

Spaces + Places:

Everyday Landmarks

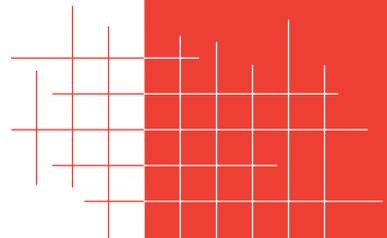
Presented by:



AIA Minnesota

A Society of The American Institute of Architects

The Architecture in the Schools Committee



What is Architecture?

Landmark:

Landmarks are objects or buildings that help us remember a space or place. They can be statues, monuments, or a memorable building down the street.

Look around you. What do you see? ARCHITECTURE! Every day we are surrounded by buildings that are Landmarks for our city, town or neighborhood. Architects observe the world around them, design new buildings and plan how to construct them. Follow along to learn about architecture and design a Landmark for your classroom, school or community.

Here are some examples of everyday Landmarks:



If you live in the country, you may see a barn and turbine in a field. A turbine turns wind power into electrical energy. Can you think of any other ways to use natural resources?



Maybe there is a street in your neighborhood with big shady trees and old Victorian houses. This street has a special identity. Can you think of anything else that can help create a neighborhood identity?

Fun Box:

Draw a Landmark you see on your way to school.

Designing Communities

Below are some guidelines architects use when thinking about their designs.

Design on a Human Scale – Architects pay attention to the scale of the buildings they design and how each building affects people.

Provide Choices – Variety in housing, schools and other buildings creates an interesting world around us.

Encourage Mixed-Use – Diversity in building types creates neighborhoods where people can live, work and play.

Preserve Urban Centers – Respect for older, existing buildings and neighborhoods encourages strong communities by providing a link to our history.

Vary Transportation Options – Walking, biking, scooting and busing are all ways of moving. Architects can design for many different types of transportation.

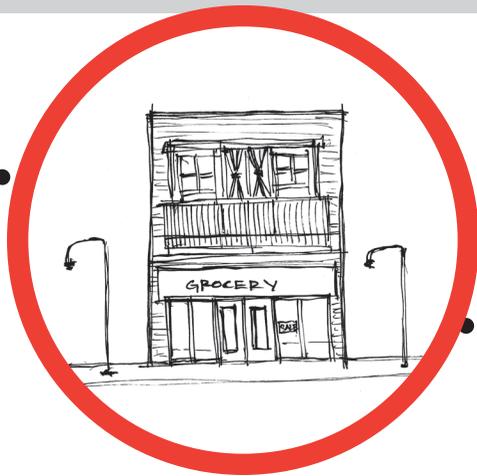
Build Vibrant Public Space – Landmarks often define public spaces that everyone can enjoy.

Create Neighborhood Identity – The way buildings and outdoor spaces look together gives each neighborhood a unique character.

Protect Environmental Resources – Architects have a role in protecting and preserving the world we all share.

Conserve Landscapes – Farmland, fields and forests are beautiful and necessary for a healthy environment.

Design Matters – Architecture that surrounds us has an important effect on the quality of our lives.



Some neighborhoods have a lot of homes but few places to work or shop. Others mix homes and businesses together. What is your neighborhood like? Would you like to live above a grocery store?



A Landmark that often stands out is a City Hall in the center of a town or city. Does your town have a special Landmark?

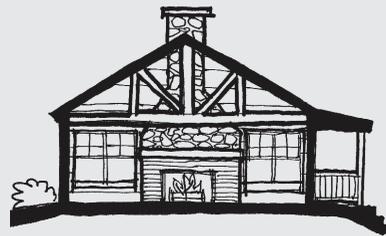
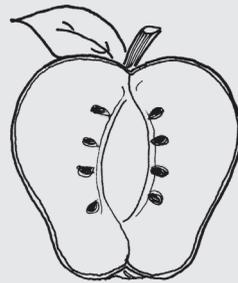
Elevation:

Straight-on
view



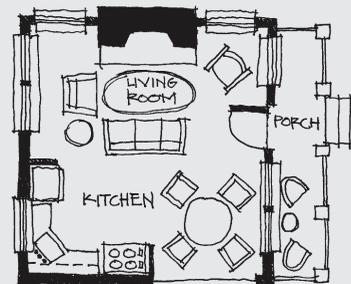
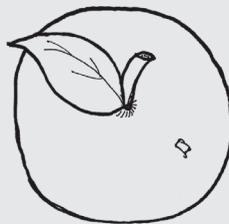
Section:

Cut-through
view



Plan:

Straight-
down or
top view



What Does it Look Like?

Where is your Landmark?

What is its function?

Who will enjoy this?

How will it be used?

Draw a plan, elevation, or section of your Landmark in the space below.

How Big is it?

36 Architects use the word **scale** in several different ways.

32 A building drawn at full size is too big to fit on a sheet of paper, so architects draw buildings at a fraction of their real size. This is what architects call drawing to **scale**.

28 Most classroom doors are seven feet tall by three feet wide. If each square in the grid to the right represents one foot, draw an elevation of your classroom's door to scale.

24

20

16

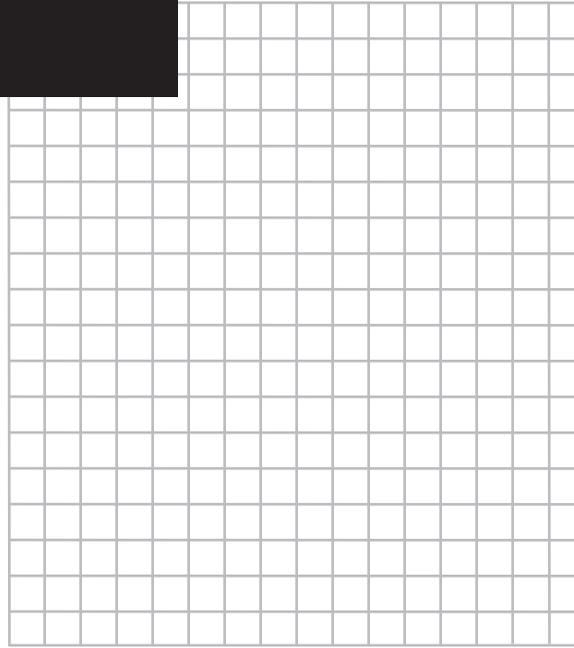
12

8

4

0

8



Scale:

A scale is also a tool architects use to measure drawings. The numbers on the edge of this page show a scale of $\frac{3}{8}'' = 1'-0''$. Each mark represents four feet.



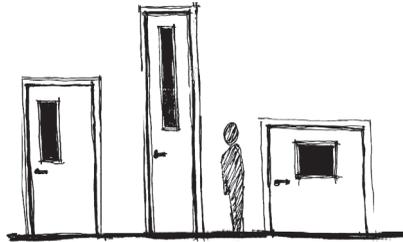
Scale is also used to describe the relationship between different objects. These doors vary in scale.

Fun Box:

Draw something **else** to scale. You can get the accurate dimensions of something you see in your classroom. (desk, window, chalkboard are all options.)

Proportion:

Proportion refers to the shape of a building or space. It can also refer to the way different parts of a building look when assembled together.

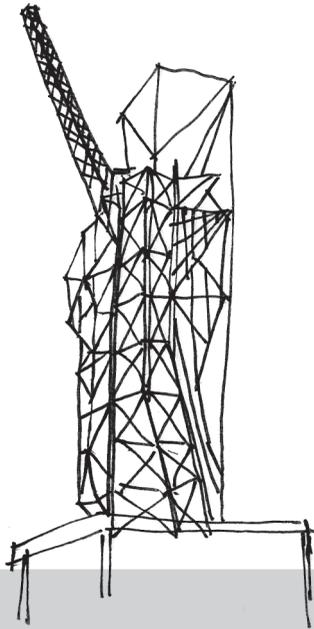


These three doors are of equal areas, but different shapes. Which door looks normal? Which door would you like to walk through?

** Does this page seem to be the right proportion?*

How is it Built?

Architects plan buildings and their construction before anything is built. Below are images of the Statue of Liberty during and after construction. In the first image, you can see the structure that holds up the statue. The second image shows the outer shell that gives the statue its final form.

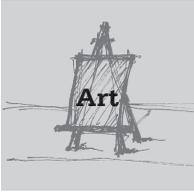
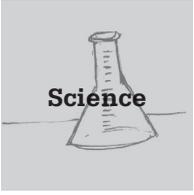


Fun Facts:

- The Statue of Liberty measures 111'-1" from her heel to the top of her head
- The statue itself weighs 250,000 lbs (as much as 56 adult elephants)
- In 50 mph winds, the statue's body will sway 3" and her torch will sway 5"
- At the time it was built, the statue's pedestal was the largest concrete structure in America with walls as thick as 19'
- The Statue of Liberty's 25' long sandals are a size 879

So You Want to be an Architect?

What can you do in school?

Math	 Art	Social Studies	History	 Science
Area, Perimeter, Geometry of spaces, Scale	Drawings, Rendering, Perspective, Design	How do people interact?	Buildings, Cities	Physics, Biology, Solar energy, Chemistry

Activities to do:

Observe Your Surroundings	Draw & Sketch	Ask Questions	 Take Tours	Read About Architecture
Where do you live? Play? Shop? Eat?	Items in your environment	How do spaces work? How do people design them?	Tour buildings, Cities, Spaces	Magazines, Books, Internet

If you decide to be an architect:

Research Colleges & Universities	 Get a Degree: Masters or Bachelors of Architecture	Internship	Architectural Registration Exam	Continuing Education
Find a school	Go to school	Go through training	Get your license	Keep your license ongoing

Who are we?

To answer the question, find the highlighted letter on each page and write them here!

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