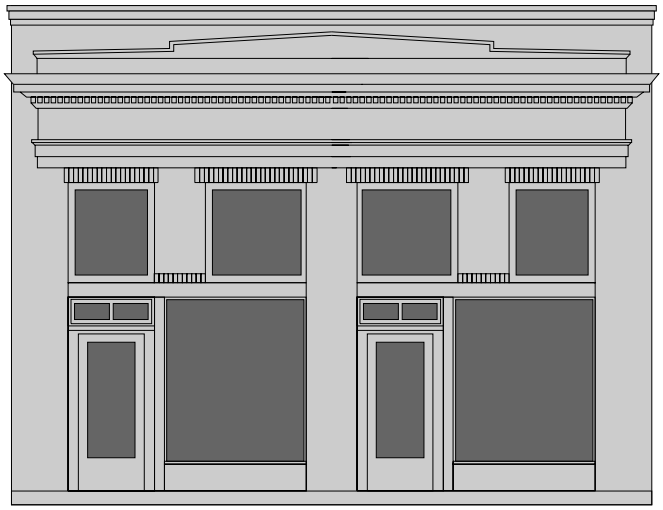
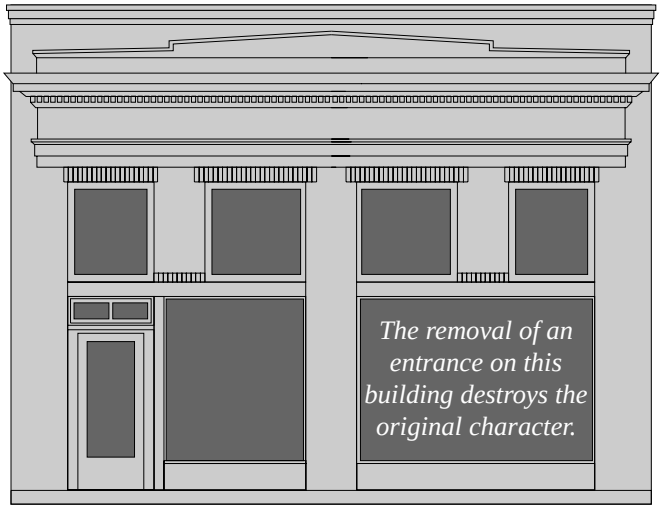
Commercial Blgs. Entrances

Entrances reflect the original design and use of a building. Placement and size, designed to facilitate the movement of people and goods through the structure, commonly distinguish the primary entrance from the secondary entrance. The primary entrance - usually centralized and accentuated within the storefront design or on the building facade - offers a prominent location for customer and client access; whereas, secondary entrances are set apart to serve separate purposes, such as upper floor access or rear delivery entry. Doors located on the front and sides are generally simple in design, framed, and constructed of wood with large amounts of glass to allow an interior view; whereas rear doors are often more solid in design.

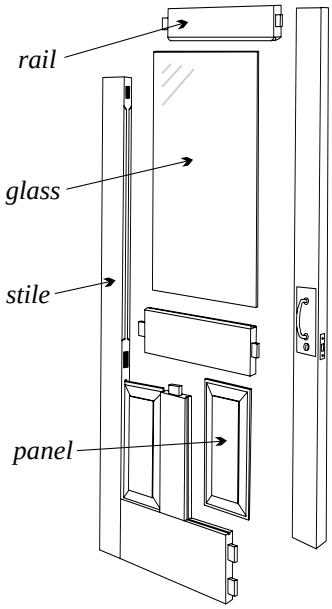
- Maintain and preserve historic doors and surrounding features. Repair damaged portions of historic doors rather than replacing the door in total.
- Replace historic doors damaged beyond repair with doors that match in material and design.
- Maintain the historic door placement on the facades and sides, including entrances to upper floors. Reopening infilled historic doorways is encouraged.
- New door openings may be considered on side and rear elevations provided they utilize traditional placement patterns.
- Doors for new openings or for replacing later, non-historic doors should relate to historic doors in the following ways: a) use matching materials, b) be of matching or similar size, and c) use matching or similar design.





Entrances on primary elevations should not be removed even if currently not needed. For example, though the interior of a double storefront building may be used by only one business it is appropriate for both doors to remain in place.

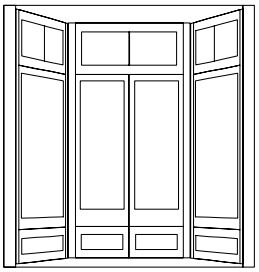
Historic doors consist of several components which can be repaired separately rather than entirely replacing the door.



no

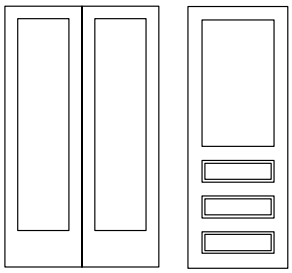
The door surrounds are equally important. Elaborate surrounds are not typical downtown.

yes



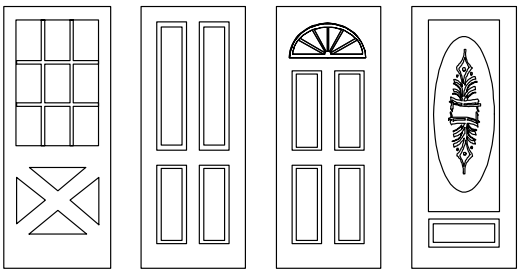
Surrounding elements are often limited to transoms.

yes



Generally, front doors in downtown have large areas of glass.

no



Residential doors are out of place in the historic commercial setting and should be avoided.