

SECTION 3.4: CANOPIES AND AWNINGS

CANOPIES AND AWNINGS

When replacing canopies or awnings, the new awnings should match the size and shape of the originals and should not cover architectural features.

ALTERATIONS

- If awnings or canopies were not original to the structure, they must be based on the architectural style of the building. The shape of the awnings should correspond to the size and shape of the window they cover, as well as the scale of the building. For example, a flat-headed window should have a shed type awning while an arched window should have a semi-circular type awning.
- Significant architectural features should not be covered over in order to accommodate new awnings or canopies.
- Traditionally, both residential and commercial awnings are triangular in section, usually with a valance hanging down from the outside edge.
- Mounting of awnings or canopies should not damage any historic materials.
- The awning should cover only the specific window or door where it is applied and should not extend beyond the opening.
- The material for new awnings shall be a fabric, not vinyl, and can be either striped or a solid color, whichever is more appropriate to the period of the structure.
- Awnings that are original to the structure that may be an alternative material such as wood, tile, or metal, should be maintained and preserved.
- Signage should be placed on the valance of an awning or canopy. For additional information, refer to Section 5: Sign Design Standards.

Resources

[Adding Awnings to Historic Storefronts and Entrances, ITS #27, by Chad Randal.](#)

[The Use of Awnings on Historic Buildings – Repair, Replacement & New Design, Preservation Briefs #44, by Chad Randal.](#)



3.11 Awning is an appropriate size and color



3.12 Awning is too small for opening



3.13 Awning is an appropriate size and color

SECTION 3.4: CANOPIES AND AWNINGS

A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS IS REQUIRED WHEN...

- Replacing existing awnings or canopies
- Installing new canvas fabric to an existing awning structure
- Adding new awnings or canopies
- Installing signage on new or existing awnings or canopies

ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL IS POSSIBLE WHEN:

- In-kind replacement of original awnings or canopies
- New awning or canopy
- Replacement of canvas with new canvas fabric with appropriate color and pattern
- Installation of new signage on the apron of an existing awning or canopy

HEP BOARD APPROVAL IS REQUIRED WHEN:

- Installation of a new awning or canopy that is not appropriate for the architectural style or scale of the structure.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Below is a checklist to use when applying for a Certificate of Appropriateness:

IS THE AWNING OR CANOPY ORIGINAL TO THE PROPERTY?

- YES
 NO*

If no, contact staff prior to executing plans to find an appropriate solution for installation of a new awning or canopy.

TYPE OF WORK:

- REPAIR ONLY
 IN-KIND REPLACEMENT
 REPLACEMENT WITH NEW MATERIAL TO MATCH ORIGINAL

EXISTING AWNING/CANOPY CONDITION:

- EXCELENT
 GOOD
 FAIR
 POOR

ATTACHMENTS REQUIRED:

- ONE SET OF PLANS (11X17) DRAWN TO SCALE OF AWNING OR CANOPY INSTALLATION
 FABRIC SWATCH OF PROPOSED AWNING CANVAS MATERIAL
 PHOTOS OF THE MAIN FAÇADE, FRONT AND SIDES
 HISTORIC PICTURE IF AVAILABLE