



CITY OF

JONESBORO

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DESIGN & COLOR GUIDE

A guide for preservation, rehabilitation,
design review, and historically
compatible color selection.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

IMPORTANT NOTICE



This guide is intended as an informational resource and summarizes City of Jonesboro Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) requirements and historic preservation guidance. It does not replace adopted ordinances, design standards, or other applicable regulations.

Applicants should consult adopted code requirements and City staff for complete information.



1 PRESERVING JONESBORO'S CHARACTER

Purpose

The guide supports preservation and compatible reinvestment within Jonesboro's historic area by providing architectural guidance, district characteristics, design review information, and historically inspired color recommendations.

This guide is intended for property owners, businesses, developers, architects, and the Historic Preservation Commission to assist in maintaining and enhancing the community's historic character.

Why Preservation Matters

- ✓ Preserving community character
- ✓ Preserving architectural integrity
- ✓ Supporting economic development
- ✓ Encouraging investment
- ✓ Celebrating local history
- ✓ Enhancing quality of place

Historic Preservation Commission

The Historic Preservation Commission helps protect and preserve architectural and historic resources through design review and recommendations for changes within designated historic areas.

The Commission evaluates:

- Architectural compatibility
- Historic significance
- Historic and craftsmanship
- Scale and massing
- Community character

2 HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW PROCESS

WHEN REVIEW IS REQUIRED

If you are unsure whether your property is within a Historic District or Historic Residential Overlay District, please contact the Community Development Department.

Examples include:

- Exterior alterations
- New construction
- Additions
- Demolition
- Signage
- Windows and door replacements
- Material changes
- Murals and public art
- Visible architectural modifications

REVIEW PROCESS

1 Confirm property requires a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA)

2 Submit application materials for review

3 Design Review Committee recommendation

4 Historic Preservation Commission review and final decision

5 Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) issuance

6 Submit approved COA with permit application (if applicable)

NOTE:

Approved Certificate of Appropriateness remains valid for six (6) months unless otherwise specified.

3 CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS (COA)

What is a COA?

A Certificate of Appropriateness ensures proposed exterior changes are compatible with the historic character and design standards of the district.

Why is it Required?

A COA helps:

- ✓ Preserve historic character
- ✓ Maintain design compatibility
- ✓ Protect architectural features
- ✓ Support district identity
- ✓ Guide quality development

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- ☐ Site plan
- ☐ Existing condition photographs
- ☐ Exterior elevations
- ☐ Material specifications
- ☐ Proposed color selections
- ☐ Description of work
- ☐ Architectural details
- ☐ Additional staff requests



4 H-1 HISTORIC DISTRICT
"Traditional Downtown Core"

Intent

Preserve and strengthen downtown's historic, pedestrian-oriented environment.

Character Features

- Street-oriented buildings
- Traditional storefronts
- Two- and three-story structures
- Brick facades
- Gables and historic rooflines
- Rhythmic window patterns

Appropriate Materials

- ✓ Brick
- ✓ Stone
- ✓ Wood
- ✓ Decorative metal
- ✓ Traditional masonry

COLOR PALETTE (H-1 STANDARD)

SOOTY COLORS

Muted Greens

Muted Blues

Dark Blue

TRIM COLORS

Warm White

Charcoal

Deep Navy

ACCENT COLORS

Forest Green

Traditional Red

Navy



5 H-2 HISTORIC DISTRICT
"Historic Transition Area"

Intent

Provide a transition between downtown and surrounding areas while maintaining compatibility.

Character Features

- Compatible setbacks
- Similar scale and massing
- Historic proportions
- Traditional roof forms

Materials

- ✓ Brick
- ✓ Stone
- ✓ Wood siding

COLOR PALETTE (H-2 STANDARD)

SOOTY COLORS

Soft Tan

Warm Gray

Dark Gray

TRIM COLORS

Crème

White

Dark Gray

ACCENT COLORS

Historic Red

Deep Blue



6 HISTORIC RESIDENTIAL OVERLAY

Intent

Preserve neighborhood-scale historic character.

Key Features

- ✓ Front porches
- ✓ Traditional roof forms
- ✓ Historic windows
- ✓ Original materials
- ✓ Compatible fencing

Preservation Standards

- ✓ Mainstem roof pitch and form
- ✓ Bayleaf window proportions
- ✓ Preserve porch details
- ✓ Repair before replacing materials
- ✓ Use historically appropriate fencing



7 ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION STANDARDS

PRESERVE INSTEAD OF REPLACE

ROOFS

- ✓ Preserve original form
- ✗ Avoid shingled roof design

WINDOWS

- ✓ Maintain proportions
- ✗ Avoid incompatible replacements

PORCHES

- ✓ Preserve detailing
- ✗ Avoid enclosure

MASONRY

- ✓ Repair when possible
- ✗ Avoid painting
- ✗ Historic brick

DECORATIVE ELEMENTS

- ✓ Reuse trim and ornamentation
- ✗ Avoid removal or simplification

PRESERVATION FIRST:

Maintain and repair historic materials and architectural features whenever feasible.

8 MURALS & PUBLIC ART

Design Guidelines

- ✓ Complement surrounding architecture
- ✓ Respect scale
- ✓ Avoid obscuring historic features
- ✓ Enhance district identity

Required Information

- Design concept
- Location
- Dimensions
- Colored rendering
- Materials
- Subject description



9-13 HISTORIC COLOR THROUGH THE DECADES

Color palettes are inspirational only and do not supersede adopted Historic District requirements.

9 1920-1930
Traditional, Rich, Timeless

10 1940-1950
Classic, Refined

11 1960-1970
Warm, Earthy

12 1980-1990
Deep, Traditional Tones

13 Modern Historic Interpretation
Flexible, inspiring contemporary palettes

Associated Styles:

- Colonial Revival
- Bungalow
- Early Commercial

Associated Styles:

- Shingled Colonial
- Tudor Revival
- Midwest Traditional

Associated Styles:

- Ranch
- Mid-Century Modern

Associated Styles:

- Traditional
- Neo-Classical Revival

Associated Style:

- Adaptive Reuse
- Midwest Contemporary
- Traditional



14 QUICK REFERENCE

PRESERVE



- Historic windows
- Roof forms
- Original materials
- Architectural details

AVOID



- Neon or fluorescent colors
- Incompatible materials
- Covering historic features
- Altering rooflines



BACK PAGE MEETINGS & CONTACT INFORMATION

DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE



The Design Review Commission meets on the 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 9th of each month at 4:30 p.m.

All meetings are held in the Jonesboro City Center.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



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HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION



The Historic Preservation Commission meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m., excluding Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

All meetings are held at the Jonesboro City Center.

COA APPLICATIONS & RESOURCES



PRESERVE TODAY.
ENHANCE TOMORROW.
CELEBRATE JONESBORO'S HISTORY.

