

Appendix 4

Glossary

This glossary provides definitions for architectural and parliamentary terms and some ecclesiastical, heritage management or public realm technical descriptions.

Act of Settlement 1701	The Act which decided the succession to Queen Anne. All the strongest claimants by blood were Roman Catholic who were not allowed to inherit. The act decided that on Anne's death, the throne should pass to the ruler of the German state of Hanover, who was descended from James I. On the death of Anne in 1714, George of Hanover came to the throne as George I.
Aye and No Lobbies	When there is a formal vote, or division, in the House of Commons, MPs leave their seats and walk into whichever division lobby corresponds to the way they want to vote: the Aye Lobby on the right of the Speaker, or the No Lobby on the left of the Speaker
Ambulatory	Walkway typically at the east end of a church, usually arcaded, sometimes enclosing the apse.
Apse	Semi circular or polygonal space at the end of a hall or chapel, usually referring to the east end of a church or chancel.
Back Bencher	A Member of Parliament who holds no official position in government or in his or her party. Back benchers sit on the back benches in the Chamber.

Bi-cameral system	Literally ‘two chamber’. The parliamentary system of two legislative chambers. The British bi-cameral consists of the House of Lords and the House of Commons.
Bill	A proposal for a new law which is debated by Parliament. A Bill becomes an Act when it has received the Royal Assent.
Bill of Rights 1689	The declaration of Rights presented by the House of Commons to William and Mary in which Parliament aimed to reduce the rights of the Monarch and increase its own authority. The Bill made illegal the suspension of laws by Royal authority without Parliament’s consent; the power to dispense with laws; the establishment of special courts of law; levying money by Royal prerogative without Parliament’s consent; and a standing army in peacetime without Parliament’s consent. It also asserted a right to petition the sovereign, freedom of parliamentary elections, freedom of speech in parliamentary debates, and the necessity of frequent parliaments.
Black Rod	The Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod who is sent to the House of Commons to summon MPs to the House of Lords to hear the Queen’s Speech at the State Opening of Parliament. The tradition is that as he reaches the chamber of the House of Commons, the door is slammed in his face. He then knocks three times on the door with the black rod that he carries before being admitted. Black Rod is responsible for accommodation, security and services in the House of Lords
Boss	An ornamental, carved, timber or stone covering to the junction of ribs in a vaulted roof.

Braces	An element of roof structure. A diagonal timber connecting and strengthening two other timbers.
Capital	The decorative headstone of a classical column or pilaster.
Chancel	The east end of a church where the main altar is located. See also presbytery.
Chantry	A small chapel in which masses were sung in pre-dissolution churches, usually for the person who had endowed the chapel.
Church of England	The established Church in England. The Church of England was founded by King Henry VIII and became subject to the English Crown control rather than the control of the Pope. The Monarch is still the head of the Church of England and even now the Church cannot make its own rules without parliamentary approval.
Civil War	Fought in England between the supporters of King Charles I and supporters of Parliament, led by Oliver Cromwell. Lasting for seven years, a number of major battles were fought. In 1645, on June 14th, the Parliamentary side won at the battle of Naseby and the king's side was finally beaten at the Battle of Preston. The King was put on trial for treason and executed in 1649.
Clerestory	[Clearstory] The upper level of arcading of the main walls of a church, pierced by windows.
Constitution	In Great Britain the Constitution is the whole body of public law, customary as well as statutory, which is continually being modified by custom, judgement in the courts as well as by the elected representatives of the country.

	Whilst it is not written down as a single document, in contrast to other countries, it is considered to be a strong constitution.
Court of Appeal	The Court of Appeal deals with applications to re-examine the decision made by a lower court. It is presided over by the Master of the Rolls, and is part of the Supreme Court of Judicature.
Collar Beam	An element of roof structure. A horizontal timber connecting the upper parts of two rafters.
Cosmati	Decorative inlay work in marble using coloured stones, mosaic, glass, gilding etc. Usually applied to floors in English churches. Commonly used in the 12th and 13th centuries in Italy.
Dissolution	The common term for the dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII. Dissolution is also the official term for the end of a Parliament. Parliament is dissolved by Royal Proclamation.
Division	The House of Commons votes by dividing, walking through the division lobby. The Speaker calls for a vote by announcing "Clear the Lobbies". Division Bells ring throughout the building and the police direct all Strangers to leave the vicinity of the Members' Lobby. MPs have eight minutes to get to the Division Lobby before the doors are closed. In each lobby Clerks tick Members' names off division lists as they pass through. Members make their way to the Chamber, where Whips are on hand to remind the uncertain which way, if any, their party is voting
Dorter	Monks' sleeping quarters in a monastery.
Eyot	Early English term for 'island'.

Glorious Revolution	The peaceful way in which Parliament asserted its rights over the monarchy in 1688 following James II attempts to repeal the Test Acts (which precluded Catholics from holding office) and his Declaration of Indulgence suspending religious penal laws. Parliament, the Bishops and the populace protested and William of Orange, the Protestant son-in-law of James, was requested to intervene to save the Church and State. Following James II escape to France, William and Mary assumed the throne. The new parliament issued the Declaration of Rights, which was later embodied in the Bill of Rights passed by Parliament in December 1689.
Great Reform Act 1832	Parliamentary Reform which increased the number of people who had the right to vote. The Act abolished a great number of 'rotten' and 'pocket' boroughs and gave seats in the House of Commons to counties and towns. The franchise was extended to holders of houses worth £10 per year and many more lease holders and tenants of land.
Finial	A decorative embellishment, usually at a pinnacle or the peak of the apex of a gable.
Frater	Monastery dining hall, also called refectory.
Galillee Porch	Porch [or small chapel] located at the west end of a church.
Hammer Beam [roof]	An elaborate type of roof structure, peculiar to English architecture and most commonly used in late Gothic and Tudor buildings.
Infirmary	The hospital accommodation of a monastery.

Lierne	A tertiary vault rib. That is, one that does not spring from the main springing point or the central boss.
Listed	Identified by English Heritage as a building of architectural or historic significance, rated I, II* or II.
Member of Parliament (MP)	A Member of Parliament (MP) is elected by a particular area or constituency in Britain to represent them in the House of Commons. MPs divide their time between their constituency and the Houses of Parliament in London. An MP can ask Government Ministers questions, speak about issues in the House of Commons and consider and propose new laws. There are 659 MPs.
Ogee	An 'S' shaped or inverted 'S' shaped line.
Oratory	A small private chapel of the Oratorian order of St Filippo Nero.
Parliament Act 1911	An act limiting the power of the House of Lords, allowing Bills that had been passed by the Commons in three successive sessions, but rejected by the Lords in all three, to become Law. It reduced the life of a Parliament to five years.
Parliament Act 1949	An act to reduce the powers that the House of Lords had to delay a Bill from becoming law if the House of Commons approved it. Since 1911 the House of Lords had been able to delay legislation for two years. The 1949 Act reduced this to one year

Petition	A formal written request from one or more people to the Sovereign or Parliament. Tradition requires that a petition must be hand-written and must begin with the words, "To the honourable, the Commons of the United Kingdom in Parliament assembled". Petitions have a long history as members of the public have used them to make their feelings known about issues that concern them.
Pilaster	A flat fronted column set against a wall, usually engaged with the wall.
Prebendary	Strictly, a clergyman or chaplain who receives a stipend [or prebend] from a collegiate church or a cathedral in return for duties. Also used for the house or office he was granted. Canons of Westminster were known as Prebendaries until 1840.
Precinct	The area immediately under the control of a church authority.
Presbytery	That part of a church to the east of the choir and the location of the High Altar.
Privy	Used or owned privately. Sometimes used to refer to the King's private residential area in a palace.
Pulpitum	Pulpit.
Quadrennial[Inspection]	A regime of 4-yearly inspection of [secular] historic buildings, usually in reference to Government owned property.
Quadrefoil	Tracery. A quadpartite group of leaf shaped lobes formed by cusping a circle or an arch.

Queen's Speech	The Queen reads the Queen's Speech at the State Opening of Parliament. Although today the Government prepares the Queen's speech, it is a reminder of times when the monarch actually chose the legislation to be debated in Parliament. Today, the speech details the Bills and policies that the Government will introduce in the next session.
Question Time	Question Time is an opportunity for MPs and Members of the House of Lords to ask Government Ministers questions. These questions are asked in the Chamber itself and are known as Oral Questions. Members may also put down Written Questions. In the House of Commons, Question Time takes place for an hour on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays after Prayers. In the House of Lords up to four questions may be asked of the Government at the beginning of each day's business. Questions in both Houses must be written down in advance and put on the agenda and both Houses have methods for selecting the questions that will be asked.
Quinquennial[Inspection]	A regime of 5-yearly inspection of historic [usually] churches.
Reredorter	Monks' latrines in a monastery, usually behind the dorter.
Reredos	'Behind the back'. An ornamental screen covering the wall behind and above the altar.
Representation of the People Act 1918	An act which gave the vote to men over 21 and women over 30. The Act also ensured that all voting in a General Election was to take place on a single day as opposed to over several weeks as it had been previously.

It also introduced a deposit of £150 that was lost if a candidate failed to gain one eighth of the votes cast. Seats were also redistributed to create more uniform constituencies, averaging about 70,000 voters, returning one member each

Respond [bases]	A half pier bonded to a wall, usually the end of an arcade.
Rib	In medieval roof vaulting, the brick or stone arches on the groins or surface of the vault that support thin webs of masonry.
Sanctuary	A church or its precincts where by medieval ecclesiastical law, a fugitive could claim refuge from secular justice.
Sett	A brick sized squared [usually granite] paviour. As opposed to a cobble stone, which is rounded.
Spandrel	The quasi-triangular flat area between two curved arches and a line drawn between their apexes.
Speaker	An MP who has been elected to act as Chairman during debates in the House of Commons and who is responsible for ensuring that the rules laid down by the House are observed, maintains order in the House and acts as the House's representative in its relations with outside bodies. The Speaker is also responsible for protecting the interests of minorities in the House. The Speaker must be impartial in all matters. He or she is elected by MPs in the House of Commons but then ceases to be involved in party politics.

Stages of Legislation

Legislation goes through a number of stages before it becomes law. These are the same in both Houses. Bills (other than Money Bills) may begin in either the House of Commons or the House of Lords. They go through the following stages in each House, though with important procedural differences in both Houses: First Reading, Second Reading, Committee Stage, Report Stage, Third Reading. Once the Bill has completed these stages in one of the Houses, the process is repeated in the other. After this any amendments from the second House are considered by the first. When both Houses agree on a Bill then it is presented to the Queen for Royal Assent

State Opening of Parliament

The State Opening of Parliament takes place after a General Election and at the beginning of each new session of Parliament. The Queen enters the Palace of Westminster by her own route, the Sovereign's Entrance, which is under the Victoria Tower. From there she goes into the Royal Robing Room where she puts on her Crown and ceremonial robes. She then processes through the Royal Gallery to take her place on the Throne in the House of Lords. The chamber is full and all of the Lords present wear their Parliamentary robes. Black Rod is sent to the House of Commons to summon MPs to the Lords. When Black Rod arrives at the entrance to the Commons Chamber the door is always slammed in his face, and he has to knock three times on the door before he is admitted - a tradition that symbolises the right of the Commons to debate without interference. MPs then process into the House of Lords but remain behind the bar of the House. The Lord Chancellor hands the speech to the Queen who then reads it out.

Terracotta	Fired clay, moulded masonry product used for wall facing or architectural embellishment. Revived in England in the 19th century, particularly by Waterhouse.
Tracery	Ornamental interesting work, usually stone, in the upper part of a window, screen or panel. Usually refers to arched Gothic windows.
Transepts	The north and south transverse arms of a cruciform church plan.
Trefoil	Tracery. A tripartite group of leaf shaped lobes formed by cusping a circle or an arch.
Triforium	An arcaded wall facing into the nave of a church, above the Arcade and below the clerestory.
Vaulting	Continuous and self supporting arched brick or stone roof structure over a building.

