A. Garages, carriage houses or outbuildings that contribute to a property's historic character, or are original to a property, shall be preserved and maintained. Original features should be repaired to match the original.

B. Garages, carriage houses or outbuildings original to a property should not be moved or relocated to another part of the lot.

C. Original doors should be maintained, but may be retrofitted with modern hardware and custom garage door openers.

D. Doors deteriorated beyond repair may be replaced with new doors. These should match original doors with features such as raised panels and glass window sections. Many styles appropriate for historic buildings are available with overhead opening, but the look of original swing doors. Avoid solid metal or fiberglass doors. In general, flush metal doors are not appropriate. Translucent doors should not be used.

E. For architectural features visible from the street on garages, carriage houses, and outbuildings, refer to appropriate sections of this guide.

F. Non-original doors: If the door to be replaced is not original to the secondary structure, a door that is appropriate to the architectural period should be selected.

Examples of appropriate garage doors for historic properties
New Section to be added to Guidelines

Building Additions to Existing Garages, Carriage Houses and Outbuildings

It is critical that additions to historic garages are in keeping with the original style of the existing building. If the garage is not original and is not in the style of the primary building, consider a new garage in an appropriate style.

NOTES: For changes (not additions) to existing outbuildings see Existing Garages, Carriage Houses and Outbuilding section.

For new garages see New Construction Guidelines.

A. In many cases, single car garages were built when most houses only had one automobile. Today many households have more than one automobile. If an owner wishes to build an addition in order to accommodate additional vehicles, said addition should be compatible in appearance to the original garage or carriage house.

B. Compatibility includes but is not limited to roof lines, roof pitch, overhangs, dormers, siding material, garage doors and service doors. For any new door included in addition, refer to appropriate sections of this guide.

Example of an appropriate garage addition for historic properties.

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New Garages and Outbuildings

A. Secondary buildings shall be smaller in scale than the primary dwelling.

B. Secondary buildings should be built at traditional locations for outbuildings in the legally designated districts. These include at rear lot lines, adjacent to alleys and at the rear side of a dwelling.

C. Secondary buildings shall be compatible in design, shape, and materials, and roof shape with the associated primary building.

D. Exterior materials of secondary buildings should match or be compatible with those of the primary building. If not visible from the street, secondary buildings may have exterior substitute siding materials such as cement board, aluminum or vinyl.

E. For garage doors, wood paneled doors are appropriate. Paneled doors of vinyl, aluminum, or steel are not appropriate. Wood paneled overhead roll-up doors are widely available and are appropriate for new garages. For doors on new garages, refer to appropriate sections of this guide.

Examples of appropriate new garages.

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