A roof that slopes inward from all exterior walls.

**Historic Design**- The appearance of a historic feature that is characterized by its materials, construction and overall form that can be determined documentary or physical evidence.

**Historic resource** – see resource.

**Historic integrity** – The ability of a property to convey its significance. The seven aspects of integrity are location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

**Hood** – A projection above an opening to provide shelter or decoration.

**Hoodmolds** – A projecting molding over the arch of a window or door.

**In-kind** – A material of the same type. In-kind replacement refers to replacing a deteriorated element with a matching element of the same material, size, shape, and appearance.

**Jamb** – Either of the vertical sides of an archway, doorway, or window opening.

**Jib door** – A door that is designed to resemble a window and generally has no visible hardware.

**Light** – A pane of glass in a window or a glazed component of a window.

**Lintel** – A horizontal structural member, such as a beam, over an opening that carries the weight of the wall above it.

**Louver** – Overlapping slats that permit air and light to penetrate a building.

**Mansard roof** – A sloping roof that projects from the wall of a building and has a double slope, the lower slope being steeper than the upper.

**Mass, massing** – The bulk and shape of a building.

**Meeting rail** – The rail of each sash in a double-hung window that meets at the rail of the other when the window is closed.

**Mid-rail** – A narrow band that may be structural that divides a shutter or storm window horizontally at a midpoint.

**Molding** – A slender strip of wood used for ornamentation and finishing.

**Monitor roof** – Projections on the ridge of a gable roof designed to allow light into the interior.

**Mullion** – The vertical members between the lights of a window or panels of a door.

**Muntin** – A window framing member that holds glass panes.

**Non-contributing resource** – A building, site, structure, or object that does not add to the historic significance of a property or district.

**Object**--a construction primarily artistic in nature or relatively small in scale and simply constructed, such as a statue or milepost

**Oriel** – A bay window located above the first floor, sometimes more than one-story high.

**Panel** – A section that is recessed below or raised above the surrounding area or enclosed by a frame or border.

**Parapet** – A low protective wall that extends above the roofline.

**Parging** – A rough coat of mortar on the surface of a masonry wall.

**Patio** – An open, outdoor paved area adjoining a house and intended for outdoor living.

**Pediment** – A wide, low-pitched gable surmounting the façade of a building in a classical style; any similar element used over doors and windows.

**Penthouse** – A structure on top of a flat roof, usually occupying less than half the roof area, used to house equipment, such as HVAC equipment and elevator mechanicals; also, an apartment at the uppermost story.

**Pent roof** – An eave-like projection, usually above the first floor, that protects entrances and windows.

**Period of significance** – span of time in which a property attained the significance for which it meets the designation criteria.

**Pergola** – An open grid, supported by columns, for growing vines and covering a walkway or sitting area in a garden.

**Piers** – Columns designed to support a load.

**Pilaster** – A shallow column that projects from a wall, often including a capital and base, and intended to frame an opening, delineate the edge of the wall, or divide the storefront.

**Porch** – A covered and floored area on the exterior of a building.

**Portico** – A large porch or covered walk with a roof supported by columns or piers.

**Portland cement** – A hard, strong cement composed of calcium carbonate, calcium silicate and calcium aluminate.

**Preservation** – The act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work generally focuses on maintenance and repair of historic materials and features, rather than extensive replacement and new construction.

**Pressure treated wood** – Wood injected with preservative chemicals under high pressure.

**Protection** – The act or process of applying measures designed to affect the physical condition of a property by defending or guarding it from deterioration, loss, or attack.

**Quoin** – Masonry pieces at the edge of a wall used to reinforce or accent a corner.

**Rail** – Horizontal members framing a panel.

**Reconstruction** – The act or process of depicting, by means of new construction, the form, features, and detailing of a non-surviving site, landscape, building, structure, or object for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a specific period of time and in its historic location.

**Rehabilitation** – The act or process of making possible an efficient compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions, while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.

**Remodeling** – Changing a building without regard to its distinctive, character defining architectural features or style.

**Repointing** – Repairing existing masonry joints by removing defective mortar and installing new mortar.

**Resource** – Any building, structure, site, or object that is part of or constitutes a historic property. Also known as “cultural resource” or “historic resource.”

**Restoration** – The act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period.

**Reveal** – The part of a feature that is visible, such as the portion of siding that is not covered by the board above or the part of the jamb that is visible between the outer wall surface and window or doorframe.

**Rhythm** – A patterned repetition or alternation of formal elements (doors, windows, porches, etc.) or motifs to establish a repetitive pattern.

**Ridge** – The highest point of a roof or the horizontal line where two roof planes meet.

**Riser** – The vertical portion of a step, perpendicular to the tread.

**Roof cladding** – The external covering on the top of a building or building feature, such as a porch.

**Roof structure** – The roof and related upper wall elements, such as cornices and parapet walls.

**Sash** – A window's fixed or movable portion in which the panes of glass are set.

**Scale** – The apparent size and mass of a building's façade and form in relation to nearby buildings. Important factors in establishing the scale of a façade include the physical relationship of elements, such as window area to wall area, the shape and size of fenestration, the bonding pattern of the brickwork, and details such as cornices and trim.

**Setback** – The amount of distance a building or portion of a building is separated from a defined point, typically a property line. For the purposes of the City code, a setback is the minimum distance required between a property line and a building or structure establishing the yard requirements for various zoning districts.

**Setting** – The physical environment that surrounds a building or structure.

**Shed roof** – A roof with only one sloping plane.

**Sidelight** – A narrow window adjacent to a door or larger window and the same height as the door or window.

**Signboard** – On a commercial storefront, the portion, generally above the door and display windows, reserved for the placement of signage.

**Significant or significance** – The evaluation of a historic resource for qualities of historical or architectural value.

**Sill** – A horizontal timber at the bottom of a wood frame structure that rests on the foundation. A sill can also be the horizontal bottom member of a window, door, or other frame.

**Site** – Location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, where the location itself possesses historic, cultural, or archeological value regardless of the value of any existing structure. Sites may have a particular reference, such as historic sites or archeological sites.

**Soffit** – The exposed undersurface of an overhead building component, for example, where a roof projects beyond a wall.

**Soldier course** – Bricks placed in an upright course, with the narrow edge facing outward.

**Spandrel glass** – A type of clear glass with an opaque colored coating on the back face.

**Stabilization** – Work to halt deterioration of a building by making it weather tight and structurally stable, before more extensive rehabilitation can begin.

**Standing seam metal roof** – A sheet metal roof with vertical folded seams joining adjacent panels; the parallel seams run along the slope.

**Stile** – Various vertical members that frame a panel.

**Stoop** – An uncovered platform at the entrance to a house.

**Streetscape** – The visual image of a street, including the buildings, paving, utilities, signs, street furniture, plantings, and other design elements.

**Street wall** – The line formed by the façades of buildings set back a common distance from the street.

**Structure** – a functional construction made for purposes other than creating shelter, such as a bridge.

**Stucco** – Plaster applied on the exterior of a building.

**Synthetic slate** – A roofing material intended to resemble slate shingles.

**T1-11** – A pressed wood product available in sheets, rather than boards, which is applied as siding on buildings. T1-11 often is scored in attempt to resemble wood siding.

**Terra cotta** – Fired ceramic clay used for architectural elements.

**Texture** – The visual qualities of a building's surface separate from its color.

**Tongue-and-groove** – Wood boards that are milled to interlock with adjacent boards to create a tightly spaced floor surface. The tongue of one member is inserted into the groove of the adjacent board.

**Transom** – A window or series of windows located above a door.

**Tread** – The flat portion of a step where the foot rests as one climbs up or down.

**Trim** – Finished woodwork used to decorate, border or protect the edges of openings, such as doors and windows.

**Vent** – An opening intended to move air in or out of a building that may be covered with a louver on the outside wall; also, a stack that allows vapor or gases to escape from a building.

**Veranda** – A covered and partly enclosed porch or balcony extending along the sides of a building and used for natural ventilation and shading.

**Vernacular architecture** – Architecture that makes use of common regional forms and materials at a particular place and time.

**Wall dormer** – A dormer with a front wall that is an extension of the building wall.

**Weatherboard** – Horizontal wood siding used as an exterior sheathing on wood frame or timber frame buildings.

**Window frame** – The fixed portion of a window opening comprised of two jambs, a lintel and a sill.