



Sunrise Boulevard Historic District Design Guidelines

SUNRISE BOULEVARD



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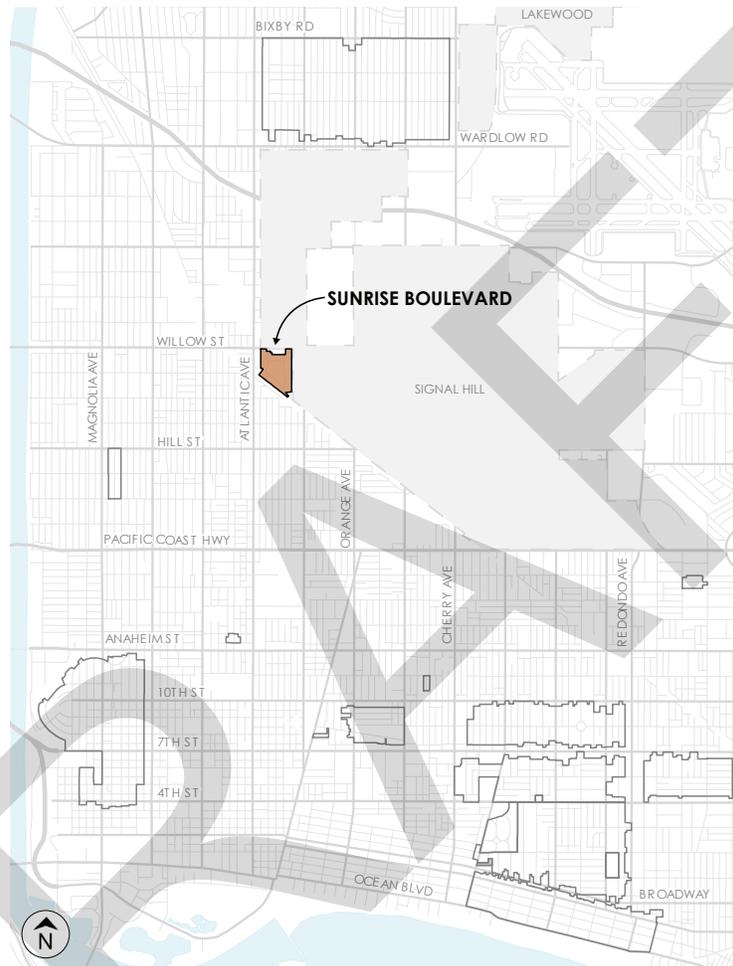
This section of the Long Beach Historic District Design Guidelines is part of a larger document created as a planning tool for the City's **historic districts**. The guidelines are intended to provide recommendations, inspiration, and advice as part of an instructive framework that will help guide sensitive changes to historic properties and encourage rehabilitation. By their nature, design guidelines are flexible. As such, outcomes may depend on the resource, the surrounding district, and the goals of the proposed project.

Any changes to the exterior of the property must be given prior approval by Historic Preservation staff through a **Certificate of Appropriateness**, and all projects may be subject to other City requirements not listed within these guidelines.

The first instance of certain terms throughout the Guidelines are highlighted in **bold** text. These terms are defined in a glossary in *Chapter 5: Additional Resources*.

For additional information, please refer to the other chapters of this document:

- Chapter 1: Purpose, Procedures & Overview
- Chapter 2: Guidelines for Maintenance and Repair
- Chapter 3: Design Guidelines by Historic District
- Chapter 4: Architectural Style Guides
- Chapter 5: Additional Resources



District Significance

The Sunrise Boulevard Historic District was designated in 1990 and is significant for its association with the early history of Long Beach. In its earliest days, the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District was the Butler Ranch, which later became the Porter Milk Sanitarium—a sanitarium that used a milk diet as a cure—before being subdivided as the Sunnyside Tract adjacent to the Pacific Electric Railway in 1906.

- Established by ordinance on December 20, 1990 (Ord. No. C-6834)
- 47 **Contributing**, 24 **Non-Contributing**
- **Period of Significance:** 1908-1930



District Description

The Sunrise Boulevard Historic District is located in northern Long Beach, directly east of Atlantic Avenue, and includes Sunrise Boulevard, Vernon Street, and Lime and Olive Avenues. The Sunrise Boulevard Historic District is comprised primarily of single-family residential properties. The majority of the contributing properties are Craftsman in style, with some examples of the Spanish Colonial Revival style. There are some post-WWII infill properties consisting of larger apartment buildings and Ranch homes. With a varied collection of properties arranged along a unique, meandering street layout, the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District derives its significance more from its association with early Long Beach history, rather than uniform visual cohesion or concentration of a certain architectural style.

The district is outfitted with squared, concrete curbs, concrete sidewalks that are approximately 5' wide, and sloping curb cuts at corner crossings and driveways. The sidewalk is separated from the street by a planting strip that is approximately 5' wide and planted with grass and mature trees. The streets in the district are approximately 35' wide and accommodate two lanes of traffic. The irregularity of the street layout creates two triangular green spaces within its boundaries; one at the intersection of Sunrise Boulevard and Lime Avenue and a second at Sunrise Boulevard and Olive Avenue. These small spaces are planted with mature trees and covered in gravel.

Alterations seen in the district include the installation of new windows, security bars over windows, and metal security doors.





Site Layout

The properties in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District do not have an overall uniform size or shape due to the unique street layout; as a result, there are rectangular, wedge-shaped, and irregular-shaped lots within the district. Despite the varied lot sizes and shapes, the properties are generally arranged near the front of their lots with a similar setback, occupying much of their street frontage, especially along the outer edges of the district.

Lot Size

- Changes in lot size are not permitted.

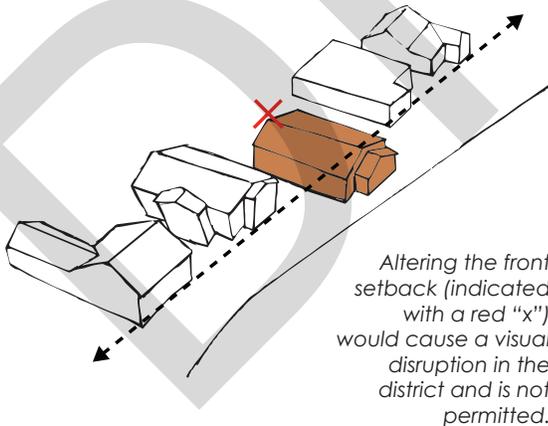
The lot sizes in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District are varied, but generally have the narrower edge facing the street. The lots along Olive Avenue, Lime Avenue, and Sunrise Boulevard are varied in length and shape at the front in response to the gentle curves of the street. Combining lots together could result in the loss of a district contributor or create a disruption to the historic character of the district. Lot splitting is not permitted by the City's zoning laws.



The lot sizes and shapes in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District are varied.

Front Setback

- Changes to the front setback are not permitted.



The contributing residences within the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District have a generally consistent setback from the street despite the variation in lot size. Any change to the setback from the street on the primary elevation would cause a disruption to the historic character of the district, and is not permitted. Furthermore, a change in setback may not be permitted by the City's zoning code.



Driveways

The majority of the properties within the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District have a driveway that runs along the side of the property and leads to a detached garage to the rear of the lot.

- *Driveways should not be relocated or resized.*

The width, location, and configuration of existing driveways should be retained, as this will help preserve the building's relationship to its site.

- *If a driveway requires replacement, it should be replaced in kind or with concrete in an appropriate texture or color.*

There is evidence to suggest that the driveways in this area were historically dual-ribbon concrete driveways; however, most are now a solid concrete slab with scored joints.

If an existing driveway requires replacement, a historically compatible slab or dual ribbon driveway with scored joints should be installed. The two strips of the dual ribbon driveway may be separated by grass or loose rock, such as crushed quartz or river rock.

- *Repaving driveways with a visually different material such as brick, pavers, or flagstone is not permitted.*

The majority of existing driveways in the district are executed in concrete with scored joints, which is a historically compatible material. Removing the historically compatible concrete and replacing it with a visually different material such as fieldstones or pavers would not be compatible with the historic character of the district.

Concrete, or concrete-like permeable paving materials with a comparable color, texture, and appearance are acceptable.



There is evidence to suggest that the driveways in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District were dual ribbon driveways.



Garages

Most properties in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District are occupied by a single-family residence located near the front of the lot, with a driveway leading to a single-car detached garage to the rear of the lot. Some garages have been expanded.

- *Existing detached garages may be expanded or widened to accommodate larger, contemporary vehicles.*



An existing detached garage in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District.

If possible, expansion should be considered first to the rear of the property; however, many of the detached garages in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District may already be built to the property line. If additional space is needed, expanding the width of a detached garage to the side may be acceptable, as long as the addition or expansion is compatible in design and materials, and not highly visible from the public right-of-way.

- *Detached garages should not be attached to the primary building.*

In an effort to maintain the garage's original relationship to its site and the primary building, garages should remain detached unless the property owner is able to demonstrate that there is no other feasible option to increase usable space.

- *Other alterations to the exterior of an existing garage should follow the guidelines presented here for Accessory Buildings.*

Walkways

Many properties within the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District have a walkway leading from the front entry porch to the sidewalk. These walkways are generally made of concrete with scored joints and are usually centered on the front of the property. There are instances of walkways that are executed in other materials, such as brick, and examples of walkways that are not centered, in order to line up with side-facing porch steps.

- *Where they exist, original walkways should be retained and repaired as needed.*

Walkways should always be regularly maintained and protected, and repaired rather than replaced. If replacement becomes necessary, the walkway should be replaced in kind.



Walkways, Continued

- *Walkways should not be relocated or resized.*

The location, width, and configuration of existing walkways should be retained, in order to help maintain the historic spatial relationships on the site.

- *Walkways may be added to the side of properties where they do not already exist.*

The addition of a secondary walkway perpendicular to the original is acceptable, as long as the original walkway is retained. The new walkway should be placed near the house to avoid altering the existing front yard configuration and relationship to the site. Any new walkways should be executed in a compatible paving material, such as poured concrete with scored joints.

- *Walkways should not be paved or repaved with a material other than poured concrete, such as gravel, or flagstone.*

Removing historically appropriate concrete and replacing it with another material such as pavers, fieldstones, gravel, or dirt, would not be compatible with the historic character of the district. In instances where the walkway has already been altered, consider restoring it with more historically compatible concrete when the non-original material has come to the end of its useful life.

In the event that an existing walkway requires replacement, it should be replaced in the same location and executed in a visually compatible material. Concrete, or concrete-like permeable paving materials with a comparable color, texture, and appearance are acceptable.



Concrete with scored joints is the recommended material for walkways and driveways.



Landscaping

- *The existing planting area, yard configuration, and layout should be retained.*

Most contributing properties in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District have a front yard. The majority of these yards consist of grass lawn, some with gardens and trees, although others have been replaced with drought-tolerant landscaping. Retaining the existing planting area, yard configuration, and layout will help maintain the historic character of each property.

Consider removing or trimming excessively overgrown shrubs, bushes, or landscaping that may obscure or highly detract from the visibility of a contributing building within the district to maintain the overall cohesive feel of the historic district.

- *Drought-tolerant or edible landscaping may be acceptable within the existing planting area.*

Drought-tolerant or edible landscaping may be acceptable within the existing planting area if the proposed plantings satisfy all other applicable City regulations. Historically, many residences in Long Beach had a citrus, stone fruit, or avocado tree in the yard.

- *Gardening edges and planters may be acceptable.*

Adding a garden or planter wall may also be acceptable, so long as it is low-profile, constructed of a compatible material, and does not obscure or damage any **character-defining features** of the primary elevation. The wall should be added in such a way that it does not penetrate the existing structure, and if it were removed in the future, the front elevation would be unaltered.

- *Front yards should not be "hardscaped," or otherwise paved with materials such as concrete, fieldstone, brick, or pavers.*

Replacing the historic planting area in the front yard with a hard, paved surface such as poured concrete or pavers would not be compatible with the historic character of the district and is not permitted.

Fencing

Several properties in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District have existing front yard fencing, ranging from wrought iron to wood picket to chain link. Some properties have retaining walls necessitated by the lot grade and made of wood, brick, or concrete block.



Examples of existing fencing and retaining walls in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District.



Fencing, Continued

- *Front yard fencing may be acceptable.*

Generally, installing a new fence on the street-facing elevation is not recommended without sufficient documentation to indicate that it existed historically, or if the surrounding properties in the district do not have front fencing. As several properties in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District already have fencing around the perimeter of the front yard, the introduction of this feature would not necessarily disrupt the visual continuity of the district.

The design and placement of any fencing may be subject to other City requirements not listed within these guidelines.

- *Front yard fencing should be compatible.*

Compatible fencing should consist of a low, visually open fence with voids/spaces, such as a wood picket fence. Horizontally oriented fencing is generally not compatible with most historic styles, and their use is discouraged outside of certain situations, such as a Ranch style or contemporary residence. Vertically oriented fences are more historically compatible and their use is strongly encouraged. The use of incompatible, heavy, and visually disruptive fencing materials such as concrete block, chain link, vinyl, or wrought iron and masonry units is not permitted. These materials often appear temporary, and are rarely visually compatible with historic styles.

Where these incompatible fences already exist, property owners are strongly encouraged to remove and replace them with a more compatible option.

- *Rear fencing is acceptable.*

Height restrictions may apply, and vary by location. Appropriate rear fencing materials include vertical wood planks, **dog-eared** fencing, board and batten fencing, or other vertically-oriented wood fencing. The use of prefabricated materials like concrete block, vinyl, and chain link are not permitted; these materials often appear temporary, and are rarely visually compatible with historic styles.

- *Gates may be added across the driveway for added privacy and security.*

While the addition of a gate may be acceptable, these gates should be set back from the primary elevation, and should be made of wood. Materials like chain-link, wrought iron, or vinyl would detract from the historic character of the district, and should not be used.



Fencing, Continued

- *Solid, stuccoed walls may be acceptable along the rear of the property or as a retaining wall.*

Where concrete block walls exist on the rear property line or as a retaining wall, property owners should finish them with an application of stucco and compatibly colored paint.

Porte-Cochères, Trellises, and Decks

- *Porte-cochères should not be added to properties in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District.*

Porte-cochères are not a characteristic feature of the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District. As such, the addition of such a feature would not be historically compatible and is not permitted. Furthermore, the introduction of a porte-cochère to the front elevation that did not exist historically is not permitted, to avoid **conjecture** or creating a false sense of history. Lastly, a porte-cochère is unlikely to be permitted by current zoning codes.

- *The addition of a trellis (or pergola) is not permitted on the front elevation without sufficient evidence to suggest it existed historically.*

The introduction of a trellis-type feature to the front elevation that did not exist historically is not permitted, to avoid conjecture or creating a false sense of history. Tall, free-standing trellises or pergolas should be located towards the rear of the property.

- *It would be acceptable to add a trellis or deck to the rear of a property.*

The construction of a trellis, deck, or similar feature to the rear elevation would be acceptable, provided that it is not visible from the street.

- *The addition of a trellis, porte-cochère, or deck should not damage or obscure existing historic or character-defining features.*

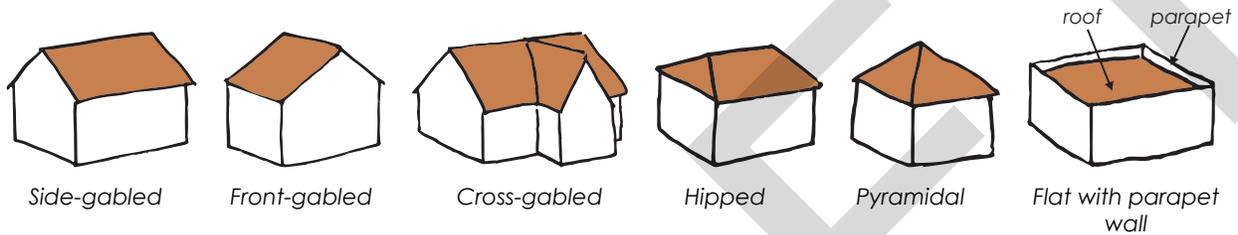
New features should not obscure or damage existing character-defining features or historic fabric. Adding a new feature that would cover or require the removal of an existing historic or character defining feature is not permitted; for example, it would not be appropriate to remove an existing walkway that existed historically to add a new patio and trellis.

- *Climbing vegetation should be regularly trimmed away from the property and historic fabric.*

Vegetation left too close to a building for extended periods of time, especially against wood elements, can cause moisture damage on wood and attract wood-boring insects. Please refer to *Chapter 2: Maintenance and Repair* for additional information.

Roof

As the architectural styles in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District are varied, there are a number of different roof forms, shapes and materials; however, regardless of style, the majority of roofs are hipped or **gabled** and are clad in composition shingles.



Changes to Roofline

- *Historic roof forms should always be retained.*

Radically changing the overall shape of the historic roofline—i.e., adding a gabled roof to a flat roofline, or changing the pitch of a gabled roof, is not permitted.

Re-Roofing

- *Historic or historically compatible roofing materials should be retained or replaced in kind.*

Specialty roofing materials such as clay tile should be retained and repaired where possible. If the roofing materials are demonstrably damaged beyond repair, they should be replaced in kind or with a visually similar substitute. Composition shingles are not an appropriate substitution for clay tiles, and their installation is not permitted on buildings with historically clay tile roofs.

- *Removing clay tile **coping** without replacing it in kind is not permitted.*

Clay tile coping should be repaired rather than replaced. If the coping is demonstrably beyond repair, it should be replaced in kind.

If the clay tile coping has already been removed, installing historically appropriate clay tile is strongly encouraged. Not only is it a more historically appropriate and attractive finish to the **parapet**, the coping also provides a measure of protection to the roofline and helps to deflect water away from the building.





Re-Roofing, Continued

- *Contributors with shingled roofs should be roofed with compatible shingles in a dark, neutral color and laid in a traditional, alternating pattern.*

Historically, many houses of this era were originally roofed using wood shingle or wood shake. The majority of these wood shingle or wood shake roofs have been replaced with composition shingles over time, including the contributors in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District. It is acceptable to install new composition shingles in a compatible color and laid in a compatible pattern.

If desired, property owners may opt to install wood shingles or a visually similar substitute such as cement shake; however, all new roofing must satisfy any other City requirements.

Mechanical and Electrical Equipment

- *Rooftop equipment such as satellite dishes and solar panels should be carefully installed in an appropriate location.*

The rear elevation is the most appropriate location for most equipment. The equipment should not be highly visible from the public right-of-way, and should be carefully installed to avoid damaging the roof or other character-defining features.

- *Larger equipment, such as HVAC condensers, should be installed at ground level.*

Other equipment installed either at ground level or on an exterior wall, including solar inverters, electrical panels, and water heaters should not be highly visible from public right-of-way, and should be carefully installed to avoid damaging the building wall, roof, or other character defining features.



Large equipment installed on a roof is visually obtrusive and can detract from the historic character of the district.



Dormers

A sensitively designed dormer could be an acceptable method to increase the usable interior space of a residence without needing to add a second story or rooftop addition, depending on the building's architectural style and features.

- *Dormers may be acceptable on a rear-facing plane of a gabled roof.*

Dormers should not be highly visible from the public right of way, and the most appropriate location would be on a rear-facing plane of the roof. Installation of a dormer on the primary elevation is not permitted. Due to the nature of a dormer feature, they are only feasible for buildings with gabled or otherwise pitched roofs.

- *Dormers should be compatible with the residence and its roof in size, shape, and design.*

The roof pitch and shape should mirror or compliment that of the overall roof. The feature should be appropriately sized so that it does not detract from the historic roof form or extend above the height of the original building.

When selecting the cladding, windows, and decorative detailing of a dormer, property owners should follow the same guidelines for other additions, as detailed later in this section.

The design and placement of dormers may be subject to other City requirements not listed within these guidelines.

- *Removal of historic fabric to install a dormer is discouraged.*

The majority of the roofing materials within the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District have already been replaced with contemporary composition shingles; therefore, constructing a new dormer onto a composition shingle roof is unlikely to destroy any historic or character-defining roof material.

Installing a dormer on a roof plane clad in historic material is not recommended, in order to avoid the unnecessary removal or destruction of historic fabric. In these instances, property owners are instead encouraged to consider constructing a small rear addition to the rear of the residence, where feasible.

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Exterior Cladding

As cladding covers the majority of a building, even minor changes can drastically alter its historic appearance. Please see *Chapter 2: Maintenance and Repair* for additional information on proper repair and maintenance of exterior cladding.

Paint

- *Repainting the exterior of a residence is encouraged as part of regular maintenance.*
- *Changing the exterior color of a residence is permitted, provided that the color scheme is compatible with the historic style and the surrounding district.*

Generally, lighter neutral colors are the most compatible with historic styles. Please refer to the appropriate section in *Chapter 4: Architectural Style Guides* for additional information and ideas for exterior colors. More guidance on paint products can be found in *Chapter 2: Maintenance and Repair* and *Chapter 5: Additional Resources*.

Wood

- *Original or historically appropriate wood siding should be retained. Replacing or covering this wood siding with a different material is not permitted.*

Many residences in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District retain their original wood siding. Wood siding should be retained, with an emphasis on repair over replacement. If wood siding is demonstrated to be beyond repair, only replace the damaged portions in kind; sound building material should not be removed during replacement of damaged material.

Property owners should determine the underlying cause of the deterioration and remedy or repair the cause before carrying out the repair or replacement of siding to prevent further damage in the future. See *Chapter 2: Maintenance and Repair* for additional guidance.

Original wood siding should never be replaced or covered with a new or different material that did not exist historically, such as brick or stucco. Where wood siding has been replaced or covered with a new building material, property owners are encouraged to restore historically appropriate wood siding when the existing cladding has reached the end of its useful life, rather than replacing or repairing the non-original material.



This image shows original wood siding that was incompatibly covered in stucco.

Stucco

- Original or historically appropriate stucco with a sand or float finish should be retained.



An appropriate float or dash finish stucco has a slightly rough, sandy texture.

- Replacing original or historically appropriate dash or float finish stucco with a different material or texture is not permitted.

In instances where the stucco has already been replaced or covered with an incompatibly textured stucco, property owners are encouraged to remove and replace it with a more historically appropriate smooth textured stucco finish, rather than replicating the existing texture.

If stucco cladding is demonstrably beyond repair, it should be replaced in kind with a visually similar material. Replacing historically appropriate cladding with a new, incompatible material is not permitted. For example, replacing historically appropriate stucco with new stucco that has an extremely smooth or heavy, troweled texture would alter the historic character of the building.

Similarly, replacing the cladding on a contributing property in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District with a new material that is not stucco, such as wood or brick, is not permitted. These materials would not be compatible with the historic nature and architectural style of these residences.



Heavily textured "lace" finish stucco (left) or extremely smooth stucco (right) are equally inappropriate stucco finishes for historic buildings, and should not be applied.



Masonry

- *Original or historically appropriate masonry should be retained. Replacing or covering this masonry with a different material is not permitted.*

Exterior masonry should be retained, with an emphasis on repair over replacement. Masonry should never be replaced or covered with a new or different material that did not exist historically, such as stucco. Where masonry has been replaced or covered with a new building material, property owners are encouraged to restore historically appropriate masonry when the existing cladding has reached the end of its useful life, rather than replacing or repairing the non-original material.

- *In the event that masonry is demonstrated to be beyond repair, patching or consolidating individual units may be preferable to replacement in kind.*

Masonry can often be carefully patched with certain appropriate compounds. If necessary, it may be acceptable to consolidate historic masonry units on the most visible elevations of the historic building. If masonry units are beyond repair and consolidation is not possible, the units should be replaced in kind.

- *Replacement of masonry should be restricted to the areas that need them.*

Historic building materials that are in good condition should not be removed when only a small area requires replacement. In the event that the majority of the masonry cladding is demonstrably damaged beyond repair, it should be replaced in kind with masonry units of a similar shape, size, color, bond, and mortar.

- *Painting exterior masonry is not recommended.*

Painting masonry walls is not recommended unless there is sufficient evidence to suggest they were painted historically. Paint is not only difficult to remove from masonry, but it can drastically alter the character of the historic feature, especially when the materials were chosen for their appearance as part of the overall design of the building.

Similarly, masonry that is painted should not be stripped of its paint without sufficient historic evidence that it was historically unpainted.

- *Sandblasting masonry is prohibited.*

Sandblasting can cause irreparable damage to masonry units—especially brick—leaving them highly susceptible to damage over time. If masonry requires cleaning, gentler methods should be utilized. See *Chapter 2: Maintenance and Repair* for additional guidance.

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Masonry, Continued

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	If the existing cladding is...		
	Historic/ Original	Architecturally Compatible/ Period Appropriate	Architecturally Incompatible/ Non-Period
Retaining it is...	Encouraged.	Acceptable.	Discouraged.
Repairing it is...	Encouraged as part of regular maintenance and proper care.	Encouraged as part of regular maintenance and proper care.	Acceptable to prevent damage to surrounding features; however, replacement is preferred.
Replacing it is...	Not permitted, unless damaged beyond repair. Replace in kind.	Acceptable, as long as the replacement is also compatible.	Encouraged. The replacement must be compatible.

Chimneys

There are examples of existing chimneys in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District, but the feature is not consistent throughout the district. The existing examples are typically masonry or clad in stucco.

- Chimneys should not be added where they did not exist historically, to avoid creating a false sense of history.
- Original chimneys should not be removed or altered.

If the feature is no longer desired, inactive chimneys may be sealed, as long as their original external appearance is retained. The design, size, height, or dimensions of the chimney should not be changed.

- If a chimney is demonstrably beyond repair and must be removed, it should be replaced in kind.

Removing a damaged historic feature and neglecting to replace it in kind or with a compatible design is not permitted.



An original chimney on a building in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District.

Chimneys, Continued

- *Painting a masonry chimney is not recommended.*

Painting over a masonry chimney is not recommended unless there is sufficient evidence to suggest it was painted historically. Paint is not only difficult to remove from masonry, but it can drastically alter the character of the historic feature. Similarly, masonry that is painted should not be stripped of its paint without sufficient historic evidence that it was historically unpainted.

- *Chimneys should not be covered in any other material.*

The material covering a chimney should be retained and repaired as needed. See *Chapter 2: Maintenance and Repair* for additional guidance.

The existing material should not be covered with any other material. For example, a masonry chimney should not be covered in stucco or stone veneer.

Porches, Entryways, and Balconies

Porches and entryways are visually dominant features on a historic building, especially for residences. Even minor changes to an entryway can drastically alter the appearance of the building and could affect its historic character. Therefore, careful attention should be made when proposing alterations to the porch or entryways.

The most common entryway type in the Sunrise Boulevard district is a projecting or recessed porch that is supported by wood posts. A gabled roof typically shelters projecting porches. These porches have a centered set of steps that lead to the entryway (A). Other entry types include a flush or slightly recessed entryway sheltered by a shallow porch roof (B).



(A)



(B)



Enclosure

- *Enclosing a porch or balcony on elevations visible from the public right-of-way is not permitted.*

Enclosing the porch area drastically alters the appearance of buildings and affects their historic character. As such, enclosing the porch on a contributing property within the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District is not permitted.

In instances where porches have already been enclosed, property owners are strongly encouraged to restore these features.

Similarly, an original balcony or **balconette** should not be removed or enclosed.

Railings and Supports

- *The introduction of railings where they did not exist historically is not recommended.*

The majority of porches in the district are not surrounded by any railing at all, or are surrounded by low walls. These walls should be treated the same as the exterior cladding and should not be covered with any other material.

The introduction of railings where they did not exist historically is not recommended; however, should the addition of a railing be required for safety, please refer to appropriate section in *Chapter 4: Architectural Style Guides* for a compatible option.

- *Original railings and supports should be retained.*

Where they exist, historic features like railings, porch supports, or balustrades should always be regularly maintained and protected, and repaired rather than replaced. Replacement should only be considered when the feature is demonstrated to be damaged beyond repair.

In the event that an original feature is demonstrated to be damaged beyond repair and needs to be replaced, it should be replaced in kind or with an equally compatible feature. Use the existing feature to guide the new design, or refer to the appropriate style guide in *Chapter 4: Architectural Style Guides* for additional information on compatible features.



Original porch supports in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District.



Porch Steps

- *Porch steps should not be removed, relocated, or resized.*

The residences in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District typically have a set of steps leading to the front porch, often made of concrete with scored joints. Altering the location or configuration of a centralized set of porch steps could affect the home's historic character.

- *Original or historically appropriate steps should remain. Non-original or incompatible materials should not be introduced.*

Historically, the majority of steps and porch floors in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District would have been concrete. There are a few instances of brick porch steps and floors that appear to be original. The original steps and porch floor should remain. Installing incompatible new steps or covering the existing steps and porch floor with a new material or texture, such as tile, pavers, or fieldstone veneer, on a street-facing elevation is not permitted.

There are examples of porch steps within the district that have already been replaced with materials such as fieldstone. Where these non-original materials have been installed already, property owners are encouraged to replace them with concrete when the existing material has reached the end of its useful life.

- *Concrete may be painted as desired in compatible colors.*

Please see the appropriate style guide in *Chapter 4: Architectural Style Guides* for compatible colors.



The majority of porch floors and steps within the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District are concrete (left, center). There are a few instances of brick porch floors and steps (right).

Porch Foundations

- *Porch foundations should be retained and repaired or replaced in kind.*

The porch foundations within the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District vary by style. Where they exist, original materials should be treated the same as the exterior cladding, and should not be covered with an incompatible new material such as fieldstone or brick veneer.

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Porch Foundations, Continued

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Where the porch foundations have been covered with an incompatible new material, property owners are encouraged to remove this material and restore a more historically compatible appearance.

Windows

Removing or replacing historic windows is one of the most detrimental changes that can be made to a historic home; preservation of historically appropriate windows is critical to maintaining the historic character of a property. As the old saying goes, if the eyes are the windows to the soul, then the windows are the soul of a house.

There have been a number of original windows replaced in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District over the years, although there are still some original windows that remain intact.

Window Replacement

- *Original or historically appropriate windows should be retained.*

Historic windows should always be regularly maintained and protected, and repaired rather than replaced. Replacement should only be considered when the window is demonstrated to be damaged beyond repair.

In the event that an original window on any elevation is demonstrated to be damaged beyond repair and needs to be replaced, it should be replaced in kind. Use the historic window to guide the new design, or refer to the appropriate style guide in *Chapter 4: Architectural Style Guides* for additional information on compatible windows. Refer to *Chapter 2: Maintenance and Repair* for additional information on maintaining and repairing historic windows, as well as information about energy efficiency.

- *The City of Long Beach does not allow the installation of new incompatible windows—such as vinyl or aluminum—on historic buildings.*



Historically compatible or original windows (top) are always preferable to incompatible replacements, especially vinyl or aluminum (bottom).

In the event that an existing, incompatible window requires replacement on a contributing building, owners will be required to replace it with a window in a style that is compatible with the appropriate style guide in *Chapter 4: Architectural Style Guides*.

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Window Replacement, Continued

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Property owners may be required to restore to historically appropriate windows as a condition of approval for Certificates of Appropriateness.

	If the existing window is...		
	Historic/ Original	Architecturally Compatible/ Period Appropriate	Architecturally Incompatible/ Non-Period
Retaining it is...	Encouraged.	Acceptable.	Discouraged.
Repairing it is...	Encouraged as part of regular maintenance and proper care.	Encouraged as part of regular maintenance and proper care.	Acceptable to prevent damage to surrounding features; however, replacement is preferred.
Replacing it is...	Not permitted, unless damaged beyond repair. Replace in kind.	Acceptable, as long as the replacement is also compatible.	Encouraged. The replacement must be compatible.

Window Openings

- Changing the size, shape, number, or location of window openings on elevations visible from the street is not permitted.



Changing window openings can leave "scars" on the exterior of a building. Red arrows indicate the original extent of the opening.

Windows are a key feature on a historic building, and these alterations would drastically affect the historic character. Property owners are encouraged to retain the original window opening sizes and locations on all elevations, particularly if they are original. Changing the size and number of window openings on the front elevation is not permitted.

Changing the size, placement, or number of window openings on the rear or side elevations, not visible from the street, may be acceptable if there is a compelling reason to do so, such as an approved addition that changes the floor plan.

Window Openings, Continued

Where window openings have already been altered, property owners are encouraged to restore the original openings rather than replacing a window in the new, non-original opening.

The size of a window opening should never be altered to accommodate a new window; rather, the window should be sized to fit the historic window opening.

Window Surrounds

- *Original window surrounds, often made of wood, should be retained.*

In the event that an original window surround on any elevation is demonstrated to be damaged beyond repair and needs to be replaced, it should be replaced in kind. Use the existing feature to guide the new design, or refer to the appropriate style guide in *Chapter 4: Architectural Style Guides* for additional information on compatible options.

Window Screens

- *Window screens may be added to the primary elevation, provided that they are sensitively designed and carefully installed.*

Window screens sized to match the original windows that have narrow, wood frames and are painted to correspond with the building's trim are recommended. The screen itself should be relatively transparent, and should not obscure the window behind it. Retractable screens may also be acceptable. Vinyl and aluminum framed screens are not permitted.



This compatible window screen is sized to the window and has a narrow wood frame painted to match the building's trim.

Window Screens, Continued

- *Installing window screens on rear elevations not visible from the street is acceptable.*

Security Bars

- *Adding visually obtrusive security bars on the primary or side elevations is generally not recommended.*

Property owners are encouraged to consider less visually obtrusive security measures such as interior locks, swing-away interior mounted security bars, and wireless security sensors, where feasible. This equipment should be installed carefully so as to avoid damaging historic windows, even from the interior. Damage, especially to wood windows, may leave the window susceptible to deterioration. Installing security bars on rear elevations not visible from the street may be acceptable.



Awnings

- *Awnings are generally discouraged on primary or side elevations, but may be appropriate depending on the architectural style of the building.*

It may be appropriate to install cloth awnings on Spanish Colonial Revival or similar style properties; however, all property owners are encouraged to consider other methods of increasing shade or privacy, including interior shutters or window treatments, before deciding to install exterior awnings.

Awnings should not be installed on a Craftsman or similar styled residence. Awnings are incompatible with these styles, and property owners should seek other methods of increasing shade or privacy.

Please refer to the applicable style guide in *Chapter 4: Architectural Style Guides* for additional information on awnings.

- *Installing awnings on rear elevations not visible from the street may be acceptable.*

Doors



An original door in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District.

Several front doors on the contributing properties in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District are obscured behind metal security doors. Of the doors that are visible, the most frequently seen type is a partially-**glazed** wood doors.

Door Replacement

- *Original or historically appropriate doors should be retained.*

Original or historically appropriate doors should always be regularly maintained and protected, and repaired rather than replaced. Replacement should only be considered when the door is demonstrably damaged beyond repair.

In the event that an original or historically appropriate door on any elevation is demonstrated to be damaged beyond repair and needs to be replaced, it should be replaced in kind. Use the historic door to guide the new design, or refer to the appropriate section in *Chapter 4: Architectural Style Guides* for additional information on compatible windows.



Door Replacement, Continued

Generally, door replacement on secondary elevations is less visually obtrusive than replacing doors on the primary elevation; however, property owners are still encouraged to use compatible doors, even on the rear.

	If the existing door is...		
	Historic/ Original	Architecturally Compatible/ Period Appropriate	Architecturally Incompatible/ Non-Period
Retaining it is...	Encouraged.	Acceptable.	Discouraged.
Repairing it is...	Encouraged as part of regular maintenance and proper care.	Encouraged as part of regular maintenance and proper care.	Acceptable to prevent damage to surrounding features; however, replacement is preferred.
Replacing it is...	Not permitted, unless damaged beyond repair. Replace in kind.	Acceptable, as long as the replacement is also compatible.	Encouraged. The replacement must be compatible.

Door Openings

- Changing the size, shape, number, or location of door openings on elevations visible from the street is not permitted.

Property owners are encouraged to retain the original door opening sizes and locations on all elevations, particularly if they are original. Changing the size, location, or number of door openings on the front elevation is not permitted.

Changing the size, placement, or number of door openings on the rear or side elevations, not visible from the street, may be acceptable if there is a compelling reason to do so, such as an approved addition that changes the floor plan.

Where door openings have already been altered, property owners are encouraged to restore the original openings rather than replacing a door in the new, non-original opening.

The size of the door opening should never be altered to accommodate a new door; rather, the door should be sized to fit the historic opening. Otherwise altering a door opening to accommodate features such as **sidelights**, **fanlights**, or **transoms** that did not historically exist is not permitted.

Door Surrounds

- *Original door surrounds, often made of wood, should be retained.*

In the event that a door window surround on any elevation is demonstrated to be damaged beyond repair and needs to be replaced, it should be replaced in kind. Use the existing feature to guide the new design, or refer to the appropriate style guide in *Chapter 4: Architectural Style Guides* for additional information on compatible options.

Storm and Screen Doors

- *The installation of a storm or screen door on the primary elevation for light or ventilation may be acceptable.*



This is an excellent example of a compatible screen door. The narrow wood frame is stained in a neutral color and the mesh enclosure is transparent enough that it does not obscure the door beneath it.

Installing a **storm door** (glass enclosure) or **screen door** (mesh enclosure) may be acceptable if the feature is sensitively designed and carefully installed. Storm or screen doors that are sized to match the original door, have narrow, wood frames, and are painted to correspond with the building's trim or primary door are recommended. The screen or glass itself should be relatively transparent, and should not obscure the door behind it. Metal-framed screen or storm doors are not recommended.

- *Adding a storm or screen door to a side or rear door is acceptable.*

Security Doors

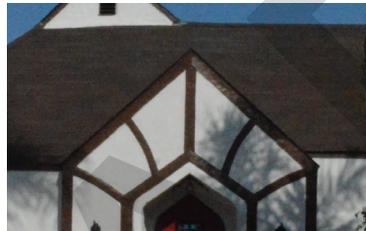
- *Adding thick metal mesh security doors that obscure the front door is generally not recommended.*

The installation of incompatible **security doors** is one of the most visually obtrusive alterations to a home, and is therefore not recommended. Property owners are encouraged to remove these features and replace them with a more compatible security solution. Modern, wireless electronic security systems can be installed without obstructing any character-defining features, and are a recommended solution. Property owners may also consider implementing security measures such as interior swing-away bars and locks that are not visible from the exterior.

Any exterior elements of a security system should be installed on a rear or secondary elevation, and all components should be carefully installed by an experienced technician to avoid damaging or obscuring historic or character-defining features. Please see *Chapter 2: Guidelines for Maintenance and Repair* for additional information on implementing historically compatible security measures for your home.

Decorative Features

The contributing buildings within the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District are designed in a variety of architectural styles; however, these styles typically did not rely on applied ornamentation for decoration, and many of the contributing properties in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District are modest in size and design. For example, natural materials and exposed structural elements were used for aesthetic effect on Craftsman homes. The existing decorative features in the district are not especially extensive or ornate, and typically consist of embellished structural features such as gable-end trusses or rafter tails.



Existing original decorative features in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District; refer to Chapter 4: Architectural Style Guides to identify decorative details.

- *Where they exist, original decorative features should be retained.*

These features should be retained and repaired as needed, and replaced in kind if they are demonstrably damaged beyond repair.

- *Adding new decorative features is not recommended.*

The installation of new decorative features such as shutters, inlaid tile, or other applied architectural decoration is not recommended. Without proper evidence to suggest that they existed historically, these features would be conjectural and could create a false sense of history. Additionally, these new decorative features may not be compatible with the historic style of the home, or the historically modest setting of the district.

- *Non-structural and non-permanent decorative features such as plant pots, hanging plants, bird baths, etc., are acceptable.*

These features should be carefully installed and selected so that they do not damage, obscure, or overly detract from the character defining features of the historic property or district.



Carefully installed non-structural decorative features may be added if desired.



Additions

Front Additions

- *Front additions are not permitted.*

Building a new addition on the front elevation of a contributing building within the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District would cause a drastic change to the historic character of the primary elevation of the building. Furthermore, an addition to the front would alter the existing setback from the street and disrupt the visual continuity of the district. Therefore, front additions are not permitted.

Side Additions

- *Side additions are discouraged within the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District.*

Side additions can be less visually obtrusive than front additions; however, the buildings within the Sunrise Boulevard generally have shallow front setbacks and no side fencing, leaving most side elevations highly visible from the street. Therefore, based on these conditions, side additions are discouraged.

Rear Additions

- *Rear additions are acceptable.*

Adding a single-story addition to the rear of a residence is acceptable for all properties within the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District, provided that it is sensitively designed and is not highly visible from the public right of way. The design and placement of rear additions may be subject to zoning and other City requirements not listed within these guidelines.

- *The size and massing of the addition should be compatible with the historic character of the residence.*

The addition should not envelop or be larger overall than the existing building, and should be no wider than the existing footprint. Rear additions should not be taller than the existing roofline.

- *The addition should be planned and constructed in a way that does not involve removing, obstructing, or damaging any existing historic features.*

Additions should always add to the existing footprint of the building; new construction should never involve removal of a portion of the original residence or site features.

Additions to the residence should not form a connection between the primary building and detached garage, in order to maintain the historic spatial relationship of the site.

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Rear Additions, Continued

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All additions should be planned and constructed carefully so that they do not cause damage to the historic building—for example, if you were to someday remove the addition, would the original building remain intact?

- *All additions should be compatible with, yet distinguishable from, the original building style.*

Property owners should design a rear addition to be compatible with the historic building, but avoid exactly duplicating the original building materials and detailing so that the addition is not mistaken for an original part of the residence in the future. Duplicating the features of the original part can create what is called a false sense of history, (i.e. it could be difficult, even for professionals, to visually determine which portion of the residence is original).

A Craftsman or similar style addition may be differentiated from the original building through the use of a setback, lower roof height, or slightly different windows and cladding. For example, if the primary residence is clad in horizontal wood clapboards, consider a wider or narrower horizontal wood siding for the addition.

A compatible addition to a stucco-clad building may be differentiated from the original building through the use of a setback from the original wall plane, a lower roof height, and slightly different windows. For example, if the primary residence has multi-light wood **casement** windows, consider single-light wood casement windows for the addition.



This compatible addition is differentiated from the main house by fixed single-light windows and a vertical strip of trim.



A compatible Spanish Colonial Revival addition to the rear.



Upper Story Additions

- *Upper story/second floor additions may be acceptable for some residences in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District.*

While most of the contributing properties in the district are limited to one story in height, some are two-story contributing properties. As such, a second-story addition may be less likely to be visually obtrusive. In addition, the roof forms within the district are generally complex, and may be better able to conceal and compatibly accommodate second-floor additions.

Property owners of buildings with two full stories or roofs clad in historic fabric are encouraged to consider a compatible addition to the rear, where feasible. A residence of three stories or more in height would disrupt the visual continuity of the district, and would not be in keeping with the historic character of the property types found in the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District. Two or more stories may not be permitted by current zoning codes, while an upper story addition could result in the unnecessary removal or destruction of historic roofing material on certain roofs.

An upper story addition may be acceptable for a single-story property with a pitched roof, provided that it is sensitively designed and not highly visible from the public right of way. The design and placement of upper story additions may be subject to other City requirements not listed within these guidelines.

- *The size and **massing** of the upper story addition should be compatible with the historic character of the residence.*

The addition should not envelop or be larger overall than the existing building, and should be no wider than the existing footprint.

The addition should reasonably blend with and complement the existing pitch and shape of the roof. For example, a second story addition to the rear of the property that mimics the front-gabled shape of a Craftsman residence would be a compatible design. Upper story additions for buildings with flat roofs should also have a flat roof shape.

Introducing a new roofline shape that did not exist historically or that is inconsistent with the general architectural style of the residence is not permitted; for example, adding a flat-roofed addition to a gabled building would not be compatible or appropriate.

- *The upper story addition should be planned and constructed in a way that does not involve removing, obstructing, or damaging any existing historic features.*

Additions should always add to the existing footprint of the building; new construction should never involve removal of a portion of the original residence or site features. All additions should be planned and constructed carefully so that they do not cause damage to the historic building—for example, if you were to someday remove the addition, would the original building remain intact?

Upper Story Additions, Continued

- *All additions should be compatible with, yet distinguishable from, the original building style.*

Property owners should design their rear addition to be compatible with the historic building, but avoid exactly duplicating the original building materials and detailing so that the addition is not mistaken for an original part of the residence in the future. Duplicating the features of the original building can create what is called a false sense of history, (i.e. it could be difficult, even for professionals, to visually determine which portion of the residence is original).

- *Adding a second-story addition to an existing secondary dwelling at the rear of the property is not permitted by current zoning codes.*

Sensitively designed additions to existing secondary units may be acceptable, depending on other prevailing rules and regulations, if the addition is not visible from the public right-of-way, and is appropriate in size, scale, design and materials, as discussed above.



The additions shown above would not be permitted. They are arranged near the front of the building, making them highly visible from the street and detracting from the original historic home.



The additions shown above would not be permitted. They are arranged near the front of the building, and introduce an incompatible roofline that is not in keeping with the original house form.

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Upper Story Additions, Continued

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The additions shown above are acceptable. They are oriented towards the rear of the building and complement the original house form, making them less visible from the street and more compatible.

New Construction

Secondary Dwellings

- The construction of new secondary dwellings may be permitted, depending on lot size and current zoning code.

Alterations to secondary dwellings that have historic value should follow the guidelines for contributing buildings. Alterations to secondary dwellings that do not have historic value should still follow the general guidelines provided in this document to avoid visual obtrusions to the district, as well as any applicable City requirements.

New secondary dwellings should follow the guidelines for new construction.

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)

- New Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) may be allowed as permitted under the city's zoning and development standards.

Accessory dwelling units may be attached or detached. Attached ADUs must meet the design guidelines for Accessory Buildings, described below. New accessory dwelling structures must be compatible with the primary structure on the site in design, materials, and architectural style. It should appear as secondary to the primary structure and should minimize visibility from the street. See details on next page for accessory buildings. The design and placement of any ADU may be subject to other City requirements not listed within these guidelines.



Accessory Buildings

Many of the properties within the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District are occupied by a single-family residence located near the front of the lot with accessory buildings or secondary dwellings oriented towards the rear. Garages are typically accessed by driveways from the front of the lot.

- *New accessory buildings may be acceptable.*
- *The size and scale of the accessory building should be appropriate to the existing residence and the size of the backyard.*

Accessory buildings should not be taller than the existing roofline, envelop, or be larger overall than the existing building.

- *The accessory building should be planned and constructed in such a way that does not obscure or damage existing character-defining features or structures.*

Adding a new building or feature that would require removal of an existing, historic building or feature is not permitted. For example, removing a historic detached garage to replace it with a new garage would not be permitted.

Consider constructing free-standing structures instead of attaching them directly to the primary residence in a manner that could damage or penetrate the exterior.

- *Accessory buildings should be compatible in design to the primary building.*

When designing an accessory building to a contributing property, it should be compatible with the features, materials, and style of the primary building on the lot.

For example, when designing an accessory building for a Craftsman or similar style contributor, consider including design elements such as a gabled roof with open **eaves** and shingles, wood siding, and rectangular or arched door and window openings; for a Spanish Colonial Revival or similar style contributor, consider including design elements such as flat roofs with clay tile accents, stucco cladding, and rectangular door and window openings.

Utilitarian accessory buildings not visible from the street and that do not require a building permit, such as tool sheds or chicken coops, do not necessarily need to feature these architectural design features, but should follow the remainder of the guidelines for accessory structures. Check with the Building Bureau to confirm whether the building you propose requires a building permit; all structures will require a Certificate of Appropriateness.



Infill Construction

- *Demolishing a contributing property in order to construct a new building is not permitted.*

In the event that a contributing building is intentionally altered, damaged, or demolished, the property owner could be subject to fines and penalties, and may be required to replace the damaged components in kind. These penalties may also apply to demolition by neglect, a process in which a property owner attempts to circumvent regulations for historic properties by knowingly and purposefully deferring all maintenance and repair—neglecting the building—until demolition becomes necessary due to safety concerns.

- *If an incident such as accidental fire results in damage to a contributing property, the property owners should replace the damaged elements in kind.*

In the unlikely event that a contributing property is completely lost to an incident such as accidental fire, the property owners will not be expected to re-create the historic property unless desired; however, the replacement property should follow the guidelines for new construction in order to remain harmonious with the surrounding district. This replacement property will not be considered a contributor to the district.

- *New construction should be generally compatible with the existing contributing buildings in size, scale, setback, height, massing, design, materials, and architectural style to protect the overall character of the historic district.*

New construction is expected to reasonably “blend in” with its surroundings, where feasible, but is not required to exactly match the contributing buildings. In fact, matching an existing design too closely is discouraged, in order to prevent the new building from being mistaken for an original historic building in the future; however, the new construction should generally take cues from the contributing building to fit into the district more harmoniously.

The contributing residences within the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District are varied in style, but they are primarily one to two stories in height with gabled or otherwise pitched roofs. Property owners planning new construction should consider including features like a gabled or pitched roof, wood cladding, prominent porches and rectangular openings in their design, and anticipate conforming to the prevailing height and setback in the district, especially that of contributing properties immediately adjacent to the proposed new construction. See next page for a diagram of these features.

Infill Construction, Continued



Alterations to Non-Contributing Buildings

All buildings in the district have been characterized as either contributing or non-contributing at the time of the district's formation. Non-contributing buildings are still subject to the same review process as other historic district properties but have less restrictive standards for allowable alterations. There are two types of non-contributing buildings: buildings constructed outside the period of significance, and buildings constructed within the period of significance that have been altered so significantly that they do not contribute to the historic character district.

- *Non-contributing buildings are not required to mimic the appearance of surrounding contributing properties; however, it is important to maintain the visual continuity of the district as much as possible.*

Owners of properties no longer contributing to the district solely due to major alterations are strongly encouraged to reverse these alterations over time. While not required, this reversal would allow the property to better complement its surroundings and help to enhance the overall character and feeling of the district as a whole.

Sufficient reversal of incompatible alterations could potentially make a property eligible as a contributor to the district in the future. Any proposed future alterations for these altered properties will be expected follow all of the guidelines for the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District, as well as those for the applicable architectural style, included in *Chapter 4: Architectural Style Guides*.

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Alterations to Non-Contributing Buildings, Continued

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Non-contributing buildings constructed outside the period of significance are still expected to remain generally compatible with the overall historic character of the district in terms of scale, massing, and setback, where feasible. Property owners of buildings that are non-contributing due to being constructed outside the period of significance are still subject to these design guidelines to ensure visual continuity in the district as much as possible. Large additions and drastic changes are discouraged in order to avoid major visual disruptions to the district.

There are many non-contributing buildings that were constructed outside the period of significance and prior to the formation of the Sunrise Boulevard Historic District. Therefore, there are a range of non-contributing buildings, some of which are more architecturally compatible than others. As the owners of these buildings propose changes, upgrades, or new projects, they should consider opportunities to make these non-contributing buildings more compatible with the district.



Example 1: Least Compatible

This multi-family building was constructed outside the period of significance. It is a large building that is two stories in height with blocky massing that creates a stark contrast between the smaller-scale contributors throughout the rest of the district. Although the front of the property is landscaped, the large shape and size of the building is generally incompatible with the rest of the district.



Example 2: More Compatible

This multi-family building was constructed outside the period of significance. It is much larger than most contributors and much of its street frontage is occupied by a driveway and garage; however, it does feature more traditional gabled roof forms and wood cladding, which help it blend in more readily with the surrounding contributors.

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Alterations to Non-Contributing Buildings, Continued

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Example 3: Most Compatible

This contemporary single-family residence was constructed outside the period of significance. However, it is limited to one story in height, has a traditional cross-gabled roof form, and has a front lawn with centralized walkway that help it to better blend in with the surrounding contributing properties and detract less from the historic character of the district.

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