The glossary, one of twenty in various subject areas of vocational education, is designed to assist the student in vocabulary mastery for particular vocational education courses. They are part of the Vocational Reading Power Project, Title III, E.S.E.A. This glossary is for a course in architectural drafting. It is divided into two parts: one provides the student with two definitions for each term listed; the second part lists the same words with space for the student's definition. It is intended that upon completion of the course, mutually agreeable definitions for each term will be arrived at by the instructor and the students. These definitions will be made available to future students taking the course. (AG)
ARCHITECTURAL DRAFTING
Glossary of Key Words

Vocational Reading Power
E.S.E.A. Title III
To The Student

This Glossary of Key Words was prepared to help you in your course. The words that follow were judged by your instructor to be the most important for you to understand.

Directions

The Glossary is divided into two parts. The first part lists the key words at the left side of the page. Across from the key words are two definitions for that word. The "A" definition is more difficult and specific. The "B" definition is easier and more general. During a learning activity, you are to use both definitions to help you understand. After the learning activity, you are to write your definition of the word as you understand it.

The second part just lists words. There is space for you to write your understanding of those words. Also, at the end of the booklet are blank lines. Here, you and your instructor will list and define the words which were left out.

At the end of the course, your definitions and the instructor's definitions will be joined together. These will be printed and given to the students who come after you have graduated. It is hoped that, with your help, the future students of vocational education will be greatly benefited.
ANGLE
a) A piece of metal shaped as a right angle which comes in various standard sizes.
b) Same.

ANODIZE
a) To coat a metal (especially aluminum) with a protective film by chemical or electrolytic means.
b) To cover a metal with a protective film. Example: Anodized Aluminum

ARCH
a) A self-supporting curved structure capable of carrying a superimposed load over an opening.
b) A curved structure over an opening which supports the wall above.

ARCHITECT
a) A person licensed by the state to design and supervise construction of buildings. Requirements for the license are:
   1. One year institutional and four years of practice and successful completion of state exam, or;
   2. Eight years practice and successful completion of state exam.
b) Same.

ARCHITECTURE
a) The science and art of building.
b) Same.

ARCHITECTURAL
a) Of or pertaining to architecture.
b) The character or style of a building.

ASBESTOS
a) A mineral based material used for making fire-proof articles.
b) A material used for fire protection.

ASPHALT
a) A dark colored bituminous material mixed with crushed stone for pavement.
b) A dark colored tar-like material used for paving.
ATTIC  
a) The space directly below the roof of a building which is not habitable.  
b) The space below the roof which cannot be used as a room.

BALUSTRADE  
a) A row of balusters with a common rail.  
b) A row of posts supporting a handrail.

BTU  
a) British Thermal Unit: The quantity of heat required to raise one pound of water one degree fahrenheit.  

BULLETIN  
a) A letter from an architect to a contractor (usually during the bidding) which notes changes in the proposed building.  
b) A change order from the architect.

CHECKER  
a) A person in an architectural office who checks the drawings on a particular project for accuracy and clarity.  
b) Same.

CODES  
a) Refers to building codes which govern the structural and fireproofing requirements for different types of buildings.  
b) The codes which tell the architect how he must build any building.

COMPLEX  
a) A group of buildings which are interrelated.  
b) A group of buildings which are all part of a whole. Example: a college campus.

CONCRETE  
a) A mixture of cement, sand and broken stones with water which, when hardened, forms a stone-like material.  
b) Same.

CORNICE  
a) A decorative molding at the top of a wall.  
b) A cap that finishes the top of a wall.

DECKING  
a) A wood or metal material used to cover a floor or roof.  
b) Same.
a) PRIMARY

b) SECONDARY

DESIGNER

a) An architect who devises a pleasing structure which incorporates all the requirements of function and building codes.
b) An architect who makes the building look good while following the building codes and the needs of the client.

ELEVATION

a) A projection of a building on a vertical plane which shows the exterior facade.
b) A drawing which looks at the outside of a building.

F

a) A symbol for fahrenheit: A system of measuring temperature.
b) Fahrenheit

FACILITY

a) A work used by architects at times to describe a complex or a group of intrasupportive buildings: i.e. educational facilities.
b) Same.

FOOTCANDLE

a) A unit of illumination equivalent to that produced by a standard candle at the distance of one foot.
b) A method of measuring light: One foot-candle is the amount of light given off at a distance of one foot from a standard candle.

FOOTING

a) The base of a foundation wall or column designed to distribute the weight over a greater area or column.
b) The bottom piece of concrete which supports a foundation wall or column.

FOUNDATION

a) The supporting structure for a building below grade.
b) The support of the building below ground.

GIRDER

a) A main beam used to support a concentrated load.
b) A main beam which holds up floor beams and ceiling beams.
a) PRIMARY
b) SECONDARY

JAMB
a) The vertical part of a door frame.
b) The sides of a door frame.

JOIST
a) Horizontal beam which supports floors and ceilings.
b) The beam that holds up the floors and the ceilings.

KIP
a) 1,000 pounds.
b) Same.

LOGGIA
a) An open gallery projecting from a building usually surrounded with colonnade.
b) A fancy porch.

MASONRY
a) Brick, stone or tile laid in mortar or concrete.
b) A wall built out of brick, block or tile.

MODULAR
a) A type of construction which uses 4" as the module.
b) A type of building in which all the sizes of materials are based on 4": 4" - 8" -12", etc.

MONOLITHIC
a) Any concrete structure made of a continuous mass of material and cast as one piece.
b) A piece of concrete which is made of many materials into one shape.

NONLOAD
a) A type of wall which does not carry any load.
b) A non-supporting wall.

ORIENTATION
a) The location of a structure in regard to the direction it faces: i.e. N.E.S.W.
b) The direction the front of a building faces: Nominally N.E.S.W.

PIER
a) An independent solid mass of stone brick or concrete which supports a vertical load.
b) A solid mass of brick, stone or concrete which carries a downward weight.
a) PRIMARY
b) SECONDARY

PLANNER

a) An architect whose prime function is to provide esthetic and functional plans for large areas. Example: City Planner.
b) An architect who plans large areas so they work well and look good. (Example above.)

PORTLAND

a) A cement made by mixing water with silica, lime and alumina, then burning the above mixture in a kiln.
b) A strong cement used in the building trades.

PRECAST

a) Concrete which is cast at a place other than on the site or in place.
b) Concrete forms which are made away from the building.

PURLIN

a) A small beam laid at right angles to the rafters and used to support rafters or roof decking when rafters are widely spaced.
b) A small beam used to support roof beams or roof decking when the roof beams are wide apart.

RAFTER

a) The sloping member of a roof which extends from the ridge or hip to the eaves.
b) A roof beam.

SCALE

a) The scale at which an arch drawing is made; i.e. 1/4" = 1' - 0", 3/4" = 1' - 0".
b) Same.

SECTION

a) A view of part of a building cut through crosswise showing the details of that particular portion.
b) A cross-cut view of a building which shows how it is built.

SITE

a) The physical area defined by property lines, upon which a proposed building is to be erected.
b) The piece of land where the building is to be done.
a) PRIMARY
b) SECONDARY

SKETCH
a) A free-hand drawing usually done to scale on graph paper.
b) A free-hand drawing.

SOFFIT
a) The underside of any subordinate member of a building.
b) A part of a building which is not necessary. Example: false beam.

SPECIFICATIONS
a) A book of instructions to the builder which are an integral part of the working drawings.
b) A book of orders to the builder which describe the way the building is to be done.

STRESS
a) Internal resistance of a member to external load or force.
b) The ability of a piece of material to stay together when being pushed or pulled.

STRINGER
a) A large beam which connects posts and supports a floor.
b) The side member which supports the treads of a stair.

TENSILE
a) The strength of a material to withstand forces which tend to lengthen it.
b) The ability of a material to stay together when pulled at both ends.

U
a) The plan of a house (usually ranch style), as opposed to L shape, H shape, etc.
b) A house plan.
SKETCH

SOFFIT

SPECIFICATIONS

STRESS

STRINGER

TENSILE

U
NEED TO KNOW WORDS AND PHRASES

Concrete

Aerated

Aggregate

Cast in Place

Precast

Prestressed

Re Bars

Masonry

Bonding Course

Concrete Block

Coping
Corbeling

Course

Header Course

Hollow Day Tile

Metal Ties

Modular Brick

Parge

Precast Lintels

Roman Brick

Rowlock Course

Sailor Course
Parapet

Pitch

Roof Types


Site

Absorption Bed

Absorption Field

Bench Mark

Building Line

Contours

Easement

Grade
Perm.__________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Plat__________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Plot__________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Property Line__________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Swale_________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Zoning________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Structural

Balloon Construction___________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Beam__________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Bearing Wall___________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Channel________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________
Chord

Column

Dead Load

Frost Line

Girt

I Beam

Live Load

Prestressed Concrete

Post & Beam Construction

Shear

Skeleton Construction
Tee Bar 

Tension 

Truss 

Western Framing 

Wide Flange Beam 

Wind Load 

Zintel 

Walls

Brick Veneer 

Building Paper 

Cavity Wall