

Windows

Woodstock’s buildings have a wide variety of window styles, the multi-paned window divided by muntins being the most predominant and historically correct. Repair or replacement of existing windows with windows of appropriate style and period is encouraged. New trim moldings should be in proportion to the installed windows.

Unrelated styles and inappropriate materials such as Plexiglas, smoked, colored, mirrored and glass coatings are not recommended. When adding display windows they should be in scale with the facade of the building. Divided lites are preferred; single large panes are discouraged. When installing a display window, a line of divided transom lites can be effective in maintaining the building’s character.



Lighting

Lighting for signage, building entries, walkways, facades or pole-affixed area lights must use fixtures that control the light output so that the illumination is contained. Light fixtures must be shielded so that they do not shine into the eyes of passing motorists or intrude into the privacy of adjoining properties.

Encouraged

Recessed down-lights, energy efficient fixtures that are compatible and echo the architectural style of the building.

Discouraged

Lighting which causes “sky glow,” unshielded up-lights, inappropriate period styles.



Signage

Building mounted or freestanding, signage is regulated by the Zoning Law of the Town of Woodstock. It is not required to utilize the entire allowable square footage. Often, a smaller custom sign is more effective.

Discouraged

Generic commercial, signs. Banners are discouraged as they create an untidy appearance.



Landscaping & Street Furniture

Landscaping should enhance the building or site for which it is created. Landscape can mean “gardens” in the strictest sense, or a beautiful array of plants in pots or window boxes.

In the past, mature trees lined the main streets of town. Many of these have succumbed to road expansion, age or disease. Whenever possible, the preservation and replacement of shade trees is strongly encouraged.

Fencing of small yards is discouraged because it tends to make the general street scene look overcrowded. Where fencing is necessary to screen parking areas or waste receptacles, it should be of a design that is compatible with the architecture of the building.



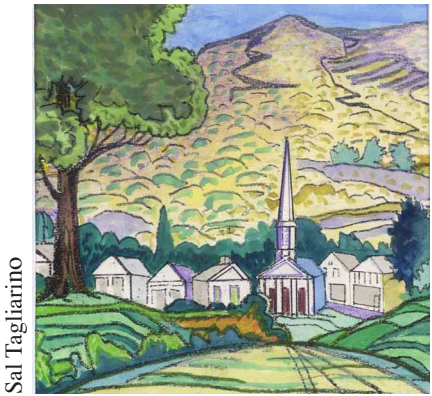
Encouraged

Planting of native species; planting of shrubs to mask unattractive areas; creative landscaping instead of a fence; use of native stone for landscaping, and durable, well designed benches where space allows.

Discouraged

Overgrown or neglected shrubs; removal of mature trees; enclosing front yards with fencing; hedges that block vehicular sight lines.

Woodstock Design Guidelines
Commission for Civic Design



Founded in 1787, the Town of Woodstock, located within the heart of New York State’s Catskill Mountains, includes the hamlets of Woodstock, Bearsville, Lake Hill, Shady, Willow and Zena. While a major portion of the Town consists of state protected forestlands, significant pressure for development of private lands resulted in the creation of the Woodstock Zoning Ordinance in 1965 superseded in 1989 by the Woodstock Zoning Law.

The Town of Woodstock created the Commission for Civic Design (CCD) in 1980 to oversee the design of Woodstock’s public realm. The primary purpose of the CCD is to evaluate the historic, architectural value and significance of properties under review and their relationship to the surrounding area.

- The CCD’s scope of review includes, but is not limited to:
- Building Form and Massing
 - Entry Articulation
 - Façade Material, including Colors
 - Roof Shape, Features and Material
 - Windows
 - Doors
 - Exterior Lighting
 - Landscaping

The community has a necessary and historic interest in preserving the character of Woodstock as it develops and changes. It is the basic purpose of the CCD to ensure that such interest is met through review of projects planned for Woodstock’s public realm. The CCD recognizes the need to balance the public interest with the right of private expression.

Building Form & Massing

Commercial, residential and institutional buildings are primarily a mix of original and converted one and two story wood frame buildings, including larger structures such as the Dutch Reformed Church, The Lutheran Church, The Woodstock Library, The Community Center (a converted Catholic Church), The Town Hall, retail stores, gas stations, small strip commercial shops and school buildings. Roofs are typically gable end or hip, often with dormers, exemplifying local traditions of building during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Flat roofs, with the exception of a few commercial or educational buildings constructed after the 1940s, are not characteristic of Woodstock’s traditional architecture. Woodstock has many buildings converted from residential to commercial use at the 1st floor level with necessary modifications such as exterior exit stairs and multiple entries. Some are false-front structures, others share a common wall; however, most are detached. This traditional residential scale and form gives Woostock its unique design character.

Design proposals are encouraged that reflect and enhance the historic character of the Town and should not be generic “boilerplate” forms. A building or collection of buildings can follow a traditional style or be a modern interpretation and still respect Woodstock’s small town fabric.



Entry Articulation & Doors

The entrance to a building is its focal point, and should be attractive and welcoming. This includes the door and it’s surround with moldings, side lites and transoms. The addition of an overdoor or porch is effective. Architectural details such as panels, glazing, interesting hardware and coordinated colors can enhance the entire structure.

Entry pathways of bluestone, pavers, brick or concrete are recommended. Entry access should be well lit, employing indirect and shielded lighting. Wall sconces or recessed overhead lights as part of a portico can provide effective lighting with an attractive glow.



Facade Materials

In order to maintain the historic character of the hamlet of Woodstock, the choice of facade materials on new or renovated buildings is important. The use of traditional building materials is encouraged. Materials should reflect the historic choices employed in the hamlet. Recreating original building styles by referring to historical documentation is recommended. Continuity in the overall exterior is important. The front, sides and back of the building should relate. Many buildings have decorative brackets, dentils and other forms of architectural detail which should be preserved and replicated whenever possible. Mechanical systems should be hidden from view or visually minimized.

Encouraged

Wood or fiber cement clapboard, shingles , stone or brick, historic style windows, and architectural details.

Discouraged

Metal and vinyl siding, concrete block, artificial stone or brick, large glass storefronts, large blank walls.

Facade Colors

Paint charts with historic colors are available at most paint vendors. Colors chosen for the structure should be in keeping with its style and period of construction. Intense colors, and extreme contrast between architectural details and the body of the structure are not recommended.

