

Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Sub-Grant Program

Definitions

The *General Definitions* sections contains definitions and further examples of terms used in the City of Paducah's Paul Bruhn Grant Program application materials.

The *Glossary of Architectural Terms* may serve as a reference for the many individual elements of building construction and notable historical details.

General Definitions

Accessory Building: a subordinate building located on the same lot as a principal building. Includes garages and storage buildings.

ADA Accessibility: Standards issued under the American's with Disabilities Act that improve the physical accessibility of a structure to people with disabilities. More information at <https://www.access-board.gov/ada/guides/>

Building Stabilization: Any work that pertains to the securing of foundations, walls, facades, and overall structural integrity of a building.

Commercial Building: A non-residential structure used for business purposes

Dwelling Unit: a dwelling, or portion of a dwelling, used by one (1) family for cooking, living and sleeping purposes.

Mixed Use: A property that contains multiple independent commercial and residential uses (including dwelling units, offices, retail spaces etc.)

Multi-unit Residential: Structures that contain multiple residential dwelling units

National Register of Historic Places: Maintained by the National Park Service it is the Federal Government's official list of sites, buildings, structures, and districts reviewed and labeled as worthy of preservation for their historical significance. More information at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/index.htm>

New Construction: Any work that develops land for the construction of any building, structure, or foundation.

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

Removal: Removing a non-historic feature from a structure which in turn makes the structure more characteristic of the time period in which it was built. Examples include but are not limited to siding, storm windows, or other non-original features.

Single Family Residential: A residential property that contains a free-standing home that does not share walls with other properties or dwelling units and is used for residential occupancy of one (1) singular family.

Glossary of Architectural Terms

Arch: A construction technique and structural member, usually curved and made of masonry. Composed of individual wedge-shaped members that span an opening and support the weight above by resolving vertical pressure into horizontal or diagonal thrust.

Architrave: The lowest part of an entablature, or the molded frame above a door or window opening.

Balcony: A platform projecting from the wall or window of a building, usually enclosed by a railing.

Baluster: Any of the small posts that support the upper rail of a railing, as in a staircase.

Balustrade: An entire railing system including a top rail and its balusters, and sometimes a bottom rail.

Bay window: A projecting bay with windows that form an extension to the interior floor space. On the outside, the bay should extend to ground level, in contrast to an oriel window, which projects from the wall plane above ground level.

Board-and-batten: Vertical siding made up of alternating wide and thin boards where the thin boards cover the joints between the wide boards.

Bracket: A small projection, usually carved or decorated, that supports or appears to support a projecting eave or lintel.

Capital: The topmost member, usually decorated, of a column or pilaster.

Casement window: A window that is hinged on the side and opens in or out.

Chimney pot: A decorative masonry element placed at the top of a chimney, common on Queen Anne buildings.

Clad Window: A solid wood window wrapped in another material, most commonly aluminum.

Clapboards: Narrow, horizontal, overlapping wooden boards that form the outer skin of the walls of many wood-frame houses.

Column: A vertical shaft or pillar usually circular in section that supports, or appears to support, a capital, load beam or architrave.

Corbel: A projection from a masonry wall, sometimes supporting a load and sometimes for decorative effect.

Corbeled cap: The termination of a brick chimney that projects outward in one or more courses.

Corner board: A board which is used as trim on the external corner of a wood-frame structure and against which the ends of the siding are fitted.

Cornice: The exterior trim of a structure at the meeting of the roof and wall; usually consists of bed molding, soffit, fascia, and crown molding.

Course: In masonry, a layer of bricks or stones running horizontally in a wall.

Cresting: Decorative grillework or trim applied to the ridge crest of a roof.

Cross gable: A gable that is perpendicular to the main axis or ridge of a roof.

Cupola: A small, sometimes domed structure surmounting a roof. Found mainly on Italianate and Colonial Revival buildings

Dentil molding: A molding composed of small rectangular blocks run in a row.

Dormer: A structure containing a vertical window (or windows) that projects through a pitched roof.

Double-hung sash window: A window with two or more sashes; it can be opened by sliding the bottom portion up or the top portion down, and is usually weighted within the frame to make lifting easier.

Eave: The part of the roof that overhangs the wall of a building.

Entablature: Above columns and pilasters, a three-part horizontal section of a classical order, consisting of the cornice at the top, the frieze in the middle, and the architrave on the bottom.

Façade: The face or front of a building.

Fanlight: A window, often semicircular, over a door, with radiating muntins suggesting a fan.

Fascia board: A flat board horizontally located at the top of an exterior wall, directly under the eaves.

French door: Two doors, composed of small panes of glass set within rectangularly arrayed muntins, mounted within the two individual frames. Usually such doors open onto an outside terrace or porch.

Frieze: The middle division of an entablature, below the cornice

Gable: The vertical triangular portion of the end of a building having a double-sloping roof, usually with the base of the triangle sitting at the level of the eaves, and the apex at the ridge of the roof. The term sometimes refers to the entire end wall.

Gable roof: A roof form having an inverted "V"-shaped roof at one or both ends.

Gambrel roof: A roof having two pitches on each side

Gingerbread: Highly decorative woodwork with cut out ornament, made with a jigsaw or scroll saw, prominent in Gothic Revival architecture.

Half-timbering: In late medieval architecture, a type of construction in which the heavy timber framework is exposed, and the spaces between the timbers are filled with wattle-and daub, plaster, or brickwork.

Hipped roof: A roof that slopes upward on all four sides.

Hood molding: A decorative molding over a window or doorframe.

Latticework: A wood or metal screen composed of interlaces or crossed thin strips.

Leaded glass: Small panes of glass, either clear or colored, that is held in place by strips of lead.

Lintel: A horizontal beam over an opening in a wall that carries the weight of the structure above.

Mansard roof: A roof with two slopes, the lower slope being nearly vertical, often concave or convex in profile. Common to the Italianate and Queen Anne

Molding: A decorative band or strip with a constant profile or section generally used in cornices and as a trim around window and door openings. It provides a contoured transition from one surface to another or produces a rectangular or curved profile to a flat surface.

Mullion: The vertical member of a window or door that divides and supports panes or panels in a series.

Muntin: One of the members, vertical or horizontal that divides and supports the panes of glass in a window.

Oriel window: A window bay that projects from the building beginning above the ground level.

Palladian window: A window divided into three parts: a large arched central window, flanked by two smaller rectangular windows.

Parapet: A wall that extends above the roofline.

Pediment: A low triangular gable end, often found in classical architecture.

Pent roof: A small, sloping roof, the upper end of which butts against a wall of a house, usually above the first-floor windows.

Pilaster: An engaged pier or pillar, often with capital and base.

Pillar: A post or column-like support.

Pitch: The degree of slope or inclination of a roof.

Pointed arch: Any arch with a point at its apex.

Portico A porch or covered walkway consisting of a roof supported by columns.

Quoins: Cornerstones of a building, spanning the entire height of the wall, and distinguished from the main construction material by size, texture, or conspicuous joining. In masonry construction, they reinforce the corners; in wood construction, they do not bear any load, are made of wood, and imitate the effect of stone or brick.

Rafters: The sloping wooden roof-frame members that extend from the ridge to the eaves and establish the pitch of the roof.

Ribbon window: A continuous horizontal row, or band, of windows separated only by mullions.

Round arch: A semicircular arch, often called a Roman arch.

Rustication: Masonry characterized by smooth or roughly textured block faces and strongly emphasized recessed joints.

Sash: Window framework that may be fixed or moveable. If moveable, it may slide, as in a double-hung window; or it may pivot, as in a casement window.

Shiplap siding: Wooden siding tapered along its upper edge where it is overlapped by the next higher courses of siding.

Side light: A framed window on either side of a door or window.

Siding: The narrow horizontal or vertical wooden boards that form the outer face of the walls in a traditional wood-frame building. Horizontal wooden siding types include shiplap and clapboard/weatherboard, while board and-batten is the primary type of vertical siding. Shingles, whether of wood or composite material, are another siding type.

Sill: The lowest horizontal member in a frame or opening of a window or door. Also, the lowest horizontal member in a framed wall or partition.

Skirting: Siding or latticework applied below the water table molding on a building.

Soffit: The underside of the eaves on a building, particularly the boards enclosing the eaves and covering rafter tails.

Stucco: A material, usually composed of cement, sand, and lime, applied to a surface to form a hard, uniform covering that may be either smooth or textured. Also, a fine plaster used in decoration and ornamentation of interior walls.

Surround: The molded trim around a door or window.

Terra cotta: A red-brown fired but unglazed clay used for roof tiles and decorative wall covering.

Transom: The horizontal framing member between a door and a window above; also refers to the window above a door.