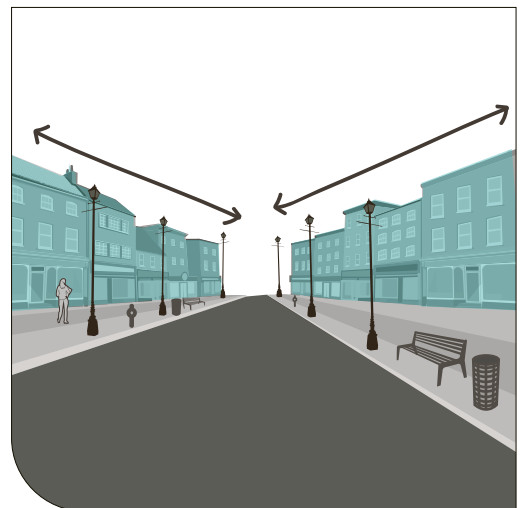
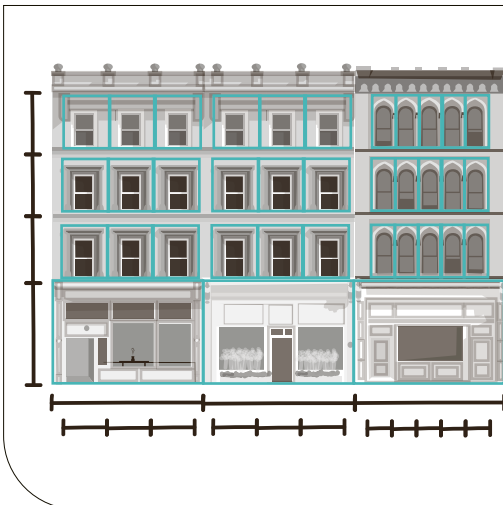
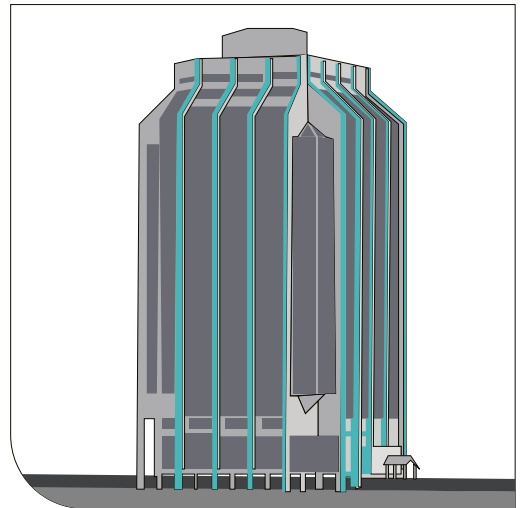
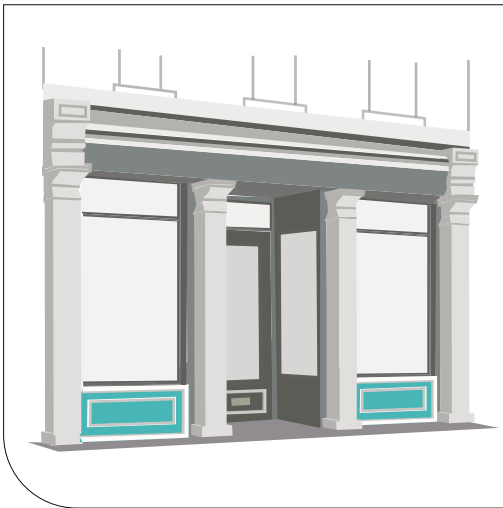


Cogswell

A VISUAL GUIDE to Urban Design Terms



This document is intended help clarify and demonstrate the design elements that could be incorporated into buildings in the Cogswell District.

Part 1: Glossary

These definitions and images put visuals to the forms and features described in planning documents and which could be present in Cogswell.

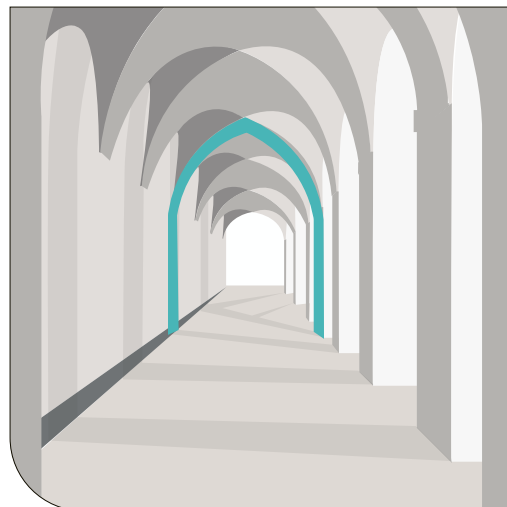
Part 2: Examples

This section includes a collection of images of structures and environments. These do not represent what we would necessarily require of our buildings, but are meant to be inspirational, and foster creativity in thinking about what might be possible in Cogswell.

PART 1: GLOSSARY

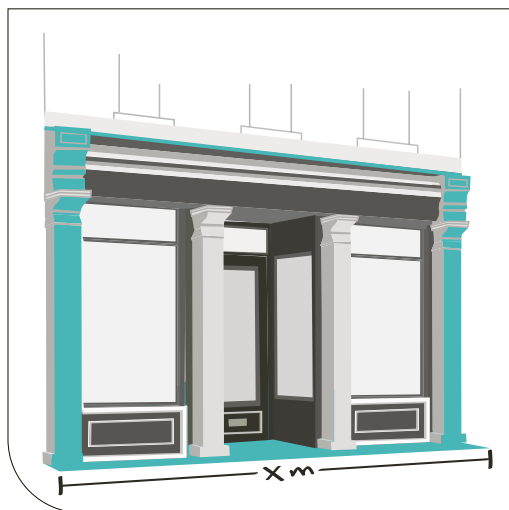
ARCADE

A structure characterized by a central covered passageway with the roof supported by a series of arches on piers or columns. Arcades provide refuge for pedestrians from uncomfortable climate conditions.



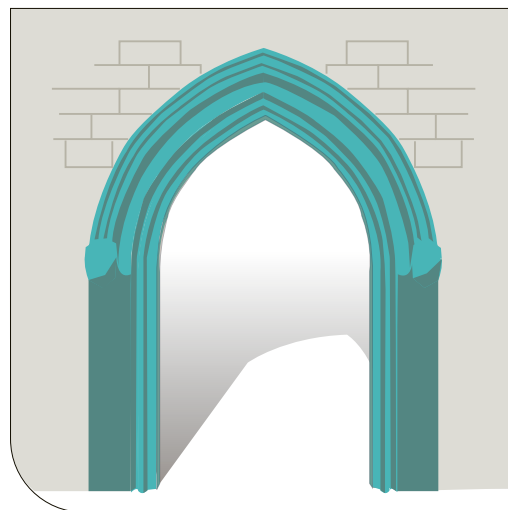
ARCHITECTURAL BAY

A section of a building distinguished by vertical elements such as columns or pillars.



ARCHWAY

A curved structure forming a passageway or entrance beneath.



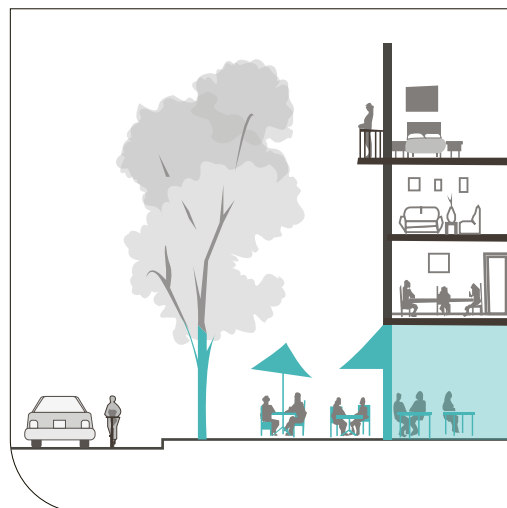
ARTICULATION

The division of a building façade into distinct sections; the materials, patterns, textures, and colors that add visual interest to a building or façade.



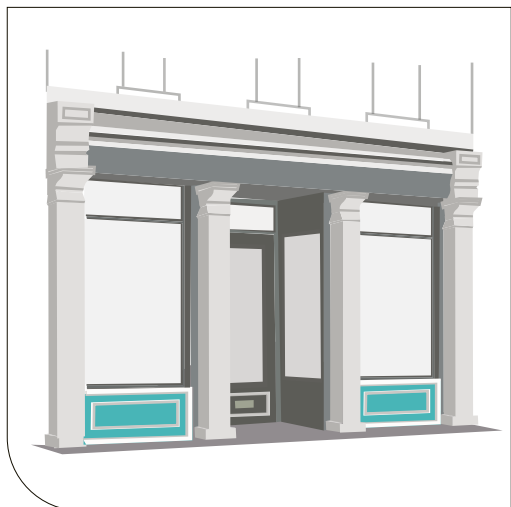
AT-GRADE

Used to express that a feature and a public right of way meet at the same elevation. Things that happen on the ground. A street café is at-grade.



AWNING

An overhead shelter extending from a building front, over a doorway, deck or window(s). Awnings are made of flexible material such as canvas, and provide protection from the sun or rain.

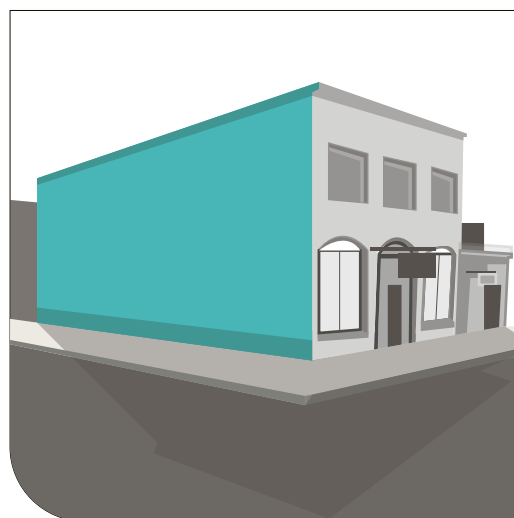


BASE PANEL

A plain rectangular surface surrounded by moulding, covering the lower portions of a vertical wall.

BLANK WALL

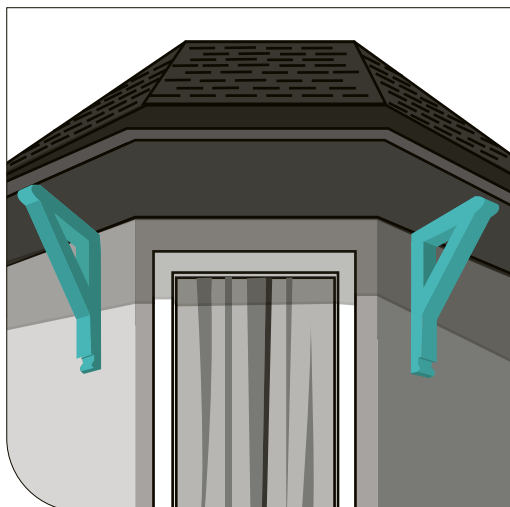
A flat wall without openings or design and architectural embellishments (mural, public art, detailing, ornamentation, expression of internal floor or ceiling lines, etc.).



BLOCK PATTERN

The shape and arrangement of blocks and surrounding streets, such as a grid pattern with regularly sized, rectangular blocks. These features set street views, define the flow of activity through an area, and create the basic format on which building arrangements can be organized.





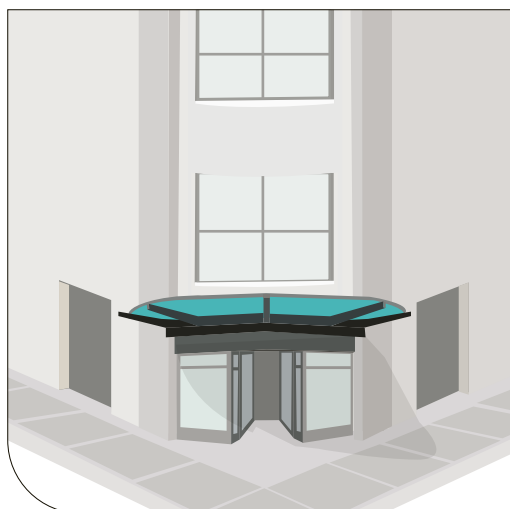
BRACKETS

Angled supports that help to transfer the load of a horizontal structural member to a vertical one. Similarly, brackets are often also used decoratively in the corner of an opening or below a projection.



BUILDING PROJECTION

The extension of an architectural feature beyond the façade into the public realm.

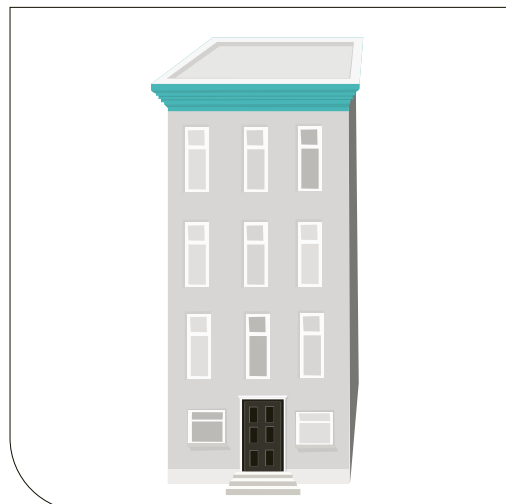


CANOPY

A projecting roof structure that shelters an entrance to a building typically made of glass or steel and is self supported.

CORNICE

The projecting mouldings forming the top band of an architectural element such as a wall, or entablature.



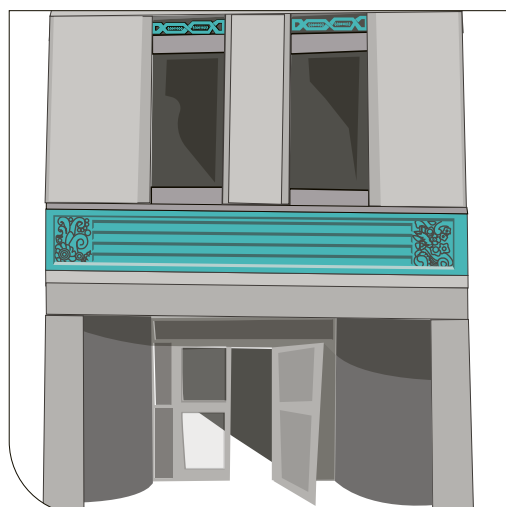
CORNICE LINE

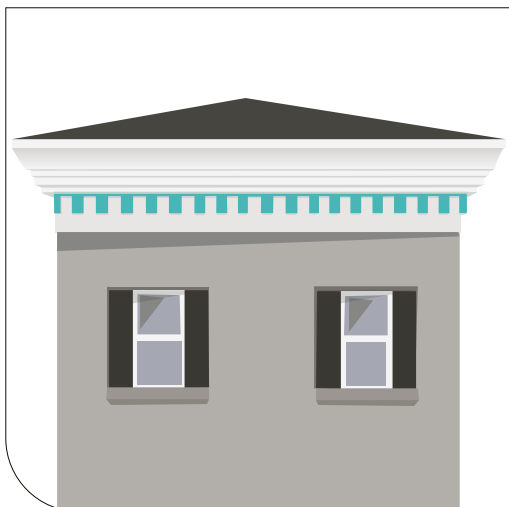
The continuous row formed by cornices on buildings of similar height.



DECORATIVE BAND

A linear ornamental strip on a building or component architectural feature.





DENTIL

Small decorative blocks that alternate with a blank space. They are typically rectangular, resembling teeth, and are surrounded by mouldings above and below.



DESIGN LINES

These are the main composition lines that help define the scale, rhythm, and disposition of building elements such as doors, windows and cornices. A new building for example, can integrate with an older building by following similar design lines.

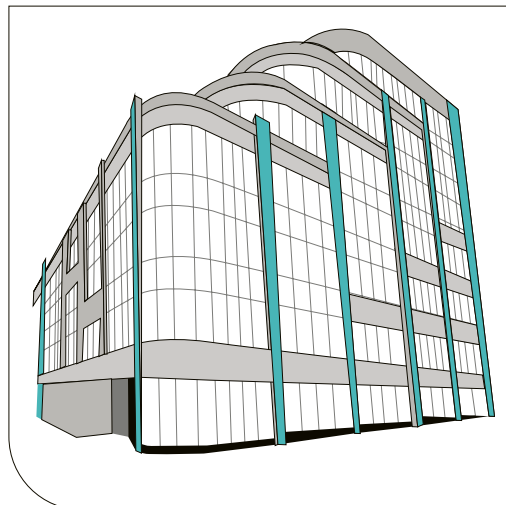


DIVISION, HORIZONTAL

A horizontal architectural feature which distinguishes portions of a building surface from one another along the vertical plane.

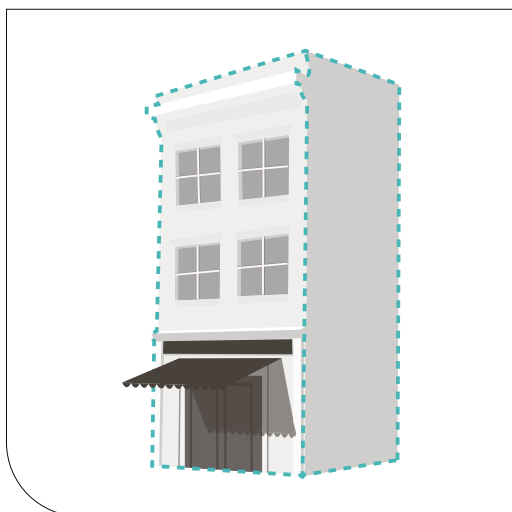
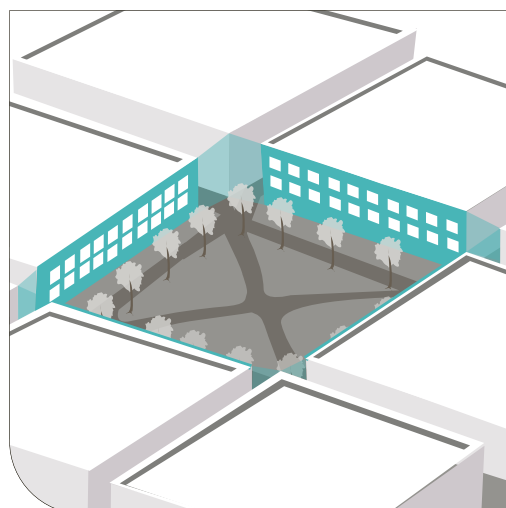
DIVISION, VERTICAL

Architectural features which stand vertically and break up spaces along the horizontal axis (plane).



ENCLOSURE

The use of buildings to create a sense of defined space.

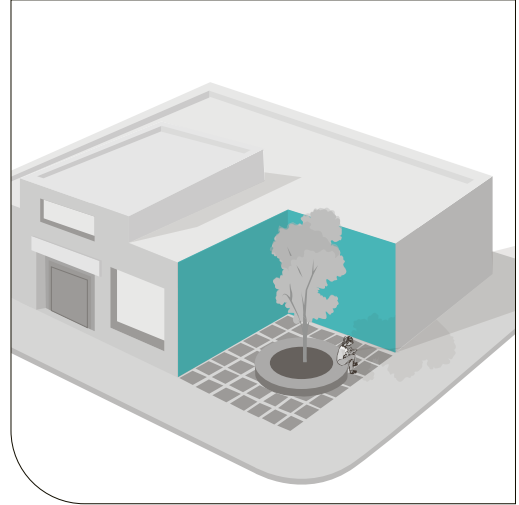


ENVELOPE

The physical outer layer of a building.

ERODED CORNER

The corner edge of a building is moved inward towards the centre of the building in order to create a void for public space



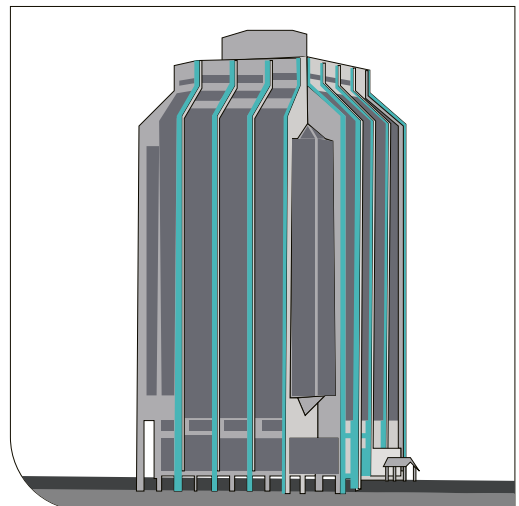
EXPRESSION OF FLOOR LINES

A line, or series of short lines, on a wall, establishing the level of the finished floor.



EXPRESSION OF STRUCTURAL BAYS

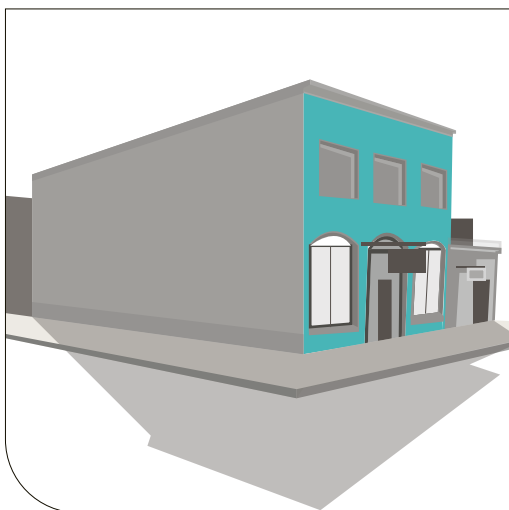
Aesthetic feature on the exterior of a building that indicates the form of structural bays.





FENESTRATION PATTERN

The arrangement of windows within a building façade.

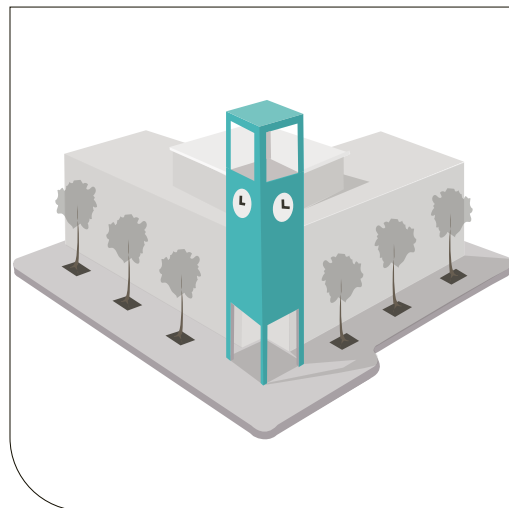


FRONTAGE

The portion of a property adjoining a public right of way, that is, the portion facing a road, waterway, walkway etc.

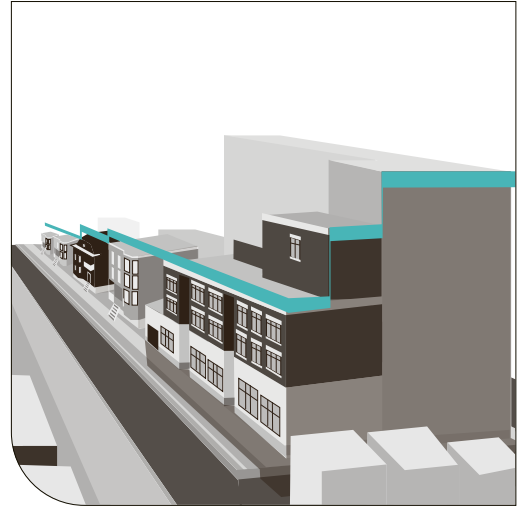
GATEWAY TREATMENT

A design feature intended to signify entrance to a distinct area, usually in places where a new character or sense of identity should be recognized. Achieved through details of the built form, or through landscaping.



HEIGHT TRANSITION

The tapering of building heights as a way of achieving compatibility of built forms and mitigating impacts of shifts from areas of one character (i.e. low-rise) to another (i.e. high-rise).



HUMAN SCALE

A quality of built form created by the size and proportion of parts of a building or its details, that relates in a positive way to the visual and physical experience of a pedestrian.

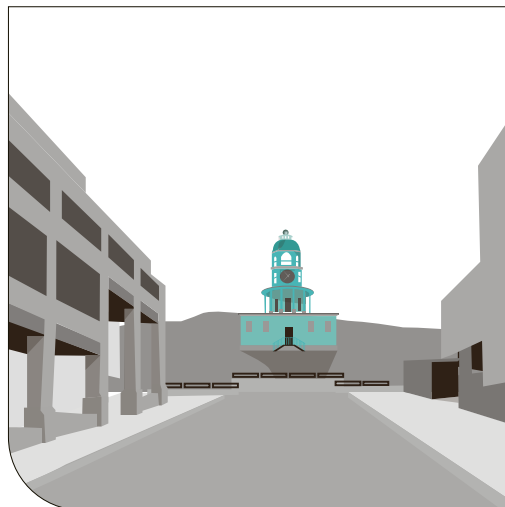
INTERFACE

The threshold between two elements of the built environment. (eg: where a side walk meets a building).



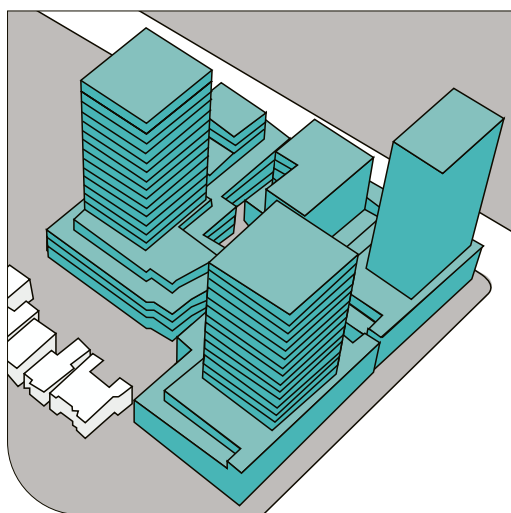
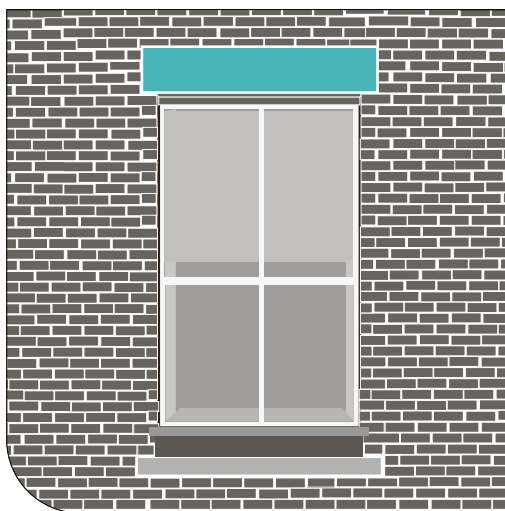
LANDMARK

A building or structure that stands out from its background by virtue of height, size or some other aspect of design.



LINTEL

Horizontal wood or stone beam over an opening, such as a window or door.



MASSING

The combined effect of the height and bulk of a building or group of buildings.



MIXED USE

A mix of uses within a building, on a site or within a particular area, possibly including employment, residential, commercial, live/work, or retail.

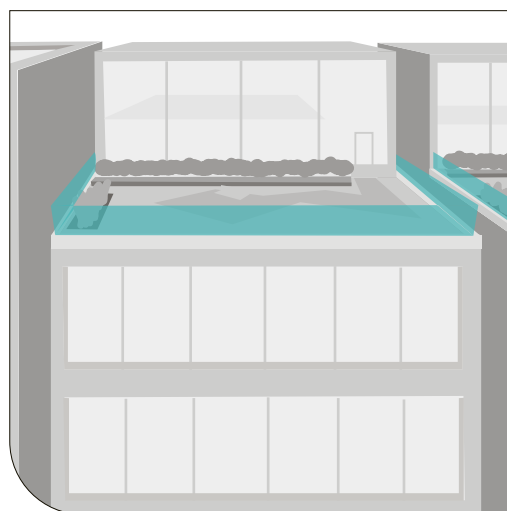


MOULDING

A linear ridge which can have a variety of geometric profiles used to cover transitions between surfaces, or for decoration on the outside of a structure. It is traditionally made from solid milled wood or plaster, but may be made from plastic or reformed wood. In classical architecture and sculpture, the molding is often carved in marble or other stones.

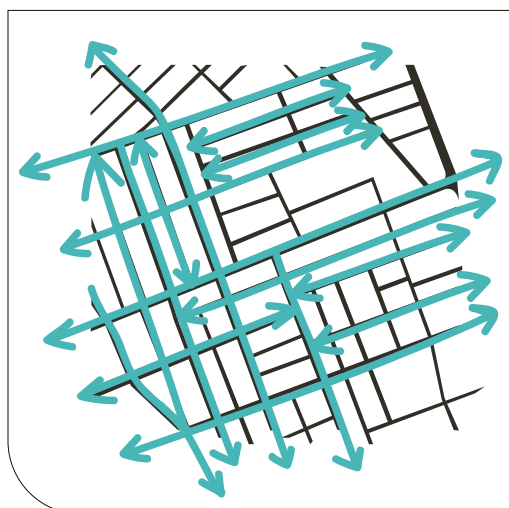
PARAPET

A low vertical barrier or wall projecting above a roof surface, which is an extension of the wall. It may be physically continuous, and consistent in material with the wall, but may also be a different material. Its purpose may be purely decorative, or it can serve as a guard rail or to prevent the spread of fires.



PEDESTRIAN-ORIENTED

The characteristics of an area where the location and access to buildings, types of uses permitted on the street level, and storefront design are based on the needs of persons on foot.



PERMEABILITY

Permeability or connectivity describes the extent to which urban forms permit (or restrict) movement of people or vehicles in different directions.

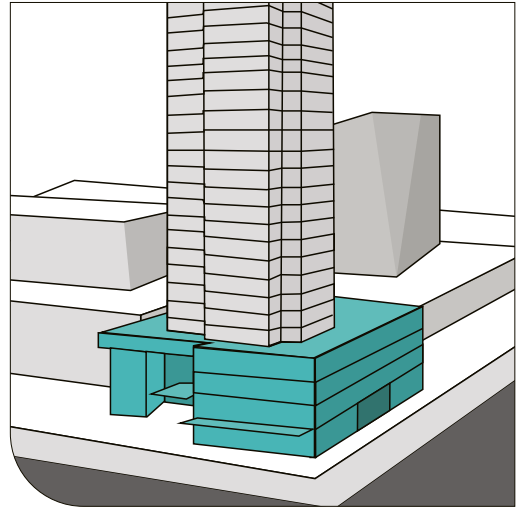


PILASTERS

A design feature which gives the appearance of a column, which can bear structural weight or may only have an ornamental function.

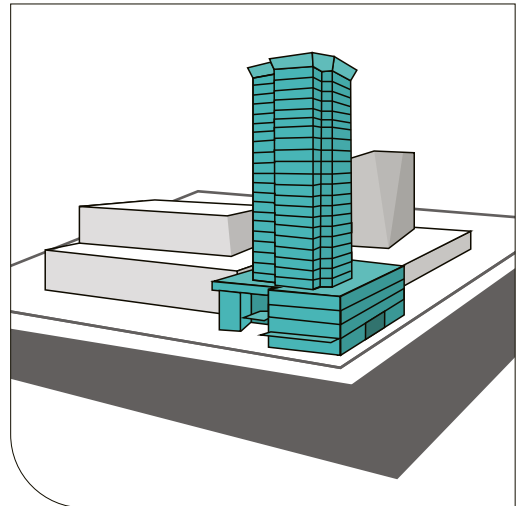
PODIUM

A pedestal forming a low wall that supports a row of columns, a building, or monument.



POINT TOWER

High rise building with a slender profile tower and small floor plates.



PORTICO

An open space lined with columns, and covered by a roof, serving as a porch or transition space before the entrance to a building.



PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

Space freely accessible by the public, for formal and informal, active or passive recreation.



PUBLIC REALM

The parts of an urban place whether publicly or privately owned that are available for everyone to see, use and enjoy e.g. streets, squares and parks. Commonly referred to as “public domain” and “public space”.

PUNCHED WINDOW OPENINGS

A defined opening surrounded by solid materials and a boarder, as opposed to being arranged in long, continuous vertical or horizontal strips.



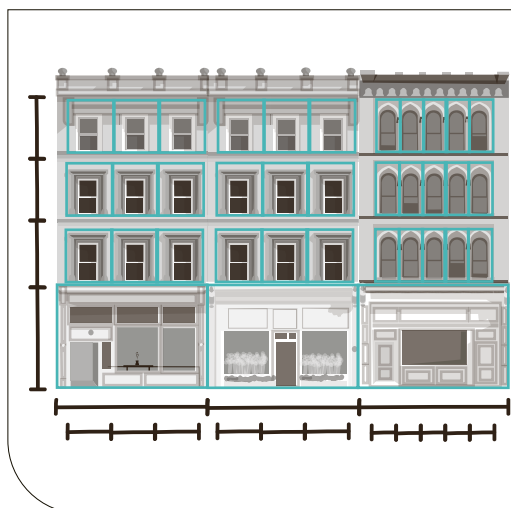
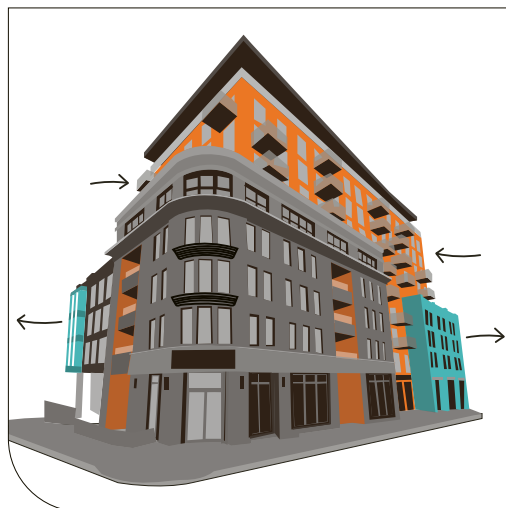
PUNCTUATION

An architectural and urban design practice which introduce diversity to streetscapes, interrupting monotonous or continuous frontages, in order to create interest.



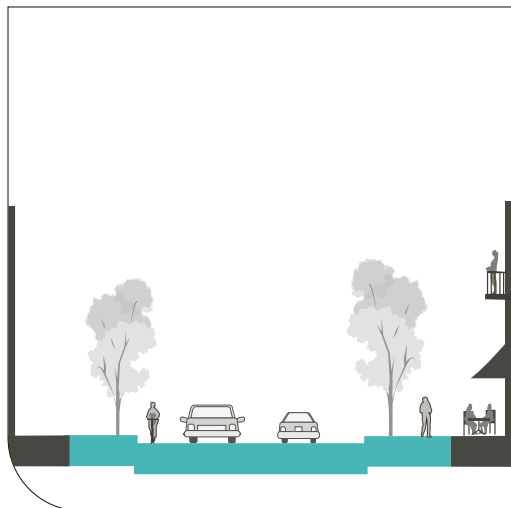
RECESSIONS AND PROJECTIONS

Architectural components on a facade of a structure which extend beyond the building footprint, or extend inwards from the building footprint to the interior space of the structure. Can be vertical or horizontal.



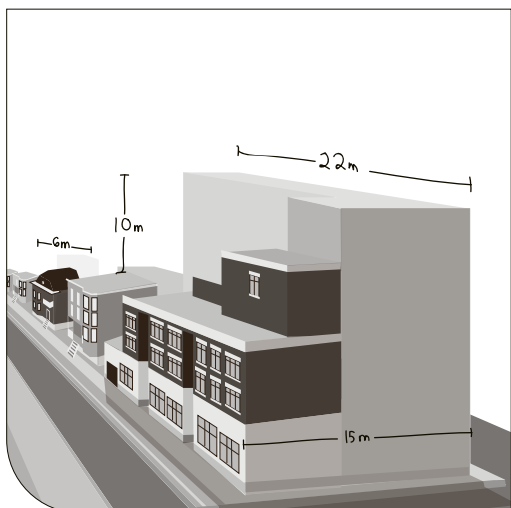
RHYTHM

The recurrence of design elements along building faces at regular intervals that help structure their visual character and definition. This occurs and is used at a variety of scales and along both horizontal and vertical axes.



RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW)

The publicly owned space between buildings, including what is above and below the surface. It is legally established for the use of pedestrians, vehicles, or utilities.

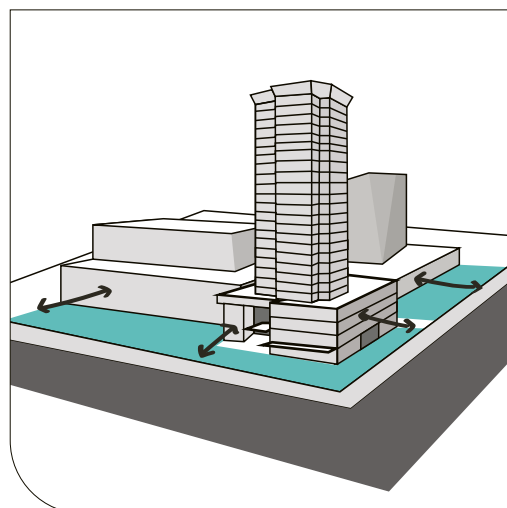


SCALE

The proportions of the elements of a building to one another and the whole, and also to adjacent buildings.

SETBACK

The distance from the property line to the nearest part of the associated building or structure, measured perpendicular to the property line. Setbacks impact the feel of the street.



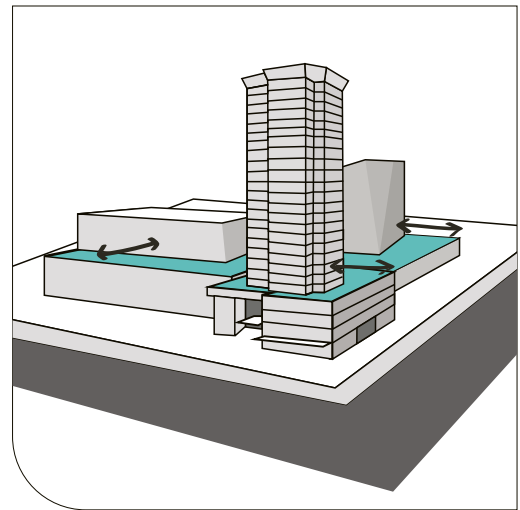
SIGN BAND (SIGNBAND)

The flat, horizontal area on the façade usually located immediately above the storefront and below the second story window sill where signs were historically attached.



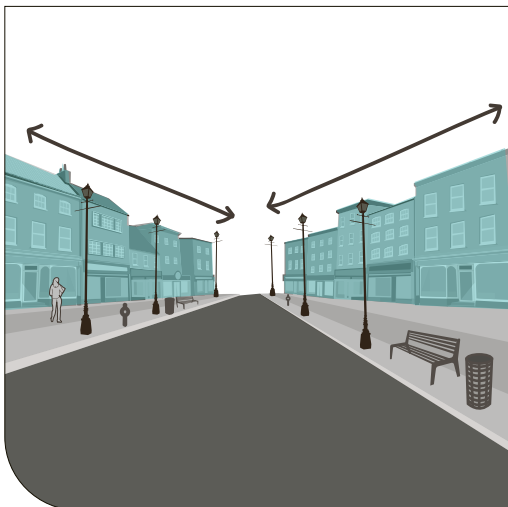
STEPBACK

A built form typology that involves recessing taller elements of a building in order to ensure an appropriate built form presence on the street edge. This is achieved by creating a distinct podium or base to a building.



STREETSCAPE

The environment, identity, and functionality, along a right-of-way created by buildings and uses, street furnishings, landscaping, pavement treatments, etc.

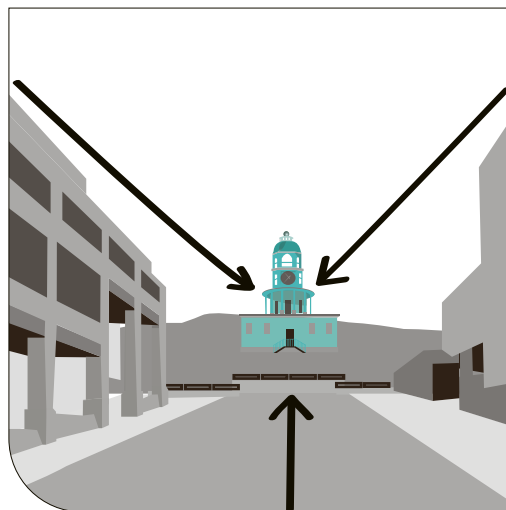


STREETWALL

The form established by buildings consistently fronting the edge of a street. Best achieved where buildings have consistent setbacks built out to the sidewalk.

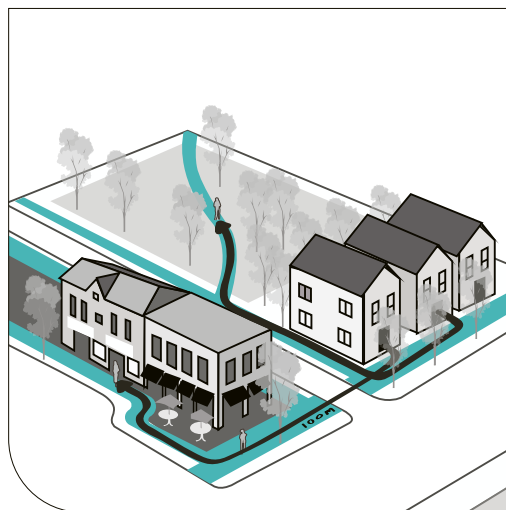
VISUAL TERMINUS

The end point of a view corridor. Often accentuated through high quality design elements.



WALKABLE

Refers to a single route, or a system of routes, between points that is relatively short, barrier free, interesting, safe, well-lit, comfortable and inviting to pedestrian travel.



PART 2: EXAMPLES















