

# West Virginia Historic Preservation Office

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## Scavenger Hunt!

See how many of these architectural features you can find in your town or neighborhood and then write down where you found them. For an added challenge, try to find as many as you can.

1. **Dormer Window**—A window that comes out of the slope of the roof. Dormer windows come in different shapes and sizes, but most have their own roofs.

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2. **Bay Window** – A window or series of windows that projects out of the wall in a semi-circle or polygonal shape.

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3. **Pediment** – A triangular gable on a building. Sometimes a smaller pediment can be seen as decoration above doors, windows, or porches. The interior part of pediment is called the tympanum.

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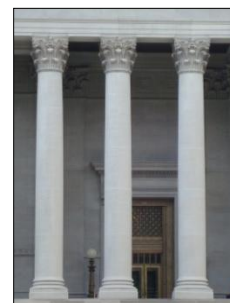


4. **Column** – A circular support on a building, it can also be called a pillar. The top is called the capital, the middle is the shaft, and the base is the bottom part of the column. There are three types of capitals: Doric (plain), Ionic (scroll-like), Corinthian (leaf-like).

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Doric



Ionic



Corinthian

5. **Pilaster** – A rectangular column attached to the wall.

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6. **Bracket** - A support underneath an eave or overhang on a building. May be decorative or simple.

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7. **Arch** - A curved or sometimes pointed opening. A series of arches is called an arcade.

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8. **Palladian Window** – A large window divided into three parts: a center window that is arched at the top and two side windows that are smaller and rectangular.

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9. **Balustrade** – A series of short pillars or posts that support a handrail or top rail. They often can be found on staircases, balconies, porches, or as a decorative feature on the top of buildings.

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10. **Dentils** - Small square blocks found in a series on many cornices (the trim where roof and wall meet) or moldings (trim inside a house near the ceiling).

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11. **Modillions** – Larger than dentils, these are rectangular blocks or brackets often below an overhang or eave.

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12. **Gabled Roof** – A roof with a one slope on each side meeting in a ridge. The gable can face the front or the side of the building and looks like a triangle.

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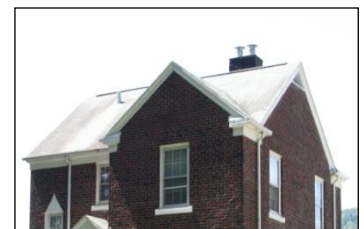


13. **Cross-Gable Roof** – A gabled roof with a second gable perpendicular to the first one.

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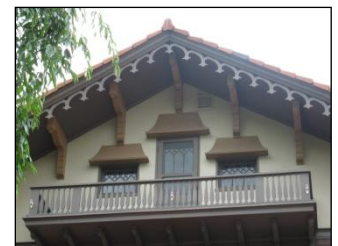


14. **Verge Board** – A decorative board that hangs on the inside edge of a gabled roof.

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15. **Hipped/ Pyramidal Roof** – On a hipped roof all sides slope upward and meet at a pointed ridge. A pyramidal roof is a hipped roof on a square building where the four sides meet at a point or short ridge.

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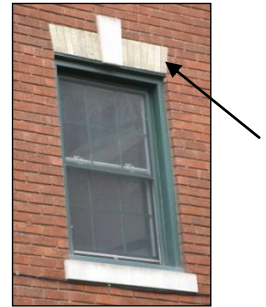


16. **Lintel** – A horizontal beam or decoration that goes across the top of an opening like a window. A keystone lintel (at right) is very common type.

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17. **Half-Timbering** – Type of construction where the wooden timbers can be seen on the outside and are filled with some type of material. False half-timbering is common with bricks or stucco filling in between the wood.

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18. **Quoins** – Flat stones on the outside corner of a building for decorative purposes. They can sometimes also be imitated in brick.

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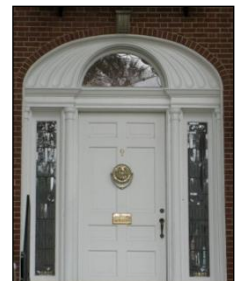


19 -20. **Fanlight and Sidelights** – A fanlight is a semi-circular or elliptical window over a door. A sidelight is a tall narrow window on either side of a door.

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The photographs used in this activity were taken in the East End Historic District in Charleston, West Virginia and at West Virginia State University in Institute, West Virginia. Photographer: Elizabeth McMullen, July 2011.

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