

Storefronts

Sf1 Retain and preserve historic storefront features such as display windows, bulkheads, transoms, entry doors, decorative entrance floor tiles and name plates, cast iron columns and pilasters, etc.

Sf2 Historic ornamentation should be retained, repaired and reused. If missing or deteriorated beyond repair, replacements should match the original in design, dimension, texture, material and color. Consider substitute materials only if it is not feasible to use the original and the new material can be demonstrated to visually match the original materials.

Sf3 Storefronts that are later additions but that have acquired historic significance in their own right should be retained and preserved.

Sf4 A new storefront's configuration and proportion should be based on historic documentation or appropriate historic designs relating to the building façade. For example, the traditional storefront was composed almost entirely of window – typically 60% or more of the first floor façade - providing maximum light and display area. Think less wall and more glass.

Sf5 A storefront in a new building should not be a replica of an historic storefront. It should be based upon and complement the

historic storefronts around it but should be distinguishable as a product of its own time.

Sf6 When designing a new storefront, the following elements should be included: large display windows and doors, transoms, relatively thin framing elements, a cornice element separating the storefront from the upper stories, low bulkheads, and decorative entry flooring.

Sf7 A storefront should fit inside the original opening and should not extend beyond it.



This State Street storefront maintains many historic elements, including limestone columns and historic doors. The new awning was added above the storefront, to avoid physical impacts to these features.

Sf8 A storefront should not be 'closed down' or subdivided.

Sf9 Appropriate materials for new storefronts include wood, cast iron, or anodized aluminum frames. Bulkheads can be wood or composite wood panels, polished stone, glass, tile or aluminum-clad plywood panels. Inappropriate materials include synthetic stucco (EIFS), Permastone, fake bricks and gravel aggregate.

Sf11 Do not use smoked, tinted, or reflective glass in storefront windows. Use reversible window coverings such as blinds or removable interior tinting film if the use of the building no longer requires merchandise display.

Sf12 Decorative glass transoms should be retained and restored. If restoration is not currently possible, the transoms should be left in place and covered to allow for future restoration.

Sf13 Awnings and canopies should complement the façade, not overwhelm it. See ‘Awnings & Canopies’ section of the Design Guidelines for more information, if a canopy is to be added.

Sf14 New doors should reflect the storefront’s historic character and commercial nature. Doors should be made of wood or painted metal and should have large glass panels. See ‘Doors’ section of the Design Guidelines for more information if a door is to be replaced.

Sf15 Do not change or re-orient the location of the main entrance of a storefront.

Sf16 Historic flooring materials such as ceramic tile, terrazzo or mosaics should not be removed or covered in vestibules or recessed storefront entrances.



The design of the new storefront above utilizes large display windows with transom window, above a low bulkhead. Below, a new storefront was designed to fit within the historic limestone columns and cornice.

