



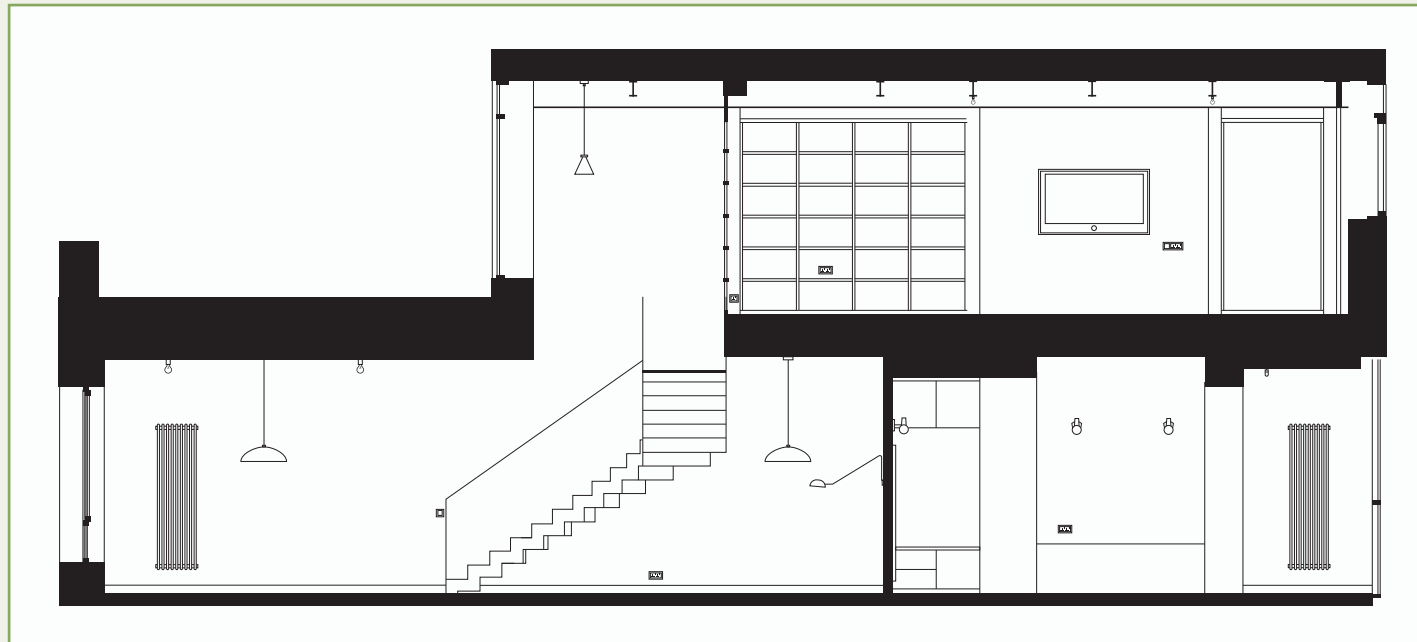
Construction and the Built Environment – Unit 2

2.4 Drawing elevations

An **elevation** is a type of drawing used by architects to graphically represent a building or a portion of a building. Elevations are drawn from a vertical plane, looking straight onto the side of a building or an interior surface. This is as if you are directly in front of a building and looking straight at it.

INTERIOR (INTERNAL) ELEVATION

An **interior (internal) elevation** is a vertical representation of a wall or other surface inside a building:



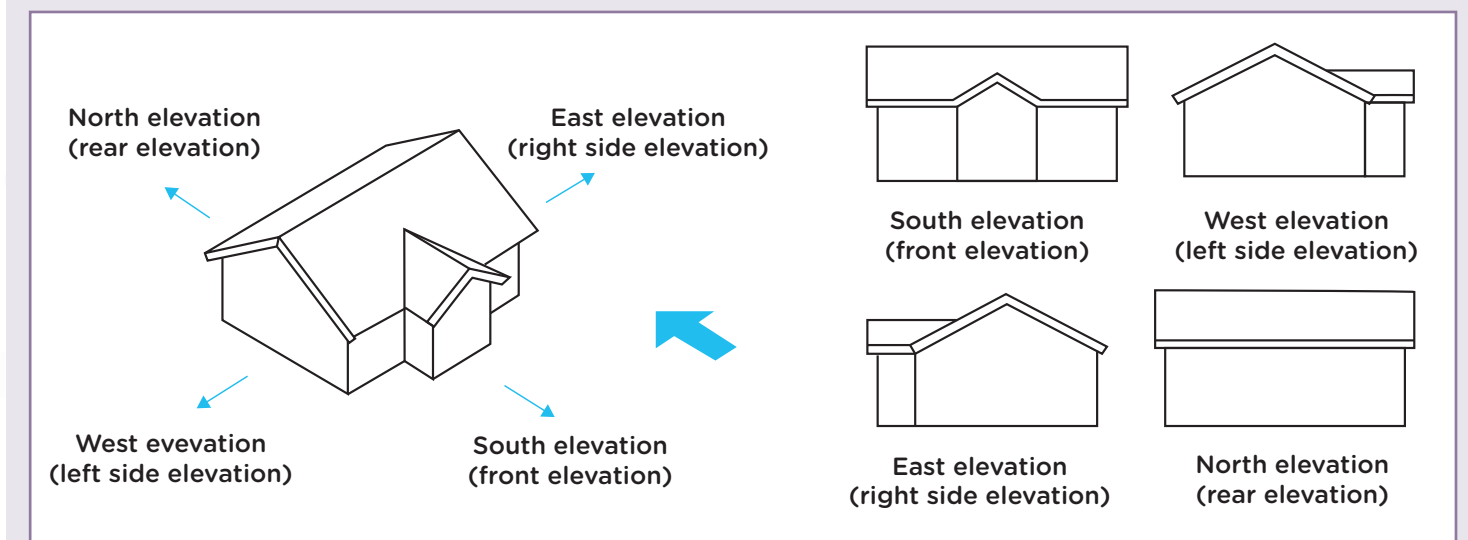
It is also used to communicate details of features, fittings and fixtures, including:

- wall surfaces
- fireplaces
- doors
- windows
- wall lights
- kitchen layouts
- electrical outlets and switches.

EXTERIOR (EXTERNAL) ELEVATION

An **exterior (external) elevation** is a view of a building or structure as seen from one side. It is a two-dimensional, flat representation that shows height, length and finished appearance.

A number of elevations are generally used, with each elevation labelled in relation to the compass direction it faces:



Accurate elevations should include details of:

- external walls
- roof surfaces
- roof trims and rainwater goods
- doors and windows
- finishes.

To place elevations in context with their existing surroundings, they can also include site features such as:

- nearby structures
- trees and landscaping
- vehicles and pedestrians.