

3.2.7. Doors and Door Openings

Maintenance

- (a) Preserve and maintain historic doors, screen doors, door frames, and hardware unless deteriorated beyond repair (SOI Standards 2, 5, 6).

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Required for all exterior doors	Required if visible from the public ROW	Recommended

- (b) Retain and repair door glazing in its historic configuration unless deteriorated beyond repair (SOI Standards 5, 6).

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Required for all exterior doors	Required if visible from the public ROW	Recommended

- (c) Clean and treat historic doors, door frames, and hardware using accepted preservation methods (see *Appendix G*, SOI Standards 5, 7).

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Required for all exterior doors	Required if visible from the public ROW	Recommended

Alterations

- (d) Do not enlarge historic door openings or create new door openings (SOI Standards 2, 3).

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Required for all exterior doors	Required if visible from the public ROW	Recommended

ADA Compliance: Door Openings

In some cases, enlarging a historic door opening may be necessary to accommodate persons with disabilities. In these instances, the Historic Review Board may vote to approve a COA application that meets the spirit of *the Secretary's Standards* but does not precisely meet these standards and guidelines to the letter. (Refer to *Section 1.4.2.4*. Refer also to guidance on making a porch ADA compliant in *Section 3.2.4*. and National Park Service Preservation Brief #32-*Making Historic Properties Accessible*.)

- (e) If the historic main entry door is deteriorated beyond repair, replicate the design and look of the new door exactly as the original historic door (SOI Standards 3, 6).

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Required for main entrance only	Required for main entrance only	Recommended

- (f) If a new door or door frame is required, install the new components so that they maintain the spatial relationships (including depth and dimension) and joint patterns as existed historically relative to door frames, exterior wall planes, and other exterior features (SOI Standards 6, 9).

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Required for all exterior doors	Required if visible from the public ROW	Recommended

- (g) If historic door hardware is deteriorated beyond repair or missing, choose replacements that match the overall style and time period of construction, looking at other examples of the same style and era in the Fredericksburg Historic District or from historic catalogs (SOI Standards 3, 6).

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Required for all exterior doors	Required if visible from the public ROW	Recommended

- (h) If historic door hardware is missing or deteriorated beyond repair, replace with salvaged period-appropriate hardware if feasible (SOI Standards 3, 6).

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Recommended	Recommended	Recommended

- (i) A new screen door may be added at the main entrance, provided that it generally suits the style and time period of the building, and that it does not damage or obscure historic character-defining features (SOI Standard 9; see fig. 3-27).

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Inappropriate	Appropriate	Appropriate

- (j) Use of synthetic or composite appropriate materials for replacement doors, door frames, and hardware is acceptable in some cases (SOI Standard 6).

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Inappropriate if visible from the public ROW	Inappropriate if visible from the public ROW	Appropriate

Restoration

- (k) If the historic main entry door is missing, consider researching the historic door’s appearance and, if documented, replicating the design and look of the new door exactly as the original historic door (SOI Standards 3, 6).

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Recommended	Recommended	Recommended

- (l) If a historic door is missing, choose a replacement door that is similar in terms of design and appearance with the historic character of the building, looking at other examples of the same style and era in the Fredericksburg Historic District or from historic catalogs of building materials (discussed in *Appendix H*, SOI Standards 3, 6).

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Required for all exterior doors	Required if visible from the public ROW	Recommended

- (m) If a historic screen door is missing from the main entrance, consider researching the historic screen door’s appearance and, if documented, replicating the design and look of the new door exactly as the original historic door (SOI Standards 3, 6).

High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Recommended	Recommended	Recommended

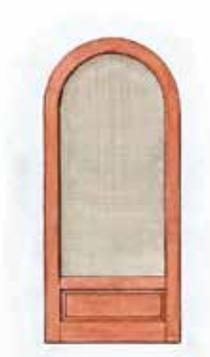
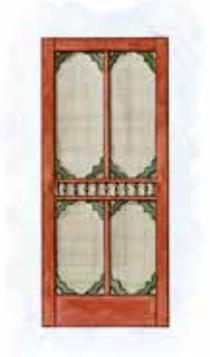
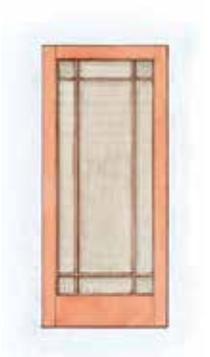
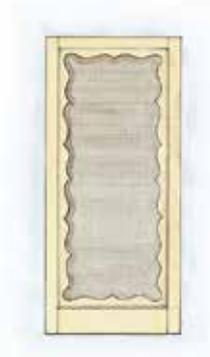


Figure 3-28. Example of an **appropriate** door, consistent with the style and time period of construction. Source: Winter & Company.



Figure 3-29. Example of a Folk Victorian House at 505 N. Milam Street with an **inappropriate** Contemporary door detracting from the overall style and character of the house. Source: CMEC 2019 Historic Resources Survey.

Figure 3-30. Examples of **period-appropriate** screen doors that may be **appropriate to add to Medium or Low priority buildings**. Sources: Patricia Poore, "Period Screen Doors," Old House Online, updated April 9, 2020, <https://www.oldhouseonline.com/gardens-and-exteriors/oh-squeeeeeeak-thwack/>; Retro Renovation, accessed January 10, 2021, <https://retrorenovation.com/2015/06/01/screen-door-insert-heron-flamingo-decorative/>; Rejuvenation, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://www.rejuvenation.com/catalog/collections/full-lite-fir-screen-door/>.

 <p>Paneled screen door appropriate for most styles before ca. 1915.</p>	 <p>Arched screen door appropriate for Italianate styles.</p>	 <p>Screen door with spindles and jigsaw brackets, appropriate for Folk Victorian or Queen Anne styles.</p>	 <p>Geometric screen door, appropriate for Prairie or Craftsman styles.</p>
 <p>Geometric screen door, appropriate for Craftsman or Ranch styles.</p>	 <p>Scalloped screen door, appropriate for Minimal Traditional styles.</p>	 <p>Organic metal screen door, appropriate for Ranch styles.</p>	 <p>Simple single-panel screen door, appropriate for Low priorities in any style.</p>