

Site

DESIGN GUIDELINES

ST1 Consider the relationships that exist between the site and structure when making exterior alterations. Changes to one will affect the other. A primary goal should be to maintain a complementary relationship.

ST2 Retain established property line patterns and street and alley widths. Any replatting should be consistent with original development patterns.

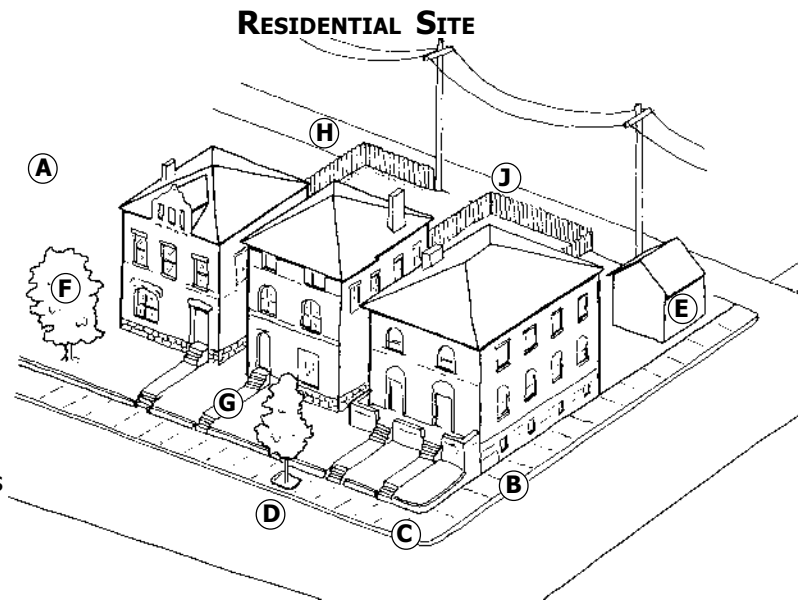
ST3 Use paving materials that are compatible with adjacent sites and architectural character.

ST4 Restore and reuse historic paving materials for streets and sidewalks such as brick and hexagonal pavers and limestone curbing. Maintain original curbing whenever possible. The historic relationship between the road surface and edging should be preserved. Any replacement should use historic materials. If replacement with original materials is not technically or economically feasible, a substitute material may be used if it duplicates the color, texture, and visual appearance of the original.

ST5 Maintain brick, stone, or poured concrete steps wherever present. If replacement is required, original materials should be used. New construction should incorporate steps on blocks where they are a character-defining feature.

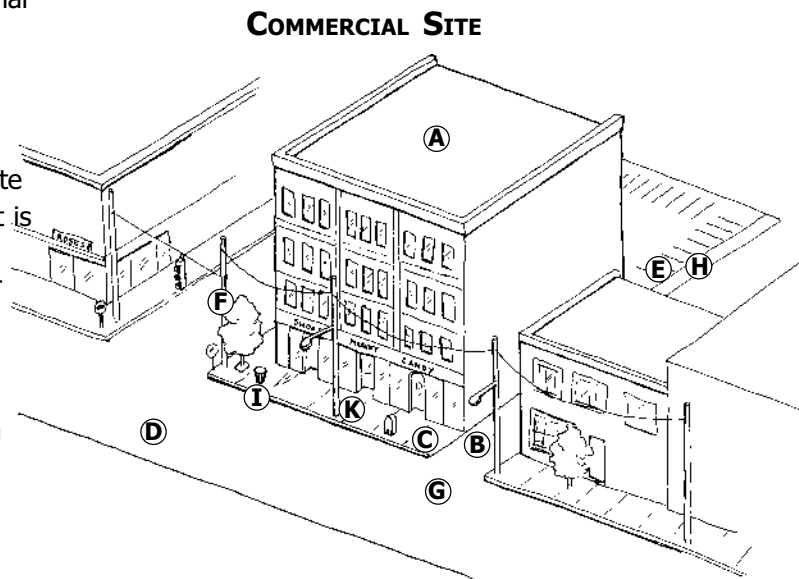
ST6 Do not harm historic resources through road widening or underground utility repair.

ST7 Locate driveways, parking areas, and loading docks to the side and rear of properties. Access from alleys is preferred.

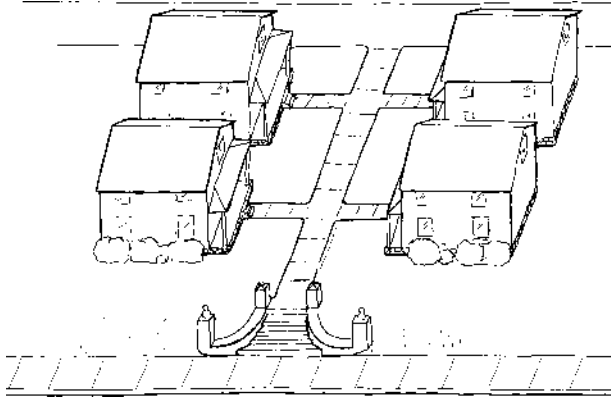


SITE CONSIDERATIONS

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| A. Lot Size | G. Public Views |
| B. Building Setback | H. Private Views |
| C. Pedestrian Circulation | I. Street Furniture |
| D. Vehicular Circulation | J. Fencing |
| E. Parking | K. Lighting |
| F. Landscaping | |



MAINTAIN HISTORIC CIRCULATION PATTERNS



Walking courts have special pedestrian-oriented features, such as entry gates and sidewalk configurations, which should be retained.

CANOPY TREES HELP UNIFY THE STREETScape



Blocks without trees appear somewhat disjointed



Street trees soften spaces between buildings and unify different architectural styles.

- ST8** Maintain original front yard topography, including grades, slopes, elevations, and earthen berms where present. New construction should match the grade of adjacent properties. Do not recontour front-yard berms into stepped terraces, using railroad ties, landscape timbers, or any other historically-inappropriate material for retaining walls.
- ST9** Do not carry out excavations or regrading within or adjacent to a historic building, which could cause the foundation to shift or destroy significant archeological resources.
- ST10** Do not install masonry walls in street-visible locations unless they are used to



Historic paving materials enliven the streetscape and should be repaired and retained.

- retain earth at changes in grade, screen service areas, or unless a historic precedent exists.
- ST11** Use materials that match existing sections of historic fencing in material, height, and detail when carrying out limited replacement projects. If an exact match cannot be made, a simplified design is appropriate.
- ST12** Use materials that match the existing character of the original when replacing retaining walls or curbing. If an exact match cannot be made, a simplified design is appropriate.
- ST13** Install only historically-compatible iron fencing under 2'5" in height where there is demonstrable historic precedent.
- ST14** Do not install front-yard fencing where there is no historic precedent.
- ST15** Install any rear- or side-yard privacy fencing so that it is set back from the side wall at least two feet and presents the finished side out. Any privacy fencing should be less than seven feet in height. Contact the Department of Inspections, Permits, and Licenses regarding additional restrictions on fencing at corner properties.
- ST16** Do not install chain-link, split-rail, or woven-wood fencing, or concrete block walls in areas that are visible from a public way. Opaque fencing, such as painted or stained pressure-treated wood, may be permitted with appropriate design.
- ST17** Use understated fixtures when installing any type of exterior lighting. Fixture attachment should be done so as not to damage historic fabric. Fixtures should not become a visual focal point.

Manage vegetation to enhance your building's appearance and to prevent moisture condensation at the foundation. Overgrown shrubs overwhelm the porch on the left, but accent the entry on the right.



ST18 Do not light parking areas or architectural features in a harsh manner. Generally, an average illumination level of 1.5 to 2.0 foot-candles will be sufficient. Light should be directed down and away from neighboring properties.

ST19 Parking lots of a certain size should have a portion of the parking area dedicated to plantings that will soften the expanse of paving. See the Jefferson County Development Code—Requirements for Landscaping and Land Use Buffers for specific requirements.

ST20 Use high-pressure sodium or metal halide lights to create a soft illumination where site or streetscape lighting is desired.

ST21 Position fixtures, such as air conditioning units, satellite dishes, greenhouse additions, and overhead wiring, on secondary elevations where they do not detract from the character of the site. Try to minimize noise levels to adjacent properties.

ST22 Preserve large trees whenever possible and enhance established street tree patterns by planting additional trees along public rights-of-way. Consult the city arborist to determine what tree species are suitable for placement near overhead wires. Select and place street trees so that the plantings will not obscure historic storefronts once mature. Removal of trees within or immediately adjacent to a public right-of-way or within public open spaces requires review unless directed by the city arborist for emergency or public safety reasons.

ST23 Ensure that all proposed cellular towers and associated fixtures will be properly screened from view.

ST24 Install utility lines underground whenever possible.

STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS

If carefully chosen, improvements like paving, street furniture, and plantings can substantially enhance the public's experience of a streetscape.

INVITING STREETScape



UNINVITING STREETScape



ORIGINAL FENCING



INAPPROPRIATE FENCING



BACK-FILLING DAMAGES HISTORIC TOPOGRAPHY



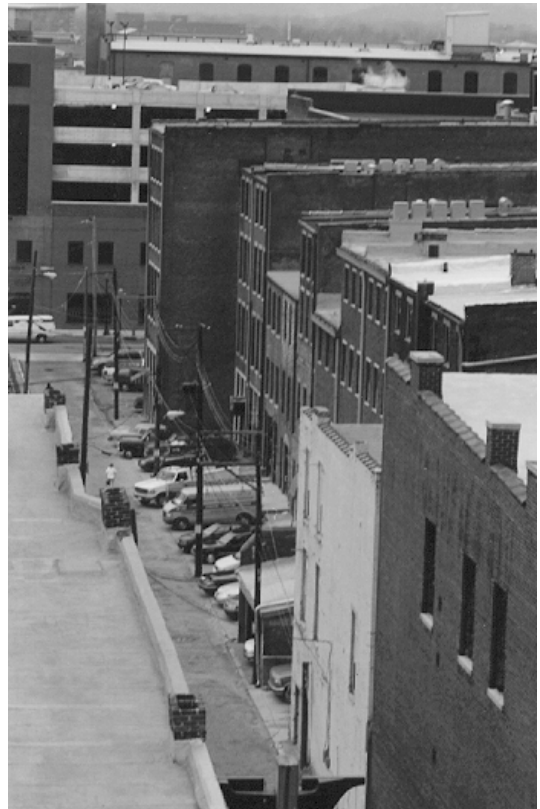
Gently-sloped front- and side-yard berms and concrete and limestone curbing are historic features on many blocks and should be not back-filled or terraced.

VISUAL INTRUSIONS



Screen mechanical systems from public view.

REAR FACADES



Rear commercial facades have their own unique development potential. Louisville's historic alleys are rich in character and can offer people a fresh perspective on downtown.