

# A dictionary of architecture and landscape architecture oxford quick reference

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What is Architecture?\*\*

### **Oxford Dictionary Definition:**

Architecture is "the art or profession of designing and constructing buildings or other physical structures."

### **Noun of Architecture:**

Architecture

### **Vernacular Architecture Oxford Dictionary Definition:**

Vernacular architecture is "the traditional building methods and styles characteristic of a particular region or community, typically using local materials and reflecting local techniques and customs."

### **The Architecture of Oxford:**

Oxford is renowned for its distinctive architecture, which blends ancient, medieval, and modern styles. Notable landmarks include:

- Bodleian Library
- Christ Church College
- Radcliffe Camera
- St. John's College
- The Ashmolean Museum

### **Arch Oxford Dictionary Definition:**

An arch is "a curved structure that spans an opening, typically supporting a weight or providing passage."

### **Best Definition of Architecture:**

"Architecture is the art of designing and building spaces that meet the needs of human users while also reflecting the cultural and aesthetic values of its time and place."

### **How to Define Architecture:**

Architecture can be defined as:

- The art and science of creating built environments
- The process of designing and constructing structures
- The reflection of cultural, social, and environmental factors in physical form

### **Why is it Called Architecture?**

The term "architecture" originates from the Greek words "archi-" (chief) and "-tekton" (builder). It originally referred to the art of master builders who oversaw the construction of major buildings.

### **Official Definition of Architecture:**

There is no universally accepted official definition of architecture. However, the American Institute of Architects (AIA) defines architecture as "the art and science of designing and building environments that meet human needs."

### **What is an Architect?**

### **Cambridge Dictionary Definition:**

An architect is "a person qualified to design and supervise the construction of buildings."

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### **Original Meaning of Architecture:**

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Initially, architecture primarily referred to the practical aspect of building construction. However, over time, it has evolved to encompass both the artistic and technical aspects of designing and constructing buildings.

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