Contour Drawing of a Museum Facade: A Line-Only Study

Ordinary topic reference / separately checked pixels



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Original worked example / unchanged complete key

Prompt: A facade reference shows a roofline 12 cm wide on the page, four columns with centers at 2, 4, 6, and 8 cm from the left, and an entrance 4 cm wide centered on the roofline. The entrance is open at the facade base, with no threshold line visible. Draw the contour study using one line weight for outer edges and a lighter line for columns.

Answer: Mark roof corners at 0 cm and 12 cm. Draw the roofline as one line. Draw outer verticals at 0 cm and 12 cm down to the base. Treat the four columns as having centers at 2, 4, 6, and 8 cm from the left (hypothetical), and draw paired edges around each center 0.5 cm apart: 1.75/2.25, 3.75/4.25, 5.75/6.25, and 7.75/8.25 cm. The entrance is centered on the 12 cm roofline, so its midpoint is 6 cm; at 4 cm wide it spans 4 to 8 cm. Trace its top edge at the column base and its sides downward. State and apply a hidden-edge convention: treat the columns as in front. The entrance top edge begins at 4 cm, inside the first column span, so draw no segment from 4 to 4.25 cm; resume at 4.25 cm. Draw visibly to 5.75 cm, stop across the second column from 5.75 to 6.25 cm, then resume and draw to 7.75 cm. Stop at 7.75 cm for the last column; the entrance ends at 8 cm inside that column, so there is no visible segment to resume beyond it. The entrance's left side edge at 4 cm lies inside the column spanning 3.75–4.25 cm, so it is hidden and not drawn; the right side edge at 8 cm lies inside the column spanning 7.75–8.25 cm, so it is also hidden and not drawn. Leave the opening open at the facade base; no bottom edge or threshold is shown. Use the lighter line for column edges and the heavier line for the roofline, outer verticals, and entrance. No shading or perspective lines are added.

Reason: The entrance spans 4 to 8 cm. The columns centered at 4, 6, and 8 cm cover 3.75–4.25, 5.75–6.25, and 7.75–8.25 cm. Treating columns as foreground means the visible entrance top consists of 4.25–5.75 cm and 6.25–7.75 cm only; the line starts and ends inside occluding columns.

Check: Confirm the only visible entrance-top segments are 4.25–5.75 cm and 6.25–7.75 cm. The opening remains open at the facade base with no bottom edge or unshown threshold. No segment extends before 4 cm or after 8 cm, and no visible line crosses a column.