

STOOPS, STEPS & RAILINGS

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
PARKER-GRAY DISTRICT

REQUIRED APPROVALS			
YEAR BUILT	FRONT (STREET FACING)	SIDE (NON-STREET FACING)	REAR (NON-STREET FACING)
Pre - 1932	STAFF REVIEW ✓	NO REVIEW ❌	NO REVIEW ❌
Post - 1931	NO REVIEW ❌	NO REVIEW ❌	NO REVIEW ❌

Stoops, steps, and railings provide the transition area between the public street and the private interior of a home and are an integral part of the overall composition of a building. Many historic structures have stoops, steps, and railings that were added later and may or may not have acquired historic significance. For this reason, historic stoops, steps, and railings, as determined by staff, must be retained on the street-face of early buildings. While property owners are encouraged to retain these historic features if present on the other elevations, no BAR approvals are required for their replacement.



✓ Example of historic steps & railings, which must be retained.

RAILINGS

- Must be minimally visible and constructed of post and rail (no balusters or pickets).

SUBMITTAL CHECKLIST

- A plat showing the location of the proposed stoop or steps.
- A photograph of the existing conditions.
- Measured drawings and specs for the new or replacement materials.

GUIDELINES

RECOMMENDED. . .

- Choose designs that are appropriate to the style of the structure.
- Choose appropriate materials such as wood, cast iron, precast concrete, or stone.
- Look for historic photographs to help inform the type of design that is appropriate.
- Wood stoops, steps and railings should generally be painted the predominate color of the building or trim .

DISCOURAGED . . .

- Removing or obscuring historic features of the building.
- Use Suburban deck style guardrails or synthetic decking.
- Pressure treated unpainted lumber.