Architecture Alphabet

A Saanich Heritage
Colouring Book

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This colouring book is a collaborative project of the District of Saanich Arts, Culture, and Heritage Advisory Committee (ACH) and the Saanich Heritage Foundation (SHF). We're grateful to the volunteers who helped make it a reality!

A special thank you to Councillor Natalie Chambers for championing this project; and to Charlotte Clar, Veronica McEllister, Catherine MacKinnon, Sarah Anderson, and Sonia Nicholson for their work on putting together the text and preparing the photographs.

All images in this book are conversions of archival photos from Saanich Archives and are used with permission. We're grateful for the support of Saanich Archives staff. Architectural feature definitions were compiled from the Saanich Heritage Register, Merriam Webster Dictionary, Canadian Oxford Dictionary, and the Vancouver Heritage Foundation.

The Saanich Heritage Colouring book is for residents of all ages! We hope you'll enjoy reading it and filling it in as much as we enjoyed making it.

A is for Ashlar

Ashlar is building stone cut into square or rectangular blocks and may be laid in random or regular courses. Faces of the blocks may vary from roughly hewn to smoothly finished or marked with vertical incisions.

Example in Saanich: Jersey Hall, later Thrums, 1775 Barrie Road (designated) - the foundation level, front wall and garage utilized granite quarried from the property, which was dressed by George Watson as random-cut ashlar and laid with red mortar pointing.

B is for Baluster

A baluster is one of a row of vertical members supporting a handrail or supporting a protective capping on a parapet: such a row comprises a balustrade.

Example in Saanich: Humphries Residence, 990 Darwin Avenue (designated) - wrapped around the verandah are square balusters.

C is for Cupola

A cupola is a small, domed circular or polygonal rooftop structure that can be used to allow for ventilation and light to the interior of a building.

Example in Saanich: Old Saanich Municipal Hall, 4512 West Saanich Road (designated) - there used to be a cupola on the building as seen in this image from 1911.

D is for Drop Finial

A drop finial is an ornamental feature placed below the apex of a gable.

Example in Saanich: Rock View, 1084 Marigold Road - the broad cross-gabled roof, with wide bargeboards and drop finials, is a dominant feature of the house.

E is for Eyebrow Dormer

An eyebrow dormer is a slightly arched projection from a roofline rising just enough to allow for a small window.

Example in Saanich: Bay Breeze Manor, 3930 Telegraph Bay Road (designated) - there is an eyebrow dormer on the roof above the verandah.

F is for Frieze

A frieze is a decorative horizontal band.

Example in Saanich: St. Michael and All Angels' Anglican Church, 4733 West Saanich Road - there is an unusual frieze beneath the edges of the steeply-pitched gabled roof.
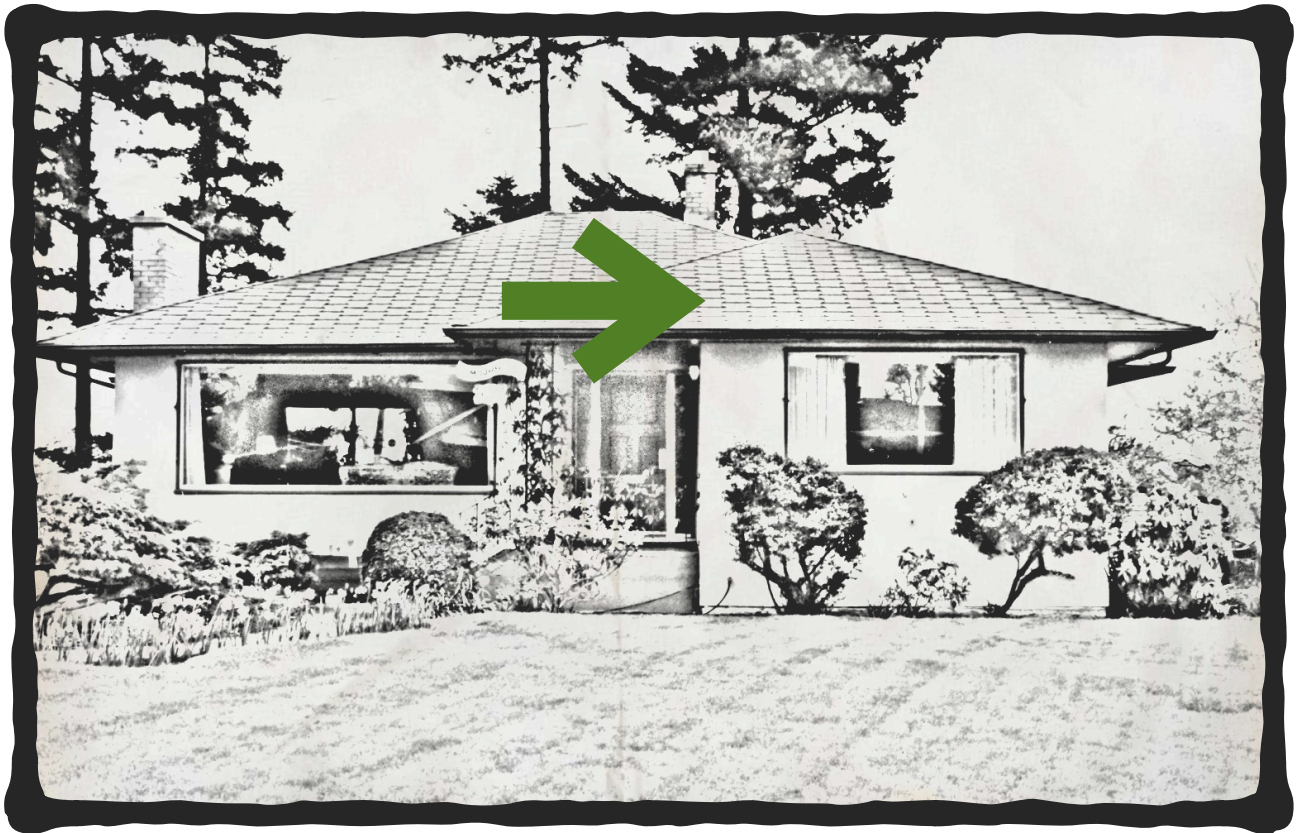
G is for Gabled Roof

A gabled roof has a peak formed with a single slope on either side of the ridge.

Example in Saanich: St. Martin-in-the-Fields Anglican Church, 550 Obed Avenue (designated) - the church features a steeply-pitched side-gabled roof, and is clad in stucco trimmed with dark half-timbering.
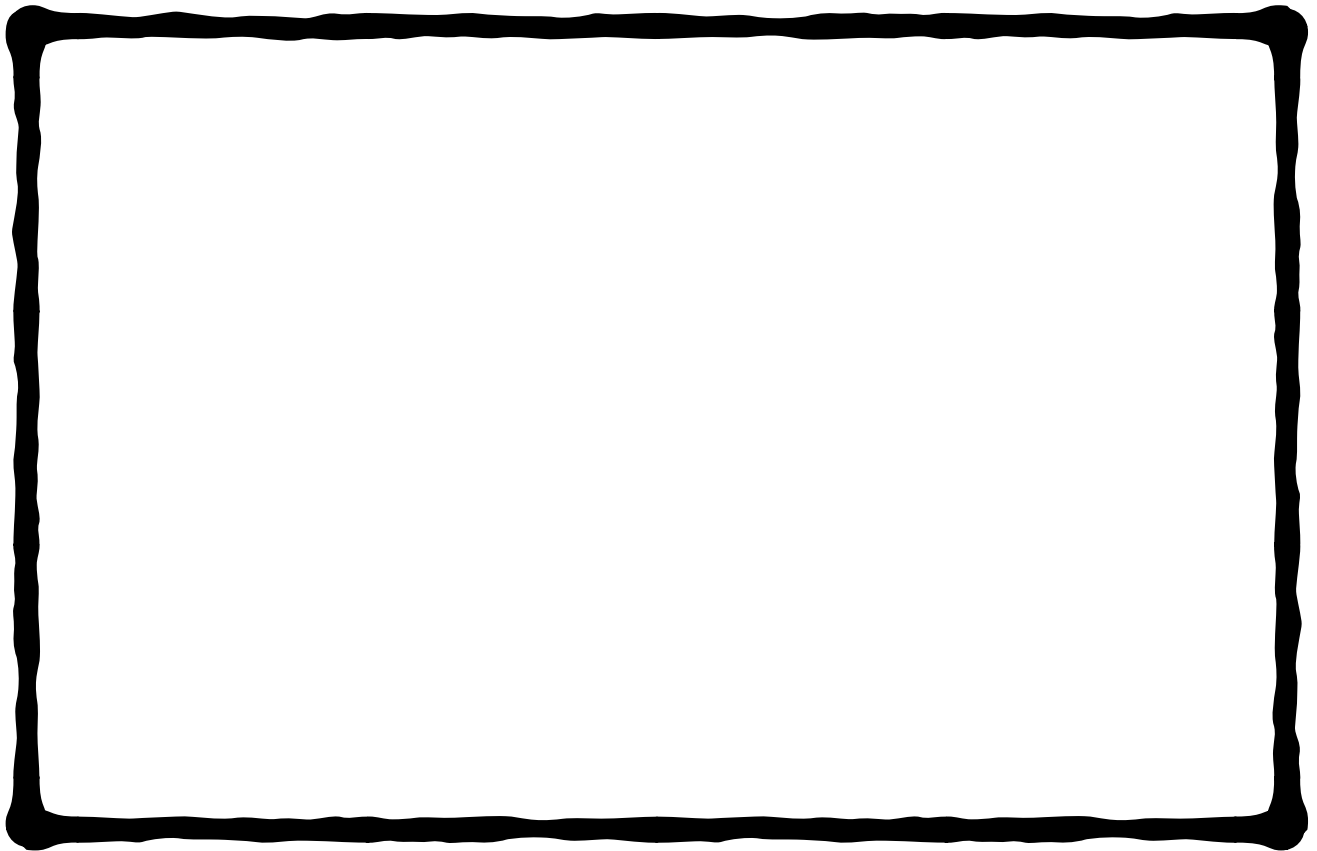
H is for Hipped Roof

A hipped roof has surfaces sloping in four directions. It can be pyramidal, ridged or have a flat deck on top.

Example in Saanich: Crowther Residence, 3381 Biscoe Drive - the low-pitched hipped roof is duroid-shingled.
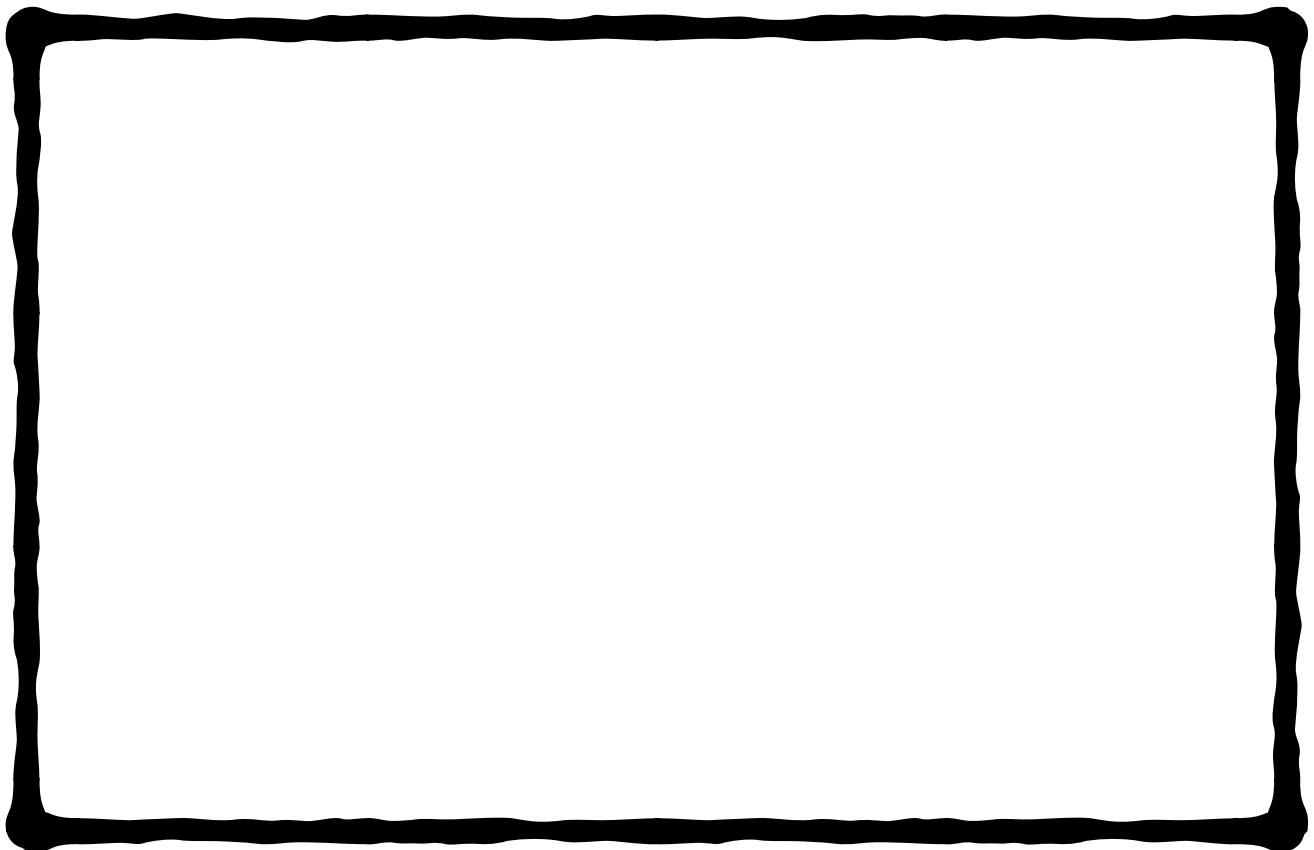
I is for Inglenook

An inglenook is the space on either side of a fireplace, or within the wide fireplace opening, with a seat.

Example in Saanich: There is an inglenook at the French Residence, 3301 Camrose Court (designated). Can you find an example online and draw one?

J is for Jerkinhead Roof

A jerkinhead roof has the top ends shortened and sloped backward to the ridge. The word most likely derives from the word *kirkinhead*. Kirk is a Middle English word for church.

Example in Saanich: Reynolds House at St. Michael's University School, 3400 Richmond Road. Can you find one online and draw it?

K is for King Post

A King post is the upright post from the tie beam of a roof to the apex of a truss.

Example in Saanich: Woodward Residence, 590 Gorge Road West - the front of the house features a king post roof truss.

L is for Lintel

A lintel is a horizontal member laid across the top of a door or window aperture to support the wall above.

Example in Saanich: De Blois Residence, 5165 Cordova Bay Road - the heavy lintels over the windows, including the large arched south window, are large sections of cedar.
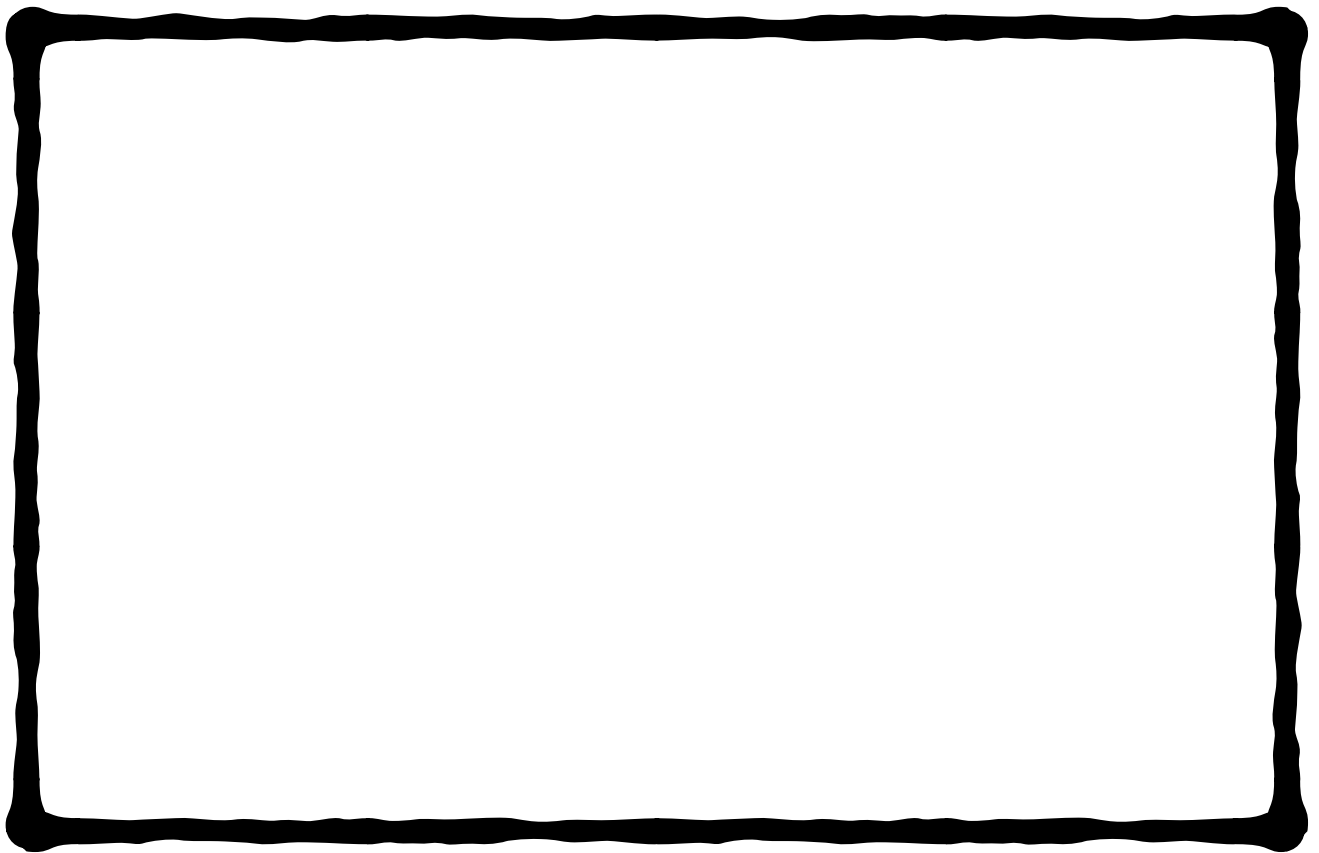
M is for Mullion

A mullion is a vertical bar of wood, metal or stone dividing a window into two or more.

Example in Saanich: Prospect Lake General Store, 5303 West Saanich Road - the top floor windows have five vertically mullioned panes above one large pane.
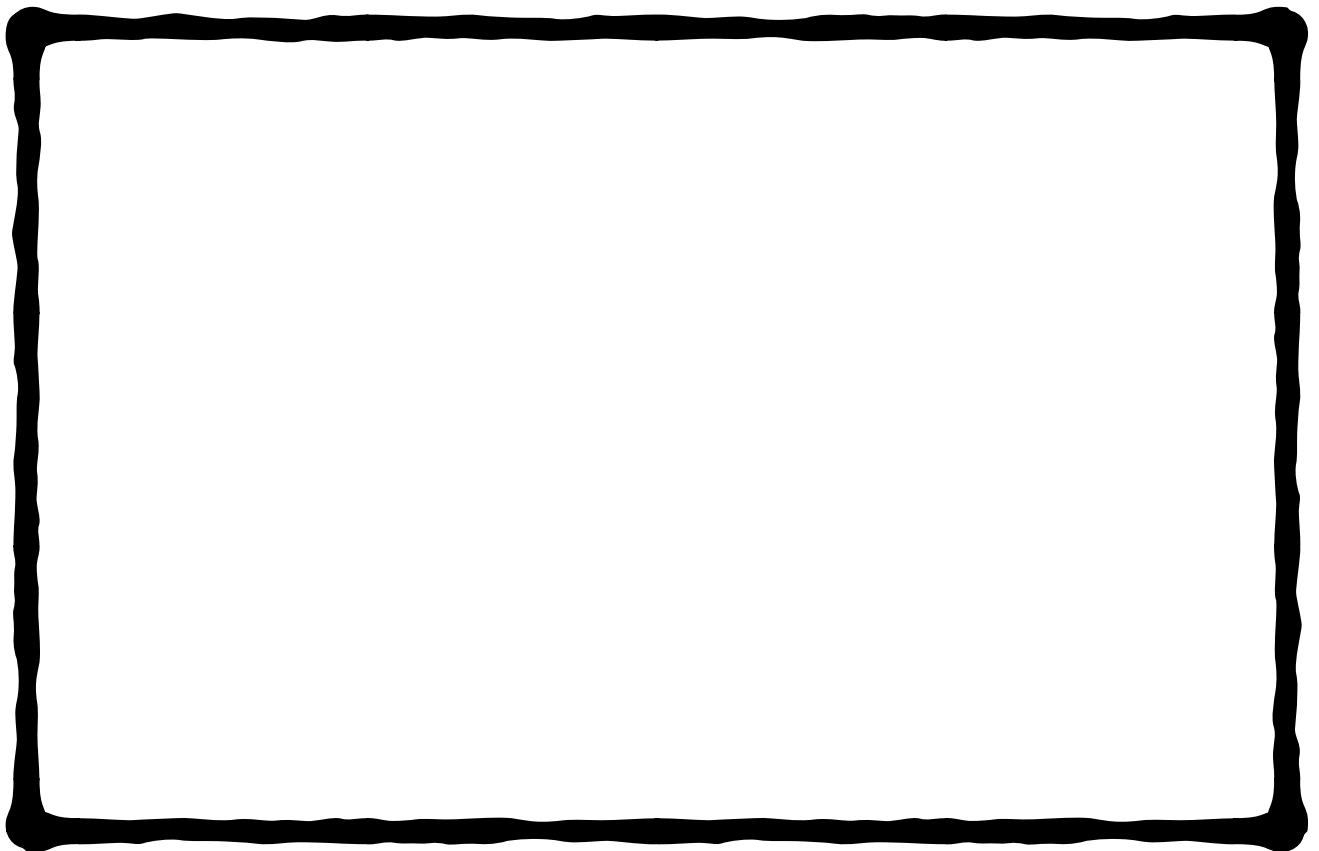
N is for Newel

A newel is the principal supporting post for a handrail at the bottom or angles of a staircase.

Can you find one online and draw it?

O is for Ogee Arch

An ogee arch is pointed with a compound curve of two parts, the top concave and the bottom convex.

Can you find an example online and draw one?

P is for Portico

A portico is a roofed space with at least one side open, usually with columns that support the roof.

Example in Saanich: Craigflower School, 2755 Admirals Road (designated) - there is a gabled portico on the side of the building.
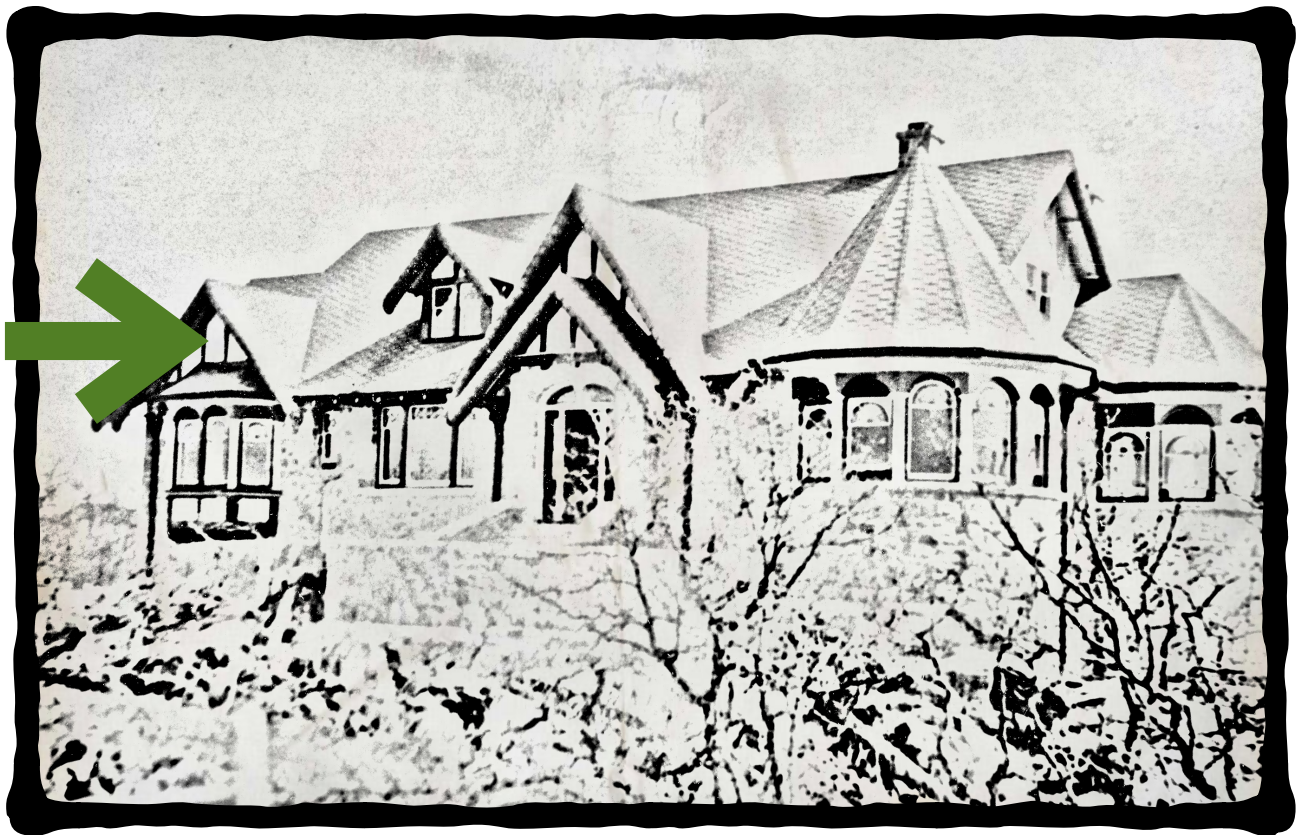
Q is for Quoin

Quoin is the stone or other dressing of the external edges of a building or boundary wall.

Example in Saanich: Philips Residence, 1840 Kings Road - the corners of the house, window and door openings are all quoined.

R is for Roughcast

Roughcast is external plastering or stuccoing normally consisting of two coats in which pebbles are added to the second coat of plaster or stucco before it is thrown on.

Example in Saanich: Kitchin Residence, 3755 McInnis Rise - the numerous gables have roughcast stucco and half-timbering, with unusual vented tips on the rolled edges.

S is for Sidelight

Sidelights are narrow windows on either side of an entry door.

Example in Saanich: Acryse, 2144 Wenman Drive (designated) -
there are two sidelights on either side of the front door.
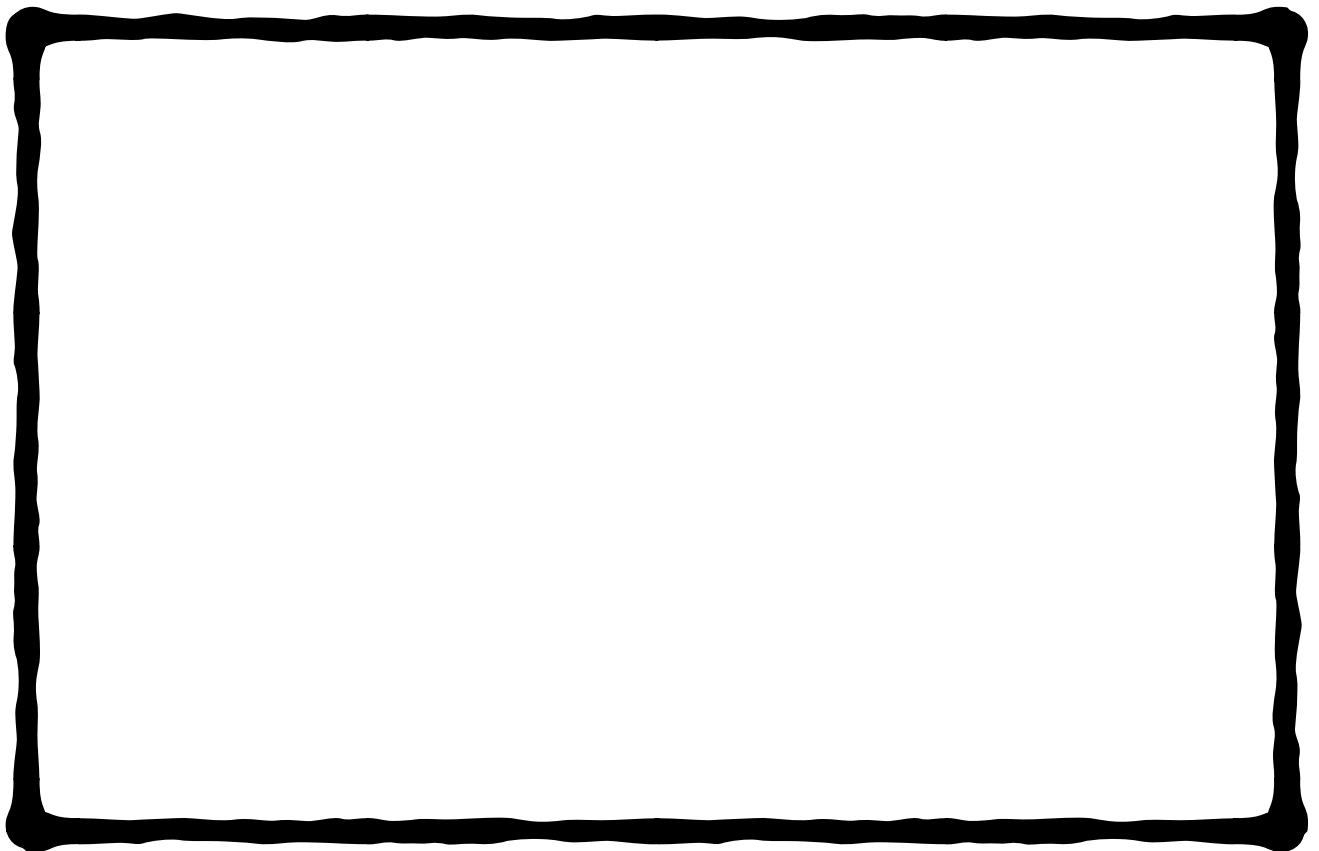
T is for Tudor Arch

A tudor arch is a late medieval style of flattened arch with vertical sides, rounded shoulders and a point; a four-centred arch.

Example in Saanich: Crossways Clar Residence, 1560 Mount Douglas Cross Road (designated) - wide Tudor arches sit between the square verandah columns.

U is for Undercroft

An undercroft is a subterranean room, especially a vaulted chamber under a church; a crypt.

Can you find one online and draw it?

V is for Verandah

A verandah is a roofed porch or external gallery along one or more sides of a house, especially at the front. Can also be spelled veranda.

Example in Saanich: Claxton Residence, 3501 Cedar Hill Road (designated) - the house was renovated in the Edwardian era to include the addition of the wraparound verandah among other features.
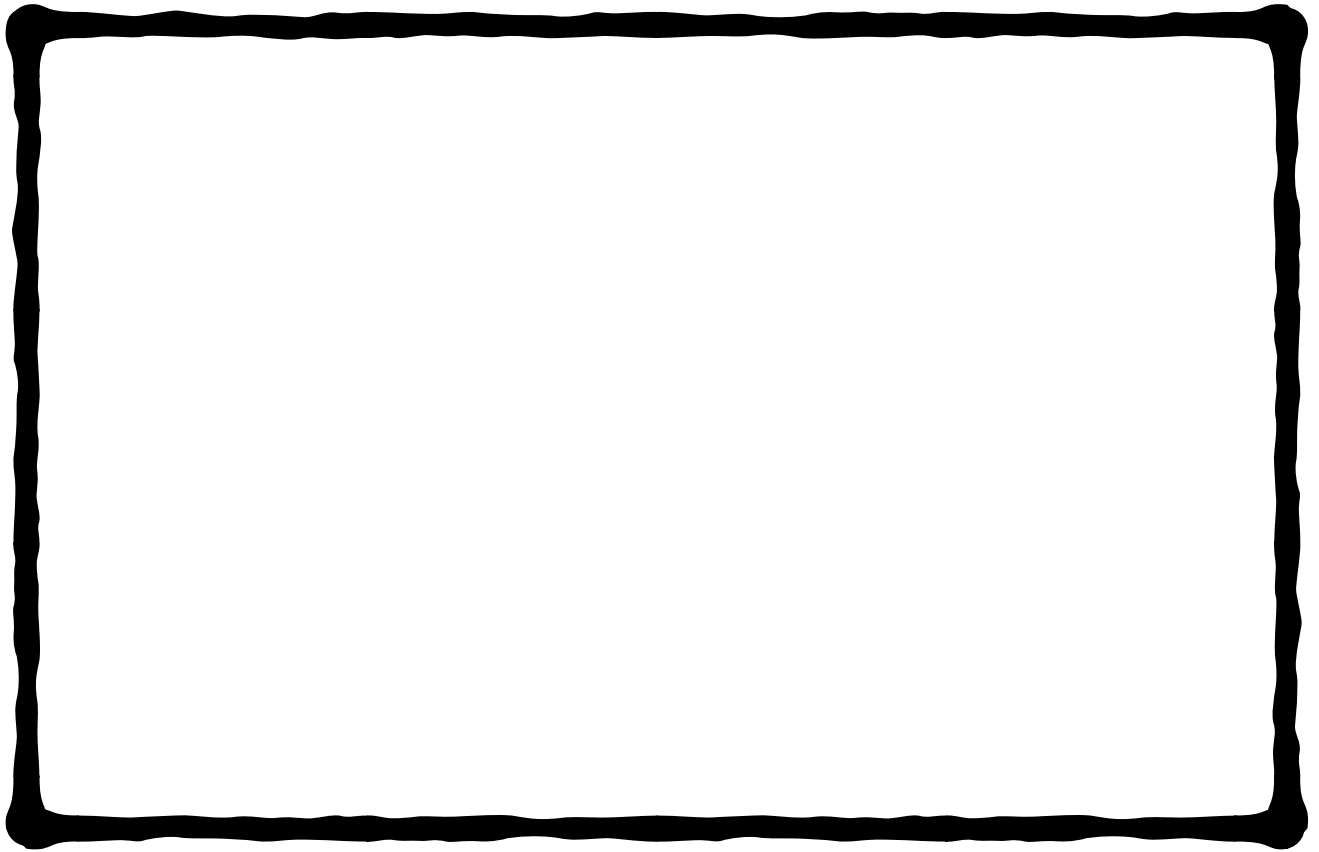
W is for Wall Dormer

A continuation of the upper part of a wall so that the eave line is interrupted by the dormer.

Example in Saanich: Hancock Residence, 286 Burnside Road East - this one-and-one-half-storey Edwardian era residence has a front-gabled roof and a gabled side wall dormer.
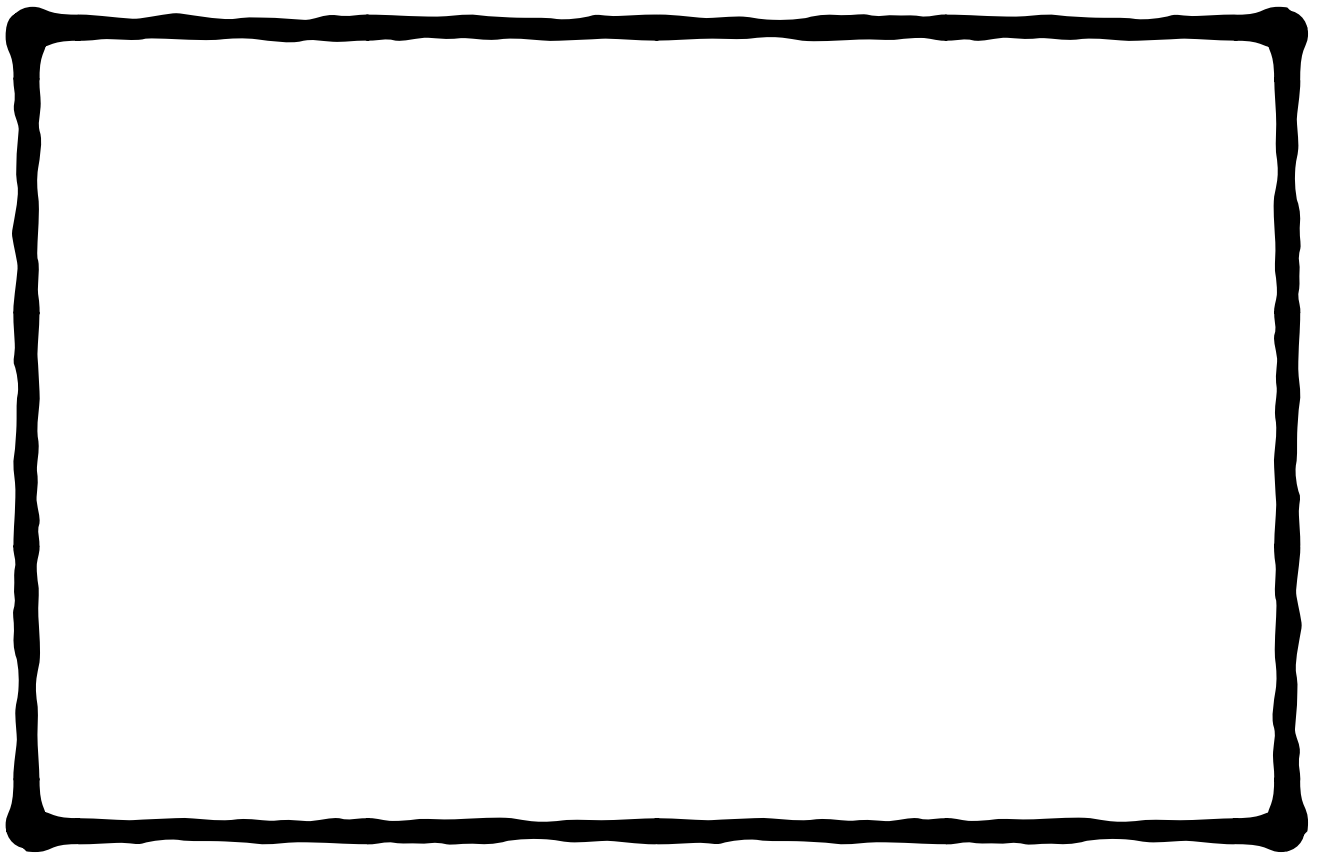
X is for Xeriscaping

Xeriscaping is an environmental design of park or residential land utilizing a variety of methods to minimize the need for water, fertilizer, and labour.

Can you find an example of xeriscaping at a house near you?
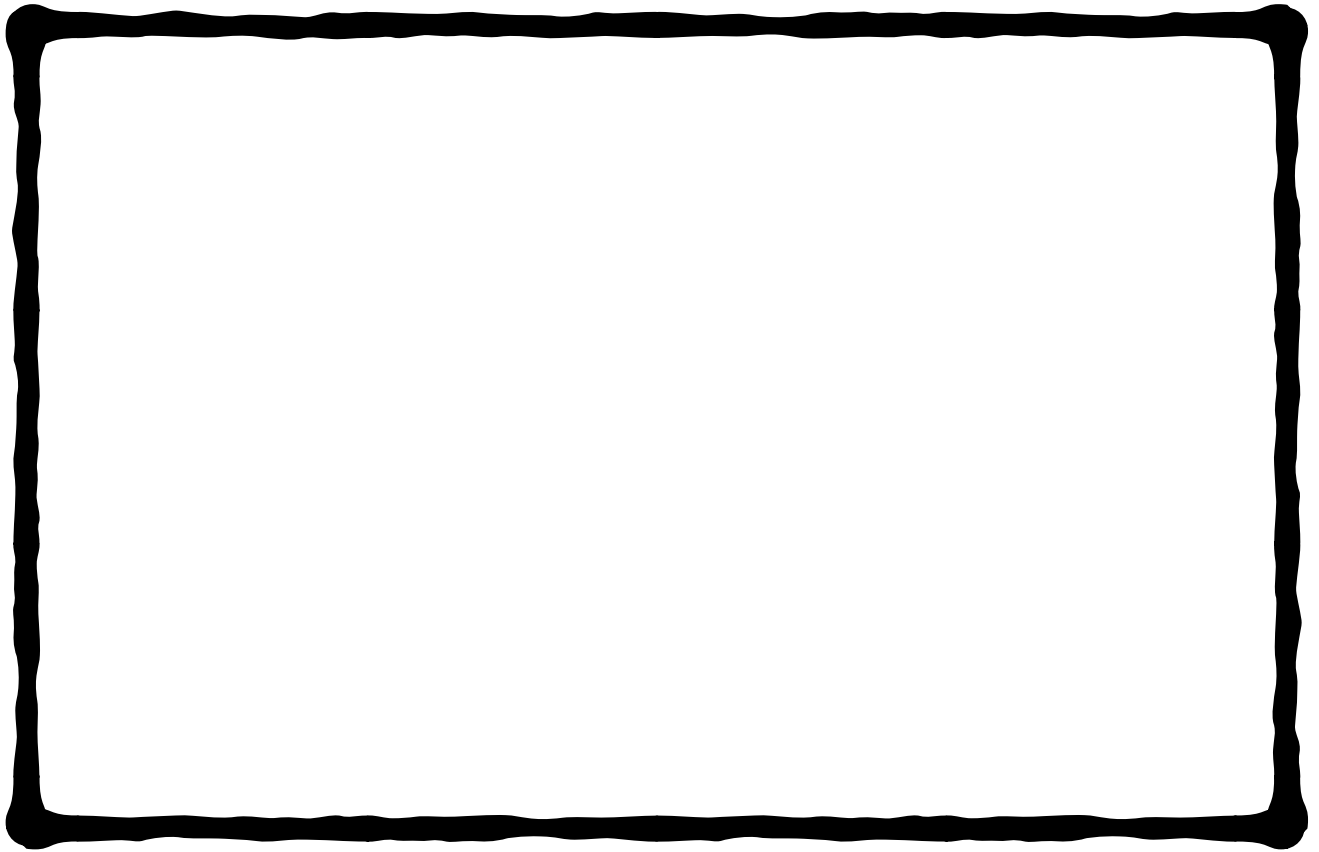
Y is for Yurt

A circular tent of felt, skins, etc., on a collapsible framework, used by nomads in Mongolia and Siberia.

Can you find one online and draw it?

Z is for Ziggurat

A ziggurat is a rectangular stepped tower in ancient Mesopotamia, surrounded by a temple or something having this shape.

Can you find an example online and draw one?

Credits

Photographs from Saanich Archives

To view the original images used in this colouring book, visit saanich.ca/archives and go to their "Search Photos" page. You can find the photos by searching for their number.

A Jennifer & Colin Barr Collection, 2006-015-048f

B Jennifer & Colin Barr Collection, 2006-015-159c

C Jennifer & Colin Barr Collection, 1980-007-002

D Jennifer & Colin Barr Collection, 2006-015-029c

E 1980-011-004c

F Doug Franklin, 1979-001-007

G Robert Charles Squair, 2018-024-001

H 2006-015-077a

I You!

J You!

K Jennifer & Colin Barr Collection, 2006-015-278a

L   Jennifer & Colin Barr Collection, 2006-015-044d

M   1978-001-003

N   You!

O   You!

P   1980-010-037

Q   Jennifer & Colin Barr Collection, 2006-015-045d

R   Stewart Family Fonds, 1981-010-008b

S   Jennifer & Colin Barr Collection, 2006-015-040g

T   Jennifer & Colin Barr Collection, 1980-010-013

U   You!

V   1980-010-004c

W   Jennifer & Colin Barr Collection, 2006-015-263b

X   You!

Y   You!

Z   You!

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Bonus!

Dominion Astrophysical Observatory.

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