

Architectural Terms

<http://www.ontarioarchitecture.com/Terms.html>

Arch- A basic architectural structure composed of bricks or stones so arranged as by mutual pressure to support one another

Balustrade- A railing system, generally around a balcony or on a second level, consisting of balusters and a top rail.

Bay window- A window that projects out from a wall, in a semicircular, rectangular, or polygonal design.

Brackets- n ornamental projection from the face of a wall providing visual or structural support for a statue, cornice, balcony, or window.

Corinthian- capital, or top, of a Corinthian column has lavish ornaments carved to resemble leaves and flowers.

Cornice- any projecting shelf at the top of a ceiling, roof, or pediment

Dentils- An even series of rectangles used as ornament to decorate cornices of classical buildings and fireplace mantels

Doric- characterized by a plain column with no base

Dormers- A gable end window that pierces through the sloping roof of a bedroom area

Entablature- the entire horizontal mass carried above the columns

Fanlight window- A window over the door that is curved or shaped like a fan

Gambrel- a usually symmetrical two-sided roof with two slopes on each side

Geodesic dome- spherical structure based on a network of [great circles](#) ([geodesics](#))

Ionic- Ionic column has a small base

Lintel- spans an opening and supports the weight above it

Mansard- this roof is almost flat on the top section and then has deeply sloping, often curved, lower sections that generally contain dormers

Palladian window- a symmetrical window design that encompasses a central window with a round-headed arch flanked by two lower windows

Post- A long, sturdy piece of timber or metal set upright in the ground and used to support something

Quoin- A stone forming the external corner of a wall

Sash window- contain one or more panes of glass. The sashes are placed one above the other so that one can slide over the other.

Sidelights- A light placed at the side of something

Transom- the light above the doorway

Turret- small tower that projects from the wall of a building

Volutes- carved whirl or twist that takes the form of a scroll