Apprentice
A person who learns about a craft or profession by working alongside a master. In his final decade, Wright relied on trusted apprentices to help carry out plans for Samara.

Architect
One whose job is to design, plan, and supervise the construction of buildings.

Architecture
The art and science of designing and building structures according to principles determined by aesthetics, environment, and materials.

Axis
The vertical or horizontal direction of emphasis in a structure.

Banquette
A long upholstered bench seat that is usually positioned along a wall.

Board and batten paneling
A style of wall paneling made of wide, wood planks arranged vertically, or standing on end, to cover a wall surface. The planks create a seam when placed tightly together, and these are covered by a much smaller strip of wood, called batten strips. Wright used board and batten paneling throughout many Usonian interiors to create a sense of space and continuity.

Bay window
A window extending outward from an exterior wall with interior space large enough to occupy.

Biomimicry
The ways by which nature inspires human inventions.

Blueprint
An architect’s detailed plan for a structure. A photographic print of the plan is rendered as white lines on a blue background.

Broadacre City
Wright’s theoretical concept of a utopian suburban community in which individual family homes are constructed on one acre of land.
**Built environment**
Human-made resources designed to support human activity: for example, streets, buildings, and parks.

**Cantilever**
In architecture, a weight-bearing horizontal element that projects away from an exterior wall: for example, a balcony.

**Carport**
A roofed shed without walls, usually attached to the side of a building and used to shelter a vehicle. Usonian homes frequently featured carports as part of an overall program to keep building costs low.

**Cherokee Red**
The color of Wright’s signature pigmented concrete floor slabs.

**Chicago School**
A group of Chicago architects, including Louis Sullivan, active at the turn of the 20th century. Their work is characterized by functional designs and steel skeletal construction used for building multistory structures.

**Christian Family**
The owners of Samara who asked Wright to design their home, including
- Dr. John E. Christian, professor of pharmaceutical chemistry at Purdue University from 1934 to 1988.
- Catherine “Kay” Christian, Dr. Christian’s wife and social director of the student union at Purdue University.
- Linda Christian, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Christian, born in 1953.

**Clerestory window**
A window positioned in the upper part of a wall to admit light to a building’s interior.

**Client**
In architecture, someone who pays for the services of an architect.

**Commission**
A job committed to someone’s control; an official assignment.

**Contractor**
A person who coordinates and supervises a building project.

**Cul-de-sac**
A street that is closed at one end.

**de Koven Hill, John**
The primary interior designer at Taliesin who directed the Christians’ 1970s redecoration project.
**Draftsperson**
Someone whose job is to draw the architect’s plans and designs for buildings.

**Eave**
The overhanging edge of a sloping roof.

**Elevation**
A drawing showing a flattened view of details of one side of a building but excluding perspective.

**F. Schumacher Co.**
The New York City-based fabric and wallpaper company that featured Wright’s Taliesin line from 1955 until the 1970s.

**Façade**
The exterior public face of a building or any face given special architectural treatment.

**Fallingwater**
Wright’s signature weekend home designed and built over a waterfall for the Edgar and Lilliane Kaufmann family in Bear Run, Pennsylvania.

**Fascia**
Horizontal bands joined to rafter ends at the edge of a roof.

**Floor plan**
A diagram of a room or floor of a structure usually drawn to scale.

**Froebel blocks**
Geometric blocks designed by German educator Friedrich Froebel for children’s play and development of spatial understanding. As a small boy, Wright played with Froebel blocks for hours, putting them together in different ways to create three-dimensional forms.

**Georges, Aris**
The Taliesin apprentice who designed the Samara-themed area rug for the Christians in the 1990s.

**Hassock**
A thick upholstered cushion used as a low seat or footstool.

**Hearth**
The inner or outer fireproof floor area of a fireplace, usually made of brick, tile, or stone.

**Heritage-Henredon**
The North Carolina furniture company that engaged Wright to develop a line of furniture.
Horizontal
Flat and level to the ground (opposite vertical). Most of Wright’s structures, including his Prairie Style and Usonian homes were oriented horizontally, a reflection of the environment into which they were built.

Industrial design
The art of dealing with the design issues of manufactured goods.

Kipta, Edward
Wright’s apprentice who supervised Samara’s local contractor, A. Frank Woods.

Law, James Duff
The author of Here and There in Two Hemispheres (1903), and inventor of the term, Usonia.

Labeled glass
Panels composed of small panes of colored or clear glass separated by lead or zinc dividers.

Masonry
Building material such as stone, brick, concrete, and tile that is usually bonded together with mortar to create a wall.

Masselink, Eugene
A Taliesin fellow and Frank Lloyd Wright’s secretary, Masselink was an important figure throughout all phases of Samara’s planning and construction. He corresponded directly with the Christians about the house and its furnishings over a period of years.

Millwork
Building materials made of finished wood, including doors, window and door frames, fireplace mantels, paneling, stairway components, moldings, and interior trim.

Natural form
Form or shape based on nature and blending with its surroundings.

Negative space
Space between or around objects or parts of an object (opposite positive space.)

Organic
In architecture, an approach to building and design inspired by the harmonious relationship of shapes, patterns, and colors found in nature.

Perforated board
A distinctive architectural feature developed by Wright which created a decorative effect by allowing light to pass through cut-outs in wood panels.
Philippine mahogany
A wood favored by Wright for framing windows and used for interior doors, cabinets, furniture and, wall paneling.

Plywood
Multi-use building material composed of layers of wood glued together, usually at right angles.

Positive space
Space that is occupied by the substance of an object (opposite negative space).

Prairie Style
Descriptive term for Wright and others’ early twentieth-century buildings, inspired by the Midwest prairie environment and intended to reflect a uniquely American style.

Radiant heat flooring
A method for heating used in Samara’s construction involving a forced hot water system with pipes placed beneath the floor.

Rheostat lighting
A lighting system used in Samara to vary the intensity of light without interrupting the electrical circuit. A dimmer switch could be used by the Christians to control the level of lighting to suit their moods or needs.

Rogers, Tyler Stewart
Architectural planning expert and author of Plan Your House to Suit Yourself, a guide used by Kay Christian to plan Samara.

Samara
A winged seed pod of the maple tree and the name of the Christian family residence.

Sandwich walls
Walls composed of thin single-widths of brick with insulation “sandwiched” between that eliminates the need for structural studs and ordinary wall finishing treatments like wallpaper and paint.

Site
The place or location of a structure, especially as it relates to its environment.

Sullivan, Louis Henri
The Chicago architect whose original theories and designs introduced the United States to modern architecture. Sullivan was Wright’s mentor and greatest influence.

Sustainable design
The design of objects, buildings, and services that supports principles of social, economic, and environmental sustainability.
Taliesin East
Wright’s summer home near Spring Green, Wisconsin, designed in 1911 after he left his first wife, Catherine Tobin.

Taliesin West
Wright’s winter home and school in the desert near Scottsdale, Arizona, from 1937 until his death in 1959. Now the main campus of the Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture and home to the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation.

Terrace
An open, usually paved space next to a house that serves as an outdoor living area.

Topography
The slope of the land, hills, ponds, flat areas.

Usonia
Term derived from United States of North America coined by James Duff Law in 1903 to distinguish the U.S. from Mexico and Canada. Wright used “Usonia” to describe his vision for homes that serve the lifestyles of middle-income families.

Veneer
Extremely thin slices of wood glued to core panels to create doors, cabinets, or furniture.

Vertical
Upright position or direction (opposite horizontal).

Woods, A. Frank
The Christian family’s local West Lafayette contractor.

Wabash Valley
A region spanning parts of Illinois and Indiana named for the Wabash River. The term applies to cities and towns along the river, including Lafayette, Indiana.

West Lafayette, Indiana
An Indiana city located across the Wabash River from its twin city, Lafayette. Samara and Purdue University are located in West Lafayette.

What We Need for How We Live
Kay Christian’s 28-page document outlining the family’s aspirations for Samara.