

Changes to the Building Exterior

2.3 WOOD/SIDING



Example of a historic building with wood clapboard, shingles, and other decorative elements



Inappropriate: Wide siding covers corner, sill, and window trim

Appropriate: Narrow siding is properly in scale. Preserves corner, sill, and window trim

Wood is a common building material in the Historic Preservation Overlay Zones. Wood is used for structural framing, protective siding, and decorative elements. Wood can be easily shaped by sawing, planing, and carving. It is used for a broad range of building elements, such as cornices, brackets, shutters, columns, porches, doors, windows, and

other decorative building elements. For the purposes of these guidelines, siding shall mean all wood clapboard siding, shingles, decorative wooden elements, and framing.

Wood clapboard siding has many benefits over vinyl or aluminum siding beyond its exterior appearance. These benefits include the following.

- Reduced air infiltration into the building, making the building warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer.
- Higher R value. An R value measures amounts of thermal resistance. The higher the R value, the better a material insulates.
- Wood siding does not bend, dent, or rust.
- Wood siding lasts longer than vinyl or aluminum siding.
- Wood siding can be repaired; vinyl or aluminum siding requires replacement when repair is needed.
- Wood retains color longer than colored artificial siding, and therefore, must not be repainted as often of vinyl or aluminum siding.
- Colored vinyl or aluminum siding can mildew.
- Vinyl siding has lower melting and flashpoints than wood, and therefore, can be hazardous.

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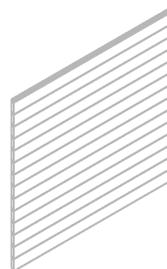
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GUIDELINES:

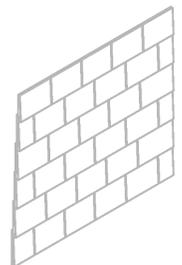
1. Use only wood clapboard siding in the repair or replacement of wood frame buildings. Artificial stone, asbestos, asphalt shingles, or other resurfacing materials, may only be used on buildings that already have such surfaces.
2. The use of smooth sided Hardi Plank or other cementitious fiber board is permitted when the entire façade of a building has had extensive damage due to being previously covered with artificial siding. The reveal of the cementitious fiber board must match the reveal of the original wood siding. This material is often less costly than wood, similar in appearance, and is of overall good quality.
3. Do not cover brick walls with siding. See Sections 2.1 and 2.2 for the proper repair of masonry features.
4. Apply siding horizontally, except where another alignment of siding was originally in place.
5. Keep siding painted or stained.
6. Apply wood siding instead of vinyl, aluminum, or other types of artificial siding. Vinyl or aluminum siding may be allowed with approval from the Urban Design Review Board under the following circumstances:
 - a. The surface being covered is not highly visible from a public way.
 - b. The siding will not be patterned or have a grained appearance.
 - c. Each “board” of the siding will be a comparable width (reveal between typically 4” and 6”) to the boards of the original siding or other sided properties in the immediate area.
 - d. Cornerboards of the new siding will be the same size as the existing

cornerboards (typically between 4” and 5”) and will be wood or composition board.

- e. New window and door trim will be the same width as original trim and will be wood or composition board.
- f. Architectural features such as cornices, brackets, window sills and lintels, and exterior façade shingles will be preserved. These features must remain uncovered and unaltered.
- g. All decorative porch posts, railings, brackets, cornices, and cornice trim must remain uncovered.
- h. Frieze and soffit boards will be covered with boards of the same width as existing boards.
- i. All detailing which is not flush with the siding or surface must bear the same proportion after coverage as before coverage.
- j. Existing shutters consistent with the style of the building should be returned to their original location after the artificial siding is applied.
- k. Artificial siding shall not be installed over rotted wood. All original siding, trim, fascia, and drip shall be repaired.



Lap siding



Wood shingle siding