



# LIGHTING

## Overview

The residential character of the historic district can be reinforced and even enhanced by the selection of appropriate exterior lighting. Warm-spectrum light sources and unobtrusive lighting fixtures are recommended. Lighting levels should provide adequate illumination for safety concerns, but not detract from or overly emphasize the building or the site. It has been found that bright focused lights can actually undermine safety because less lit areas become far darker for eyes adjusted to the brightness.

All proposals for exterior lighting, including the introduction of porch and entrance lighting fixtures require a Certificate of Appropriateness. Certificates of Appropriateness are required for lights mounted on buildings and for freestanding lighting fixtures mounted on posts. The compatibility of proposed exterior lighting and lighting fixtures is assessed in terms of design, material, use, size, scale, color, and brightness. Lighting should not falsely imitate historic fixtures incompatible with the property. Generally, it is preferable to use contemporary fixture designs placed in discrete locations. Review of proposals for exterior lighting may require a scaled drawing or site plan. For post-mounted fixtures the following information is required: (a) the location and the height of each pole; (b) the number of light fixtures to be located on each pole; (c) the type and the wattage of all lamps; (d) the area to be illuminated; and (e) the aiming of each light fixture.

## GUIDELINES FOR LIGHTING

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. New exterior lighting must be understated and compatible with the historic quality of the structure, the property, or the historic district. Compatibility of exterior lighting and lighting fixtures is assessed in terms of design, material, use, size, scale, color, and brightness.</li> <li>2. Unless original lighting features exist, selection of lighting fixtures should be based on compatibility with the building and the site.</li> <li>3. Lighting must be kept subtle by carefully locating light sources, rather than indiscriminately lighting broad areas.</li> <li>4. Lighting levels that provide adequate safety, yet to not detract from or overly emphasize the structure or the property must be used.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Low level lighting at the public-private edge of the property should be used for the safety of pedestrians.</li> <li>6. Directional lighting should be used to avoid spilling light into adjacent properties. Exterior lighting must not be directed unto neighboring properties because it may adversely affect enjoyment of such properties.</li> <li>7. Façade lights should be screened from public view.</li> <li>8. Installation of tall security lights in locations that are visible to the public shall be avoided.</li> <li>9. Introduction or removal of exterior lighting features that would alter the historic or architectural character of the structure, the property, or the historic district is not permitted.</li> </ol> |
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