

Town of Sudbury, MA
HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION
GUIDELINES

The Commission will review all proposed alterations, additions, and new construction. Demolition proposals must be reviewed by the Historical Commission as well as the HDC. Following are guidelines; each individual situation needs to be reviewed.

- Windows and Doors: windows should be wood. Window and door openings must remain the same size, unless approved by the HDC. Doors (including garage doors) must be wood. Muntins in windows may only be authentic divided light. Any exceptions must be reviewed by the HDC.
- Siding: neither vinyl nor aluminum siding is allowed.
- Shutters: all shutters must be made of wood, hung on working hinges, proportioned to the window and, if louvered, hung so as to shed water when closed.
- Chimneys: must be constructed of either brick, stone or stucco.
- Colors: exterior paint can be white or a historically-appropriate color approved by the HDC.
- Moldings and Trim: must be wood, proportioned to the scale and period of the house.
- Brick: must be water-struck, sand-struck or wire cut, in colors ranging through oranges, reds and browns.
- Steps and Porches: materials and scale should be appropriate to the age of the structure. If pressure-treated wood is used, it must be concealed. Open porches and entrance porticos should not be enclosed.
- Gutters: must be wood or half-round metal.
- Skylights: should not be visible from a public way.
- Dormers and cupolas: must be proportioned to the structure and period. Generally the width of a cupola should be 1/12 of the length of the ridge beam.
- Indigenous Stone Walls: must be preserved.
- Bituminous paving: must be minimized.
- Fences: must be of natural wood, stone, or other period-appropriate materials. Vinyl and other synthetics are not allowed.
- Landscaping: preservation of mature trees is encouraged. All changes to the landscape need to be reviewed by the HDC.
- Dormers and Cupolas: must be proportioned to the structure and period. Generally the width of a cupola should be 1/12 of the length of the ridge beam.
- Lighting: should be appropriate to the period style and in scale.
- New construction: should be sympathetic to the pre-twentieth century local vernacular in line, detail, and scale.

In general, materials should be genuine and historic. All substitutions must be approved by the HDC.