

## Art

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The installation of artwork creates community focal points and can vitalize landscaped areas, pedestrian corridors, parks, and other public spaces. Art takes many forms. Art can be cast, carved, built, assembled or painted. In addition to sculpture and murals, art may take a functional form such as landscaping, interpretative signage, or artistic amenities. By its presence alone art can challenge a community to heighten awareness and question assumptions.

Public art is any work of art or design that is created by an artist specifically to be sited in a space intended for public use or public viewing. It invites interaction with the surroundings and has the power to reflect or contribute to a community's character. Public art helps define the community's identity and reveal the unique nature of a specific neighborhood. Private art that is installed outdoors also effects the character of the historic district.

### **Considerations**

The subject or meaning of a piece of art can be interpreted in many ways. Thus review of art installations within the Historic District are intended to be content-neutral. The COA review is meant to ensure that the location, mass and scale, materials, durability, and manner of installation of the art piece are compatible with the character of the district. The Historic District Commission is not responsible for reviewing the content or subject matter of a piece of art.

Artwork should be cared for and refurbished as required by the nature of the materials to maintain the appropriate appearance and safety of the piece. Artwork should also be installed in a manner that considers safety of the general public.

## Art: Guidelines

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1. Introduce artwork only in locations that do not compromise or diminish the character of the building, site, or district
2. Introduce artwork only in locations that do not obstruct the view of historic structures or vistas.
3. Introduce artwork in locations that provide for safe pedestrian access and circulation.
4. Introduce wall-mounted art, such as murals, mosaics, or metal installations only in locations that do not compromise or diminish the overall design or architectural rhythm or pattern of the building, site, or district.
5. Install artwork so that it does not conceal or result in the removal of character-defining details or features.
6. Introduce artwork that has appropriate massing in relation to the building, site, or district.
7. Scale artwork appropriately for the intended space.
8. Fabricate artwork from traditional materials including wood, stone, masonry, or metal and that are durable for exterior installation and compatible with the character of the building, site, or district. It is not appropriate to introduce artwork in contemporary materials, such as plastics and resins.
9. Introduce materials for associated pedestals that are typical of those found in the district, such as wood, stone, brick, or metal, unless the artwork itself suggests an alternate but compatible material.
10. Utilize methods of stabilization or attachment that are fully reversible and do not cause damage to historic buildings, sites, or materials.
11. Install accessories to the artwork such as signage, mounting hardware, or lighting so that they are unobtrusive and screened from view as much as possible and are constructed from compatible materials.

### **Additional Minor Work #31**

Installation/alteration of art such as but not limited to free standing sculpture and wall mounted murals, mosaics, or metal installations that are not affixed to a building or site. This minor work item is not intended to apply to common and seasonal decorations and garden accents, which are exempt from review.