architrave  1. The lowest part of a classical entablature.  
2. A molding enframing an opening such as a window.

areaway  The open space between a rowhouse and the sidewalk, usually beside the stoop.

awning  A projecting shading device, usually of canvas, mounted on the outside of a door or window.

baluster  One of a series of short vertical posts, often ornamental, used to support a rail.

balustrade  A railing composed of balusters and a top rail running along the edge of a porch, balcony, roof, or stoop.

**bay  A regularly repeating division of a facade, marked by fenestration.

bay window  A projecting form containing windows that rises from the ground or from some other support, such as a porch roof; see also oriel.

**bracket  A projecting angled or curved form used as a support, found in conjunction with balconies, lintels, pediments, cornices, etc.

brick molding  A milled wood trim piece covering the gap between the window frame and masonry, which can be rectilinear, curved or composite-curved.

cap flashing  A waterproof sheet that seals the tops of cornices and walls.

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

casement  A window sash that is hinged on the side.

cast iron  A type of iron, mass-produced in the nineteenth century, created by pouring molten iron into a mold; used for ornament, garden furniture, and building parts.

clapboard  Wood siding composed of horizontal, overlapping boards, the lower edges of which are usually thicker than the upper.

colonnade  A row of regularly spaced columns supporting an entablature.

colonnette  A diminutive column which is usually either short or slender.

column  A vertical cylindrical support. In classical design it is composed of a base (except in the Greek Doric order), a long, gradually tapered shaft, and a capital.

console  A scroll-shaped projecting bracket that supports a horizontal member.
coping A protective cap, top or cover of a wall parapet, commonly sloping to protect masonry from water.

corbel An architectural member which projects upward and outward from a wall that supports a horizontal member.

** cornice A projecting molding that tops the elements to which it is attached; used especially for a roof or the crowning member of an entablature, located above the frieze.

cresting A decorative element, frequently of iron, usually located at the peak or edge of a roof.
crochet An ornamental foliate form placed at regularly spaced intervals on the slopes and edges of the spires, pinnacles, gables, and similar elements of Gothic buildings.
cupola A small dome on a base crowning a roof.

** dentil A small, square, toothlike block in a series beneath a cornice.

Doric One of five classical orders, recognizable by its simple capital. The Greek Doric column has a fluted shaft and no base; the Roman Doric column may be fluted or smooth and rests on a molded base.

** dormer A vertical structure, usually housing a window, that projects from a sloping roof and is covered by a separate roof structure.

double-hung A type of window with two sash, each sliding on a vertical track.
drip molding A projecting molding around the head of a door or window frame, often extended horizontally at right angles to the sides of the frame, intended to channel rain away from the opening; also called a drip lintel.

eave The overhanging edge of a roof.

** egg and dart An ornamental band molding of egg forms alternating with dart forms.
elevation An exterior face of a building; also, a drawing thereof.
enframement A general term referring to any elements surrounding a window or door.

English bond A pattern of brickwork with alternate courses of headers and stretchers.

entablature In classical architecture, a major horizontal member carried by a column(s) or pilaster(s); it consists of an architrave, a frieze, and a cornice. The proportions and detailing are different for each order, and strictly prescribed.

eyebrow dormer A curved dormer with no sides, covered by a smooth protrusion from the sloping roof.

** facade The main exterior face of a building, sometimes distinguished from the other faces by elaboration of architectural or ornamental details.
fanlight A semicircular or semielliptical window above a door, usually inset with radiating glazing bars.

fascia A horizontal, flat element, often combined with a cornice and architrave.

**fenestration** The organization and design of windows in a building.

festoon A carved ornament in the form of a band, loop, or wreath, suspended from two points; also called a "garland" or a "swag."

finial The crowning ornament of a pointed element, such as a spire.

flashing Strips of sheet metal bent to fit the angle between any two roof surfaces or between the roof and any projection, such as a chimney.

Flemish bond A pattern of brickwork in which each course consists of headers and stretchers laid alternately; each header is centered between the stretcher above and the stretcher below it.

foliate Decorative leafage, often applied to capitals or moldings.

French door, window A tall casement window that reaches to the floor, usually arranged in two leaves as a double door.

frieze 1. The middle horizontal member of a classical entablature, above the architrave and below the cornice. 2. A similar decorative band in a stringcourse, or near the top of an interior wall below the cornice.

gable The upper portion of an end wall formed by the slope of a roof.

galvanized iron Iron that has been coated with zinc to inhibit rusting.

glazing bar See mullion.

Gothic sash A window sash pattern composed of mullions that cross to form pointed arches.

grille A decorative, openwork grating, usually of iron, used to protect a window, door, or other opening.

gutter A shallow channel of metal or wood set immediately below and along the eaves of a building to catch and carry off rainwater.

header A masonry wall unit of brick which is laid so that its short end is exposed.

hood A projection that shelters an element such as a door or window.

Ionic One of the five classical orders, characterized by capitals with spiral elements called "volutes," a fasciated entablature, continuous frieze, dentils in its cornice, and by its elegant detailing.

jigsaw carving Wooden ornament cut with a thin narrow saw blade.
**joist** One of a series of parallel timber beams used to support floor and ceiling loads, and supported in turn by larger beams, girders, or bearing walls; the widest dimension is vertically oriented.

**key** A block, often used in a series, which projects beyond the edge of the enframement of an opening and is joined with the surrounding masonry. A block handled in such a manner is keyed to the masonry; see quoin.

**keystone** The central wedge-shaped member of a masonry arch; also used as a decorative element on arches in wood structures.

**latticework** Thin strips of wood arranged in a netlike grid pattern, often set diagonally.

**leaded window** A window composed of small panes, usually diamond-shaped or rectangular, held in place by narrow strips of cast lead.

**leader** A horizontal or vertical cylinder, usually made of metal, which carries water from the gutter to the ground.

**lintel** A horizontal structural element over an opening which carries the weight of the wall above it.

**loggia** 1. An arcaded or colonnaded structure, open on one or more sides, sometimes with an upper story. 2. An arcaded or colonnaded porch or gallery attached to a larger structure.

**lunette** A crescent-shaped or semicircular area or opening on a wall surface.

**mansard** A roof having a double slope on all four sides, the lower slope being much steeper. In rowhouse design, a double-sloped roof on the building front, below a flat roof.

**meeting rail** The rail of a double-hung window sash designed to interlock with the adjacent rail.

**modillion** A projecting scroll-shaped bracket or simple horizontal block arranged in series under the soffit of a cornice.

**molding** A decorative band of varied contour, used to trim structural members, wall planes, and openings.

**mullion** A vertical primary framing member that separates paired or multiple windows within a single opening.

**muntin** A thin framing member that separates the panes of a window sash or glazed doors.

**newel** The main post at the foot of a stairway or stoop.

**oriel** A projecting bay window carried on corbels or brackets.

**Palladian window** A three-part window opening with a tall, round-arched center window flanked by smaller rectangular windows and separated by posts or pilasters.
panel A portion of a flat surface recessed, or raised from the surrounding area, distinctly set off by molding or some other decorative device.

**parapet** A low wall that serves as a vertical barrier at the edge of a roof, terrace, or other raised area; in a exterior wall, the part entirely above the roof.

paver A block of stone used in sidewalk or areaway paving.

pediment 1. In classical architecture, the triangular space forming the gable end of a roof above the horizontal cornice. 2. An ornamental gable, usually triangular, above a door or window.

pier 1. A column designed to support concentrated load. 2. A member, usually in the form of a thickened section, which forms an integral part of a wall; usually placed at intervals along the wall to provide lateral support or to take concentrated vertical loads.

**pilaster** An engaged pier or pillar, often with capital and base.

pitched Sloping, especially referring to a roof.

plinth A platform base supporting a column or pilaster.

pointing, repointing The treatment of joints between bricks, stone, or other masonry components by filling with mortar; also, called tuck-pointing.

portico A small porch composed of a roof supported by columns, often found in front of a doorway.

p.s.i. Pounds per square inch, a term generally used when describing water pressure when cleaning a building.

**quoin** A structural form, usually of masonry, used at the corners of a building for the purpose of reinforcement, frequently imitated for decorative purposes.

relief Carved or molded ornament that projects from a flat surface.

repointing See pointing.

return The part of a molding cornice, or wall surface that changes direction, usually at a right angle, toward the building wall.

reveal The side of an opening for a door or window between the frame and the outer surface of a wall, showing the wall's thickness.

rock faced Masonry treated with a rough surface that retains or simulates the irregular texture of natural stone.

rosette A round floral ornament, usually carved or painted.

round arch A semicircular arch.
**rowhouse** One of a group of an unbroken line of attached houses that share common side walls, known as party walls.

*rubble stone* Irregularly shaped, rough-textured stone laid in an irregular manner.

**rustication, rusticated** Stonework composed of large blocks of masonry separated by wide, recessed joints; often imitated in other materials for decorative purposes.

*sash* The secondary part of a window which holds the glazing in place; may be operable or fixed; usually constructed of horizontal and vertical members; sash may be subdivided with muntins.

*secondary facade* The facade that does not face a public thoroughfare, mews, or court and that does not possess significant architectural features.

*segmental arch* An arch which is in the form of a segment of a semicircle.

*semidetached* A building attached to a similar one on one side but unattached on the other.

*shaft* The vertical segment of a column or pilaster between the base and the capital.

*shed dormer* A dormer window covered by a single roof slope without a gable.

*shingle* A unit composed of wood, cement, asphalt compound, slate, tile or the like, employed in an overlapping series to cover roofs and walls.

*shouldered arch* An arch composed of a square-headed lintel supported at each end by a concave corbel.

*shutter dogs* The metal attachments which hold shutters in an open position against the face of a building.

*sidelight* A vertically framed area of fixed glass, often subdivided into panes, flanking a door.

**sill** The horizontal member at the bottom of a window or door.

*soffit* The exposed underside of any architectural element, especially a roof.

*spalling* The chipping or erosion of masonry caused by abuse or weathering.

**spandrel** 1. A panel between the top of one window and the sill of another window on the story directly above it. 2. An irregular, triangular wall segment adjacent to an arched opening.

*stile* A main vertical member of a door or window.

**stoop** The steps which lead to the front door; from the Dutch "stoep."

*stretcher* A masonry unit or brick laid horizontally with its length parallel to the wall.
**stringcourse** A narrow horizontal band of masonry, extending across the facade, which can be flush or projecting, and flat surfaced, molded, or richly carved.

**stucco** A coating for exterior walls made from Portland cement, lime, sand, and water.

**subframe** A secondary frame set within a masonry opening.

**sugaring** A term describing the deterioration of stone caused by the breaking up or dissolving of the stone surface.

**surround** The ornamental frame of a door or window.

**swag** A carved ornament in the form of a draped cloth or a festoon of fruit or flowers.

**terra cotta** Hard fired clay, either glazed or unglazed, molded into ornamental elements, wall cladding and roof tiles.

**tie rod** A metal tension rod connecting two structural members, such as gable walls or beams, acting as a brace or reinforcement; often anchored by means of a metal plate in such forms as an "S" or a star.

**tracery** An ornamental configuration of curved mullions in a Gothic sash.

**transom** 1. A horizontal bar of wood or stone across a window. 2. The cross-bar separating a door from the window, panel, or fanlight above it. 3. The window above the transom bar of a door.

**transom bar** A horizontal element that subdivides an opening, usually between a door and window.

**trefoil** A three-lobed decorative form used in Gothic architecture

**tuck-pointing** See pointing.

**turret** A small tower, usually supported by corbels.

**volute** A carved spiral form in classical architecture; often used in pairs as in the capitals of Ionic columns.

**voussoir** A wedge-shaped component of an arch.

**wrought iron** Iron that is worked by being forged or hammered.