

Porches and Porch Detail

Porches are a significant architectural defining feature of historic structures in Florida. Size, style, ornateness or simplicity, sense of openness, and detailing are all-important attributes of porches. Particularly important are balustrades, steps and column supports. Porches are an important element of the Frame Vernacular and Bungalow styles.

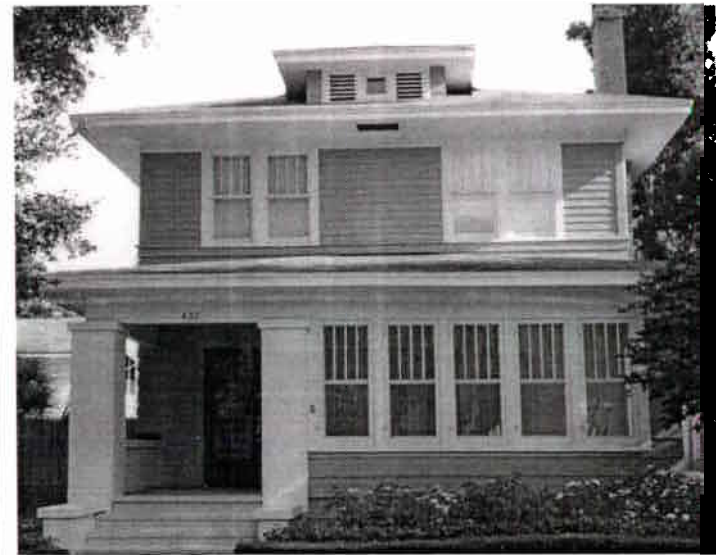
Guidelines:

1. The original appearance and features of the porch (such as roof brackets, exposed rafters, balustrades, railings, column supports, location of steps, and spindle work) and porte cocheres shall be maintained. If porch features are to be repaired or replaced, they shall match the original feature in material, size, design, detail, scale and finish.
2. Enclosures are not recommended; however, consideration of an enclosure shall be based on maintaining the architectural characteristics and openness of the porch by:
 - Using transparent materials such as glass, which are set behind the balustrade, and behind or between structural elements such as column supports.
 - Maintaining exposed roof brackets and/or the ends of exposed rafters.
 - Retaining entrance stairs and doorway in the existing location, if possible.
3. Existing enclosed porches may be repaired or replaced to match the existing; however, if the entire porch is to be replaced, then the design of the new enclosure shall comply with the above criteria based on the original historic porch design of the house or a porch design that is characteristic of the architectural style of the house.
 - Using windows or glass enclosures that match, to the extent possible, the existing size of the open voids of the porch. Voids are defined as the space between the porch columns and above any railing or balustrade.
 - Using a window style that matches (number of lights, vertical and horizontal proportions, spacing between roofline and upper window frame, and window trim) the existing window style of the house. If the windows for the enclosure are paired, they shall match the proportions of existing paired windows or the proportions of a single window, if paired together, on the existing house.
 - Siding shall match the siding material, width, detail and color of the house.
 - The porch roof form shall match the roof form and sheathing material of the house, including the design features of the gable-end, if a gable-end is above the porch. An alternative roof form may be permitted if compatible with the architectural style of the house and the roof sheathing material matches the existing house roof.

Porch Enclosures



Inappropriate: The original openness of the porch is lost as well as the original support columns and balustrade. The window could have been enlarged to create a more open look like the original porch.



Appropriate: Maintains the same siding, openness of the porch, prominent front door entrance and matches window style of the house.