



The entry—including the door, door surround, and sometimes sidelights and a transom—is usually the focal point of the facade. The size of the entry is directly related to the mass and scale of the building. As with windows, any alteration to size, shape, or trim details can have a detrimental effect on exterior appearance. Wherever feasible, historic doors should be repaired rather than replaced, especially on principal elevations where they are character-defining.

Design Guidelines

1. Maintain and Conserve

Wherever feasible, the features of historic entries should be repaired rather than replaced, especially on principal elevations.

2. Size and Shape

Historic entry openings should not be enlarged or reduced to fit a new door. New entry openings should not be introduced into principal elevations, and new openings and doors should be compatible with existing historic units.

3. Trim

Original or historic features of the entry, including hoods, columns, sidelights, fanlights, and transoms and hardware should be retained. If replacement is necessary, historic trim details should be retained.

4. Doors

Wherever possible, historic paneled doors (and hardware) should be repaired and weather-stripped rather than replaced. If replacement of original or historic doors is necessary the replacement should be compatible with the material, design, and hardware of the older door. Steel-covered hollow core doors should not be installed unless they are compatible with the appearance of the house. Historic trim should not be removed for the installation of steel doors.

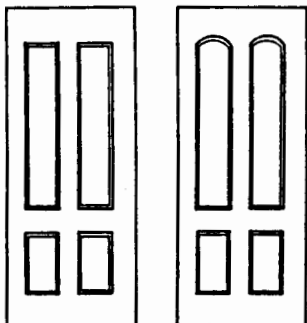
5. Sliding Glass or French Doors

Sliding glass or French style doors should be confined to the rear of the building where they are not visible from the public way.

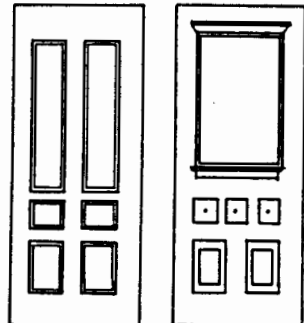
6. Storm and Screen Doors; Security Doors

Storm doors should be compatible with the inner door in shape and style. Historic trim at the entry should not be removed for the installation of grill-style security doors.

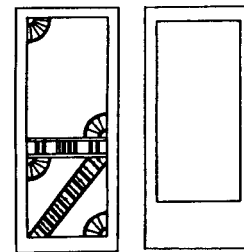
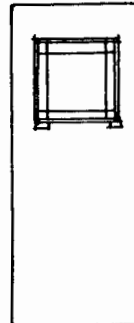
1850s-1880s



1880s-1900



1910-1930



Among good choices for screen doors.

Historic door styles.