

City of Miami Preservation Office Historic Design Guidelines FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why do we have Historic Design Guidelines?

The Historic Design Guidelines are intended to provide clear direction on fundamental preservation for residents, property owners, design professionals, and potential construction applicants using the Secretary of the Interior Standards as a primary resource as well as Miami 21.

Who would use the Historic Design Guidelines?

If your property is located within a historic district or designated as an individual historic resource or site, you would use the Historic Design Guidelines as a resource in preserving your property.

Why is the Preservation Office introducing new Historic Design Guidelines?

Historic Design Guidelines for the City of Miami were created and implemented in 2011. Historic Design Guidelines are a resource that are utilized throughout the country to guide the preservation of historic districts and resources, as well as providing direction for appropriate additions and infill architecture. The current document that is being proposed is an update to our existing Historic Design Guidelines which provide additional examples through photos and diagrams, as well as a guide to the application process for each type of work.

My property is non-contributing to the Historic District, do I still need to follow these guidelines?

All properties within a historic district are subject to these citywide Historic Design Guidelines, however structures that are “non-contributing” are often granted exemptions or more flexibility from the design standards.

Are there guidelines specific to my neighborhood?

We will be working with all historic districts to discuss the possibility of creating additional design guidelines to address special site concerns that are specific to each neighborhood but not included in the core Historic Design Guidelines.