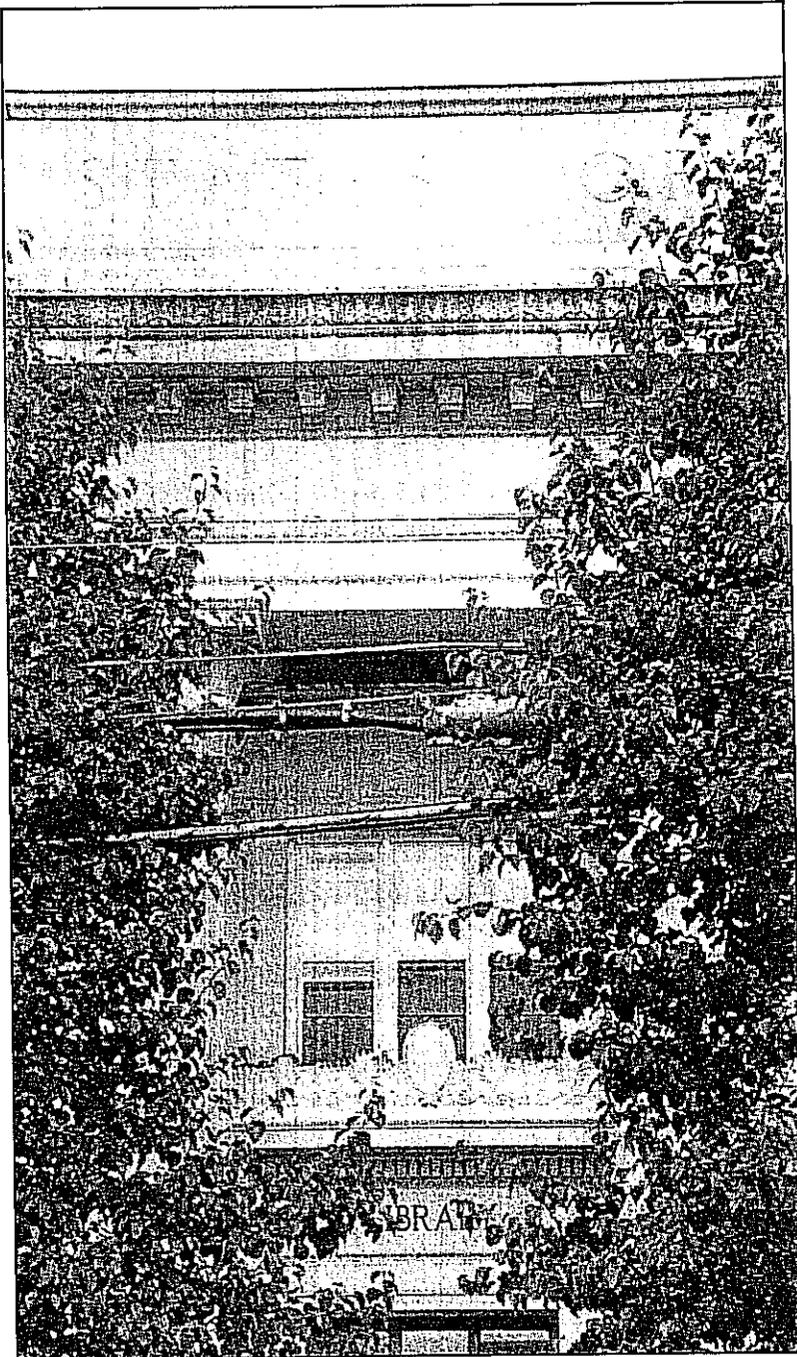


The Gettysburg Academy building, at the corner of West High and Washington Streets in 1882. Photo courtesy of Gettysburg National Military Park.

GLOSSARY

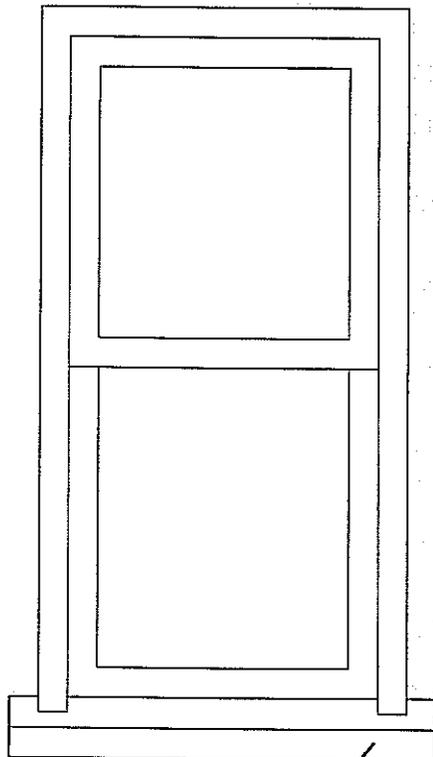
GLOSSARY

Listed in this section are definitions of the technical terms used throughout this manual. For more complete listings of technical terms, see the dictionaries listed in the Appendix called *Where to Go For Help*.



Detail of the Adams County Public Library at 140 Baltimore Street.

GLOSSARY



window apron

air infiltration - the flow of air into a building from the outside through cracks or holes in the exterior surfaces of the building

alligatoring - the splitting of a film of paint in a pattern resembling an alligator's skin

alteration - any physical change to an existing structure

apron - the facing panel, sometimes ornamented, below the floor of a porch, or the panel below a window sill

architrave - the lowest group of moldings on an entablature

artificial - (see synthetic)

awning - a roof-like covering placed over a door or window to provide shelter from the elements, historically constructed of fabric, but also made of metal and plastic in modern times

baluster - a small, column-like element that supports a hand rail in a balustrade, may be simple or decorative

balustrade - a railing on a stair, porch, or other structure, composed of upper and lower rails and a series of balusters in between

bargeboard - a decorative board, typically one of a pair, placed at the edge of the eaves of a gable

bay window - a window unit that projects outward from the wall of a building and usually has a foundation of its own

blocking in - the process by which one of a variety of materials is added to a window or door opening to decrease the size of the opening, or to close the opening completely

board and batten - a type of wooden siding composed of vertical boards that are covered at the joints with narrow boards (called battens)

bond/bonding pattern - the pattern in which bricks or stones are arranged in the formation of a wall

bracket - a general term for an architectural feature, typically treated with scrolls or ornament, projecting from a wall and intended to support a weight, such as a cornice, etc.

bulkhead - the panel at the base of the display windows of a storefront

casement - a window sash that opens by swinging in or out to one side

caulking - a flexible material used to seal cracks and fill joints between materials, intended to prevent leakage and/or to provide waterproofing

Certificate of Appropriateness - the approval statement, recommended by the Historic Architectural Review Board and approved by Borough Council, that certifies the appropriateness of a particular request for the construction, alteration, reconstruction, repair, restoration, demolition, or razing of all or part of any building within an historic district, following a determination of suitability according to applicable criteria, and that authorizes the issuance of a building permit for such request

chalking - a powdering of the surface of paint caused by natural aging

character - the combination of distinguishing attributes belonging to a building, structure, or other resource

character-defining feature - any distinguishable architectural element or characteristic that distinguishes a building or other resource, assists in classifying it as a particular type, style, form, etc., and distinguishes it from other resources

chimney - a structure that encloses one or more flues for the conveyance of smoke to the outside of a building, especially the part of the structure that rises above the roof, but also the part that may rise along the side wall of a building

clapboard - an exterior horizontal wood siding applied so that the thicker edge of each board overlaps the thinner edge of the board below

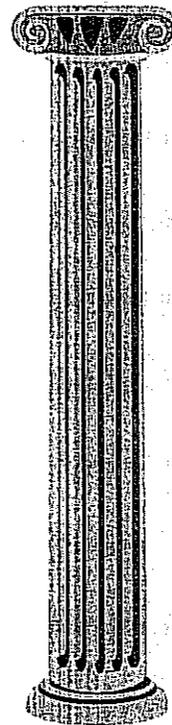
classical - relating to the style of ancient Greek or Roman art or architecture, or of derivatives of those styles

column - a vertical architectural element intended to support a load and usually composed of a base, shaft, and capital, often reflecting classical detailing

compatible - describing an alteration that maintains or restores the historic and significant features and appearance of a building, and does not detract from surrounding resources, thereby maintaining a sense of visual harmony in the building and between the building and neighboring buildings

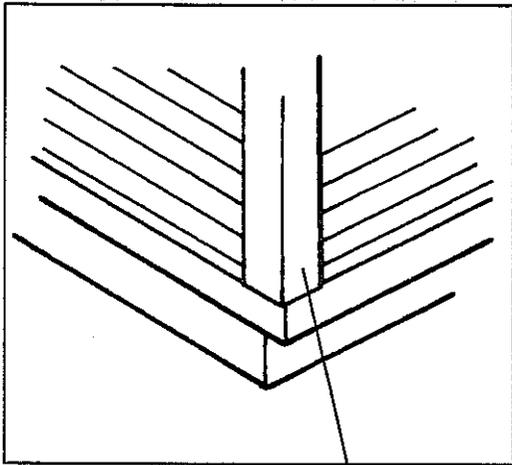
compatible substitute - a new material used to replace an old material, the new material being similar to the old in all aspects of appearance and agreeable to the existing materials in physical and chemical properties

GLOSSARY



column

GLOSSARY



cornerboard

conical - shaped like a cone, usually referring to a roof

corner board - a narrow, vertical board installed at the corner of a wood frame structure, against which the horizontal siding abuts

cornice - projecting moldings forming the top band of an entablature, or a similar horizontal ornamental molding at the top of a prominent architectural element, such as a wall, window, or door

crazing - a condition of fine, jagged interconnected breaks or cracks in the top layer of paint, caused when thick paint becomes excessively hard and can't respond to changing weather conditions

cresting - a decorative series of perforated, arrow-like elements at the top of a structure, especially along the ridge of a roof

cross gable - a type of roof composed of two gables that intersect at right angles

crow - a decorative molding at the top of a window, door, or other element

cupola - a small structure projecting from a roof, originally intended to provide light, ventilation, or view, but may be strictly decorative

cyclical maintenance - the regular upkeep of all elements of a building or property

delamination - the separation of layers of a material

demolition - the intentional destruction of all or part of a building or structure

demolition by neglect - the destruction of a building or structure caused by the failure to perform maintenance over a period of time

dentil - one of a series of small, toothlike projections that alternate with blank spaces, used for decorative effect in cornices and other moldings

deterioration - the loss of the original sound condition of a material, structure, etc., typically due to weathering, the lack of maintenance, and/or human activity

dormer - a window that projects from a sloping roof

downspout - a vertical pipe-like element that conducts water away from a roof, typically connected to a gutter

dusting - the condition that occurs in masonry when the outer layer of the masonry has fallen off, and the softer, inner core is being rubbed away

eaves - the underside of the portion of a roof that extends beyond the face of the wall

efflorescence - a spotty white haze appearing in a horizontal pattern in brick, created by salts that are deposited after water that has been carried into the wall evaporates

elevation - one of the walls of a building

energy efficient - describing a building or an element of a building that provides resistance to the flow of heat, or that requires little energy to operate

entablature - the long horizontal structure above the capital of a column, consisting of a cornice, a frieze, and an architrave; or a similar grouping used in other locations, as above a door or window

facade - the front wall of a building, or any decorated wall of a building

facings - a non-structural material that is applied to a surface of a building for protection or ornament

fanlight - an arched window above a door or other window

feature - a single, distinguished part of a greater whole, as a single architectural element of a building

finial - a slender, vertical ornamental element usually positioned at the top of a roof or a gable

finish - the texture, color, smoothness, reflectivity, and other visual properties of a surface

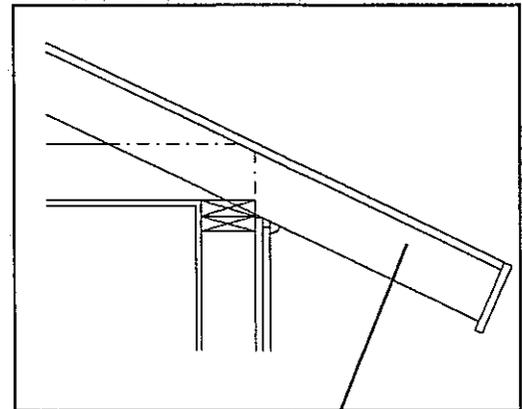
fish scale shingles - shingles with rounded ends

flashing - sheet metal placed over the joints in a roof to prevent water leakage

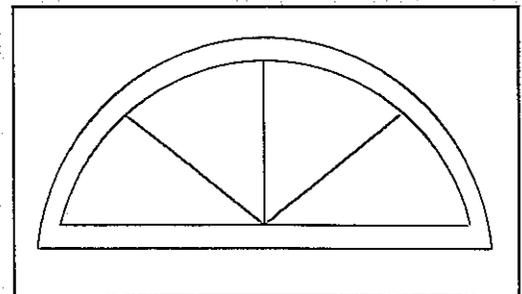
form - the shape of a building or object, which contributes to character and appearance

foundation - the masonry base of a building that rests directly on the earth and supports the structure above

GLOSSARY

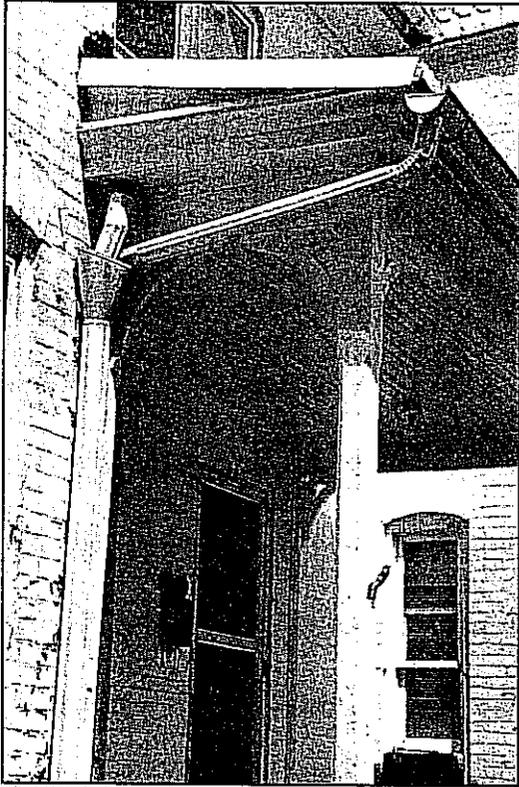


eaves



fanlight

GLOSSARY



A gutter and downspout in Gettysburg.

frame - the woodwork surrounding a door or window in a wall, to which the door or window is attached

frieze - the flat, middle portion of the entablature, or any similar decorative, horizontal element on a building

front gable - a building with a gable roof and a main entrance in the gable end

gable - the triangular portion of the end of a building with a double-sloping roof, including the portion from the level of the eaves to the ridge

gable end - in a building with a gable roof, an end of the building that includes the triangular gable

gable roof - a simple pitched roof with sides inclined at the same angle, meeting at a peak in the center of the structure

galvanized - describing a material that is protected from rust with a coating of zinc

gambrel - a roof composed of a shallow pitched slope above a more steeply pitched slope

glazing pattern - the arrangement of panes in a window or door

grade - the height of the surface of the ground

gutter - a channel attached to the eaves of a building to carry rainwater away from the roof, typically attached to a downspout

head - the top horizontal member of a window or door frame

hipped roof - a roof that slopes inward from all exterior walls

historic preservation - a broad range of activities intended to stabilize and conserve the built environment

historic rehabilitation - the process of returning a historic building and/or property to a state of utility, through repair or alteration, which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions and features of the building and/or property that are significant to its historic, architectural, and cultural values

ice dam - a buildup of snow and ice at the eaves of a sloping roof

insulation - a material used to reduce the transmission of sound or heat

lattice/latticework - open screening formed by the overlapping of thin strips of wood

lintel - a horizontal structural element spanning a window or door opening

louver - a series of angled slats in a framework, incorporating spaces to admit air, often used to fill window openings

maintenance - the routine upkeep of a building or property, generally performed to combat the effects of weathering and age

mansard - a roof composed of two pitches, the lower pitch steeper than the upper pitch, which may be nearly flat

masonry - any of a variety of materials, including brick, stone, mortar, terra cotta, stucco, and concrete, used for building construction

massing - the overall composition, including the size, expanse, shape, and bulk, of the major volumes of a building, that contribute to the building's appearance, especially when the building has major and minor elements

molding - a long decorative trim of any of a variety of profiles, used to ornament buildings and building elements

mortar - a composition of sand, water, lime and/or Portland cement, and possibly other materials, used to bond masonry units together

mullion - the vertical member that separates windows or doors set in a series in a single opening

multipane - describing a window whose sash are composed of more than one pane of glass

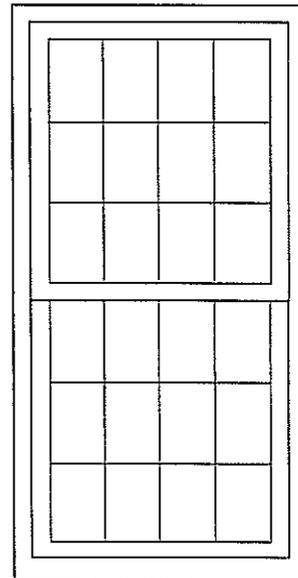
muntin - the small element that separates the individual panes of glass in a multipane sash

newel - the post, often ornamental, that supports the handrail at the top and bottom of a stairway

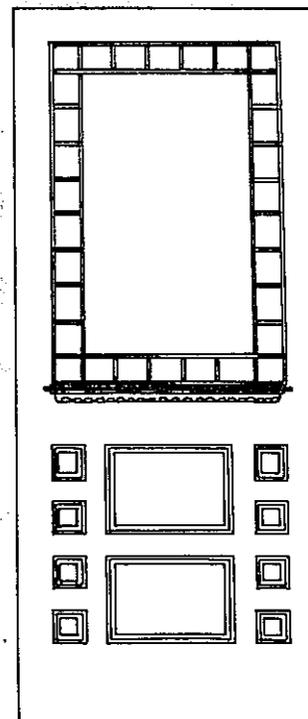
ordinance - a municipally adopted law or regulation outlining specific rules regarding a variety of issues, but often pertaining to the use of land, property, buildings, etc.

oriel - a bay window above the first floor level

GLOSSARY

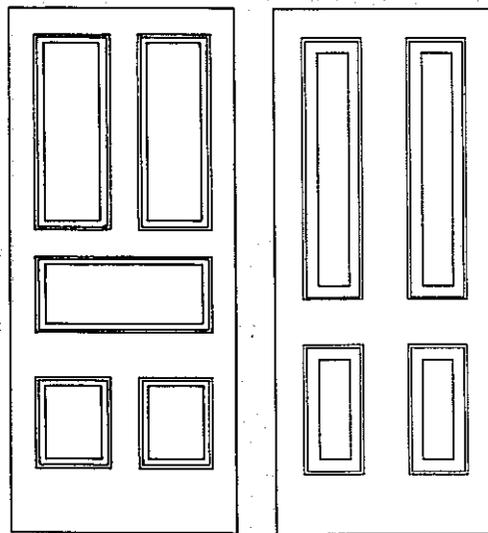
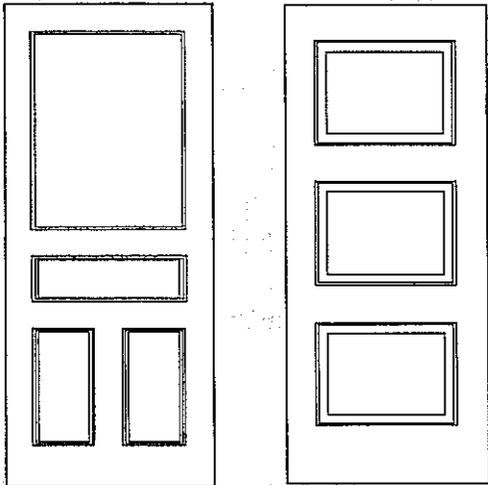


A multipane window.



A door with a multipane window.

GLOSSARY



A variety of doors with panels.

orientation - the placement of elements on a building or the placement of a building on a site, taking into consideration size, distance, setback, alignment of features, the location of the street, and the situation of other nearby buildings

outbuilding - a structure separate from and secondary to the main building on a property, including but not limited to garages, carriage houses, summer kitchens, ice houses, sheds, and barns

panel - a flat surface surrounded by moldings or recessed from the adjacent surface and sometimes ornamented

parapet - a wall that projects above a roof

pediment - the gable end of a roof or portico, often triangular or segmental in shape, and located above the cornice in classical architecture; a similar feature above doors and windows

physical evidence - remaining historic fabric and/or features of a building that should be used as the basis for designing or recreating new building elements

photographic evidence - historic photographs or illustrations that provide information on the historic appearance of a building and that can be used as the basis for designing or recreating new building elements appropriate to the historic character of the building

picturesque - describing architecture that is characterized by irregularity, variety, and roughness

pilaster - a flat architectural element resembling a column attached to a wall

pitch - the slope of a roof or other element

pointing - the process of using mortar to bond masonry units together to form a wall

porch - an exterior structure attached to a building, with its own roof and a floor, and open on all sides, may be large or small, plain or decorative

portico - a covered porch or walkway supported by columns, typically located at the entrance to a building

poultice - any of a variety of compositions applied to masonry surfaces to assist in the removal of stains

preservation - the stabilization of a building or a material to protect it from deterioration

primary elevation/primary facade - an exterior wall of a building that receives special architectural treatment or ornament, often the wall that contains the entrance or any wall facing a major street

primer - a specially formulated coating that creates a protective film on a surface to allow good adhesion of the topcoat

priming - preparing a surface, or applying a first coat of paint before the finish coat(s)

proportion - the relationship of the size, shape, and location of one part of a building to another part, or of one part of a building to the whole building, or of one building to a group of buildings

protect - to safeguard the condition and character of a building or a property and its component parts, typically achieved through consistent maintenance

protective surface coating - a layer of material applied to a surface specifically for the purpose of shielding the surface from the elements or other potential factors of deterioration

public street, alley, or way - any thoroughfare for travel that is open to the public, either by foot or by vehicle, typically considered in relation to the buildings or parts of buildings that can be seen from it

rafter - one of a series of roof beams that supports the roof sheathing

rail - a horizontal framing member of a door or window

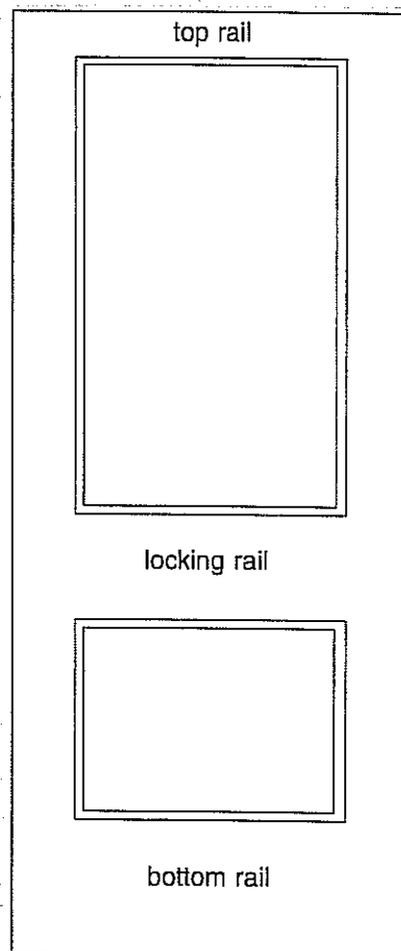
railing - a barrier and/or hand support typically consisting of vertical members supporting a horizontal member

reconstruction - the process of duplicating the original materials, form, and appearance of a vanished building or structure that was present at a particular historical moment based on historical research

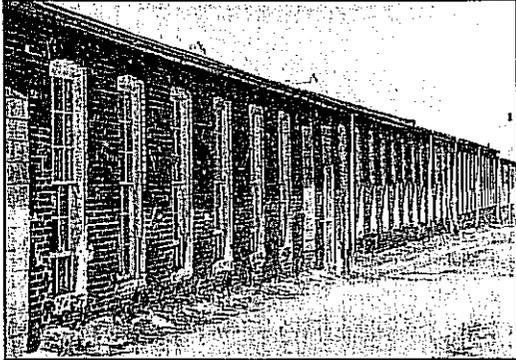
rehabilitation - the process of returning a building to a state of utility, through repair or alteration

reinforce - to strengthen an architectural element by adding material and/or supporting elements in an attempt to save as much historic material as possible, as opposed to replacement

GLOSSARY



GLOSSARY



The series of windows in this building creates a consistent rhythm.



This series of porches creates a strong rhythm along the street.

renovation - the process of repairing and changing an existing building for modern use, so that it is functionally equal to a new building

repair - to fix a deteriorated building element or material to make it functional

replace - to remove a building element, material, or feature and install a different element in its place, thereby removing historic fabric from a building

repoint - the process of removing deteriorated mortar and applying new mortar to restore the strength and appearance of a masonry wall

resin - a solid or semisolid organic material that provides paint with its film-forming character

restoration - the process of returning a building and/or property as nearly as possible to its condition at a specific period of time in its history using the same construction materials and methods as the original

retain - to keep a historic building element in place and/or in use, as opposed to removing the element and replacing it with a new element

reversible - describing an alteration or restoration technique that can be removed or otherwise undone in the future, without damaging the original historic fabric of the resource

rhythm - an ordered repetition of elements composing the exterior walls of a building and giving the building its character; or the repetition of buildings or building elements on a street

ridge - the upper edge of two sloping roof surfaces

rising damp - the condition that exists when suction pulls groundwater into a masonry wall from the bottom up

roof material pattern - primarily the shape and configuration, but also the color, texture, and other visual properties of shingles, tiles, or other material used to cover a roof

roof shape - the overall form of the structure that covers a building, typically identified by the placement, number, form, size, and angle of the component slopes of that structure, and by the method by which the slopes are joined

sandblast - the use of sand, propelled by a blast of air or steam, to remove dirt, paint, or other materials from a wall surface, typically harmful to historic materials due to the loss of parts of the historic material along with the dirt or paint

sash - the unit that holds the window glass

scale - the perceived size of a building or building element relative to the forms and elements around it

setback - the distance required between a building and the property line

sheathing - the covering placed over the rafters as a base for the shingles or other finishing material

shed roof - a roof with a single slope

shingle - a type of roof covering consisting of small units produced in standard sizes and a variety of materials and shapes to convey a variety of appearances, laid in overlapping courses to prevent water infiltration

shutter - one of a pair of small, hinged doors that covers a window or other opening, may be louvered (fitted with a series of slats) or solid (fitted with raised or recessed panels)

side gable - a gable roof building with the main entrance on a wall that is below one of the sloping sides of the roof, not below the gable

sidelight - a slender, vertical window adjacent to a door or larger window, often divided into multiple panes and typically used in pairs, separated by the door or larger window

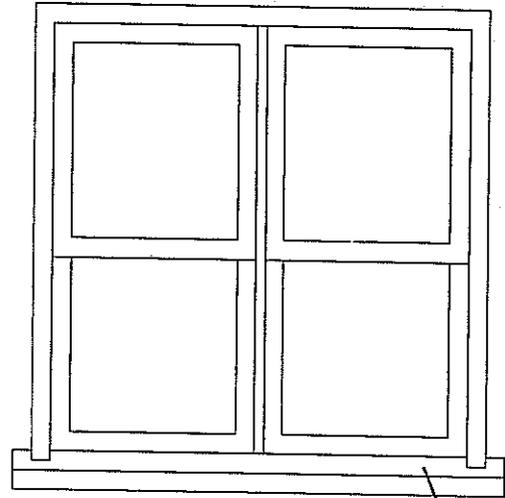
siding - the nonstructural exterior wall covering of a frame building

significant - describing a building feature that contributes to the overall design, appearance, and importance of a building, and is essential to maintaining the historic integrity of the building and/or the historic district

significant detail/element/feature - a detail, element, or feature that is essential to an understanding of the value and character of a historic structure or property

significance of later changes - over time, some changes to historic buildings may achieve significance in their own right, displaying features or characteristics of styles or types that are later than that of the original building, but which have recognized value of their own

GLOSSARY



This pair of windows shares a sill.

GLOSSARY

turned - describing an element that has a circular cross section produced by turning on a lathe

valance - the decorative horizontal element below the lintel of the porch roof

valley - the angle formed where two downward sloping roof surfaces meet at the bottom

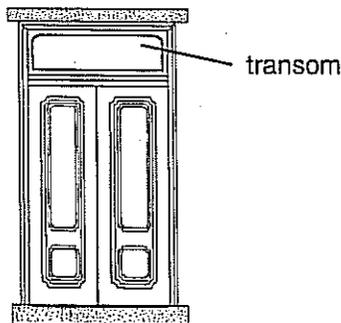
ventilation - the process of supplying fresh air to interior spaces

vernacular - representing popular local building practices

water blast - the use of propelled water to remove dirt, paint, or other materials from a wall surface, typically harmful to historic materials if applied at too strong of a pressure due to the loss of parts of the historic material along with the dirt or paint

weather stripping - a long piece of material applied to an exterior door or window to seal the joint between it and the surrounding frame, used to decrease air and water infiltration

weep hole - an opening that allows moisture to drain to the outside of a building, typically used in storm windows



sill - the horizontal element at the base of a door or window opening, or at the bottom of a timber-framed wall

slope - an inclined surface

solid to void ratio - the relationship in size between the solid parts of a wall, and the openings in the wall, including door and window openings

spalling - the flaking of brickwork or stone due to the freezing and thawing of a wall, chemical action, or building movement

spindle - a wooden element that has been turned on a lathe, typically used in railings and decorative elements

spindle work - a series of spindles

storefront - the street level front of a store, including windows to display merchandise, an entrance or entrances, signs, etc.

streetscape - the overall view of a street and its component elements, including the street, sidewalk, buildings, signs, traffic lights, street furniture, landscaping, etc., and also including less tangible factors such as rhythm, solid-to-void ratio, changes or consistency in building height, changes or consistency in setback, etc.

stringcourse - a decorative, projecting horizontal molding, typically used to separate parts of a wall surface

substrate - a material on top of which other material is installed

swag - ornament composed of draped foliage

synthetic - referring to a manufactured material introduced in modern times, not available historically, and used as a replacement for a historic material, also called artificial

terne - a corrosion resistant combination of lead and tin

texture - the visual and tactile qualities of the structure of a surface

tooling pattern - the shape and profile of a mortar joint

topcoat - a coating whose formula is weaker than primer, but which contains more pigment

transom - a window located above a door, a storefront window, or another window, sometimes operable

truss work - an ornamental treatment, typically used in gables, resembling the structure of wooden trusses