

DESIGN GUIDELINES

For Work Within Historic Districts

G. DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR EXTERIOR LIGHTING

As for all the guidelines, the purpose is to recommend that changes and additions of lighting and light fixtures for use in the historic districts, both commercial and residential uses, be era-appropriate. And more broadly, these guidelines should be applied across the City, as all is part of the Mackinac Island National Historic Landmark.

Both the character of the light itself (color temperature), and the fixtures which produce the light, should be appropriate to the historic ambiance of the Districts.

Styles - The appearance of light fixtures should be typical of and appropriate for the architectural styles found in the historic districts, those being:

- Victorian / Queen Anne -
- Arts and Crafts / Bungalow -
- Colonial Revival -

Typically fixtures should be ceiling or wall mounted. Modern styles and types such as soffit and roof edge illumination are not appropriate in historic settings.

Materials and Finishes - Light fixture construction materials and their finishes should reflect the typical and appropriate materials associated with their architectural style period.

- Victorian / Queen Anne - Dark / black metal finishes.
- Arts and Crafts / Bungalow - Weathered metals (sometimes hand-hammered) with art glass, often in amber or green colors.
- Colonial Revival - Usually brass or silvered metal finishes, and with glass having etched patterns.

Light Quality - In natural light color temperature varies throughout the day, but in darkness people seem to prefer a warmer color temperature approximating incandescent light sources. This is in the 2,500 - 3,000 K color temperature range, and is most appropriate for the historic environments of the Island's historic districts.

