

Paint

The Preservation Commission may establish an approved palette of paint colors with notation regarding the appropriateness of particular colors for specific architectural styles. The appropriateness of any color not on an approved palette shall be judged by viewing a two foot by two-foot (2' x 2') sample applied to the structure to be painted in such a way that, where practicable, the new colors are adjacent to each other as they will be in the new color scheme.

Staff Letter - No Certificate Necessary:

1. Repainting, provided there is no change in color scheme.
2. Sample patches on wood siding, wood trim, and previously painted masonry surfaces; provided each sample color scheme is no more than 25 square feet. A Certificate of Appropriateness is required before proceeding further with painting.

Staff Level Certificate of Appropriateness:

1. Changes in color scheme on a painted surface.
2. Color schemes for new construction.

Commission Level Certificate of Appropriateness:

1. Painting or otherwise coating previously unpainted masonry surfaces.
2. Any action deemed inappropriate by Staff.
3. Application of any new material over an existing surface (example: stucco or parge coating over brick).

Recommended:

1. Remove all loose paint and clean the surface before repainting. It is not necessary to remove all old paint as long as it is firmly fixed to the surface.
2. Two general approaches for selecting a color scheme are recommended:
 - a. Identify through research the original colors and repaint with matching colors. Previous paint colors can be found by scraping through paint layers with a knife, analyzing the paint in the laboratory, or finding hidden areas that were never repainted.
 - b. Repaint with colors commonly in use at the time the building was built.
3. Consider using different shades of the same color when variation in color is desired. Be careful so the color scheme does not become too busy.

Not Recommended:

1. Monochromatic (single color) schemes on buildings that originally had multiple colors.
2. Highly polychromatic (multi-color) schemes on buildings that were originally painted with restraint and simplicity.
3. Painting any previously unpainted masonry surfaces.
4. Arresting and spectacular colors and color schemes.