Metal

MT1 Metal features should be cleaned only when cleaning will not damage historic metal color, texture, or patina. Any cleaning treatment should use the gentlest means possible and be tested in an inconspicuous location to determine potential adverse effects.

MT2 Cleaning treatments should be used that are appropriate to the type of metal being cleaned.

MT3 Soft metals, such as tin, lead, copper, tern plate, and zinc, should be cleaned using appropriate chemical methods since blasting methods damage and pit their surfaces.

MT4 Hard metals such as cast iron, wrought iron, and steel should be cleaned with hand scraping or wire brushing to remove corrosion and paint buildup. Low-pressure grit blasting may be used only if additional cleaning is required.

MT5 Cleaning treatments should be in compliance with EPA and Metro air pollution control regulations.

MT6 Do not apply paint or similar coatings to metals like copper, bronze, or stainless steel that are historically meant to be exposed. Do apply paint or other coatings to other metals that will corrode without protection from the elements, such as wrought iron and cast iron.

MT7 Clean previously painted metal features before reapplying an appropriate paint or other coating system. Failure to do so will result in accelerated corrosion of the metal or alloys.

MT8 Incompatible hard and soft metals should not be placed together without applying a protective barrier between them since this can result in galvanic corrosion.

MT9 If deteriorated metal features must be removed, always replace them with elements that convey the same visual appearance. Never remove such a feature without replacing it.

MT10 Architectural features that are proposed for reconstruction or replacement must be photographically documented by the property owner as part of the application submitted to Landmarks for approval of any exterior modification. Historic elements cannot be removed until after approval has been obtained.