

Glossary

Basilicas- These, erected as halls of justice and as exchanges for merchants, comprise some of the finest buildings erected by the Romans, and bear witness to the importance of law and justice in their eyes.

Apse- A large semicircular or polygonal recess in a church, arched or with a domed roof and typically at the church's eastern end.

Thermae- The Thermae or great public baths are quite as characteristic of Roman civilization as the amphitheatres, being probably derived from the Greek gymnasia.

Amphitheatres- The amphitheatres are characteristic Roman buildings, being found in every important settlement, and in addition to their normal purposes were used for naval exhibitions, the water drains for flooding the arena still existing in many examples.