

URBAN PLANNING SERVICES

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

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Preservation Design Guidelines

Pittsburgh recently adopted PlanPGH, the city's first ever comprehensive plan. To help implement the plan, Winter & Company recently drafted citywide historic preservation guidelines and developed a conservation overlay district tool. The preservation guidelines will become part of a citywide design manual coordinated by the Pittsburgh office of Urban Design Associates. Winter & Company worked directly with the city on the conservation district study.



Pittsburgh has many distinct neighborhoods, defined by unique topography and cultural traditions. The city has designated a number of these neighborhoods as historic districts, while others either do not qualify as historic or seek objectives that are not consistent with historic designation. Over the years, the city has developed separate design guidelines for each of its historic districts. These provide a high level of context-sensitivity, but are often repetitive and can be difficult to interpret and administer. The new historic guidelines consolidate related design topics across the city's districts, while still providing special design guidance for unique areas. They also address new materials and emerging trends in sustainability.



Pittsburgh is nationally recognized for its historic resources. They are enjoyed by residents, business owners and visitors as links to the city's heritage while also setting the stage for a vibrant future.



The conservation district study identifies tools to address objectives and issues in traditional neighborhoods that are not designed historic districts.



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For some traditional neighborhoods that are not designated historic districts, Winter & Company assisted the City of Pittsburgh investigate conservation overlay districts as a potential tool to protect traditional character while maintaining a high level of flexibility for renovation and new construction. The project includes development of an enabling ordinance, as well as specific language to implement a conservation district in one case study neighborhood. The conservation district tool can address demolition, the character of new construction, incentives for compatible development and other neighborhood objectives or issues.

The historic preservation guidelines and conservation district study were completed in 2015.

SERVICES:

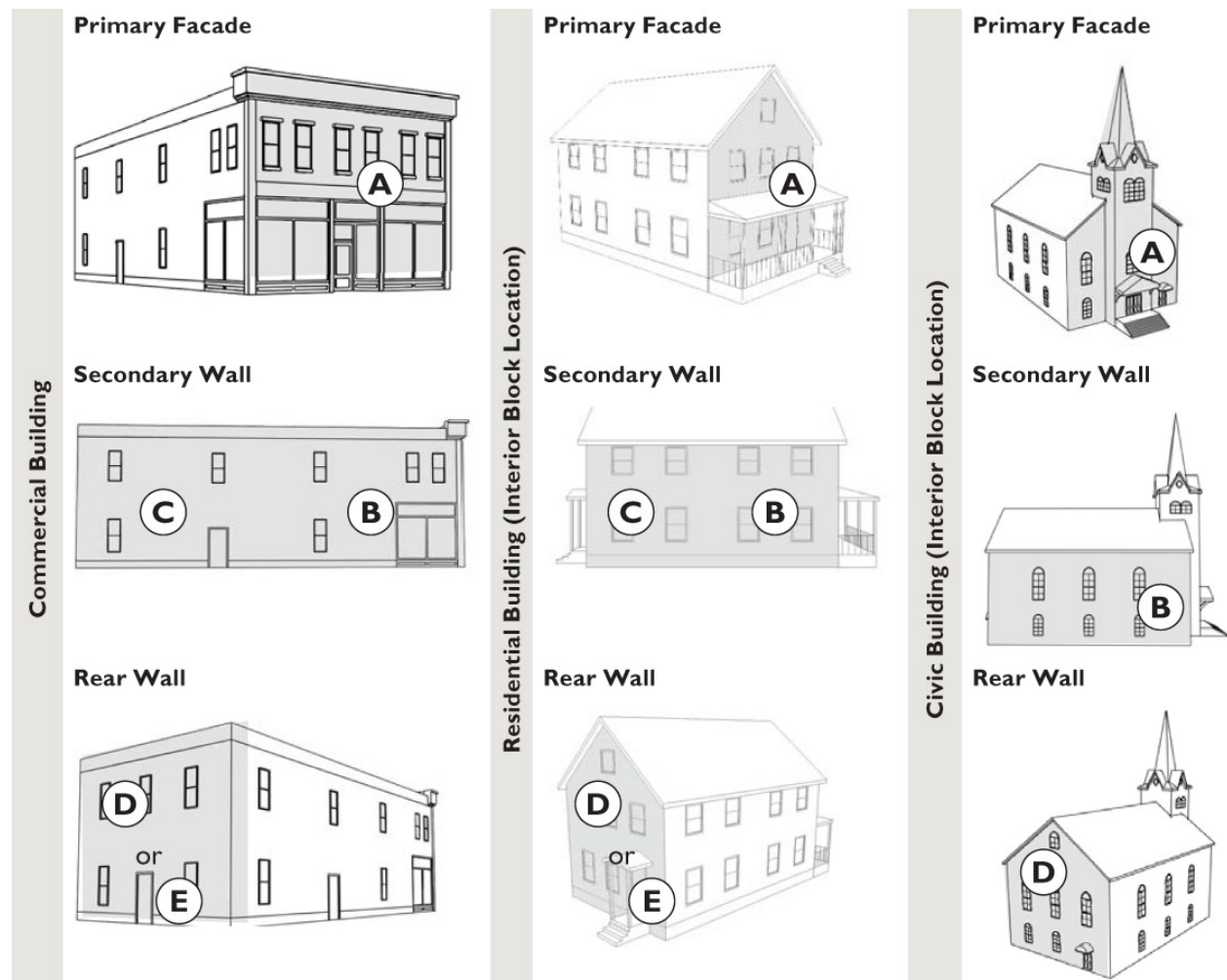
- » Design Guidelines
- » Community outreach

CLIENT:

Sarah Quinn
Historic Preservation Planner
City of Pittsburgh

DATE:

2012-2015



The historic preservation guidelines help identify appropriate treatments for highly visible façades and flexible options for less visible areas.



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