

THE PRESERVATION POST

BY ANGELA NEWMAN



PRESERVATION STANDARDS

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 established the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for historic preservation with the following four treatments:

1. Preservation
2. Restoration
3. Rehabilitation
4. Reconstruction

Sometimes there can be confusion on what is acceptable for preserving old buildings when still wanting to have today's comforts of AC, etc. (especially on these hot summer days) and the 21st Century lifestyle. Let's first talk about 'Preservation' standards.

Historic preservation treatment standards established in the Act are summarized as:

~ The property should be used as it was designed to be originally (house = house) but if it is going to be used for a different purpose (house to store) then its '*character defining features and spaces*' should be maximized.

~ The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved.

~ The property will be noted for its place and time in history.

~ Materials, character, and craftsmanship will be retained and preserved.

~Gentle care and treatments to historic materials is given.

~ If a historic feature needs repair and has deteriorated, the new material must match the old in color, texture, etc.

You can see, that 'preservation treatment' is about maintaining and preserving the building, respecting its features, history, and character while at the same time, allowing for upgrades for modern conveniences such as AC and heat.

ARCHITECTURE ARCHIVES

Balustrade



Balustrades are seen in both old and new buildings. A *balustrade* is a row of small columns or posts with a rail sitting on top. The individual column or post is called a *baluster*. Mostly used to prevent someone from falling off the stairway but are also used for decorative purposes.

First seen in 7th century B.C. and then reappearing in the 15th century in Italian palaces. They can be made of wood, wrought-iron, simple or fancy and in different shapes and sizes.



Angela Newman

Angela is a Realtor® passionate about historic preservation, communities and small business. She holds an MBA and is an avid and enthusiastic student of historic architecture and preservation.

Her desire to bring awareness to and advocate for old homes is what inspired her to create, 'Historic District Walking Tours' and social media platforms to promote her community.

“ The old buildings not only give their cities character but also carry memories of the people who once lived there. When you build a house, it really is more than just a building. It's a reflection of your culture, values and memories. ”
Author, Unknown