

# Glossary

Some words used in this book have a particular, or technical meaning for architecture, building or history. The meanings of these terms are explained below. Bolded words are individually defined.

The author devised all of these definitions.

**Abutment** - The end bearing, or support of an arch, or of a series of arches, c/f: **springing**.

**Acropolis** - A citadel, or the upper fortified part of a Greek city, especially that in Athens.

**Acroterion** (plural: **acroteria**) - An ornament at the apex, or ends of a pediment, or gable, c/f: **finial**.

**Additive elements** - Building components appearing to have been fixed to each other, rather than appearing to have been formed as a whole.

**Aedicule** - A niche, or opening framed by columns or pilasters, that supports an entablature, usually with a pediment. It is also known as a **temple front**.

**Age Small Home** - The Small Homes Service of the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects (RVIA) in conjunction with *The Age* newspaper operated from 1947-61 and sold plans for comparatively inexpensive and ingenious architect-designed houses to the public. It has now become the RAIA Architects' Housing Service.

**Angle** - External corner,

## **Arcade**

- A series of arches.

- An internal pedestrian street, lined on both sides with shops, often on several levels with a glazed roof.

**Arch** - A curved **load-bearing** structure of wedge-shaped stones (**voussoirs**) bearing on each other in compression. Types of arches include: **segmental** (low arc), **round** (semi-circular) **horseshoe** (three-quarter circle), **lancet**, or **pointed** (**Gothic**), **four-centered** (segmental with round haunches), **Tudor** (pointed four centered), **shouldered** (with **corbelled** haunches), **trefoil** (with three **foils**), **ogee** and **relieving** (taking the load over another arch).

**Architects Without Frontiers (AWF)** - An international voluntary organization which empowers smaller communities through ideas, not just buildings and is committed to long-term development, rather than emergency buildings. It does not go into areas unless asked and part of its contribution is to look at the local capacity, helping it through the design process and suggesting sustainable materials, to save time and resources, [www.architectswithoutfrontiers](http://www.architectswithoutfrontiers)

**Architrave** - An ornamental moulding around a window or door opening, usually in timber, or externally applied in render.

**Arris** - A sharp corner edge, where two planes join.

**Art Deco** - Applied **modern** ornamentation that is stylized, abstracted and geometric; and fashionable from 1925 to 1940; including nautical motifs and sunbursts.

**Article** - The articles of an apprenticeship are the conditions of the contract document, or indenture; hence an apprentice is articulated, or indentured to their master for the period of the contract. Until c1940 in Victoria, architects were also usually trained by serving their articles, in conjunction with some academic programme at the University of Melbourne Atelier or the Working Mens' College (RMIT University).

**Articulation** - The visual and logical fragmentation, generally of a **façade** or other surface, into distinct constituent components, by marking with (apparent) joints giving a sense of **scale** and **proportion**.

**Arts-and-Crafts (English)** - A very influential style of architecture that was popular in England in the 1880s, which valued hand-craftsmanship and the use of natural materials. In reaction to the industrial Revolution, it insisted that buildings and decoration must show that they had been handmade and not manufactured by machines. Influenced by the writings of John Ruskin, its designers included: William Morris and Morris & Co, Philip Webb, William Lethaby and Norman Shaw.

**Art Nouveau** - A European decorative architectural style around 1900-1910 with very few examples in Australia. It is characterized by asymmetrical sinuous and organic forms, typically developed in timber, render, stone, leadlight and wrought iron.

**Asbestos cement ('fibro-cement')** - A sheet cladding material, consisting of a composition of asbestos fibres set in Portland Cement. It was manufactured locally from 1917 and is now discredited and cellulose fibres substituted for asbestos as fibre cement. Diamond-shaped asbestos **shingles** were used to roof Melbourne's tram shelters and elsewhere.

**Ashlar** - Stone that has been squared and laid in regular courses, one block halfway across those above and below, with fine joints. Render on the external walls of Victorian buildings was often ruled to imitate ashlar, while weatherboards were sometimes similarly imitative (**ashlar boards**).

**Astylar** - A Classical facade without stringcourses, columns or pilasters.

**Asymmetrical** - Not reflective about an axis; the opposite to symmetrical.

**Atrium** - The internal space open to the sky in an ancient Greek or Roman house; now usually a glazed top-lit volume in a commercial building, several stories high.

**Authenticity** - Of undisputed origin or authorship; genuine or valid; real, not false. The authenticity of cultural heritage depends on its nature and cultural context and assessment of authenticity derives from the worth of their information sources.

**Axis** (plural: **axes**) - The centre-line, or fulcrum of a symmetrical composition, one side of which reflects the other.

**Balloon frame** - The standard American timber housing construction method, with the studs extending two full stories high, from the bottom plate to the top plate, past the first floor joists, which are fixed to the studs. Historically, American softwood timbers were available in longer lengths than Australian hardwoods and it was claimed to be a faster erection time than the Australian stud frame system.

**Balustrade** - A railing, usually along the front of a balcony or verandah.

**Bargeboard (barge)** - Projecting boards facing the gable of a building; sometimes quite ornately decorated, often with fretwork.

**Barley-sugar column** - A tightly twisted spiral-shaped **column**, or **colonnade**.

**Baroque** - The theatrically exuberant and extravagant style of **Classical** C17-18 European architecture, derived from the Late Renaissance and Mannerism and evolving into Rococo and Neoclassicism. It is an expression of the didactic and proselyting programmes of the Counter-Reformation of the Roman Catholic

Church. There is always a strong central **axis** and a **façade** composition that focuses on its central **bay**. In the greatest Baroque buildings, art, sculpture and architecture blend together, dramatically charged by the use of light and sometimes water. Baroque architecture is emotional, sensuous, theatrical and exuberant, with daring over-statement, deep modelling, complex geometries, **formal** inventiveness, optical illusion, rich colour, curved and swelling forms; yet symmetry, synthesis and wholeness prevail.

**Basalt** - refer: **bluestone**.

**Base** - The lowest part of a **column**, unless the base rests on a **pedestal**. Greek **Doric** columns uniquely have no base, cf: **plinth**.

**Basilica** - A building in the form of a rectangular hall with a paired colonnade supporting a raised central section with clerestory windows and an apse for the altar, usually at the east end and the main entrance at the opposite (west) end. Basilicas were used by the Romans for law courts and other assemblies, later as the basic Christian church form and more recently for various building types, even suburban retail complexes.

**Batter** - To step back or gently slope inward, a wall or embankment, or to be smaller at the top than at the bottom.

**Bay** - A principal area or division in the architectural arrangement of a building. The divisions may be marked by **fenestration**, **buttresses** or **pilasters** in elevation; or roof the structure in plan.

**Bay-window** - A window forming a recess in a room and projecting outward from its wall. It may be rectangular, semi-polygonal (**canted bay**) or semi-circular (**bow**).

**Beaux Arts** - A coherent Classical style derived from Renaissance precedent that evolved from the École Supérieure des Beaux-Arts in the second half of the nineteenth century in Paris, where most of its architects trained. It was scholarly yet ebullient with lush decoration, integrating sculpture and painting with architecture. The main planning principle was symmetry about an axis, in larger compositions extended by pavilion wings. Often lacking originality, the style expressed the imperial mood of Europe. A defect was that integration of services was not considered.

**Bell-cast** - A projecting finish at the bottom of a rendered, or roughcast wall, forming a **drip** and resembling a the profile of a bell

**Bellied** - Swelling, or bulging in a continuous line.

**Belvedere** - A terrace or room erected above a roof or on high land, for the enjoyment of a fine view, c/f: **loggia**.

**Bichromatic brickwork** - refer: **polychromatic**.

**Billboard façade** - In 1977, Robert Venturi encouraged architects to embrace the commercial vernacular as legitimate architecture as Pop Art does, and as an 'architecture of persuasion.' One approach was to turn the building's façade into a promotional billboard, c/f: **decorated shed**.

**Blackwood** - *Acacia melanoxylon*. One of the largest of the Australian 'wattles,' its colour, grain, character, durability, working facility and strength to weight ratio make it ideal for fine furniture-making and it is one of the best furniture timbers in the world. Its colour is golden brown to dark brown and its grain is usually straight, but sometimes interlocked, with an even texture.

**Blind (tracery or arcading)** - Applied to the surface of a wall, or closed behind it, without openings, as decoration.

**Bluestone (basalt)** - A dark, fine-grained igneous rock, usually quarried from West Melbourne and Western Victoria and often used for plinths, window and door-sills, occasionally in the 1850s and 60s for walls and rarely sculpture.

**Bomb shelter (air-raid shelter)** - A secure space in wartime, generally in World War II, usually underground and protected from air-raid attack. Very few exist now.

**Boom** - The architectural style that is a later elaboration of **Italianate** during 1880-92, generally occurring only in Victoria. Roofs are concealed by high **parapets**, are often **balustraded** and embellished with urns, or balloons and **finials**. Windows, also embellished, are round-headed, **segmental-headed**, or stilted. Decoration is Late **Renaissance**, **Mannerist** and **Baroque**, elaborate and heavy, including: **vermiculation**, **quoins**, **cartouches**, **swags** and decorative cement castings of masks and heads.

**Brace** - An angled timber support to strengthen a roof structure; if to a rafter, it is a **strut**.

**Bracket** - A projecting piece of stone, timber or other material, often formed as a scroll, or **volute** to carry, or appear to carry, a projecting weight such as a **cornice** or an **eave**. In **Italianate** architecture, it is applied along the eaves-line, or at a verandah post.

**Breakpitch** - A definite change in the **pitch** of a roof.

**Breezeblock** - A concrete block perforated in a decorative pattern; often used as screen wall in the 1950s-60s.

**Bressummer** - A massive beam, sometimes curved, spanning a wide opening, such as a verandah, particularly in a **Bungalow**.

**Bristol** - A prefabricated aluminium classroom, imported from the Bristol (UK) aircraft factory in the 1950s to accommodate the excess Baby Boomers in government schools.

**Bronze** - The durable, hard (much harder than **brass**), corrosion-resistant honey-coloured alloy of (mostly) copper and (usually) tin, sometimes with other elements, used for decorative castings and joined by brazing.

**Brutalism** (more correctly **New Brutalism**, not Neo Brutalism) - An architectural style whose external forms expressed its internal functions and inter-relation of spaces and revealing ruthless 'honesty' in structure and exposing its limited palette of natural materials, particularly off-form concrete, rough-sawn stained timber, steel, brick and exposed services. Le Corbusier influenced the style after 1945.

**Building Code of Australia (BCA)** - refer to: *Uniform Building Regulations, Victoria*.

**Bullnose** - A profile curved through 90 degrees, often used in corrugated iron for verandah roofs.

**Bungalow, Californian** - An architectural style popular for houses of the 1920s and early 30s. It is characterized by low pitched, nested and usually gabled roofs, a verandah with a bressummer, supported by masonry pylons, or timber posts on pylons, casement windows, bow or bay windows, inset balconies and natural materials as cladding, such as brick, roughcast, timber, wall-hung timber shingles, random rubble masonry and roughcast cement render.

**Bungalow Court** - A concept that evolved in California from temporary houses, derived from Spanish patio villas or summer cabin resorts in the woods, its layout enabling developers to increase the number of houses per unit area. Two or three blocks were joined; so eight or more cottages could be built around a central open garden space 16.5 m wide; or around a driveway or walkway on blocks 33 m minimum width, with car parking generally at the rear. An enclosed court often had a larger unit at the end of the open space to form a U-shape. Architectural styles ranged from Spanish Colonial Revival to Swiss Chalet, but were superficially applied to a basic design. Developers found that bungalow courts enabled retaining the

popular California garden setting, while reducing land costs. Most significant bungalow courts were built from 1909 to 1933. The earliest in Melbourne is Los Angeles Court (35), c/f: the English **cul-de-sac**.

**Canted** - An angled, or cut-off corner, forming polygonal plan, eg: a canted **bay-window**).

**Cantilevered canopy** - A verandah projecting from a building (eg: a shop), supported only at one end, at the shopfront, without posts.

**Capital** - The topmost member of a **Classical** column or pilaster, usually decorated; it may support an **entablature**.

**Capping, capping piece** - The continuous topmost part, usually projecting.

**Carrara glass** - A brand of black or white coloured glass, popular in the 1930s.

**Cartouche** - A framed panel or tablet, often elaborately decorated, derived from the shape of a scroll, usually in a Renaissance or Baroque style.

**Casement sash** - A window sash, hinged at one side to swing open, usually outwards.

**Cast-iron** - An iron-carbon alloy with a high carbon content, easily poured whilst liquid into moulds, but too hard and brittle to be formed by hammering, rolling or pressing, c/f: **wrought-iron** and **steel**.

**Catenary curve** - A line in the shape of a chain, hanging freely from two points.

**Caveat** - A legal process to suspend proceedings until they are resolved, usually regarding a dispute over the freehold title of a property. A legal constraint placed on a title to restrict the owner pursuing certain disputed activities.

**Cavity** - The void between two **leaves** of brickwork for thermal insulation and as moisture barrier, unbridged except by **galvanized** wire ties and usually 50 mm thick; a cavity brick wall is usually 280 mm thick.

**Chain-link wire mesh** - Open weave fabric formed of fine gauge wire strands, twisted at their junctions as a diamond pattern; often used as fencing.

**Chamfer (or bevel)** - A small splay to a corner (or **arris**). A **hollow chamfer** is concave (c/f: **splay** and **canted**).

**Chevron** - A moulding or groove, forming a zigzag decoration, particularly in **Romanesque**, or **Art Deco** decoration.

**Cill** - refer: **sill**.

**Classical, Classicism** - An architectural style that expresses measured human scale, *gravitas*, calm resolution and harmony; derived from the lasting values, principles, precedents, **language** and particularly the **orders** of the architecture of ancient Greece and later the splendour of Rome, then developed aesthetically and technologically during the **Renaissance** (1420-1550), Mannerism (1500-1600), then the **Baroque** (1600-1750), **Rococo** and **Neoclassical** (eighteenth century) architectural periods.

**Clerestory** - Upper windows above an adjoining roof.

**Clerk of Works** - A full-time site representative of the building owner (client), who inspects and records progress on major projects, agrees levels, records day-work times and approves work before it is covered. Usually a very experienced tradesman, not actually giving instructions, instructed by the architect, but paid directly by the owner. Less used now.

**Clinker bricks** - A hard-burnt red/blue brick with speckled and glazed imperfections.

**Colonial Bungalow** - A Bungalow with some Georgian characteristics, eg: columns and small-paned windows (35).

**Coffee Palace** - A large temperance hotel that is entirely without alcohol and was popular in 1879-92 Melbourne. The Melbourne Coffee Palace, Bourke Street was the first.

**Colonnette** - A small **column**.

**Column** - A vertical structural member, except a **pier**. In **Classical** architecture it is circular in section and consists of a base, shaft and **capital** and carries an **entablature**.

**Composite (order)** - A very grand, festive and opulent Roman **Classical order**, incorporating elements of **Ionic** and **Corinthian**.

**Composition** - The art of assembling together; the aesthetic arrangement of the elements of a design; the components of a material, its ingredients, or its formation.

**Concave** - An inward facing curve.

**Conservatory** - An entirely glazed building to house a controlled climate for exotic plants, with maximum access to the sun and often heated in colder climates.

**Console** - In **Classical** architecture, an ornamental **bracket**, or **corbel** in the form of an S-curve.

**Convex** - An outward-facing curve.

**Copper-oxide etched** - Copper cladding that has been exposed to acid to accelerate the **patination** process to produce an attractive turquoise colour, eg: the balconies of Melbourne Terrace (11).

**Corbels** - A series of projections, each stepped progressively farther forward with height, that is a common device on the brickwork of chimneys.

**Cordoba tiles** - In Australia, semi-cylindrical (slightly cone-shaped) Mediterranean unglazed **terra-cotta** roofing tiles, popular in Australia in the 1930s for **Spanish Mission** style buildings (10).

**Cornice** - Any projecting ornamental finishing **moulding** along the top of a building, or below the eaves. In an interior, the horizontal moulding between walls and ceiling. In **Classical** architecture, it is the top projecting section of an **entablature**.

**Corinthian** - The most ornate of the three Greek and Roman orders, characterized by a bell-shaped **capital**, with **volute**s and acanthus leaves.

**Corrosive** - To gradually destroy the surface of a metal, caused by the action of water, chemicals, or stress. Proximity to saline environments (eg: the sea) is a frequent cause of corrosion.

**Corrugated iron** - Sheet iron cladding, formed in a continuous wave profile to give it rigidity. It was available in Victoria from 1852 (27) and was entirely replaced by steel after 1918. A smaller ripple of 26 mm **pitch** was available 1890s to 1920.

**Corrugation pitch** - The distance from ridge to ridge in a corrugated cladding material, eg: iron, steel, or plastic. There were various pitches from 64-128 mm, until they were standardised as 76 mm in the 1860s, so that non-standard pitches are now rare and valued.

**Cortile** - The internal space of a **palazzo**, generally open to the sky, but sometimes glass-roofed; a large **atrium**, often of several stories, often with **arcades**, or **colonnades**.

**Cottage Ornée** - A charming late eighteenth or early nineteenth century small house in a rural setting, in a rustic style and design that was promoted by **pattern-books**. Often asymmetrical, with small leadlight windows, **bay** and **oriel** windows, fretted **barge boards**, massive ornamental chimneys and rough-hewn verandahs; with plaster walls, timbering, within a large garden. The roof should be thatch, although this is unlikely in Australia.

**Country house** - A mansion set on its own estate in the English countryside, with splendid interiors, its own staff cottages, farm buildings, other outbuildings and landscaped garden.

**Cove** - A large **concave moulding**, often as a **cornice**.

**Craftsman, The** - New York furniture manufacturer, Gustav Stickley's journal, that published house designs characterised by natural materials and craft techniques, from c1900-20s (12).

**Cresting** - Decoration along the ridge of a roof, usually in perforated, cast, or wrought iron, or terra-cotta.

**Crimped Wire** - Wire formed with regular, or intermittent undulations.

**Cross-ventilation** - The movement of fresh external air into and through an interior and out an opposite opening, without any mechanical assistance from a fan or air-conditioning.

**Crown Portion (allotment)** - The land that was first granted to the Crown Grantee by the Crown, with its own number. All dealings with the land: subdivision, mortgage or sale, are recorded on the Certificate of Title under the Torrens System and earlier under the Old System.

**Cul-de-sac** - In England, a street or passage, closed at one end, c/f: **Bungalow Court** in California.

**Curlicue** - A decorative curl, twist, or spiral.

**Cyclopean** - A wall of very large stone blocks, often with a rough surface, originally pre-Classical Greek; or any large polygonal masonry.

**Dado (height)** - A decorative band, or moulding on a wall at about 700-1,000 mm height.

**Decorated (Gothic)** - The second English **Medieval** phase from late c13 to 1450, characterized by: pointed windows inscribing multiple lancets, **ogee** tracery, complex vaulting, large clerestories and inscribed decoration, c/f: **Early English** and **Perpendicular**.

**Decorated shed** - Robert Venturi (b1925), the pioneer of Post-modern architecture, encouraged architects to embrace the commercial vernacular as legitimate architecture, as in Pop Art and as an 'architecture of persuasion;' one approach was to apply enticing decoration to simple 'dumb' buildings, c/f: **billboard façade** (22).

**Dentils** - A band of small, square, tooth-like blocks, usually in a **cornice**.

**Diaper-work** - An all-over surface decoration of a repeated pattern, often as diamond patterned brickwork, with dark bricks, sometimes dyed black, on lighter bricks.

**Dimension stone** - refer: **masonry**.

**Dividers** - Vertical fins projecting above chimneys, sometimes fan-shaped.

**Domical** - Dome-shaped.

**Dom-ino** - Le Corbusier's (1887-1966) construction system with its accessible roof that was widely published in 1913-15 (**15**).

**Door-frame** - Two vertical members (**jamb**s) and a head (**lintel**) on which a door hangs.

**Door furniture** - Any functional, or decorative fitting on a door, including the hinges, closer, stop and fingerplate, but particularly the handle and lock.

**Doric** - The plainest **order** of **Classical** architecture in which the capital is a round-edged disc.

**Dormer** - A separately housed attic window, projecting from a roof, with its own **gabled, skillioned, or hipped** roof.

**Dormitory** - A place mainly for sleeping, or overnight accommodation for a group, eg: a **suburb**.

**Double-fronted** - A house front consisting of two principal **bays**, often stepped, often with a central door.

**Double-hung sash window** - A window with two sashes sliding vertically past each other within the frame.

**Drafted** - Stonework with separate flat-tooled **margins**, c/f: **ruled**.

**Dressed** - Finely finished and intended to be visible, eg: timber ready for painting.

**Dressings** - Finely worked (either moulded, or carved) stones, **mouldings** or decoration, as decorative door and window surrounds and as **quoins** at the **angles**.

**Drip** - A groove (or sometimes a ridge) in the front of the **soffit** of a ledge, enabling rainwater to fall away and not to run back into the structure.

**Duplex** - A double-storied building of two dwelling units (either flats, or home-units) for two households, one on each level; in Melbourne, they were common in 1920s and 30s St Kilda (**12, 31 & 41**).

**Dwarf wall** - A low wall, not full height.

**Early English (EE)** - The first of three phases of the **Gothic** style in England 1190-1250, which was characterized by individual **lancets** and **stiff-leaf** (sculptured foliage) **capitals**.

**Earthenware** (or **quarry**) - A glazed, or non-glazed non-vitreous ceramic, used for paving tiles. Usually coloured either cream, or terracotta.

**Eaves (line)** - The part of the roof overhanging beyond the line of the wall; sometimes decorated.

**Edwardian** - A period in British architecture named after King Edward VII, who reigned between 1901 and 1910, but relevant to architecture between c1890 and 1920. In houses, distinguishing features include the use of red brick walls, unglazed red terra cotta roofing tiles, ridge-capping, chimneypots and finials, timber fretwork and turned timber posts to verandahs and gable ends. Roof pitches become steeper and domestic plans more complex, often with a diagonal axis. Its architectural styles included **Federation** and **Queen Anne, Arts and Crafts** and **Freestyle**.

**Elevation** - A two-dimensional graphic projection of an external face of a building.

**Emboss** - To carve, mould, or impact as a relief; to slightly protrude from a surface.

**Encaustic** - Late Victorian flooring tiles often with geometric shapes, which are patterned by baking in the colours to form the surface of the tile.

**English Garden Suburb** - Consists of mostly detached cottages within an Arcadian setting of trees, gardens, serpentine roads, with separation of vehicles and pedestrians. The first was Bedford Park, West London begun in 1877 by Richard Norman Shaw, then Port Sunlight (1888-) and Bournville in Birmingham (c1893-); but the finest is Hampstead Garden Suburb, London (1906-). In the USA, Oak Park and River Forrest in Chicago; and numerous suburbs in California, Scandinavia and Australia (including much of middle to outer Melbourne), where they were very influential on suburban layouts (**1 & 31**).

**English Landscape Garden** - A park, often as a setting for a **country house**, with irregular plantings of trees, usually on undulating terrain with **serpentine** waterways, **classical temples**, **follies** and bridges, as focal points; designed to realise an idealised **Arcadian** vision of a natural landscape, sometimes reminiscent of the classical **Virgilian** landscapes of Claude Lorrain's paintings. Though intended for aesthetic pleasure, they might also include farmland (**ferme ornée**) and views beyond to elements such as village churches, or ruins outside of the property.

**En-suite bathroom** - Is attached to a bedroom and accessible only from it, affording exclusive use and privacy to its occupants.

**Entablature** - In **Classical** architecture, the upper part of an order, consisting of **architrave**, **frieze** and **cornice**.

**Entasis** - The very slight swelling of Classical columns, to correct the optical illusion of concavity that may result if the sides were straight.

**Envelope** - The imaginary simplified overall form containing a building.

**Evidence** - The information that can be found about the past by examining the fabric of places, historical documents and people's recollections.

**Existenzminimum** - Minimal accommodation (**42**).

**Expressed** - Visibly modeled, or represented in relief.

**Fabric** - All the physical material of a building, or **place**.

**Façade** - An exterior face, or the front of a building, which has some architectural expression.

**Face (brickwork)** - A fine finish, intended to be visible.

**Faience** - Terracotta coated with coloured glazed enamel, used for façades, sometimes used as internal wall-cladding and applied architectural ornament. Faience is common on New York and Australian urban facades; in Australia Wunderlich manufactured faience from the 1920s.

**Fall** - A level reduced from one point to another on a surface, or in a channel. It may be achieved entirely within the thickness of a screed, or by packing; and is measured as a ratio of height to length, or in degrees.

**Fanlight** - Once a fan-shaped window over a door; now any window in that position, often rectangular.

**Fascia** - A timber board fixed to the purlins at the end of the roof, that usually supports the roof gutters and is sometimes decorated.

**Federation** - An architectural style found generally during the **Edwardian** period. In houses it is characterized by: red brick walls and chimneys; unglazed orange/red terra-cotta roofing tiles, ridge capping, cresting, chimneypots and finials; timber fretwork and turned timber posts to verandahs and gable ends. Federation roof pitches became steeper and domestic plans more complex than earlier, often with a diagonal axis, c/f: **Arts-and-Crafts, Edwardian, Freestyle** and **Queen Anne**.

**Fenestration** - The arrangement of windows.

**Fiddleback** - **Figure** in timber or veneer produced by small, regular undulations in the grain, eg: in Tasmanian Blackwood

**Figure** - A design, or motif that stands out against an undifferentiated background, to which it is often relatively un-related.

**Filigree** - Ornamental fine metal openwork, usually formed from wire as a delicate tracery, like a mesh.

**Finial** - A formal vertical ornament at the top, eg: turned timber, terra cotta, or metalwork, c/f: **acroterion**.

**Fleche** - A slender spire rising from the ridge of a roof, usually in timber.

**Flush** - Two adjacent surfaces placed together in the same plane and level with each other.

**Fluting** - The vertical grooves of a column shaft.

**Form (formal)**

- The externally visible shape(s) of a building and the arrangement of its parts, that may be determined by aesthetic considerations (except colour or materials), its architectural language, its siting, or by its function.

- Observing the rules, precise and regular, eg: a formal garden; prim, symmetrical, stiff, methodical; ceremonial, or required by convention.

**Freestyle** - An eclectic amalgamation of sources that together tend to evade classification. A late nineteenth century English architectural style in which characteristics and elements from Classical, Gothic, Islamic, Chinese, English Domestic Revival and vernacular styles, with some Elizabethan and Renaissance illusions are eclectically composed. In Australia, variants of this style occur from c1883-1930s.

**French doors** - A pair of either half or fully glazed doors, each of which often occupies little more than half the width of a normal door (27).

**Fretwork** - Decorative perforated and carved timber, often in **bargeboards, valances, brackets** and screens (23).

**Frieze** - Any horizontal band of decoration, including on verandahs in **cast-iron** lace, or timber.

**Frontispiece** - The central **expressed** bay of an **elevation**; the special architectural expression of a principal façade; or the principal entrance bay of a building.

**Gable** - The triangular upper wall at the end of a double-pitched roof, sometimes with a decorated **bargeboard** (23).

**Gablet** - A small ornamental gable, as the vertical extension of a wall, or over a niche, or buttress.

### **Gallery**

- A covered space for walking, partly open at the side(s).

- A **balcony**, platform, or upper floor projecting from the rear wall of a hall, theatre, or church, to accommodate additional audience, orchestra, or organist. In theatres, there may be several deep tiers of galleries (or balconies), often horse-shoe shaped and steep, often supported by columns, or later by deep cantilevers, and which may be utilised for the distribution of air-conditioning.

- A hall in which to show pictures, sculpture or decorative art, either within a public museum, or in a private building.

- A long narrow room for winter exercise, or sport, eg: a shooting gallery.

- An underground passage, eg: a wine cellar.

**Galvanizing** - A corrosion-resistant coating of zinc once applied to iron and now to steel elements, including cladding sheets.

**Gambrel** - A hipped roof form that terminates in a small gable at the ridge, similar to a **half-hip**.

**Georgian architecture** - A codified British Classical domestic architectural style of fine spare proportions, recessed undecorated window openings, **double-hung sashes**, door-cases, often with **fanlights**, columns, **pilasters**, **entablatures**, **pediments**, **consoles** and with more elaborated interiors; from the reigns of George I, II, III and IV: 1714-1830; or terminating in 1811, if the rather different style from the **Regency** of George IV, is excluded. Early Georgian is George I and II (1714-50; Adam (Augustan) c1750-80 and Late Georgian c1780-1810.

**Glazing bar** - A vertical or horizontal bar within the window sash, which holds the panes of glass.

**Gothic** - An architectural style generally first appearing from 1140 in France until 1420 or later, characterized by verticality, with pointed arches and windows, buttresses, clerestory windows and roofs vaulted or with an exposed timber structure. In England, it is divided into three phases: **Early English**, **Decorated** and **Perpendicular**.

**Greco-Regency** - The culmination of the Greek Revival in Britain and France in 1820-40 and Germany and USA in 1815-60, characterised by refined scholarly Classical detail, derived from study of antique buildings, although generally not Greek Doric; but modified so the style does not dominate functional planning; with the parts sub-ordinate to the whole composition and often very inventive.

### **Groundedness**

- Existentially aware and being in the present, without reference to the past; aware that the future is manifested in the present, in being fully human rather than seeking spirituality.

- In logic, the principle that the conclusions from reasoning should be based on, or grounded in, the premises of the argument and not beyond it.

**Guild** - A society for mutual assistance, or for a common objective of a group, particularly of craftsmen, eg: medieval trade guilds.

**Guilloche** - A continuous classical ornamental band or moulding, formed by two or more intertwining bands, as if links in a chain.

**Habitable** - A room used for normal domestic living activities; not a bathroom, WC, laundry, pantry, walk-in-robe, corridor, hallway, lobby, or other specialised spaces.

**Half-hip** - A generally gable roof form, which terminates in a smaller hip, similar to a **gambrel**.

**Half-timbering, or timbering** - Construction in which the walls were built of interlocking and exposed vertical and horizontal timbers and the spaces between were filled with non-structural walling, faced with roughcast, or stucco. Often this is imitated as decoration with applied non-structural members, often within gable-ends (23 & 41).

**Hall-house ('hall-and-parlour')** - In England, a two-room house, the yeoman's lesser equivalent of a manor house. In that much larger dwelling, wings were sometimes added at either end of the great hall: one a buttery or 'bottlery' for storing wine and food; the other a parlour, or 'conversation room,' for the private use of the family. In the cottage version, one end of the hall was simply partitioned off to create a parlour, or a second small room was added to the original house. The parlour was the 'best room' compared with the utilitarian hall, nevertheless, it probably contained a bed, as did most rooms in houses then.

**Hatches, delivery** - Once used in external walls for milk and bread; **servery hatches** between Kitchen and Dining Room were to pass meals through and return dirty dishes and cutlery (15).

**Head** - The top horizontal member of a frame, eg: of a door, or window.

**Header** - The end of a brick, in Australia it is 115 x 75 mm. If a series of headers are exposed in a wall, then they may extend through the wall to bond its two **leaves** together, and there is no **cavity** and the wall would be 230 mm thick.

**Heritage** - Our cultural inheritance from the past, that is the evidence of human activity from Aboriginal settlement through periods of European and Asian migration, to the present day in the built and natural environments.

**Highlight** - A high-level window.

**Hip** - A roof form consisting of four sloping planes meeting at a ridge.

**Hispanic** - Of Spain, Portugal and other Spanish and Portuguese-speaking countries, including South and Central America, Goa and the Philippines.

**Historicist (historicism)** - Reviving historical detail nostalgically, out of the context of its historical period.

**Horseshoe arches** - refer: **Moorish horseshoe arches**.

**Inscribe** - To contain within a shape, touching it at various points.

**Interpretation** - Explaining **cultural significance** to the community and to visitors, using signage, publications, displays and guides.

**Ionic** - An **order** of **Classical** architecture, whose capital has **volute**s, or scrolls.

**Inglenook** - A sitting recess in a living room; or containing kitchen facilities and sometimes promoted as an 'American kitchen' or 'kitchenette.'

**Interstitial** - In the interstices; in the cracks or crevices; or the intervening space between two surfaces.

**Inter-War** - The historical period between World Wars I and II, that is: 1918-1939.

**Italianate** - An architectural style derived from the Italian **villa** architecture that became common in England in the Nineteenth Century and subsequently in Australia in the 1870s and 1880s. In Victoria it commonly has a picturesque form; with a tower, arcading, canted bay windows and particularly has bracketed eaves with friezes and hipped roofs of a lower pitch, without a parapet.

**-ising** - Tending towards, eg: classicizing and historicizing.

**Jazz Moderne** - A 1920s architectural style with soaring vertical lines and often stepped. It was derived from New York skyscrapers, it was hence sometimes allied to Gothic; often in metals, black, primary and rich colours, curved corners, stylised or cubistic Art Deco decoration and nautical motifs, eg: wavescroll and portholes, or Mesopotamian and Egyptian influences, influenced by archaeological finds.

**Jerkin-head gables** - A gabled roof with ends hipped, to halfway down to the eaves, c/f: **gambrel** and **half-hip**.

**Jetty** - To slightly cantilever and so project over, eg: an upper floor, over a street.

**Joist** - A minor beam supporting a surface at regular intervals, supported on bearers, eg: of a floor, or ceiling.

**Joinery** - Timber windows and doors, their frames and other fine timber detail.

**Journeyman** - A qualified tradesperson who works as an employee, and is not self-employed.

**Juliet balcony** - A small balcony, accessible only by a single person (**10**).

**Kemp & Sheehan ventilators** - A ventilation system using an updraft, through vertical metal cylinders, on the upper roof, terminating in conical metal caps. From 1899-1923, they were fitted to most schools and other public buildings in Victoria (**34**).

**Keystone** - The central culminating **vousoir** in an **arch**.

**King-post** - The vertical post standing on the mid-point of a tie-beam, or collar, rising up to the apex to support a ridge (beam); this type of **truss** is usually found in Medieval buildings.

**Kitchenette** - A small kitchen, often in a flat, fashionable in the 1930s-50s and derived from the USA, c/f: **inglenook**.

**Kitsch** - The irony of the vulgar and '...worthless pretentiousness in art' that almost inevitably becomes fashionable and collectable [Clement Greenberg, *Partisan Review*, 1939]. 'The syrupy dregs of the great Romantic period' [Milan Kundera].

**Label** - A hood or drip (stone) moulding over an opening, usually returning for a short distance down the sides of the opening.

**Lancet** - refer: **Early English**.

**Lap pool** - A narrow swimming pool of only a single lap in width, constructed in concrete or fibreglass and suitable for a confined space as a fashionable accessory to the smart home, or penthouse from the 1980s.

**Leadlight (leaded lights)** - A window having small panes (**lights**) of clear, coloured or stained glass, joined with strips of lead (**comes**); commonly and often incorrectly called 'stained glass.'

**Leaf** - One brick thickness (115 mm) of a **cavity** wall; the two leaves are joined across the 50 mm cavity with galvanised **wire ties**.

**Light** - One division of a window, divided by **mullions** or **comes**.

**Lintel** (or lintol) - A horizontal beam bridging an opening, supporting the wall above.

**Load-bearing** - A **structure** or structural **member** that is capable of carrying the **load** of the **structure** above it.

**Lobe** - One of a series of small **arches** (**foils**), separated by **cusps**, decorating a larger arch, usually on its inside face.

**Loggia** - An open (at least on one side) and usually colonnaded **gallery**, used as a meeting place; first developed in Renaissance Italy, c/f: **belvedere** and **piazza**.

**Lozenge** - A diamond-shaped panel.

**Mannerism** - An architectural style occurring initially in sixteenth century Italy, based on a profound knowledge of the Classical language; but characterised by witty, fanciful, perverse, or imaginative use of classical elements (but never rejecting them) and by complex spatial organization and progression; it expresses self-conscious virtuosity, bizarre juxtaposition of contrasts (thus anticipating that aspect of Surrealism) and delight in complication for its own sake; in an abnormal, strange, surprising, distorted and out of context inventiveness, movement, tension and exaggeration, verging on eccentricity. Mannerist architects included: Giulio Romano (c1499-1546), Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475-1564) and Andrea Palladio (1508-80).

**Manor house** - A house in the country, or in a village, which is at the centre of a manor; which was a territorial district in Medieval England over which the feudal Court of the Lord of the Manor exercised authority, or on land belonging to that nobleman from whose occupants he could obtain taxes. Architecturally, an English medium-sized unpretentious, usually unfortified, later Medieval house.

**Man-o-war** - An armed naval ship, particularly a great timber sailing ship (**41**).

**Mantel** - A **lintel** supporting the masonry over a fireplace. A **mantelpiece** is the broad shelf over a mantel, or an ornamental structure and frame around a fireplace opening, including the shelf, concealing the mantel as a separate structure, and often surmounted by an **over-mantel**.

**Margin** - The flat band at the edge of stone blocks.

**Marseilles tiles** - Reddish, unglazed, terra-cotta tiles in a distinctive corrugated pattern, which were first imported from Marseilles, France in the 1880s and were soon made in Australia, that were very common in the Edwardian period. After 1908, they were also available in cement (concrete) and from the 1930s they were glazed.

**Masonry** - The trade of building with natural **dimension stone** (building stone), including selecting, quarrying, cutting, **dressing**, carving, jointing and laying; or the work that has been produced by a mason, but often also including concrete, brickwork and blockwork. Types of masonry include: ashlar, or rubble (whether drystone, random, random coursed, snecked, squared, rusticated, or cyclopean).

**Materiality** - The tactile feeling and sensation of materials, their palpability and substance; and how materials can existentially affect people.

**Mechanics' Institute** - George Birkbeck established the concept in London in 1823, of a library and lecture hall for working men to acquire technical, scientific and 'morally circumspect' knowledge. In Victoria there were no government secondary schools until 1905, technical schools until 1912 and even these were fee-paying and during the mid-nineteenth century they were built in most suburbs of Melbourne and Victorian country towns. Some institutes, such as St Kilda were called athenaeums and some such as Collins Street and Prahran are still libraries.

**Medieval** - Includes both **Romanesque** (600/900-1140; in England Norman 1066-1140), characterized by round arches and **Gothic** (1140-c1420) by pointed arches. Domestic medieval buildings are characterized

by: gabled roofs, timber-frame construction or half-timbered appearance, leadlight windows, decorated bargeboards, finials, decorative blacksmith's ironwork and jettying of upper stories.

**Medievalising** - Tending towards Medieval characteristics.

**Mediterranean** - Incorporating the generalised characteristics of Spanish, French Riviera, Italian and Greek Island vernacular buildings.

**Melbourne 2030** - The Victorian state government's plan released in 2000 for the growth and development of the metropolitan area, with the objective of ensuring that metropolitan Melbourne retains the qualities that we enjoy. It gives an overview of the direction Melbourne was expected to take and plans for 620,000 extra households. It has a set of Principles and Key Directions, including: a more compact city, better management of metropolitan growth, networks with the regional cities, a more prosperous city, a great place to be, a more equitable city, better transport links and better carefully managed planning decisions. It identifies 26 Principal Activity Centres, 79 Major Activity Centres (including St Kilda) and 10 specialised Activity Centres for denser development, for all of which Councils must prepare Action Plans. Melbourne 2030 is being reviewed at present, in the light of unanticipated population growth, sustainability and climate change. It was criticised as not supported by strategic government investment in infrastructure (**11 & 31**).

**Member** - A building component, particularly **structural**.

**Miesian** - In the manner of the German modernist architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe (1886, active 1920-1969), characterised by masterly open plan spatial composition, functionally interchangeable cubic simplicity, expressed steel frames, minimum supporting columns, refined details, precious materials, highest quality and immaculate finishes. His manner was extremely influential, particularly on high-rise office buildings in the past 60 years.

**Moderne** - An architectural style distinct from **Modernist**, characterized by horizontal **Streamlined** styling, with bands, round corners, steel-framed glazing and porthole openings; or **Jazz** with vertical styling and stepped skyscraper forms. Its decoration (often **Art Deco**) has crystalline, geometric or abstracted forms. The style developed from the *Exposition internationale des arts décoratifs* in Paris in 1925 and continued until c1940 (**16 & 42**).

**Modernist (modernism)** - An architectural style, characterized by rejection of historicism and ornament, the manipulation of **space**, the rational expression of materials (including steel, concrete and glass), of services (lighting, power, lifts and air conditioning) structure and function; but also composed of pure clean forms and often without consideration of siting, or context. In Australia it began in Melbourne and lasted from 1933-c1975 (**42**).

**Moorish horseshoe arches** - A round (or pointed) horseshoe shaped arch consisting of a three-quarter circle over quarter-round shoulders, derived from Islamic architecture. In Australia, it occurs in Federation and Arts-and-Crafts style buildings for windows, verandah valences, or sometimes chimney decoration (**2**).

**Morewood & Rogers' iron roof tiles** - Galvanised iron patent roofing 900 x 575 mm, screw-fixed over half-round timber rolls, as an over-locking seal device between the tiles. They were imported from 1850-70 and are now very rare in Victoria (**23, 25 & 26**).

**Mould (moulding)** - An applied decorative element with varieties of outline or contour in edges and surfaces, whether as projections or cavities, eg: cornices, capitals, bases, architraves, stringcourses, jambs and heads.

**Mughal (Moghul)** - An empire established in India by Mongolians under the Great Mogul (emperor) in Delhi in 1500-1900, whose influence in Mughul India and Safavid Persia created formal paradise gardens, cool courtyards, filigree screens, tiled and bas-relief decoration of domes and giant pointed arches (**2**).

**Mullion** - A post dividing a window, sometimes decorative.

**Neo-Classical** - The mid-eighteenth century's severely scholarly and archaeological return to the Classical Language. There was a Classical revival in the 1920s in Britain, the United States and Australia.

**Oculus** (plural: **oculi**) - A small circular panel or window, common in **Federation** architecture and sometimes with leadlight glazing.

**Ogee** - A double-curved, or inverted S-shape. **Victorian** and **Edwardian** buildings have ogee spouting.

**Oil-cloth** - A canvas coated with linseed, or other oil and used to roof an early colonial verandah frame, cover a floor, or table; a fabric waterproofed with oil; an oilskin, or Drizabones (27).

**Old English** - A picturesque medieval revival as a generally domestic architectural style, characterised by some Tudor elements such as four-centred arches; with picturesque rooflines, decorative wrought-iron including weather vanes, **jerkin-head** roofs, tall red brick chimneys, jettying first floors, terra-cotta tile-hung wall cladding, stone **quoins** and entries, half-timbering and other diverse finishes, wide carved and fretted **barges**, hooded, mullioned and **oriel** windows, with diamond leaded **lights** and lichgates. It was popularised in 1860s England and in Melbourne particularly in 1919-41 (41).

**Onion-dome** - A pointed bulbous form clad with tiles or metal, terminating a tower and often ornamented on top, common in Netherlands, Central- and Eastern-European architecture (4).

**Open work** - A decorative panel consisting largely of voids.

**Order** - In **Classical** architecture, a column with **base**, **shaft**, **capital** and **entablature**, that is decorated and proportioned according to established rules; types include: **Doric**, **Ionic**, **Corinthian**, **Tuscan** or **Composite**.

**Oriel** - A bay window projecting above ground level, supported on brackets or **corbels**.

**Orthogonal** - With right angles.

**Orthographic** - A two-dimensional representation of a three-dimensional object by parallel projection of lines as elevations, as if from an extremely distant perspective view, with correct dimensions and proportions.

**Paling** - A thin timber boarding, split or sawn, butted or lapped, and fixed to a frame as a fence.

**Palazzine** - A Roman apartment block from the 1920s-50s, seen in Pier Paolo Pasolini movies and often not a socially successful building type (15).

**Palazzo** (plural: **palazzi**) - An Italian town palace; or that type of non-Italian building, c/f: French **hôtel**, or English **town house**.

**Panel** - A portion of a flat surface raised or recessed in relation to its surroundings and usually set off by a moulding, or some other decoration, eg: Victorian doors have groups of four, or six.

### **Panorama**

- A building containing a very wide picture, on the inside of a cylindrical surface around the spectators (a **cyclorama**), or passing before the spectators, or viewed through an aperture whose sides continue towards the picture (a **diorama**), eg: the Panorama National, Paris, 1859.

- A very wide picture of a wide image; or often a topographic view, eg: a city skyline (23).

**Parapet** - The extension of a wall above the roof, or what would otherwise be the eaves-line. Usually between 400 and 1,500 mm in height and decorated with ornamentation, eg: moulded cornice, balustrade, pediment and nameplate.

**Parge (pargetting, parging)** - Decorative external plastering in repeating patterns; or render on the inside of a chimney flue.

**Party-wall** - A wall shared by two buildings in a terraced row (40).

**Patina, patination** - The desirable incrustation, or sheen from corrosion, pollution, or wear on the surface of an old material, eg: corrosion of bronze, copper; or weathering and wear of timber. Patination can also be induced artificially in a new material.

**Pattern book** - A collection of published designs for builders to copy architectural details. English and American pattern books were very influential from the late nineteenth century in Australia (23).

**Pavilion** - A separate block of a building, with a distinct rectangular form and roof, but attached to the main building.

**Pedestal** - A sub-structure below the base of a column, to give extra height, without modifying the proportion; or at the end of a balustrade, or beneath a statue, or decorative vase, c/f: **plinth** and **base**.

**Pediment** - In Classical architecture, the element, usually triangular or curved, over doors or windows, or above a parapet.

**Pendant** - An element, usually decorative, that is suspended with a decorative swollen lower end, eg: a pendant **bargeboard** (23).

**Perpendicular (Gothic)** - The third and last English **Gothic** phase, from c1335/50-c1530, with straight vertical and relatively horizontal elements, flattened arches, strong window transoms, **mouldings** framing doorways, blind **fenestration** panels, shallow mouldings, pale glass and complex **vaulting** including lierne, or fan **vaults**.

**Pergola** - A pleasant garden structure consisting of a lateral framework (usually joists over beams) supported on rows of columns or piers, to support climbing plants, or as a sunshade; usually attached to a domestic building, or over a garden pathway.

**Perspex, Plexiglas** - Proprietary brands of clear sheet acrylic plastic.

#### **Piazza**

- A public square, or market place, bounded by buildings and entered by various streets, especially in an Italian town.

- (USA and 1890s-1920s Australia). A large porch, usually with a solid **balustrade** (31).

**Picket, picket head** - A light vertical timber board fixed to timber rails at a regular spacing over a timber plinth and between timber posts in a fence, with a decorative profiled top.

**Picturesque Gothic** - An Australian colonial **Romantic** architectural style, characterised by: **Pattern Book**, **Cottage Orné**, Carpenter's Gothic, **Medievalising**, Tudor and English **Arts-and-Crafts** characteristics, with steep roof pitch, carved and fretwork bargeboards (23).

**Pier** - A vertical load-bearing structural support, usually undecorated, other than a column.

**Piloti** (plural: **pilotis**) - A massive **pier** supporting a building, elevating the first floor and freeing the ground level as open space or for another use and giving a floating effect. It was a frequently used by and

probably invented by the great Modernist architect Le Corbusier (1887-1966) and codified in his *Five Points for a New Architecture* in about 1928.

**Pitch**

- The slope of a roof, measured in degrees.

- Refer: **corrugation pitch**.

**Place** - A site, area, building or other work, group of buildings or other works together with associated contents and surroundings. It could include a structure, ruin, archaeological site, garden or a landscape that has been modified by human activity.

**Planar** - In geometry, of or relating to the form of a plane surface.

**Plate-glass** - An expensive thick polished sheet glass, developed from 1940 by Britain's Pilkington Brothers Ltd and introduced to Australia in 1959, now superseded by float glass, which is of equivalent quality but cheaper.

**Plate-top chimneys** - In Australia, Arts-and-Crafts and Federation style domestic chimneys with a decorative projecting square flat cement plate, possibly derived from designs by the influential English architect CFA Voysey (1857-1951, **12**).

**Platonic** - Of Plato, the Greek philosopher (d347 BC), or his doctrines.

**Plinth, plinth board** - The square-sectioned lowest component of the base of a column; the plain, slightly projecting lowest section of a wall; the timber board placed on edge, on the ground beneath weatherboards and fixed to the stumps; or below fence pickets or palings and fixed to posts, c/f: **base** and **pedestal**.

**Polychromatic brickwork** - Exposed brickwork in at least three colours ranging from cream, red, terracotta, dark brown, or black, and combined to form bold patterns including **diapers** and popular in the 1870s and 80s, eg: government schools (**20**). **Bichromatic** brickwork has two colours.

**Porte cochère** - A **porch** large enough for a vehicle to pass through it from its side, allowing guests to alight and enter the building under cover (**29**).

**Post-Modernism** - An architectural style from the late 1960s which embraced pluralism, diversity and eclecticism; through utilising reference, quotation, analogy, association, symbolism and ornament; in a reaction of 'complexity and contradiction' [Robert Venturi] against the constraints of Modernism. Because the Post-Modern architect and their design enter the world of the everyday built environment, they discard the distance necessary for aesthetic reflection. Composition and opticality are emphasised, rather than composition and tactility. Theorists and designers include: Robert Venturi (1925-), Charles Jencks, Charles Moore, Paolo Portoghesi and Aldo Rossi, and other internationally architects include: Terry Farrell and Hans Hollein; and Ashton Raggatt McDougall and Edmond & Corrigan in Australia (**3 & 32**).

**Prairie Style** - A very influential suburban domestic architectural style from Illinois, characterized by: an 'organic' quality, natural materials, low-pitched roofs, very deep eaves, strong horizontality, a large central hearth, chimney and ventilation flues as a focal room-divider, incorporation of services into the design, areas of geometric pattern, natural materials, an inconspicuous entry, with low walls, planters and terraces extending out into the site, appearing like the trunk, roots and foliage of a spreading tree. The style was named after a design by Frank Lloyd Wright (1867-1959) in 1901 and grew around his pervasive personality.

**Precast concrete** - Reinforced concrete that is cast off-site in a factory plant, where there is greater control on its quality and details, in the form of tilt-slabs for walls and other components, interlocking roof tiles, or concrete blocks.

**Prefabricated** - A building process in which components, rooms, or even whole buildings are manufactured in a factory and delivered complete to the site on a truck, to a prepared location, fixings and service connections.

**Programmatic** - Relating to the program (software), the sequence of coded instructions that can be executed by a computer; or as a metaphor of that.

**Pylon** - A tapering pier of rectangular section, flanking an entrance, or verandah, or as a chimney; derived from ancient Egyptian architecture, but now found usually on **Californian Bungalows**.

**Queen Anne** - An eclectic English domestic architectural style (c1860-90), with elements from seventeenth and eighteenth century English and Flemish domestic architecture and other sources. Its characteristics include: tall white, small-paned sash windows, fine brick arches and dressings, terra cotta embellishments, open and broken pediments, steeply pitched roofs often rising from eaves with cornices, monumental chimneys, Dutch gables, bay-windows, balustrades and balconies, c/f: **Arts-and-Crafts**, **Edwardian**, **Federation** and **Freestyle**.

**Quoin** - **Dressed** stones or bricks used to reinforce, or decoratively distinguish, an **angle** or edge of a wall from the adjacent **masonry**. In Victorian and Edwardian architecture they are often non-structurally represented in **polychromatic** brickwork or raised render.

**Rail** - A minor horizontal structural member, eg: of a balustrade, fence, gate, door or window. It may be a top rail, intermediate rail or bottom rail.

**Railing** - An open **balustrade**.

**Rafters** - A series of inclined timber structural **members** onto which the roof **cladding** is fixed.

**Raked**

- Sloping, eg: a floor.

- Scraped out, eg: brickwork joints to about 10 mm depth.

**Reductionist** (reductive) - The analysis of complexity into its simple constituent components; the view that a system can be fully understood by the analysis of its isolated parts; or an idea expressed in simple concepts.

**Referential** - A frequent characteristic of Post-Modern architecture, in which design elements or characteristics are derived from, or relate to a source (or reference) and often clearly acknowledging its use, but are sometimes open to accusation of blatant copying.

**Regency** - The architectural style fashionable during the regency from 1810-20, of George, Prince of Wales (1762-1830) who was an important patron of architecture; but apparent in architecture from 1790-1840. It was generally Neo-Classical: refined, opulent and eclectic, influenced by the French Empire style (1800-15), evolving from the late eighteenth century Greek Revival and corresponding to the Directory styles in the USA. It included: Chinoiserie and other Orientalism, Gothick, various Medieval Revivals, **Cottage Ornée**, the **Picturesque**, **Italianate**, the archaeological Antique including from Pompeii, and the scenic urban designs of John Nash. It produced particularly fine interiors and the **villa**, detached or semi-detached, was a characteristic building type, with stucco and plaster finishes, **bow** windows, balconies and balconettes. In Australia, Regency is simplified due to more limited resources, occurring particularly in New South Wales and Tasmania and often known as the Colonial style.

**Relief** - A method of shallow three-dimensional modelling, stamping, or carving of a surface; or sculpture, where the image projects from the surface to some extent.

**Relieving arches** - Arches built within a masonry wall, flush with the surface, over a lintel to reduce its load, by deflecting it to the sides; or merely to reinforce the wall and not over an opening.

**Render** - In Australia, a cement, composition, or lime coating, applied to external walls and often formed into decorative mouldings.

**Renaissance, The** - The architectural period deriving from Florence and elsewhere in Italy from 1420 until the mid-sixteenth century, characterized by a return to the antique Classical architectural language and to humanism, with advancing technological innovation and professionalism, refer also: **Classicism**.

**ResCode** - The various regulatory provisions controlling residential development in Victoria effective from 2001, contained in Clauses 54, 55 and 56 of all Victorian planning schemes and in the Victorian Building Regulations for single houses and more than one house up to nine metres height. It is initially concerned with 14 key standards: integration with the existing urban character of the street, setbacks, height, site coverage, ground permeability, energy efficiency, trees, parking, boundary walls, daylight to existing and proposed windows, overshadowing open space, overlooking, private open space, sun to open space, design detail and front fence (**11 & 31**).

**Reticulation (reticulated)** - Divided, or visually divided, into a grid, or network.

**Return** - Continuation after a change of direction, usually at 90°, whether up, down or around a corner, eg: of a **moulding**,

**Richardsonian Romanesque** - H H Richardson (1838-86) the first American architect of incontestable genius, influenced Louis Sullivan, Frank Lloyd Wright and Walter Burley Griffin. Richardson's buildings express a ruggedly powerful interpretation of the **Romanesque** architectural style, with **rock-faced rustication**. The style was a re-casting of early French **Medieval** architecture, revived a thousand years later, but also of the **Arts-and-Crafts** and of the eclectic English architect William Burges. Griffin opened an office in Melbourne in 1914-24, and so the Chicago style came here through his direct influence, although Edward George Kilburn (1859-94) had first imported the style to Melbourne from Chicago in 1890 (**28**).

**Ridge** - The sometimes decorative uppermost point at which two intersecting planes of a roof meet.

**Rockerries and rock gardens - Rocks** have always been used in the design of Japanese and Chinese gardens, and rock gardens were popularised in Britain from the late eighteenth century, but they were developed here by William Guilfoyle from 1874-1919, Carlo Catani from 1896-1918 and then became fashionable again with Ellis 'Rocky' Stones from 1950-75, initially working with Edna Walling, then the in the 1970s bush gardens. They are useful as retaining walls, achieving changes of level, as stepping stones, providing niches for specimen plants and shelter for mosses, lichens and even bluetongue lizards (**3**).

**Rock-face** - An axe-dressed stone surface.

**Rogue gothic** - The revived use of Gothic by English architects after the eighteenth century Gothick and the mid-nineteenth century Picturesque Gothic, but outside of the purist and academic Gothic Revival, from the 1840s in the much more imaginative and colourful designs by G E Street (1824-81), William Butterfield (1814-1900), William Burges (1827-81) and S S Teulon (1812-73).

**Romanesque** - A **Medieval** architectural style, from the seventh century until the development of **Gothic** in 1140, characterized by round **arches**, groin vaults, clear bold planning and forms.

**Romantic** - One of the two principle positions in art and architecture, opposed to the **Classical** tradition; including a concern for action, or reflection on the aesthetics of a failure to act. Romanticism's

contradictions and psychological complexities can be seen as after 200 years, transmuted into the fissures and fragments of **Post-Modernism**.

**Rosette** - A circular decoration of a **stylized** floral motif.

**Roughcast - Render** with a topcoat containing gravel, 5 mm crushed stone, or pebbles.

**Ruled** - Marked with shallow horizontal grooves, or indicating **ashlar**.

**Rustication** - Strongly emphasized joints between squared stone-blocks, that is often imitated in render.

**Saline** - Salty; sodium chloride in solution.

**Sash** - The moveable glazed panel of a window, eg: **casement sash**, or **double-hung sash**.

**Scalloped** - A decorative enrichment derived from the complex lobes in the shape of a scallop shell, found in Classical and Romanesque architecture.

**Section** (or **cross section**) - The graphic representation of an imaginary transverse cut, taken vertically through a building. A horizontal section is a **floor plan**.

**Segmental (head)** - Arch formed by a segment of a circle, less than a semi-circle and often much flatter.

**Setback** - The distance from the front street boundary to the face of the front wall of a building.

**Shingles** - A flat thin rectangular timber tile used as roof or wall cladding, laid so that each tile overlaps the one below. They were common for roofs in the early **Colonial** period and in the **Edwardian, Arts-and-Crafts** and the 1930s for shingled gables and balustrades, hence the American **Shingle style** of the architects Greene and Greene. There were also **asbestos cement** roofing shingles, available c1915, eg: for Melbourne's tram shelters (**12 & 45**).

**Shiplap** - A type of lining boards, which have rectangular section grooves between them.

**Sidelights** - Fixed glass panels flanking a door, or window opening. In Victorian and Edwardian buildings, they are often coloured, or **leadlight**.

**Sill (cill)** - A horizontal timber member at the bottom of the frame, on the external face of a window or door, that sheds water. A masonry sill projects at an angle beyond the plane of the wall, below the timber sill.

**Skillion** (lean-to, or shed roof) - A roof in a single plane, with a **fall**.

**Sleep-out** - A verandah enclosed with fly-wire screens, on which to relax in fresh air and enjoy the summer evenings.

**Soffit** - The underside of any architectural element.

**Soldier course** - A series of bricks on end, usually as a coping on top of a parapet, as a lintel or as a decorative band.

**Sotoportegio** - An entrance that passes under a building into the interior or courtyard, originally in Venice.

**Spandrel** - The triangular area between the side of an arch, horizontal with its apex and vertical from its **springing**; or the triangle between two arches, in an arcade (**41**).

**Spanish Colonial Revival** - The architectural style closely related to the **Spanish Mission** style of the West and Southwest United States and also influenced by the **Arts-and-Crafts** movement. It is characterized by smooth **render** walls and chimneys, low-pitched **Cordoba** terra cotta roof tiles, small porches or balconies, round-arched arcades and **fenestration, double-hung** windows and decorative **wrought iron** trim.

**Spanish Mission** - A domestic architectural style during the 1920s and 30s characterized by a vocabulary derived from Californian or Spanish buildings that included: textured light coloured render parapets hand-tooled render walls, loggias, Cordoba tile roofs, wrought-iron decoration and arcaded grilles, balustrades and lamps with curlicues, **rendered masonry** verandahs with **barley-sugar** columns and adobe references such as projecting **joists** ().

**Spatial** - Of the perception of space is the principal characteristic of **Modernist** architecture; the in-between, the void, given shape by adjacent solids. Architectural history is 'the history of man shaping space.'

**Special Accommodation House (SAH)** - Boarding houses that provide personal care services, have been available from the early 1970s. In 1973 the Health (Special Accommodation Houses) Act established a code for the registration of these boarding houses that catered for older and handicapped residents (**23 & 47**).

**Specification** - With the drawings and the pro-forma contract, one of the three contract documents; a written description of the extent, workmanship and materials required by the building contract.

**Spindle** - A small circular section rod, with **turned** decoration in the form of round grooves, or moulds and with tapered ends.

**Splay** - A slope across the full width of a surface, often at 45°; a large **chamfer**, c/f: **canted**.

**Springing** - The lowest point of an **arch**; the face of its bearing on the **abutment**.

**Squatting rights** - The first Act to restrain unauthorised occupation of Crown Lands, the *Squatting Act 1836* authorised issue of depasturing licences on vacant Crown land outside the limits of settlement and penalties for illegal land occupation. The first squatters' licences were granted in 1838, either for annually renewable tenure or guaranteed long-term tenure, neither of which gave right to purchase. After 1838 the occupiers of these pastoral runs in the Port Phillip District had to obtain an annual licence based on a stock assessment. Under the provisions of 1847 Orders in Council everyone occupying licensed runs had to lodge applications for leases and the pre-emptive rights of the squatters were thus recognised. Pre-emptive rights to homestead sections were secured to all licensed tenants (**40**).

**Steel** - An alloy of carbon, iron, or small quantities other metals, that is malleable from ingot form. Its properties vary according to its composition, type of heat treatment and mechanical working, but include: strength, hardness, durability, abrasion resistance and corrosion resistance. It can be welded and machined.

**Stop** - Anything against which a **moulding** terminates, such as a projecting stone, or wood block.

**Stop-chamfer** - The decorative transition form a **chamfer** and a square **arris**.

**Streamlined Moderne** - With smooth white render, steel windows, shiny dark Manganese bricks and nautical touches like round corners and portholes, cantilevered slabs, flat roofs and **parapets**, with **stylised** and geometric **Art Deco** decorative elements (**16 & 42**), also refer: **Moderne**.

**Street furniture** - Includes lamp standards, bollards, waste bins, planters and seating.

**Street-line** - A line joining the front face of buildings along a street.

**Streetscape** - The architectural characteristics of a sequence of buildings along a street and their relationship to each other.

**Stringcourse** - A horizontal band of masonry, or render, extending across the façade, usually at floor level, or at the springing point of the openings in the wall. It may be plain, or ornamented.

**Stripped Classical** - An architectural style within the Classical language in which all 'unnecessary' ornamentation has been deleted, rendering its **scale** ambiguous. Designers include: Étienne-Louis Boullée (1728-99), Claude-Nicolas Ledoux (1736-1806), Albert Speer (1905-81), Leon Kreir (b1938), Robert A M Stern (b1939); and some late works of Francesco Borromini (1599-1667), Nicholas Hawksmoor (1661-1736) and Sir John Soane (1753-1837). It was a common, often commercial style in 1920s and 30s Melbourne.

**Stud** - A vertical structural member in series (usually F5 pinus radiata, steel, or aluminium), usually 95 x 45 mm in a stud framed construction, fixed between top and bottom plates and braced.

**Stylized** - A simplified, or exaggerated visual form, which emphasizes particular, or contrived design qualities; conventionalised.

**Tapestry (bricks)** - Mottled biscuit-coloured glazed decorative bricks, with embossed, curved, or combed patterns, popular in the 1930s and 40s.

**Tenement** - In Scotland, a block of purpose-built apartments, sometimes occupied by the one family, usually in Glasgow or Edinburgh.

**Terraced houses** - An urban row of attached houses, divided by fire-rated walls and **parapets**.

**Terra-cotta** - Unglazed, slow-fired pottery produced from a fine clay, usually of a reddish colour and used to make wall decorations, chimney pots and roofing tiles, commonly of the **Edwardian** period. Later, it was usually glazed.

**Terrazzo** - A smooth hard surface of marble chippings, mixed with coloured cement, laid in-situ 20 mm thick on fresh concrete and made smooth by grinding twice followed by careful washing. Generally used as a decorative and durable pavement.

**Tie-beam** - A **tensile structural member** holding together two other structural members, eg: the lower ends of a pair of **rafters**.

**Tile-hanging** - Flat usually unglazed terra cotta roofing tiles fixed to an external wall as a **cladding** material; a characteristic of the **Arts-and-Crafts** architectural style and a domestic **vernacular** material in Kent, England.

**Timbering** - refer: **half-timbering**.

**Tooled** - A material worked to a shape, or finish, eg: stone.

**Townscape** - The architectural characteristics of a group of buildings and other elements, of the spaces between them and of their relationship to each other.

**Tracery** - The ornamental, intersecting, linear pattern in the upper part of a **Gothic** window, screen, panel or vaulting.

**Transitional** - Architecture incorporating characteristics from two successive periods, eg: the late 1890s between **Victorian** and **Edwardian**.

**Transom** - A horizontal member across an opening or panel, generally not load-bearing, eg: a lintel below a verandah **valance**, c/f: **bressummer**.

**Trefoil** - A window or a decorative figure, with tracery incorporating three **circumscribed** sequential circular (or leaf-shaped) **lobes**, between cusps; also: quatrefoil, cinquefoil and multifoil.

**Triple window** - A window vertically divided into three equal sashes, or panes.

**Tripartite window** - A window vertically divided into three unequal sashes or panes. Generally in **Victorian double-hung sash** windows, the fixed outer panels are about one third the width of the central openable panel.

**Tuckpointing** - A method of finishing joints in **face**-brickwork, with mortar coloured to match the bricks, on which a lime-putty bead is run to form a crisp white delineation of the bonding; a common finishing treatment of Victorian polychromatic brickwork and the red bricks of **Edwardian** architecture.

**Turned timber** - Shaped by the application of a blade while revolving on a lathe, to produce a **spindle** with decorated circular pattern, used for **Edwardian** columns, **balusters** and **finials**.

**Tuscan** - A Roman order derived from Etruscan Temples, similar to **Doric**, but more utilitarian, with a squat shaft without ornamentation or **fluting**, associated with simple rural buildings, fortifications, prisons or institutions; but also 1920s and 30s houses.

**Undifferentiated** - The absence of a constituted difference (between); not having been made different in its growth process, or development; not having been discriminated between.

**Uniform Building Regulations, Victoria** - In 1940 the first centrally controlled Uniform Building Regulations were established in Victoria under the Local Government Act 1928. Before this each municipality could make its own by-laws to regulate building. A written permit had to then be obtained from the Council and a fee paid. They were superseded in c1980s by the *Victorian Building Regulations*. A number of agencies to control building were established in Victoria by the Building Act 1993 derived from the national Model Building Act. The current Australia-wide performance-based **Building Code of Australia (BCA)** was published in 1996.

**Urban grain** - The character, density, bulk, pattern and configuration of streets and buildings in a city, as if viewed from above.

**Urbanity** - The refined courtesy, elegance and polished manners of urban life.

**Valance** (valance) - A fringe, usually for verandahs; if **Victorian**, of cast-iron lace; or if **Federation**, timber fretwork between the posts.

**Vault** - An arched masonry structural ceiling able to be entirely in compression; sometimes imitated in timber, or plaster; first exploited by the ancient Romans.

**Vent** - An aperture to enable ingress of fresh air to interiors. Types: include sub-floor, wall, roof and **Kemp & Sheehan**.

**Vermiculation** - A decorative treatment of stone, render, or acoustic ceilings, with regular shallow channels, creating worm-like tracks.

### **Vernacular**

- Ordinary buildings, not designed by an identifiable architect, without architectural pretension.

- The traditional buildings of a local culture, their form, construction system, details and craft techniques handed down from generation to generation.

**Victorian** - The architectural period during the reign of Queen Victoria, 1837-1901. In Victoria, generally the period up until the economic Depression of 1892; early Victorian is 1837-c1860, mid-Victorian c1859-c1875 and late-Victorian, c1875-1892.

**Village green** - A common public area of grassy land, typically at the centre of an English village.

**Vitrolite** - An opaque pigmented structural glass in different colours including black, used in buildings 1920s-50s. It was chic, sleek and stylish and promoted as easy to clean, but is no longer manufactured (16).

**Volute** - A spiral scrolling form, the basis of **Ionic** capitals; also of Classical **consoles** and brackets.

**Vousoir** - A trapezoidal shaped block in an arch; laid in compression and culminating in a **keystone**.

**Voyseyan** - Various architectural details, particularly chimneys or parapets common in 1920s-30s Melbourne, influenced by the English Arts-and-Crafts architect Charles F Anesley Voysey (1857-1941) who generally designed houses and one commercial building from 1890-1915, which were plain, generally without historicist illusions and were tremendously influential. They have pebbledash or **roughcast renders**, serried **easement** windows, **plate**-top chimneys with pots and wavy top **parapets** with projecting plate-topped **piers** and some subtly Chinese characteristics.

**Wall-cladding** - The non-structural covering on a building's exterior, fixed to its structural frame.

**Wavescroll** - An undulating continuous scroll pattern, or a series of wavelike scrolls, used as a **frieze**, stringcourse or banding in Classical architecture, late Victorian fretwork barges and as marine decoration in Art Deco and Moderne.

**Weatherboards** - Horizontal boards fixed as external wall cladding, usually on stud-framed buildings. They have overlapping and feathered with the thin edge upwards; the visible leading edge is generally round, though early weatherboards were square-edged.

**Widow's walk** - A balustraded deck set on a roof ridge to obtain a view, originally of the sea.

**Window-wall** - A very popular timber modular **fenestration** system designed by Robin Boyd and developed by Stegbar in the 1960s, with top-hung sashes over a chain-rail, versions of which are still available.

**Wing** - A long part of a building, projecting from and usually subsidiary to, the main building, *c/f*: **pavilion**.

**Wing-walls** - Walls extending out from the line of the front of a building, often dividing individual houses in terrace rows and sometimes decorated.

**Working drawings** - Precise and complete architectural drawings with full dimensions and descriptive notes. With the pro-forma contract and the **specification**, they comprise the building contract documents; they define what the building permit was issued for, what is priced in a tender and what must be built on site. They include: site and floor plans, **elevations**, **sections** and details.

**Woven wire mesh** - Open-weave fabric, formed from intertwined wire strands in continuous regular pattern; particularly used for fences in Australia from 1900.

**Wrightian** - In the domestic architectural style of Frank Lloyd Wright (1869-1959), characterised by: the Prairie houses with low spreading hipped roofs, a solid fireplace and chimney core, integral original prismatic geometrical decoration, rooms flowing into each other, natural materials influenced by Arts-and-

Crafts design, battered walls, the garden merging into the house and structure and services incorporated into the design. It may also imply his personal manner of arrogance, egomania and master-servant relationship with staff and clients alike. This attitude was promoted in the film *The Fountainhead* (1949) directed by King Vidor, starring Gary Cooper, based on the novel and with screenplay by Ayn Rand, in which an uncompromising, visionary architect struggles to maintain his integrity and individualism despite personal, professional and economic pressures to conform to petty popular standards.

**Wrought iron** - Almost pure iron; soft, malleable, tough, fatigue-resistant and easily worked. It may be worked into shape mechanically by forging, bending, rolling or drawing, but is no longer manufactured.

**Wunderlich pressed metal ceilings** - From 1893, used for interior ceilings, cornices and the linings beneath shop verandah canopies; initially formed in *repousse* zinc and later sheet steel. The **roughcast** pattern is convincingly difficult to discern from the real thing. More correctly: 'stamped-metal ceilings' (36).

A map locating each of the buildings

The chapters are listed 1-48 in order of a walking and riding or driving tour  
It is suggested that buildings 1-21 are visited on foot and 22-48 by bike or car

Map © Melway Publishing 2002  
Reproduced from Melway Edition 30 with permission  
Graphic Design by Sakhi

*(replace by map)*