

CITY OF FROSTBURG REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES GUIDELINES

Landscaping, Walls & Fences

These guidelines are based on Standards for Rehabilitation written by the National Park Service. The Historic District Commission has adapted the following information with the hope of making the process of review and approval of work on properties located in the Historic District as clear and simple as possible.

Utilization of “Not Recommended” materials and/or techniques will increase the difficulty of approval, may increase the amount of time it takes to get approval of an application, and may ultimately result in the denial of the landowner’s application.

Landscaping should be undertaken to beautify a building, highlight special architectural features, for screening unattractive areas from public view, and for creating privacy.

It should be accomplished in such a way that the overall effect harmonizes with the established look of the neighborhood and should complement the architectural style of the building.

A. Landscaping

Recommended

- Planters should be appropriate to the setting of the building.
- Window boxes should be in proportion to the window elements.
- Retaining plants, trees, fencing, walkways, streetlights, signs and benches that reflect the property history and development.
- If changes in site are made they should be carefully evaluated in light of the past appearance.

Not Recommended

- Placing or leaving plant materials or trees in close proximity to a building which may cause deterioration of the building fabric.
- Window boxes should not cover or deface architectural elements.
- Destroying the relationship of buildings and their environment by changes that are incompatible with the character of the neighborhood or site.

B. Walls and Fences

Recommended

- Retaining existing walls or fences which reflect the property's history and development.
- Repairing or replacing, where necessary, deteriorated material that duplicates in size, shape and texture the old as closely as possible.
- Cast iron, picket, straight board, brick walls, and board and batten fences in materials and design with adjacent structures.
- Painting the exterior surface on all wooden fences and gates.

Not Recommended

- Using new construction material that is not harmonious with existing fence or wall material.
- Removing original fencing or walls
- Rustic fences split rail or post and rail design
- Chain links, snow fences, wire mesh fences and concrete block are modern materials not compatible with the character.
- Destroying the relationship of buildings and their environment by changes that are incompatible with the character of the neighborhood or site.