



CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

Historic District Landmarks Commission

Glossary

Abat-Vent - A roof extension, almost flat, supported by metal or wood outrigger cantilevered from the façade at the roof line.

Acanthus - A prickly herb of the Mediterranean region; leaves of the acanthus were used for designs in classical ornamentation.

Accessory Structure - A structure located on the same lot as, and of a nature and use clearly incidental and subordinate to, the principal structure.

Accessory Use - A use that is incidental and subordinate to the principal use of the land or structure that is located on the same lot as the principal use or structure.

Adaptive Reuse - The renovation of a structure for a different purpose than it is currently used or originally designed.

Addition or Enlargement - Any construction that increases the size of a structure in terms of site coverage, height, building depth or width or floor area.

Alligatoring - Severe cracking and crazing of paint.

Alteration - Any change because of construction, repair, maintenance, or otherwise to buildings located within an historic district or designated as a landmark.

American Townhouse - A two-story, typically three bays wide and two rooms deep, attached or detached residence with an enclosed stairwell typically placed along a side wall.

Apron - A flat piece of trim immediately beneath the stool of a window. Also called a skirt.

Appliqué - Applied ornament.

Applicant - The record owner of the site and/or buildings located thereon, the lessee thereof, or a person holding a "bona fide" contract to purchase same.

Arcade - A series of arches supported by columns or piers.

Arch - A curvilinear structural opening.

Architectural Review Committee - A group of volunteer architects that review proposals for work within local historic districts and make recommendations to the Historic District Landmark Commission.

Architrave - The lowest part of an entablature.

Art House - Art House is not a recognized architectural term. Architectural embellishment of buildings under the jurisdiction of the HDLC must be reviewed on a case by case basis, in order to determine if the proposed embellishment is appropriate to the building in question.

Asphalt Shingle - A composition shingle having an asphalt impregnated felt base, surfaced on the weather side with colored mineral granules embedded in hot asphaltic coating.

Attention Getting Device - Any pennant, flag, festoon, valance, propeller, pole covers, spinner, streamer, inflatable device, searchlights, flashing lights, changing colors, rotating or moving displays and any similar device or ornamentation designated for the purposes of attracting attention, promotion or advertising.

Attic - All the space under a pitched roof of a building.

Awning - A roof-like cover with no supports extending to the ground, constructed of fabric, metal, glass or other material, designed and intended for protection from the weather or as a decorative embellishment, and attached to the wall of a structure over a window, entryway or walkway.

Balcony - A platform which projects from the exterior wall of a structure, is exposed to the open air and remains unenclosed, is surrounded by a railing or balustrade, has direct access to the interior of the building, and is not supported by posts or columns extending to the ground.

Baluster - A shaftlike element used to support a handrail.

Balustrade - A railing (such as a porch railing) made up of rails, balusters, and posts.

Banquette - Sidewalk.

Bargeboard - An ornamental board attached to the projected eave of a gable roof. In New Orleans, large boards salvaged from river barges used to construct early buildings.

Barrel Tile - A half-cylinder-shaped clay roof tile.

Basement - That portion of a building below the first story and having more than one-half (½) its height below grade.

Batten Shutter - Vertical Boards fastened with horizontal boards (battens) at inside face. Commonly found on late 18th and early nineteenth Century Creole Style windows.

Bays - Repetitive divisions into which a building is divided.

Beaded Board - A board with a rounded edge separated from the rest of the board by a small depression.

Beam - A horizontal supporting member.

Beveled Glass - Glass with beveled edges, held together by lead strips. Popular in the Victorian era.

Billboard - A permanent sign that directs attention to a business, commodity, service or entertainment conducted, sold or offered at a location other than the premises where the sign is located. A billboard is also called an outdoor general advertising sign.

Blistering - Air bubbles under paint.

Blockface - One (1) side of a given street between two (2) consecutive intersecting streets.

Board of Zoning Adjustments - Board of Zoning Adjustments (BZA) considers applications for waivers and variances from the requirements of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance and considers appeals by the Director of Safety & Permits.

Bousillage - A construction method for walls using a mixture of mud and moss as infill between heavy timber posts.

Bracket - A support element under eaves, balconies, or other overhangs. Frequently used as ornamentation rather than for structural support.

Brick Masonry - Construction technique using bricks held together by mortar.

Brick Veneer - A wall of brick covering an inner wall such as a wood frame.

Brique-Entre-Poteaux - (brick between posts) A construction method for walls using brick as infill between heavy timber posts.

Brown Coat - A roughly finished, leveling coat of plaster, either the second coat in three-coat plaster or the base coat in two-coat plaster applied over gypsum lath or masonry.

Building - Any structure, place, or any other construction built for the shelter or enclosure of person, animals or chattels, or any part of such structure when subdivided by division walls or part walls extending to or above the roof and without openings in such separate walls. The term "a building" shall be construed as if followed by the words "or any part thereof."

Buildable Area - The area of a lot where a structure may be built once the minimum yard and open space requirements of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance have been met.

Cabinet - A small room located at the rear of a Creole cottage flanking an open loggia or gallery. These rooms were typically used as bedrooms, for storage, or housed a stairwell to the attic.

Camelback Shotgun - A shotgun type house with a two story rear portion.

Canopy - A roof-like cover carried by a frame supported by the ground, constructed of fabric, metal, glass or other material, designed and intended for protection from the weather or as a decorative embellishment, and projects from the wall of a structure over an entryway.

Capital - The uppermost part of a column or pilaster.

Carport - An open-sided shelter for automobiles.

Casement Window - A window that opens on hinges like a door; a common window type in colonial New Orleans.

Casing - An enclosing frame around a door or window opening.

Cast Iron - Iron shaped by placement in a mold, used for railing, fences, etc.

Caulk - Flexible sealant material used to close joints between materials; made of various materials including tar, oakum, lead, putty, and modern elastomerics such as silicone and polyurethane.

Center Hall Cottage - A one to one and a half story residence with a central hall flanked by rooms. Typically five bays wide and two rooms deep.

Certificate of Appropriateness - A document evidencing approval of the Commission for work proposed by an applicant.

Chain Wall - A continuous foundation raising a house or metal picket fencing off the ground.

Channel Letter - Three-dimensional individually cut letters or figures, illuminated or unilluminated, affixed to a building or structure.

Cheek Wall - Either of two sides of a projection, such as a dormer or stoops.

Chimney - A vertical shaft of reinforced concrete, masonry or other material enclosing one (1) or more flues, originally designed for the purpose of removing products of combustion.

Chinese Cap - A traditional, metal, ornamental roof vent

Cistern - A permanent artificial reservoir built to catch and store rainwater, typically located underground but may be located aboveground.

City Planning Commission - The Planning Commission has authority over planning and zoning matters as set forth by the Home Rule and State Law. The Planning Commission makes recommendations to the City Council regarding the Master Plan, amendments, map changes, planned developments, amendments to the Comprehensive Zoning Code and Subdivision Regulations. The Commission may approve, modify or deny applications. Other responsibilities include preparing a Master Plan for future development of the City and recommending amendments to that plan as needed, disposition/acquisition of public property, street renaming requests and preparation of a capital improvement budget.

Clapboard - See Weatherboard.

Classical Architecture - The architecture of Greece and Rome during the pre-Christian era.

Colonnade - A series of columns at regular intervals, supporting a covered passageway.

Colonnettes - Slender, turned wooden columns.

Column - A vertical support normally consisting of a base, a round shaft, and a capital. The Greek Doric order is exceptional in that it has no base.

Colombage - Construction consisting of heavy timber framework mortised and tenoned together and covered with wide horizontal boards. A common construction method in New Orleans during the early colonial period.

Common Bond - A brickwork bond having a course of headers between every five or six courses of stretchers.

Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance - Document with the force of law that guides and regulates development within the City of New Orleans.

Construction - The erection of any on-site improvements on any parcel of ground located within an historic district or on a landmark site, whether the site is presently improved, unimproved, or hereafter becomes unimproved by "demolition," "demolition by neglect," destruction of the improvements located thereon by fire, windstorm, or other casualty, or otherwise (hereafter such a parcel of ground shall be referred to as "site").

Context - The buildings, structures, landscape elements and features immediately surrounding a historic resource.

Corinthian Order - The most ornate of the classical Greek orders, characterized by a bell-shaped capital decorated with acanthus leaves.

Cornice - The projecting horizontal moldings towards the top of the building wall, window or door.

Courtyard - An enclosed open-air space next to a building.

Creole - A person descended from French and/or Spanish colonists. Also a style of architecture prevalent during the postcolonial period in New Orleans.

Creole Cottage - A one to one and one half residence that is two or four bays wide and two rooms deep with a hipped roof and no interior hallways.

Creole Townhouse - A two story detached or undetached urban residence with a carriageway at the ground floor that leads to rear courtyard.

Cresting - Ornamentation occurring at an upper limit, such as the ridge of a roof.

Cricket - A ridge structure designed to divert water on a roof. Generally found on the high side of a chimney or the transition from one roof area to another, the cricket is normally the same pitch as the rest of the roof, but not always. Smaller crickets are covered with metal flashing, and larger ones can be covered with the same material as the rest of the roof.

Deck - A raised platform built above grade on support structures, which is open to the sky and attached to the principal building. A deck is distinguished from a terrace in that a terrace is a raised surface constructed above grade built upon a solid base.

Demolition - The complete or constructive removal by an applicant of a building on any site.

Demolition by Neglect - Neglect in the maintenance of any building resulting in any one or more of the following: (1) The deterioration of a building to the extent that it creates or permits a hazardous or unsafe condition as determined by the Department of Safety and Permits. (2) The deterioration of a building(s) characterized by one or more of the following: (a) Those buildings which have parts thereof which are so attached that they may fall and injure members of the public or property. (b) Deteriorated or inadequate foundation. (c) Defective or deteriorated floor supports or floor supports insufficient to carry imposed loads with safety. (d) Members of walls, or other vertical supports that split, lean, list, or buckle due to defective material or deterioration. (e) Members of walls or other vertical supports that are insufficient to carry imposed loads with safety. (f) Members of ceilings, roofs, ceiling and roof supports, or other horizontal members which sag, split, or buckle due to defective material or deterioration. (g) Members of ceilings, roofs, ceiling and roof supports, or other horizontal members that are insufficient to carry imposed loads with safety. (h) Fireplaces or chimneys which list, bulge, or settle due to defective material or deterioration. (i) Any fault, defect, or condition in the building which renders the same structurally unsafe or not properly watertight. (3) Action by the City, the State First Marshall, or the Department of Safety and Permits relative to the safety or physical condition of any building.

Density - The number of dwelling units per acre.

Dentils - Closely spaced blocks in Greek Ionic and Corinthian cornices.

Dimensional Lumber - Lumber cut at sawmills.

Doric Order - The simplest of the classical Greek orders, distinguished by columns with unadorned capitals and no bases.

Dormer - A projection from a wall or roof structure. When it rises from a roof it is called a roof dormer and when it is an extension of a wall it is called a wall dormer.

Double - A two-family house.

Double Gallery - Galleries across the façade at both levels of a house, supported by columns or posts, often protected by an extension of the main building's roof.

Double-Hung Window - A window type introduced to New Orleans in the early 1800s, consisting of two sashes that operate through vertical movement.

Drip Edge - A projecting molding over an exterior door or window opening for catching and shedding rainwater.

Drop Siding - A type of weatherboard with a depression in the upper part of each board.

Eave - The projecting overhang of a roof.

Efflorescence - Water-soluble salts leached out of masonry or concrete by capillary action and deposited on a surface by evaporation, usually as a white, powdery surface.

Egg-and-Dart - Decorative molding consisting of alternating egg-and dart-shaped elements.

Elevation - An orthographic projection of an object or structure on a vertical plane parallel to one of its sides, usually drawn to scale.

Encroachment - The extension or placement of any structure or component of a structure into a required yard or, when permitted by the City, into the public right-of-way

Entablature - In classical architecture, the horizontal part of a classical order supported by columns or pilasters and consisting of the architrave, the frieze, and the cornice.

Entresol - A low floor used for storage between the ground floor and an upper floor; a Spanish colonial characteristic.

Etched Glass - Glass with a design produced by the process of exposure to acid.

Eyebrow Roof Dormer - A low, curvilinear roof dormer resembling the shape of an eye, used on some Richardsonian Romanesque buildings.

Façade - The front wall of a building

Fanlight - A fan-shaped or semicircular window over a door or window with radiating muntins.

Faubourg - A French word meaning suburb.

Fenestrations - The window and door openings in a building.

Fiber - Cement Siding - A lightweight, solid material that is manufactured in similar sizes and shapes to wood products. Resistant to rot, termites, fire and delamination and are dimensionally stable.

Fiberglass Shingle - A composition shingle having an inorganic fiberglass base, saturated with asphalt and surfaced on the weather side with colored ceramic granules.

Finish Coat - The final coat of plaster, serving either as a finished surface or as a base for decoration.

Finial - The topping ornament of a roof gable, turret, baluster, post, etc.

Fire Wall - A brick wall extending above the roof line between attached buildings, intended to prevent a fire from spreading from one building to another.

Fish-Scale Shingles - Wooden shingles cut in a shape to resemble fish scales. Popular during the Victorian era.

Fixed Glass - A glass pane that is stationary, rather than operable.

Flagged - Paved with flagstone.

Flashing - Pieces of sheet metal or other thin, impervious material installed to prevent the passage of water into a structure from an angle or joint.

Flat-Headed Window - A window whose uppermost part is horizontal.

Flemish Bond - A brickwork bond having alternating headers and stretchers in each course, each header being centered above and below a stretcher.

Floor Area Ratio (FAR) - The gross floor area of a structure on a lot divided by the area of the lot.

Floor Plan - A plan of a room, suite, or entire floor of a building as seen from above after a horizontal Section is cut and the upper portion is removed, typically showing the form and arrangement of interior spaces and their enclosing walls, windows and doors.

Flush Siding - Flat faced boards nailed edge to edge to form the appearance of a flat wall. Typically found on Greek Revival Style buildings and installed on front walls and under protective porches and galleries.

Footcandle - A unit of illumination equivalent to the illumination at all points that are one (1) foot distant from a uniform source of one (1) candlepower.

Footprint - The form of a building on a site.

Fluting - Closely spaced, parallel, vertical channeling on the shaft of a column or pilaster.

French Doors - A pair of hinged doors, generally with glass lights.

French Drain - A trench lined with flagstone, concrete or gravel that redirects surface and groundwater away from streets and sidewalks. Often bridged by flagstone or metal slabs.

Frieze - The middle part of a classical entablature.

Frontage - The property abutting on one (1) side of a street between two (2) intersecting streets. If the street dead-ends, then frontage is considered all the property abutting on one (1) side of the street and the point at which the street dead-ends.

Gable - The triangular upper part of a wall formed by a pitched roof.

Gallery - Exterior space under the main roof of a house. *Compare* Porch. Where buildings are constructed at the property lot lines, galleries extend over the sidewalk and are supported by posts or columns at the curb.

Gothic Arch - A pointed arch. A major characteristic of the Gothic style.

Grade - Ground level.

Greek Key - An overlapping lintel over a doorway with a slight flaring out of the face of the doorway surround from the top to the bottom.

Greek Revival Style - A style of architecture based on classic Greek temples; used for both public buildings and houses; typical elements include low-pitch gable or hipped roofs, pedimented gable ends, simple architrave bands at the eaves, entry porches with Doric style columns and entablature, front door with narrow sidelights and rectangular transom.

Grille - A grating forming a barrier or screen.

Gross Floor Area - The sum of the gross horizontal areas of all floors of a structure, measured from the exterior faces of exterior walls or from the centerline of walls separating two (2) attached buildings.

Half-Timbering - A method of wall construction in which the wooden structural members are exposed on the exterior wall with stucco infill between.

Hipped Roof - A roof with four uniformly sloped sides.

Historic Preservation - A broad range of activities related to the protection, maintenance and care of elements of the built environment that reflect its cultural heritage.

Historic District - An area that contains major concentrations of historic resources.

Historic Resource - An individual building, site, monument, structure or area that has been determined to have historical significance and whose distinctive character conveys unique architectural and/or cultural heritage

Hood Molds - A shallow projected covering used over doors and windows in the Italianate style.

Imminent Danger of Collapse - Likely to collapse without warning.

Ionic Order - An order of classical Greek architecture, characterized by columns with a scroll-like capital.

Incompatible Use - A use that is incapable of direct association with certain other uses in its immediate vicinity because it is contradictory, incongruous or discordant with surrounding uses, or will change the essential character of a neighborhood

Increase in Intensity - An increase in the concentration of activity on a property. In the case of nonconforming uses, any increase above and beyond the status quo is considered an increase in the intensity of use including an increase in gross floor area or number of dwelling units.

Jack Arch Lintel - A door or window lintel constructed with splayed bricks.

Jigsaw Work - Decorative woodwork, generally curvilinear in shape, common in the Victorian era and produced by the use of a jigsaw.

Joist - A beam supporting a floor or a ceiling.

Lake Brick - Also known as mud bricks - Soft bricks made by pressing wet clay into a wood or metal mold and made with sand taken from Lake Pontchartrain.

Land Banking - Designating land on a site to be undeveloped but held and preserved for an identified future purpose, such as additional parking.

Landmark and Landmark Site - An unimproved parcel of ground (landmark site) or such parcel with improvements or such improvements without grounds (landmark), wheresoever located in the City of New Orleans, subject to the jurisdiction of the Historic District Landmarks Commission, of particular historic, architectural, or cultural significance, which said parcel or parcels, plus its improvements, if any, (1) exemplify or reflect the broad cultural, political, economic, or social history of the nation, state or community; or (2) are identified with historic personages or with important events in national, state, or local history; or (3) embody distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type, specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period, style, method of construction, or of indigenous materials or craftsmanship; or (4) are representative of the notable work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual ability has been recognized.

Leaded Glass - Small panes of glass-clear, beveled, or stained- held together by lead strips.

Levee - An embankment to prevent flooding.

Light - A glass pane in a window or door.

Lime - A white or grayish white, caustic, odorless solid obtained by heating forms of calcium carbonate as shells or limestone, at a high temperature.

Lime Mortar - A mixture of lime, sand and water.

Lintel - The horizontal structural element above a window or door, usually carrying the wall load above.

Louvered Shutter - Shutters with frames of rails and stiles supporting either fixed or operable wood slats.

Mansard Roof - A roof with a double slope on all four sides, the lower slope much steeper than the upper.

Marquee - A permanent roof-like structure constructed of durable material extending from the wall of a structure with no supports extending to the ground.

Massing - The overall composition of the exterior of the major volumes of a building, especially when the structure has major and minor elements.

Millwork - Woodwork shaped or dressed by means of a rotary cutter.

Modillions - Small bracket-like ornamentation under the cornice of a classical entablature.

Molding - A linear decorative element, or curved strip, used for ornamentation or trimwork.

Monitor, Roof - Structures that project up from the roof, used for ventilation with louvers, or for light on warehouses.

Monolithic Column - A column that extends uninterrupted for two or more stories.

Mortar - A plastic mixture of lime or cement, or a combination of both, with sand and water, used as a bonding agent in masonry construction.

Mortar Joints - The exposed joints of mortar in masonry.

Mortise and Tenon - A construction technique that joins two wooden members by the projection of one member to fit securely into a corresponding cavity cut in the other.

Mullion - The vertical element separating two window or door frames.

Muntin - The narrow molding separating individual panes of glass in a multi-paned window sash.

Multilight - Having many lights or glass panes, as a window or door.

Mural - A work of art painted or otherwise applied to or affixed to an exterior wall surface that does not include any on- or off-premise commercial advertising.

Newel Post - A post supporting one end of a handrail at the top or bottom of a flight of stairs

Night Blind - Removable wood panels installed over the glass of bi-fold and tri-fold 19th century doors to provide security.

Nonconforming Structure - A structure that does not meet the bulk, yard or parking requirements of this Ordinance.

Nonconforming Use - A use that does not meet the use requirements of this Ordinance.

Off-Street Parking - The storage space for a motor vehicle on a lot and not including parking spaces on streets, alleys or rights-of way.

On-Street Parking - The storage space for a motor vehicle that is located on the street right-of-way.

Open Space - Those areas of a lot open and unobstructed from grade level upward, unless otherwise permitted by this Ordinance. For townhouse and multi-family dwellings that are required to provide open space for each dwelling unit, open space may include areas on decks, balconies, porches and roofs that are accessible and usable by occupants.

Open Space Ratio - The open space on the lot divided by the floor area of any structures on the lot

Outrigger - A flat, metal bar cantilevered from a building supporting a projecting balcony or canopy.

Palladian Window - A window consisting of three parts, a central semicircular window flanked by smaller, square-headed windows on each side.

Paneled Shutter - Shutter with frames of rails and stiles which support panels of wood held in place by moldings.

Parapets - The portion of a wall that projects above an adjacent roof surface.

Party Wall - A wall starting from the foundation and extending continuously through all stories to or above the roof, that separates one (1) structure from another, but is in joint use by each structure.

Peak Finial - An ornament at the peak of a roof.

Pedestal - A support for a column.

Pediment - A low-pitched gable in the classical manner; also used in miniature over doors or windows.

Penthouse - An enclosed structure above the roof of a building, other than a roof structure or bulkhead. A penthouse may be used only for the shelter of mechanical equipment or vertical shaft openings in the roof. For the purposes of this Ordinance, penthouse does not include residential dwelling units.

Pergola - A shaded walk or passageway of columns that support crossbeams and a sturdy open lattice to support vines or climbing plants.

Picture Window - A large, fixed-glass window in the facade of a house. Common in Suburban Ranch houses in the 1950s and 1960s.

Pier - A square support for a house.

Piercework - Ornamentation common in the Late Victorian period, created by cutting openings in various shapes in a solid piece of wood.

Pilaster - A column attached to a wall.

Pillar - A square or rectangular upright support.

Pitch - The angle or slope of a roof.

Plaster - A composition of lime, water, and sand, that is soft when applied and hardens upon drying; used for coating and finishing walls and ceilings.

Porch - A structure, which can be enclosed or unenclosed, that projects from the exterior wall of a structure, has direct access to the street level of the structure, and is covered by a roof or eaves. An unenclosed porch is a porch that is open on all sides. An enclosed porch is a porch that is enclosed by walls, screens, lattice or other material. A screened-in porch is considered an enclosed porch.

Porte Cochere - A covered entrance for the passage of vehicles.

Portico - A covered entrance to a building.

Post - A structural member, usually wood, set in an upright position and used as a support; a pillar; also, the structural element supporting a balustrade.

Principal Use - The main or primary purpose for which a structure or lot is designed, arranged or intended.

Property Line - The lines forming the boundary of a lot, determined by metes and bounds, whether those lines are for single lots or combination of lots.

Property Rating - A rating system used by the HDLC to characterize the historic or architectural significance of a historic resource.

Quoin - A stone, brick, or wood block used to accentuate the outside corners of a building.

Raceway - Metal box located between illuminated sign and wall to hold electrical conduit.

Rafter Tail - The portion of the rafter that overhangs the wall.

Rails - A metal enclosure generally used for porches, galleries, and balconies.

Raised Center Hall Cottage - A center hall cottage that is substantially raised above ground and accessed by a central flight of stairs.

Rafter - A sloping structural member of a pitched roof.

Rehabilitation - To repair an existing building to good condition with minimal changes to the building fabric. The act or process of returning a property to a state of utility through repair or alteration which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions or features of the property which are significant to its historical, architectural, and cultural values.

Renovation - The process of repairing and changing an existing building for modern use, so that it is functionally equal to a new building; may include major changes.

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

Restoration - The process or product of returning, as nearly as possible an existing site, building, structure, or object to its condition at a particular time in its history, using the same construction materials and methods as the original where possible; typically the period of greatest historical significance or aesthetic integrity is chosen; may include removing later additions and replacing missing period work.

Ridge Cap - A convex or angled roof tile covering the ridge of a roof.

Ridge Vent - A vent that is installed along the ridge of a roof.

Rosette - A round decorative element in a floral motif.

Round-Headed Window - A window whose uppermost part is rounded.

Running Bond - A brickwork or masonry bond composed of overlapping stretchers.

Rustication - Rough-surfaced stonework, most commonly found on Richardsonian Romanesque houses.

Sash - The part of the window frame that holds the glazing, especially when movable.

Scratch Coat - The first coat in three coat plaster, which is scratched to provide a better bond for the second or brown coat.

Scrollwork - Ornamentation in the form of scrolls.

Segmental-Arch Head - The uppermost part of a door or window constructed in the shape of a segment of a circle.

Section - An orthographic projection of an object or structures as it would appear if cut through by an intersecting plane to show its internal configuration, usually drawn to scale

Service Wing Balcony - A balcony acting as an outdoor corridor, particularly in a townhouse, connecting the rooms of the main house to the smaller service wing rooms.

Servitude - An interest in land that provides for a specified use of that land by a person other than the fee owner.

Sign - Any structure, display, device or inscription which is located upon, attached to, or painted or represented on any land, structure, on the outside or inside of a window, or on an awning, canopy, marquee or similar structure, and which displays or includes any numeral, letter work, model, banner, emblem, insignia, symbol, device, light, trademark or other representation used as, or in the nature of, an announcement, advertisement, attention-arrester, direction or warning.

Sign, A-Frame - An advertising device, ordinarily in the shape of an "A" or some variation, located on the ground, not permanently attached and easily movable.

Sign, Animated - A sign that uses movement or change of lighting to depict action or to create a special effect or scene. Animated signs do not include electronic message signs.

Sign, Attached - A sign attached to a structure

Sign, Awning - A sign painted on or attached to an awning

Sign, Banner - Any sign printed or displayed upon cloth, plastic or other flexible material with or without frames

Sign, Canopy - A sign mounted on, printed on or attached to a canopy

Sign, Category - A sign that identifies the name or address of the business and may include the category of business.

Sign, Detached - A sign that is attached to a self-supporting structure and not attached to a building

Sign, Directional - A sign that identifies parking lot entrances and exits, restrooms, public telephones, walkways and features of a similar nature.

Sign, Directory - A sign that serves as common or collective classification for a group of businesses operating within a multi-tenant structure. The sign may name the businesses and location information for a business within the structure, but carry no other advertising matter.

Sign, Electronic Message - Any sign, or portion of a sign, that uses changing lights to form a sign message or messages in text form where the sequence of messages and the rate of change is electronically programmed and can be modified by electronic processes. Time/temperature signs are not considered electronic message signs.

Sign Face - That particular area of the sign structure upon which a message, copy or advertisement is displayed for viewing.

Sign, Flashing - An illuminated sign on which the artificial or reflected light is not stationary or constant in intensity or color when in use and gives the impression of flashing or blinking. Rotating signs are not flashing signs.

Sign, Freestanding - A sign that is attached to a self-supporting structure. A freestanding sign may be a pole or monument sign. See “Sign, Freestanding – Monument” and “Sign, Freestanding – Pole.”

Sign, Freestanding – Monument - Any sign, other than a freestanding pole sign, placed upon or supported by the ground independently of any other structure. The sign base of a monument sign must be a minimum of seventy-five percent (75%) of the width of the sign face situated upon the base.

Sign, Freestanding - Pole - A sign erected and maintained on one (1) or multiple freestanding masts or poles and not attached to any structure.

Sign, Identification – A sign containing only the name and address of the structure or development.

Sign, Inventory - A sign that identifies the products, services and/or prices of the business.

Sign, Marquee - Any sign attached to or hung from a marquee.

Sign, Menu Board - Signs located adjacent to a drive-through lane that identifies food and beverages offered for sale at the restaurant and associated prices and specials.

Sign, Moving - A sign which, in whole or in part, rotates, elevates or in any way alters position or geometry. Moving signs do not include clocks.

Sign, Municipal - A sign erected and maintained pursuant to, and in discharge of, any municipal functions or as required by law including, but not limited to, speed limit signs, stop signs, City limit signs, street name signs, historic or government site identification signs, and public directional signs.

Sign, Nonconforming - A sign lawfully erected prior to the adoption of this Ordinance that does not conform to the requirements of this Ordinance.

Sign, Occupational - A sign indicating the name and profession of an occupant of the lot or structure.

Sign, Parking Area Identification - A sign that identifies a parking lot.

Sign, Parking Lot Directional - A sign within a parking lot that identifies entrances and exits.

Sign, Permanent - A sign attached to a structure or the ground which is made of materials intended for long-term use.

Sign, Permit Identification Plate - That portion of the sign’s face that identifies the permit number(s) assigned to it by the City and, where applicable, the state.

Sign, Political or Non-Commercial - A sign advocating action on a public issue, recommending a candidate for public office, or advocating a position.

Sign, Projecting - A sign attached to and projecting more than eighteen (18) inches from the face of a wall or building, but does not project above the parapet or eave line of the building.

Sign, Portable - A sign whose principal supporting structure is intended, by design and construction, to be used by resting upon the ground for support and may be easily moved or relocated. Portable signs include, but are not limited to, signs mounted upon a trailer, wheeled carrier or other non-motorized mobile structure, with wheels or with wheels removed.

Sign, Real Estate - A temporary sign that relates to the sale, lease or rental of property or buildings.

Sign, Residential Identification - A sign that identifies the name and address of a multi-family dwelling or residential subdivision.

Sign, Roof - A sign above the roof of a building which is fastened to and supported by the roof of a structure.

Sign, Rotating - A sign where the sign face or faces slowly revolve (limited to no more than twenty (20) revolutions per minute). Any light source must remain constant.

Sign Support Structure - Any structure that supports, or is capable of supporting, a sign, including decorative cover.

Sign, Temporary Off-Premise - A temporary sign that directs attention to a business, commodity, service, or entertainment not exclusively related to the premises where such sign is located.

Sign, Under-Awning - A sign attached to and mounted under an awning.

Sign, Under-Gallery - A sign attached to and mounted under a gallery.

Sign, Wall - A sign mounted flat against a wall of a structure with the exposed face of the sign in a plane parallel to the face of the wall and projecting no more than eighteen (18) inches from the wall . A wall sign does not include window signs.

Sign, Window - A sign attached to, placed upon, or printed on the interior or exterior of a window or door of a structure, or mounted within twelve (12) inches of the window intended for viewing from the exterior of such a building. A window sign may be either permanent or temporary.

Shed Roof - A roof that is pitched in only one direction.

Shingles - A wall or roof covering, consisting of small overlapping pieces, square or patterned.

Shiplap Siding – See drop lap siding

Shotgun House - A one room wide, several room deep residence with a gable or hip roof with no internal hall. Each room accesses the next room. Also built as a two family residence with a shared interior wall and roof.

Shutter - A hinged movable cover, usually of wood, for a window or door.

Sidelights - Stationary glass panes flanking an entrance door.

Side Gallery - A narrow covered side porch that acts as an exterior corridor.

Siding - The material used to cover the exposed side of a wood-frame building (weatherboard, drop siding, etc.).

Sill - A horizontal member forming the lowest portion of a building or window; also, the bottom of a door.

Single - A one-family house.

Single Hung Window - Fixed upper sash above a vertically rising lower sash

Site - The land on which a building or other feature is located.

Siting - The placement of a building, structure or object on a site in relation to natural features; boundaries, and other parts of the built environment.

Site Plan - A plan showing the form, location, and orientation of a building or a group of buildings on a site, usually including the dimensions, contours, landscaping and other significant features of the plot. Also called a plot plan.

Sliding Window - A window with one or more sashes sliding horizontally on a track; similar in operation to a sliding glass door.

Slip Head Window - Two sashes that can be raised and lowered vertically with a taller bottom sash that can be raised into a pocket in the head (top) of the window allowing passage through the window

Soffit - The underside of a roof overhang.

Soffit Vent - An ornamental metal vent located in the soffit to allow air circulation in the attic.

Spanish Console - A wrought-iron bracket projecting from a wall and supporting a balcony.

Spalling - Chipping of masonry.

Spindle - A turned decorative wooden element.

Splash Block - A precast concrete block having a depressed, splayed surface, placed at the base of a downspout to disperse rainwater that would otherwise erode the soil.

Spring Point - The point at which an arch starts.

Square-Headed Window - A window whose uppermost part is horizontal, at ninety degrees to the sides.

Stained Glass - Colored glass.

Stile - Any of various upright members framing panels of a window or door.

Stilted Arch - An arch with a straight extension below a segmental arch, used in the Italianate style.

Stoop - Steps that lead directly to the entrance without a landing or porch.

Strap Hinges - Hinges, used primarily on shutters and gates, that are attached to the face instead of the side. Used primarily in the colonial and postcolonial periods.

Stucco - Exterior plaster.

Surrounds - The framework and associated trim around a door or window.

Swags - Classical ornamentation resembling evergreen branches hanging in a curve between two points.

Syrian Arch - A semicircular arch with short support elements.

Temporary Use - A use of limited duration that is not a permitted or conditional use within a zoning district.

Terrace - A raised impervious or semi-pervious surface, built upon a solid base, such as an earthen mound, designed and intended for recreational use by people and not as a parking space. A terrace is distinguished from a deck in that the raised surface of a deck is built constructed above grade on structural supports.

Tongue and Groove - A joint made by fitting a raised area or tongue on the edge of one member into a corresponding groove in the edge of another member to produce a flush surface.

Tout Ensemble - The assemblage of parts or details, as in a work of art, considered as forming a whole; the overall unity of the district.

Townhouse - An attached or detached, two-story urban residence

Transom - A glazed opening over a door or window.

Triple Hung Window - Three sashes that can be raised and lowered vertically and extend to the floor to allow passage through the window.

True Divided Light - A window or door in which the glass is divided into several small panes.

Truss - An assemblage of structural members forming a rigid structural framework.

Tudor Gothic Arch - A pointed arch in the Gothic manner, but lower and wider.

Turbine, Roof - A metal roof vent that spine to allow the circulation of air from the attic.

Turned Wood - Wooden elements such as spindles or balusters produced by being turned on a lathe.

Turret - A small tower, usually at the corner of a building, extending above the roof line and often housing a stairway; most commonly found on Queen Anne houses.

Valence - Canvass hung between two vertical members underneath a canopy or gallery, often including signage.

Vent - A pipe by which products of combustion are carried from a furnace or other appliance to the outside or a means to release hot air from an attic.

Vertical Board/Rail and Stile Shutter - Batten shutter with paneled interior

Vieux Carré - The old quarter of New Orleans as it was laid out by the early French settlers.

Volute - Spiral- or scroll-shaped ornament.

Weatherboard - A long, narrow board, usually slightly thicker at one edge, used for siding; applied horizontally and slightly overlapping. Also referred to as clapboard.

Weather Stripping - A narrow compressible band used between the edge of a window or door and the jambs, sill, head and meeting rail to seal against air and water infiltration; made of various materials including spring metal, felt, plastic foam and wood with rubber edging.

Wood Frame - Refers to a building whose structural elements are composed of a wood frame constructed of small dimensional lumber and held together with nails.

Wind Turbine - A mechanism or device that converts wind energy into electrical power, including windmills and residential wind turbines, towers and supporting structures and such directly connected facilities as generators, alternators, inverters, batteries and associated control equipment.

Wrought Iron - Iron worked into shape by manual effort; used for balcony railings, fences, gates, hardware, lanterns, etc.