

Building Types



Churches

Churches usually have tall pointed parts such as windows, roofs and spires which point upward toward heaven and symbolize people's aspirations for God.



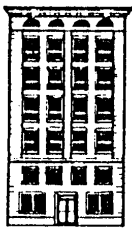
Schools

Schools usually look boxy and have groups of large windows because they have large boxy classrooms, auditoriums and gyms on the inside.



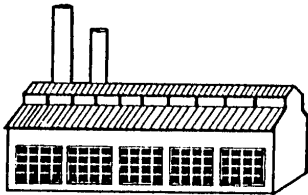
Commercial Buildings (Stores)

Stores used to have large open areas to display merchandise. Stores have large windows so people will see the merchandise from the street and want to come into the store and buy something.



Office Buildings

Office buildings are tall because they are built in the city on expensive land: builders want to build as many offices as they can on as little land as they can. Tall office buildings were built only after steel beams and the elevator were invented. They have small windows because there are many small rooms inside.



Factories

Factories have large low buildings so that they can have complicated manufacturing processes in one place without transporting things from floor to floor or building to building. Large windows and skylights let in light. Smokestacks take smoke away from the building and release it into the air.



Public Buildings

Public Buildings are designed to look formal and dignified so people will respect the government and other official organizations housed within.

Houses

Houses are the most common building type. There are many different types of houses. They look different from each other and have different relationships with each other.

1. What type of building are you in now? _____

Reading the Urban Environment

The objective of this exercise is to increase awareness of different building types.

There are many different types of buildings. What are some of the different building types in your community? How are they different from each other? Different buildings serve different purposes. Using your visual awareness skills, can you tell what a building is used for? Has the use changed since the building was built?

In my community we have (give the number of each building type):

Houses _____

Churches _____

Schools _____

Stores _____

Offices _____

Factories _____

Public buildings _____

Old buildings/new uses _____

What type of building are you in now? _____