



Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines

August 17, 2005
Monroe County, Florida

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HDR Inc.

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1. Introduction

The Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines prescribe the basic rules for development in the area known as the Tavernier Historic District (Figure 2), as recommended by the Tavernier Livable CommuniKeys Plan (LCP). The Tavernier Historic District is bounded on the North by the US Highway 1, on the West by the Tavernier Creek, on the South by the Atlantic Ocean and on the East by Mile Marker 92. Within the district there are over four dozen structures that are historically significant. These guidelines function as an overlay and should be used to guide the development and redevelopment of the Tavernier Historic District. They are an instrument for the implementation of the rules for development within the comprehensive plan, the land development regulations, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standard for Rehabilitation, as well as an extension of the Livable CommuniKeys Plan.

The intent of the Guidelines is to provide guidance for development in the Historic District, in order to help preserve the cultural and architectural integrity of the district. The guidelines will serve as the principles to be used to regulate the appearance of new development as well as the rehabilitation and maintenance of structures in the Tavernier Historic District, and to encourage regular maintenance, accurate restoration, appropriate alterations or additions to historic buildings. These guidelines rely on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Historic Preservation as their foundation. The guidelines describe the criteria used by the Monroe County Historic Preservation Commission to evaluate applications for Certificates of Appropriateness. A Certificate of Appropriateness is typically required to secure building permits in the historic district.



Figure 1 Tavernier ca. 1951
From the Collection of Jerry Wilkinson

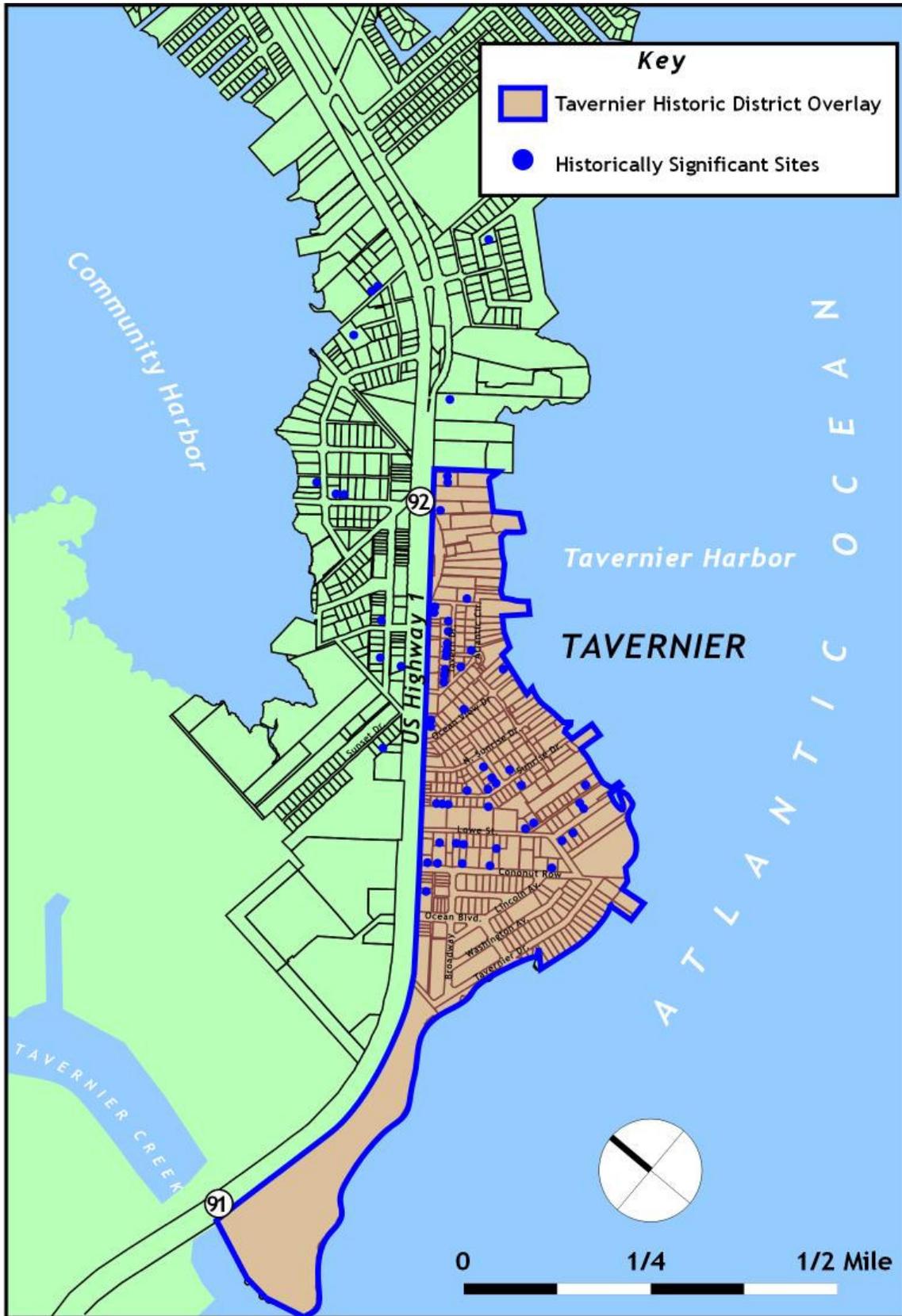


Figure 2 Tavernier Historic District Overlay

2. Background

Tavernier began as a farming community late in the 19th Century, and later, with the introduction of Henry Flagler's railroad connecting Key West to the mainland, it became a fishing village and a railroad town. Although the advance of the Overseas Highway (now US Highway 1) was partially due to the hurricane of 1935 that destroyed the railroad, the highway's origin dates back to land boom of 1921. Tavernier was mostly developed by the Key Largo Development Company in 1925. By 1928, the railroad was on what are today the southbound lanes of US Highway 1, and the Overseas Highway was on today's northbound lanes. The hurricane of Labor Day 1935 not only wiped out the railroad, it took the lives of over 420 people, many of whom were WW I veterans working on the bridges and roads of the Overseas Highway. By 1937, as Tavernier continued its unhurried development, Flagler's railroad right-of-way was bought and the reconstruction of a roadway to connect Key West with the mainland resumed.

In February of 1939 the nation was made aware of the Overseas Highway when President F. D. Roosevelt drove through Tavernier en route to Key West and the Caribbean. During WW II, Commissioner Harry Harris moved the bar he owned from the ocean side of the roadway to the bay side, knowing that the highway would be expanded to four lanes, thus favoring his and other new locations by facilitating the provision of on-site parking.

The historic district was created to preserve the unique and vital architectural character of Tavernier. Tavernier's history was recognized by Monroe County while contemplating a historic district for Tavernier in 1984. A subsequent survey conducted with the assistance of the Historic Florida Keys Preservation Board, identified 32 structures that contribute to the historic character of the Tavernier. In November 2003, the Historic Florida Keys Foundation (HFKF) commissioned a survey that identified 55 structures built between the early 1920s and the 1950s.

The Livable CommuniKeys Plan (LCP) -- Tavernier Creek to Mile Marker 97, was developed as an extension of the county's comprehensive growth management plan and responds to local community needs in the project area. The LCP recommended drafting guidelines for the historic district. The guidelines in this document respond to the goals outlined in the LCP:



Figure 3 Standard Oil Station ca. 1930
From the Collection of Jerry Wilkinson

Goal One: *direct future growth to lands that are most suitable for development, prevent sprawl into less developed areas and encourage preservation of environmentally sensitive lands.*

Goal Two: *preserve and protect the qualities of neighborhoods between Tavernier Creek Bridge and Mile Marker 97 – its small town unique character, lush natural environment and water orientation.*

Goal Three: *define, maintain and enhance the community character from MM 91 to MM 93.5, and*

Goal Four: *protect and enhance historic, cultural and archeological resources within Tavernier to maintain the integrity of the community's unique character.*

These guidelines are supplemented with the community participation and input collected during a four-day workshop (February 22 through 25, 2005) organized to help the consultant team understand the aspirations of the Tavernier community and review the goals and vision stated in the LCP.

3. Current Conditions

The character of a place is often revealed through its architecture. As Tavernier developed in the early part of the 20th Century, several architectural styles, described below, gave the place its character. The qualities that make Tavernier special are simple: materials were scarce and bringing them to the construction sites implied some degree of difficulty; therefore buildings, especially in the early phases of development, were uncomplicated wooden structures made to withstand and take advantage of the local climate. Another characteristic that separates Tavernier from other places is the use of the town itself. On the one hand, it is a place that is a stop between destinations; on the other hand, it is a world unto itself. Tavernier's Historic District is a place defined by sober, one-story single family houses with porches and pitched roofs. Wooden siding and metal roofs are prevalent, and picket fences line up some of the streets underlining the ambiance of a small American town in the islands.

The historic district contains a mix of both historic buildings, which contribute to the historic character of the district, and non-historic buildings, which do not. In addition, new construction will bring more structures in the future. In response, these guidelines are designed to provide guidance for each of these three kinds of properties. Their ultimate purpose is to preserve the historical characteristics of Tavernier by facilitating the rehabilitation and preservation of contributing structures, the appropriate redevelopment of noncontributing structures, and the appropriate construction of new buildings.

Frame Vernacular: This is the dominant architectural style in Tavernier. It is characterized by the use of local materials and local craftsmanship that produces sober, useful and practical buildings. The buildings are generally rectilinear volumes with little or no adornment (Figures 4 and 5).



Figure 4 Frame Vernacular



Figure 5 Frame Vernacular

Tavernier examples are mostly lower pitched roofs, a common occurrence for this type of architecture from the 1920s onwards. The building's exterior walls are typically clapboard, novelty or board-and-batten siding. The Roberts' House and the Carpenter House, both on Sunrise Drive, built in the 1930s are two excellent examples.

Frame Modern: The Wilkinson House at 159 Tavernier Trail, built in 1939, mixes elements of Modern architecture such as the raised frame, a legacy of the Maison-Domino developed two decades earlier in Europe by Le Corbusier (Figure 6). The wood frame on top of the concrete structure is an added element common to the Keys. Long eaves and extended rafters are typical of the Keys' frame architecture.



Figure 6 Frame Modern

Masonry Vernacular: This architecture uses clay brick, a rare material in the Keys, limestone or concrete blocks. Residential architecture in this style tends to include simple volumes with gabled or hipped roofs (Figure 7). Windows are double hung, casements, or, in some cases, jalousies. The style is usually restrained, but the structural possibilities of concrete allow for occasional curvilinear elements. An example of masonry vernacular is found at 120 Tavern Street.



Figure 7 Masonry Vernacular

Commercial Vernacular: This style consists of one- or two-story buildings where the ground floor includes broad picture windows and the entries are often recessed (Figure 8). The ground floor is public with the upper floors dedicated to special uses. In the case of the Tavernier Hotel, at 91865 Overseas Hwy., the building was originally built as a movie theatre in the 1920s. These modest buildings are often adorned with stucco moldings and raised parapets.



Figure 8 Commercial Vernacular

Art Deco: There is one example of this style within the historic district at 91461 Overseas Highway. This style is characterized by the play between angular features and curvilinear elements (Figure 9). Buildings in this style have flat roofs, smooth surfaces and cantilevered overhangs.



Figure 9 Art Deco Building



Figure 10 Railroad-Oriented Buildings (demolished)

4. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Historic Preservation.

The Standards that follow were originally published in 1977 and revised in 1990 as part of Department of the Interior regulations (36 CFR Part 67, Historic Preservation Certifications). They pertain to historic buildings of all materials, construction types, sizes, and occupancy and encompass the exterior and the interior of historic buildings.

The Standards are to be applied to specific rehabilitation projects in a reasonable manner, taking into consideration economic and technical feasibility.

1. A property shall be used for its historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site and environment.

2. The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

3. Each property shall be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or architectural elements from other buildings, shall not be undertaken.

4. Most properties change over time; those changes that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.

5. Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property shall be preserved.

6. Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature shall match the old in design, color, texture, and other visual qualities and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features shall be substantiated by documentary, physical, or pictorial evidence.

7. Chemical or physical treatments, such as sandblasting, that cause damage to historic materials shall not be used. The surface cleaning of structures, if appropriate, shall be undertaken using the gentlest means possible.

8. Significant archeological resources affected by a project shall be protected and preserved. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures shall be undertaken.

9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

There are Standards for four distinct, but interrelated, approaches to the treatment of historic properties--preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction.

Preservation focuses on the maintenance and repair of existing historic materials and retention of a property's form as it has evolved over time. (Protection and Stabilization have now been consolidated under this treatment.)

Rehabilitation acknowledges the need to alter or add to a historic property to meet continuing or changing uses while retaining the property's historic character.

Restoration depicts a property at a particular period of time in its history, while removing evidence of other periods.

Reconstruction re-creates vanished or non-surviving portions of a property for interpretive purposes.



Figure 11 Residential Building, ca. 1909
Photo Courtesy of Jerry Wilkinson

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation suggest that the rehabilitation of a building begins with the least intrusive treatments.

Choosing an appropriate treatment for a historic building or landscape, whether preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, or reconstruction is critical. This choice always depends on a variety of factors, including its historical significance, physical condition, proposed use, and intended interpretation.

Relative importance in history. Is the building a nationally significant resource--a rare survivor or the work of a master architect or craftsman? Did an important event take place in it? National Historic Landmarks, designated for their "exceptional significance in American history," or many buildings individually listed in the National Register often warrant Preservation or Restoration. Buildings that contribute to the significance of a historic district but are not individually listed in the National Register more frequently undergo Rehabilitation for a compatible new use.

Physical condition. What is the existing condition--or degree of material integrity--of the building prior to work? Has the original form survived largely intact or has it been altered over time? Are the alterations an important part of the building's history? Preservation may be appropriate if distinctive materials, features, and spaces are essentially intact and convey the building's historical significance. If the building requires more extensive repair and replacement, or if alterations or additions are necessary for a new use, then Rehabilitation is probably the most appropriate treatment. These key questions play major roles in determining what treatment is selected.

Proposed use. An essential, practical question to ask is: Will the building be used as it was historically or will it be given a new use? Many historic buildings can be adapted for new uses without seriously damaging their historic character; special-use properties such as grain silos, forts, ice houses, or windmills may be extremely difficult to adapt to new uses without major intervention and a resulting loss of historic character and even integrity.

Mandated code requirements. Regardless of the treatment, code requirements will need to be taken into consideration. But if hastily or poorly designed, code-required work may jeopardize a building's materials as well as its historic character. Thus, if a building needs to be seismically upgraded, modifications to the historic appearance should be minimal. Abatement of lead paint and asbestos within historic buildings requires particular care if important historic finishes are not to be adversely affected. Finally, alterations and new construction needed to meet accessibility requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 should be designed to minimize material loss and visual change to a historic building.

5. Architectural Character

There is no unique Tavernier architectural style, however, the uncomplicated volumes, the prevalent materials such as wood siding and metal roofs, all contribute to a common character described below in greater detail. The constituent elements of a building are roof, body and base (Figure 12). Examples taken from different buildings in the historic district are shown to illustrate the application of materials and building techniques.

Roof

Roof Shape. From the inception of development in the Keys at the turn of the 20th Century, roofs have had to be resilient and of the proper characteristics to withstand tropical weather conditions. With a couple of exceptions all historic buildings in Tavernier have sloped roofs; earlier buildings, dating to before the mid 1930s, are characterized by high pitches (4:12—for every 12 inches of length, the roof rises 4 inches).

Roof shapes are simple, generally hipped (Figure 13) or gabled (Figure 14).

With time roof slopes got shallower and by the 1950s buildings had roof slope ratios as shallow as 2:12 (Figure 15).

Roofs over porches are either attached to a gable end, and have a roof of similar slopes to the main building (Figure 16), or when attached to a hipped roof have a shed roof as in Figure 12.

Later buildings departed from the common single volume to slightly more complex forms such as an L-shaped building (Figure 17).



Figure 12 Constituent Elements of a Building



Figure 13 Hipped Roofs



Figure 14 Gabled Roof



Figure 15 Shallow Roof



Figure 16 Porch Attached to a Gabled House



Figure 17 L-Shaped Roof

Dormers. This architectural feature is seldom used in historic buildings. However it is present in later additions to some buildings (Figure 18).



Figure 18 Dormers

Roof Materials. Metal roofing (v-crimp or standing seam) is a widely used material; it has low maintenance and long durability. It also has a good performance in hurricanes and high winds (Figure 19).



Figure 19 Metal Roofing

Composite tile became a common material in the 1930s, it is light weight, easy to transport and relatively easy to install. This material has also proven to be durable; there are still some buildings with their original composite tile roofing (Figure 20).



Figure 20 Composite Tile and Clay Roofing

Clay tile is a rather uncommon material for the architecture of the Keys, because of the difficulty of transporting the material, the example in Figure 19 shows the clay tile as an accent only on the ridges of the roof.

Chimneys. Chimneys are also uncommon in the Keys, nonetheless there are a few examples built in brick, painted brick and stone (Figure 21).



Figure 21 Chimneys

Rafters. Exposed rafters at the edge of the roof are common to Florida and the Keys; they are detailed with a sawn vertical edge (Figure 22).



Figure 22. Exposed Sawn Rafters

Body

The body of the building includes the building enclosure or exterior wall, openings such as windows, doors and vents, and added architectural elements such as porches, awnings, shutters, brackets and railings.

Exterior Walls. The building enclosure can be siding or stucco. There are three common wood siding styles: novelty, clapboard, and board-and-batten.

Novelty siding consists of horizontally laid boards with notched edges that make an overlapping joint; the face of each board is parallel to the plane of the wall (figure 23).

Clapboard consists of beveled boards laid horizontally and overlapping at the top and bottom; the face of each board is oblique to the wall.

Board-and-batten siding is composed of vertically applied boards whose joints are covered by narrow strips or battens (Figure 24).

In the 1930s stucco was introduced to the Keys and has since become a chosen material due to its low maintenance (Figure 25).

Shutters. The use of shutters is common in most historic buildings because they help protect the glazing of windows during high winds. Traditionally shutters have been operable; however, in more recent construction, the use of decorative shutters has become common. There are two kinds of historic shutters used in Tavernier: top hinged shutters and leaf shutters (Figure 26). Top hinged shutters are hinged at the top, mounted over the window and sized to cover the entire window opening. Leaf shutters are hinged on the side and are latched to close over the entire window opening. Later examples include Bahama shutters, are a type of top hinged shutter that when open allow its louvers to let certain amount of light through.



Figure 23 Novelty Siding



Figure 24 Board and Batten Siding



Figure 25 Stucco Building



Figure 26 Window Shutters

Brackets. Brackets are not prevalent in the historic district. There are a few examples of brackets added after the original construction. Historic brackets are simple and tend to be used for structural rather than for decorative purposes (Figure 27).

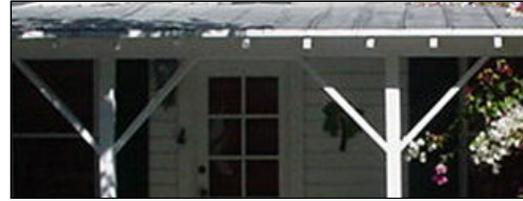


Figure 27 Brackets

Railings. This architectural detail is another common element of historic buildings. The stiles in historic railings are minimally detailed. Exterior railings are typically found in porches (Figure 28).



Figure 28 Railings

Windows. Historic windows include casement, single-hung or double-hung. Jalousie or awning windows are common on buildings built in the 1950s or after. Types that are not vernacular to Tavernier include pivot, fixed (or picture) and horizontal slider windows (Figure 29).



Figure 29 Casement and Double-Hung Windows

Doors. Historic doors include wood panel doors (made of horizontal rails and vertical stiles that frame one or more panels) and single-pane French doors. Batten or flush doors are not traditional to Tavernier. Screen doors hinged in front of the primary door are common (Figure 30).



Figure 30 French and Screen Doors

Porches. While porches are an original architectural element of many historic buildings, in many instances they have been altered from the original building form. Either they have been enclosed to add living space to the building or have been added to the original structure at a later time. These alterations are noticeable by studying the exterior walls of former outdoor porches or the railings and roofs of additions. Nevertheless, porches are a building element that belongs in Tavernier.

Base

The base is where the building meets the ground, and generally includes those elements that occur between the interior finish floor and the adjacent grade. Historic buildings in Tavernier were not typically built on the water's edge and were not built on stilts; however early historic buildings were raised at least two feet above the ground.

The crawl space is the space at the base of a building between the building and the ground. It is common to see the crawl space covered with a simple wooden lattice of diamond or square pattern (Figure 31). Some buildings with crawl spaces or with concrete foundations utilize coral stone for their base (Figure 32).



Figure 31. Wood Lattice



Figure 32. Coral Stone

6. Landscape Character

The essence of the historic district’s charm is to be found in its long-stewarded yard trees. Yet all forms of plants, trees and hammock were vital to the survival of the community and, therefore, inextricably tied to the history of the area.

For generations, the tall trees and hammock in Tavernier have been cared for because they provided shade, food, and a buffer against hurricane force winds and flying debris. This is in contrast to areas in the Lower Keys where the vegetation is low or was mostly removed during construction activities. In Tavernier, trees were typically not cut for lumber – although a few mahoganies may have been used for ship masts –early residents found storm-felled and dried tree trunks readily available and easier to cut than green trees. Decorative exotics like Poinciana began appearing in the 20s and 30s with the influx of “Yankee” settlers.

The list of fruit trees used by the settlers included edible Tamarind varieties, Sapodilla, Guava, Sugar Apple, Sea Grape, Lime trees, Coconut, Spanish Lime, Soursop, Key Lime, Barbados Cherry and Rough Skin Lemon. Less commonly Orange, Banana, and Date Palm were grown. In the 1930s before the arrival of grocery stores to the area, the only regularly available fresh produce was from trees. Although it was difficult to grow vegetables such as tomatoes and cucumbers due to the thin poor soil, the subtropical weather and local insects nearly everyone had a Sea Grape tree in their back yard.



Figure 33. Tavernier Vegetation

7. Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines

Historic preservation—the recognition, designation, protection and preservation of historic resources is a component of the policies drafted in the Monroe County’s comprehensive plan as stated in Goal 104. The closest example and application of historic preservation policy in the Keys is seen in the City of Key West’s Historic Architectural Guidelines. The common thread for Key West and Tavernier is that both follow the U. S. Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, and Chapter 267 of the Florida Statutes where historic resources are defined. In addition, the Historic Architectural Survey of Unincorporated Areas of Monroe County, Final Report (November 2003) recommends the development and adoption of architectural design guidelines for the Tavernier Historic District.

Procedures

Before obtaining a building permit to perform any work on a contributing structure or a non-contributing structure, or for the construction of a new building in the historic district, a certificate of appropriateness (COA) is required. The COA is issued under the authority of the Monroe County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) or administratively by the Director of Planning in certain cases, and it is a requirement before obtaining permits for new buildings, demolition, alteration, repair, signage or other physical changes to buildings in the historic district.

The HPC has administrative jurisdiction over the Tavernier Historic District, governed by Article VIII, “Archeological, Historical or Cultural Landmarks,” of the Monroe County Land Development Regulations. In section 9.5-453, “Historic Preservation Commission,” are the rules for membership, organization, power and duties of the HPC.

For applications for development within the Tavernier Historic District, the Monroe County Historic Preservation Commission may request advice from a representative of the Historic Florida Keys Foundation. The Director of Planning has the authority to review and approve applications for minor conditional use permits within the Tavernier Historic District.



Figure 34 Real Estate Salesmen ca. 1925.
From the Collection of Jerry Wilkinson

Guidelines

The following guidelines set forth the rules for development for the three kinds of buildings found in the historic district: contributing, non-contributing and new.

A contributing structure may or may not be certified as a historic property with the County but has credible historical value within the architectural and urban context of the district.

A non-contributing structure does not reflect the architectural or historical character of the district.

The term “new buildings” refers to buildings not yet built.

The guidelines will be based on three architectural principles: site development, configuration, and elements and materials (Table 1). Site development refers to the way a building is situated on its lot and how the building relates to its environment. Configuration refers to the building’s dimensions, proportions and characteristics. And, building elements refers to the building materials and their characteristics.

Site Development	Building Configuration	Building Elements
<p>Setbacks Placement of Additions Parking Fences Driveways</p>	<p>Height Width Depth Façade Proportions Building Base Height Roof Shape Porches Chimneys</p>	<p>Roofs Exterior Walls Building Base Doors Windows Brackets Railings Shutters Dormers Signage</p>

Table 1 Guiding Principles

Site Development

Setbacks

The intent is to preserve the street space created by historic buildings and to maintain the unobstructed view of contributing buildings.

Contributing Structures: All existing buildings are exempted from the current rules for setbacks. When a historic building encroaches into the setback, an addition should not encroach into the setback and should not obscure the historic building.

Non-Contributing Structures: Additions must comply with the ordinance and will be individually reviewed to ensure that their placement does not dominate or obscure historic structures.

New Buildings: New Buildings have to comply with the ordinance and will be individually reviewed to ensure that their placement does not dominate or obscure historic structures.

Placement of Additions

The intent is to protect the integrity of historic buildings by directing the placement of additions to the rear or other inconspicuous locations.

Contributing Structures: The placement of additions should not obscure historic buildings nor harm the district's urban fabric. Meeting lot coverage requirements alone does not guarantee a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Non-Contributing Structures: The placement of additions should not obscure historic buildings nor harm the district's urban fabric.

Figure 35 illustrates an example where an addition to a contributing structure cannot be placed in a location where the historic building can be obscured. The alternative shows an addition in the back.

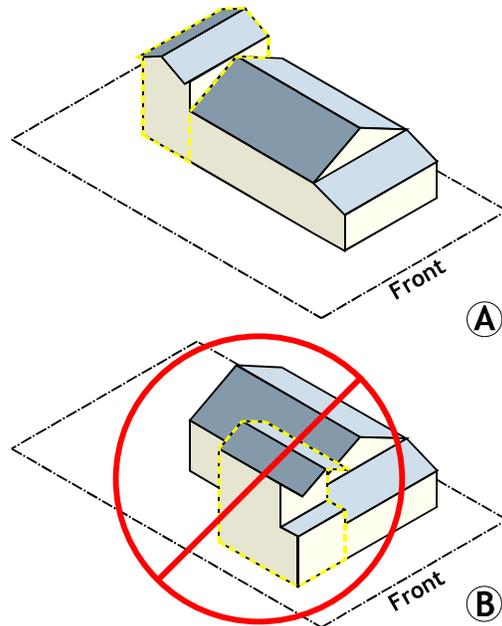


Figure 35 Lot Coverage Distribution is Important

Parking

The intent of these parking provisions is to lessen the effect of parked vehicles and the requirement to provide parking for vehicles in the historic district where the current parking requirements were not part of the development pattern.

Contributing Structures: Up to 100% of the parking requirement may be waived if considered appropriate after review.

Non-Contributing Structures: Up to 100% of the parking requirement may be waived if considered appropriate after review.

New Buildings: Up to 100% of the parking requirement may be waived if considered appropriate after review.

Fences

The intent is to maintain the small community ambiance by encouraging the placement of white picket fences in the district. Although this is not a requirement, should a front fence be used, a picket fence with flat wood boards no taller than four feet high, painted white is the most appropriate for the district (Figure 36).



Figure 36 Picket Fence

Driveways

The intent is to prevent the use of impervious materials such as asphalt in the construction of driveways. Driveways are not a requirement in the historic district; however, should a driveway be needed, it should be finished with crushed shell, gravel, or other pervious surface. Concrete driveways will be specially reviewed and may be permissible if the concrete surface does not obscure the historic building or by its size becomes a visual nuisance. Asphalt is not allowed in residential properties.

Building Configuration

Height

The intent is to maintain the scale of the district by assessing the height of new buildings in relation to adjacent historic buildings.

Contributing Structures: Additions should not obscure the volume of the historic building; the addition may surpass in height the height of the historic building if it is determined during review that the addition does not obscure or adversely affect the structure or the historic scale of the historic district.

Non-Contributing Structures: Although zoning allows a maximum height of 35 feet, additions will be reviewed to ensure that the new building's height is appropriate. Additions to non-contributing structures may be built up to the maximum allowable height if it is determined during review that the new structure does not obscure or adversely impacts the historic scale of the historic district.

New Buildings: New buildings will be reviewed to ensure that the height is appropriate and does not obscure or adversely impacts the historic scale of the historic district.

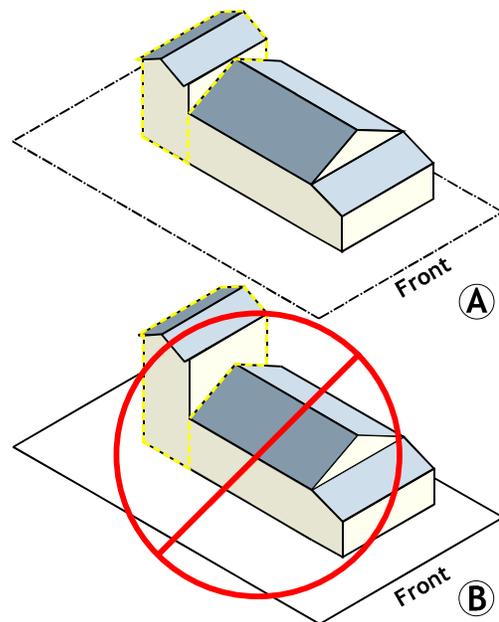


Figure 37 Building Height

Figure 37 illustrates an example where an addition to a historic building maximizes the height prescribed in the zoning law. This is not allowable because it obscures the historic

building. The alternative shows a building that, although is higher than the historic building, it does not obscure it.

Width

The intent is to direct the location of an addition to the side of a historic structure so that it does not obscure it.

Contributing Structure: The width of contributing structures at the primary façade should remain unaltered; an addition to the width of a contributing structure should occur behind the plane of the building's primary façade.

Non-Contributing Structure: Additions may be of any width within the required setbacks if it is determined that the new structure does not obscure or adversely impact the historic scale of the historic district.

Figure 38 illustrates two cases. The lower example brings the addition flush with the primary façade and fails to keep the historic building's proportions. The example on top accomplishes the same area without losing the proportions of the historical structure or obscuring it.

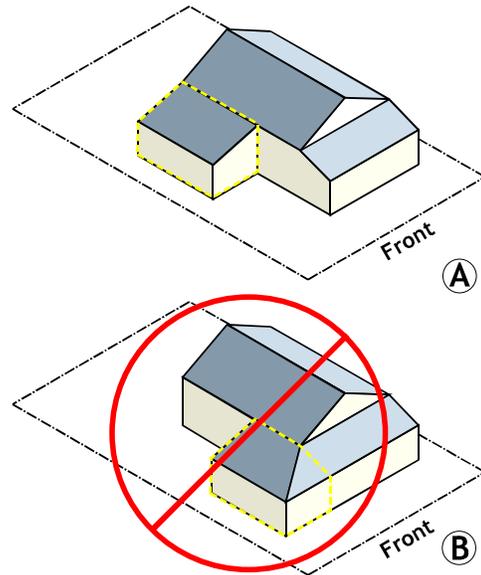


Figure 38 Building Width

Depth

The intent is to encourage the additions to contributing structures on the less conspicuous parts of the lot; ideally in the deep side.

Contributing Structures: Additions should be made within setbacks established by the zoning laws. Changes in the depth of a historic building are the most recommended dimensional changes for additions since impacts to the visual character of the structure can be minimal. However, changes to the depth of a contributing structure should be made in accord with the architecture of the historic building and should not impair the character of the district.

Figure 39 illustrates an example where an addition to a contributing structure is preferable and in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards if it is located in the rear of the lot.

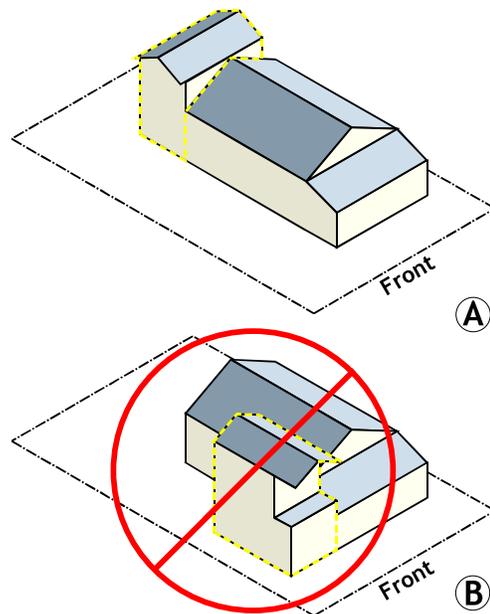


Figure 39 Building Depth

Building Base Height

The intent is to encourage the additions to historic buildings to be constructed at the same finished floor elevation as the original building. Also, new buildings will be monitored to ensure that building base heights greater than the historic elevation are not detrimental to the district’s character. In general, both additions to contributing structures and new buildings should be built at the minimum flood level and not above if possible and subject to design requirements for flooding due to hurricanes. Where possible the addition of fill or sloping mounds to raise the structure to flood level is encouraged.

Contributing Structures: When the addition’s appraised value is not greater than 50 percent of the value of the historic building, and if the original building’s base height is below flood plane, additions may be at the same level of the historic building’ base height or at the minimum elevation required by FEMA.

New Buildings: The building base height will be reviewed within the context of surrounding structures. If a new building is adjacent to a contributing structure the new building should be constructed at the minimum flood level. In the case of single family residences the first habitable floor should be at the minimum elevation required by FEMA requirements. When a new building’s base height is proposed above the historic base height, the space below the first habitable floor should be detailed so the base of the building extends to the plane of the railings or walls above.

Figure 40 illustrates an example where an addition to the back of a historic building matches the historic base height even though it does not necessarily match the flood plane.

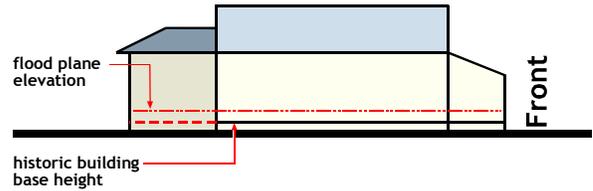


Figure 40 Building Base Height

Figure 41 illustrates an example where a building base is at the same plane of the railings; this condition is preferred over the case in which the building base is recessed from the railings. Figure 42 illustrates the application of the guideline in a similar condition.

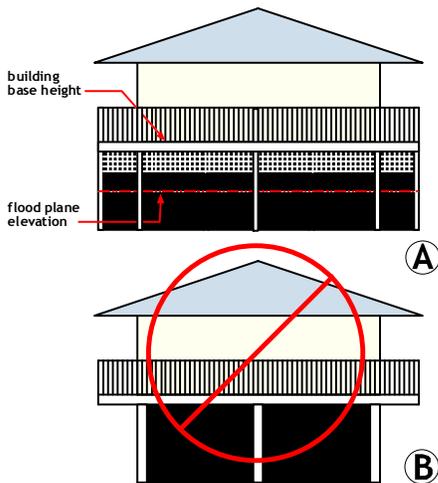


Figure 41 Building Base Height above Flood Level



Figure 42 Building Base Height

Roof Shape

The intent is to preserve the roof configuration of existing buildings and to direct new development to build roofs that are compatible with the character of the district.

Contributing Structures: Roof additions have to be compatible with the historic building and must be built in a way that they can be removed without harming the integrity of the historic building.

Non-Contributing Structures: Additions in the residential areas should have sloped roofs. Sloped roofs can be hipped or gabled and may have dormers as long as these are structurally and spatially integrated to the building.

New Buildings: New residential buildings should have sloped roofs. Commercial buildings may have flat roofs terminated with parapets that extend no less than 2 feet and that are not higher than 4 feet above the roof.

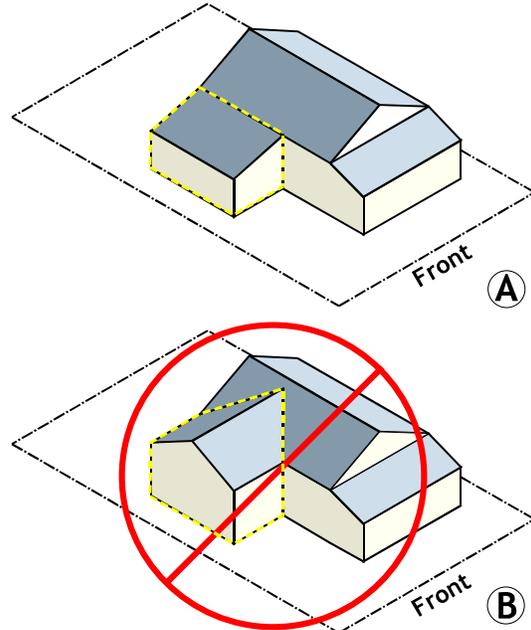


Figure 43 Roof Shape

Figure 43 illustrates an example where an addition to the side of the historic building is more appropriate when it does not alter the building’s roof form.

Porches

The intent is to encourage porches as a transition between the public and private realms. In some cases porches have been turned into enclosed and habitable rooms; retrofitting porches to recover their original exterior spatial quality is recommended (Figure 44).

Contributing Structures: Porch additions may be allowed if it is determined during review that the addition is compatible with the architecture of the historic district.

Non-contributing Structures: Porches may be allowed if it is determined during review that the addition is compatible with the architecture of the historic district.

New Buildings: Porches should be compatible with the architecture of the historic district.



Figure 44 Porches

Chimneys

The intent is to allow chimneys only when they are compatible with the building and the district's character (Figure 45).

Contributing Structures: Chimneys may be acceptable if it is determined during review that the addition is compatible with the architecture of the historic building based on the form and materials used.

Non-Contributing Structures: Chimneys may be acceptable if considered that they are compatible with the character of the district.

New Buildings: Chimneys may be acceptable if considered that they are compatible with the character of the district.



Figure 45 Chimneys

Building Elements and Materials

Roofing

The intent is to keep a uniformity of roofing materials in the district (Figure 46).

Contributing Structures: Historic roofing materials still in use should be retained and maintained if that doesn't compromise practicality and safety. Every effort should be made to repair details that show distinctive building techniques or craftsmanship,



Figure 46 Metal and Composite Tile Roofing

such as eaves. Roofing materials include standing seam metal, v-crimp, stamped metal and composition tile. Clay tile roofing is not acceptable; however, an existing clay tile roof may be repaired, or replaced if destroyed by natural causes.

Non-Contributing Structures: Additions should use the same materials listed above. Flat roofs may be permissible in recognition of hurricane requirements where they are in keeping with the district's character and where an effort is made to provide detailing to disguise the flat roof from the ground.

New Buildings: New buildings should use the same materials listed above.

Exterior Walls

The intent is to maintain uniformity of material for exterior walls in the district (Figure 47).

Contributing Structures: Existing siding material or cladding should be retained and maintained. Before the application of a new coat of paint, the exterior wall surface should be prepared by removing loose paint, mildew and fungi and by replacing deteriorated materials with materials of the same characteristics. Novelty siding, clapboard and board-and-batten are the recommended exterior wall materials; stucco may be acceptable but will be reviewed on an individual basis. The application of non-historic surface coverings such as aluminum and vinyl siding should not be allowed.

Non-Contributing Structures: Novelty siding, clapboard and board-and-batten are the recommended exterior wall materials; stucco may be acceptable but will be reviewed on an individual basis.

New Buildings: Novelty siding, clapboard and board-and-batten are the recommended exterior wall materials; stucco and fiber-cement siding may be acceptable but will be reviewed on an individual basis.



Figure 47 Novelty and Board-and-Batten Siding

Building Base

The intent is to have buildings with a defined base that is distinct from the rest of the building.

Contributing Structures: historic materials should be retained and maintained as much as possible. Additions should have compatible materials; these may include diamond-pattern or grid-pattern lattice work, and coral stone.

Non-Contributing Structures: Additions may include diamond-pattern or grid-pattern lattice work, and coral stone.

New Buildings: Materials include diamond-pattern or grid-pattern lattice work, and coral stone.

Doors

The intent is to have doors that are compatible with the character of the district (Figure 48).

Contributing Structures: Doors should be maintained and repaired before considering replacement. If a historic door needs to be replaced, the new one should be built to match the original one and should be installed with matching head and jamb details. Doors should be hinged. Pivot or sliding doors are not acceptable. Acceptable methods of construction include wood panel doors (made of horizontal rails and vertical stiles that frame one or more panels) and single-pane French doors. Batten or flush doors are not acceptable, nor are acceptable flush doors that simulate panel doors. Screen doors hinged on front of the primary door are acceptable.



Figure 48 French and Screen Doors

Non-Contributing Structures: Doors should be compatible with the character of the district.

New Buildings: Doors should be compatible with the character of the district.

Windows

The intent is to have windows that are compatible with the character of the district (Figure 49).

Contributing Structures: Windows should be maintained and repaired before considering replacement. If a historic window needs to be replaced, the new window should be built to match the original one and should be installed with matching head, sill and jamb details. Window types can be casement, single hung or double hung. Jalousie or awning windows may be acceptable in appropriate historic buildings if they are original. Pivot, fixed (or picture) and horizontal slider windows are not acceptable. Added windows may be allowed on secondary elevations and should be compatible, clearly differentiated and should not alter the basic character of the historic building. Window glazing should be clear and non-reflective. Air vents may be allowed when the proportions are appropriate. Aluminum windows are not allowed.



Figure 49 Casement and Double-Hung Windows

Non-Contributing Structures: Windows should be compatible with the character of the district.

New Buildings: Windows should be compatible with the character of the district.

Brackets

The intent is to limit the use of bracket to places where they are appropriate (Figure 50).

Contributing Structures: retain and maintain existing trim work and brackets. Replace deteriorated elements with new ones. Added brackets or trim work may be allowed when it is historically accurate and substantiated with evidence.

Non-Contributing Structures: Brackets may be allowed if they do not create a false sense of historical development.

New Buildings: Brackets may be allowed if they do not create a false sense of historical development.



Figure 50 Brackets

Shutters

The intent is to maintain the character of the district by allowing typical shutter types (Figure 51).

Contributing Structures: Retain existing shutters. Repair deteriorated shutters with compatible materials such as cedar, cypress or treated pine. Two types of shutters are encouraged: top hinged and side hinged shutters. Shutters must be operable and must cover the entire surface of the window when closed. Removable hurricane shutters are allowed when they are used only during storm events and their rail mounting or application is not conspicuous. Other types of shutters (for example, accordion and roll-down) are permissible in recognition of hurricane requirements. Where possible the shutters should be compatible with the character of the structure and district.

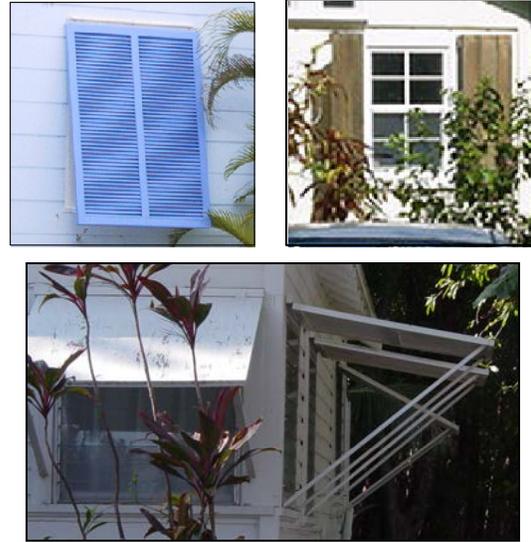


Figure 51 Top and Side Hinged Shutters

Non-Contributing Structures: Shutters are allowed if they are compatible with the character of the district. Two types of shutters are encouraged: top hinged and side hinged shutters. Other types of shutters, for example, accordion and roll-down are permissible. Where possible the shutters should be compatible with the character of the district.

New Buildings: Shutters are allowed if they are compatible with the character of the district. Two types of shutters are encouraged: top hinged style and side hinged shutters. Other types of shutters, for example, accordion and roll-down are permissible. Where possible the shutters should be compatible with the character of the district.

Dormers

The intent is to allow the use of dormers when they are an integral part of the building (Figure 52).

Contributing Structures: Retain and repair existing dormers. Only when strictly necessary replace deteriorated elements with compatible ones. Replacement of dormers is allowed when the new one matches the character of the historic building. Window glazing should be compatible with the rest of the historic building. Dormers can be used as air vents if they are compatible and appropriate. Applied dormers that are not structurally and spatially integrated with the building should not be allowed.



Figure 52. Dormers

Non-contributing Structures: Dormers are allowed when they are structurally and spatially integrated with the building.

New Buildings: Dormers are allowed when they are structurally and spatially integrated with the building.

Signs

The intent is to have signs that are appropriate in scale and graphics to the character of the district.

In General: Spot lit signs are recommended and preferred over internally lit signs. Internally lit signs that are not in keeping with the character of the historic district or that distract from historic structures are not permitted. It is also recommended that when signs are located on a building they be placed so as not to obscure historically important elements of the building. Whimsical and allegoric signs are encouraged as allowed and regulated by the Monroe County Code as far as they meet area and placement requirements.



Figure 53. Signs

Color

It is preferable that historic colors be maintained with the body of a building white or a shade of color close to white. For shutters, a dark shade of green is recommended with the possible addition of white stripes if desired. For porches, gray flooring with sky blue ceilings is recommended.

Landscaping and Natural Environment

The intent of this provision is to maintain the neighborhood tree cover and shade to maintain Tavernier as a distinctive community. Those trees, which preserve the historic district streetscape of the district, are specifically protected.

In General: Retain and protect native, introduced or naturalized trees that are important because of their impact on community character and their significance in the historic/cultural landscape and streetscape.

The level of tree protection required must take into consideration the size and importance of the particular specimens and the economic and technical feasibility of retaining the trees. Health and safety concerns must also be considered paramount in cases where the vegetation presents a hazard.

The Planning Director shall review environmental resource permits in the Tavernier Historic District to review the impact on community character. Special consideration should be paid to the vegetation on contributing properties. The Planning Director may refer the environmental resource permit to the Historic Preservation Commission for further review and recommendation.



Figure 54. Tavernier Vegetation

8. New Building Types

The intent is to guide the development of new construction so that buildings are compatible with the character of the district in massing, scale and materials. These are the recommended types for new buildings in the historic district. The location and placement of these typologies is subject to the context created by the presence or absence of historic structures and the harmony between the new and the old.

Single Family Houses

The first typology for new single family buildings is a low base building whose volume is simple and uses gabled or hipped metal roofs with exposed rafter tails (Figure 55). The building uses open porches, but does not include a covered garage or carport. The base of the building may be solid. If elevated, it should allow cross ventilation through the crawl space. The exterior wall may be wood siding or stucco, with panel doors with clear glazing, and double hung or casement windows protected with Bahama shutters.



Figure 55. Single Family Building with Low Base

The second single-family typology is a building of similar characteristics but it is elevated over the flood plane high enough to allow covered parking underneath (Figure 56). This typology is acceptable when there is no adverse impact to the scale of the historic district or neighboring historic properties.

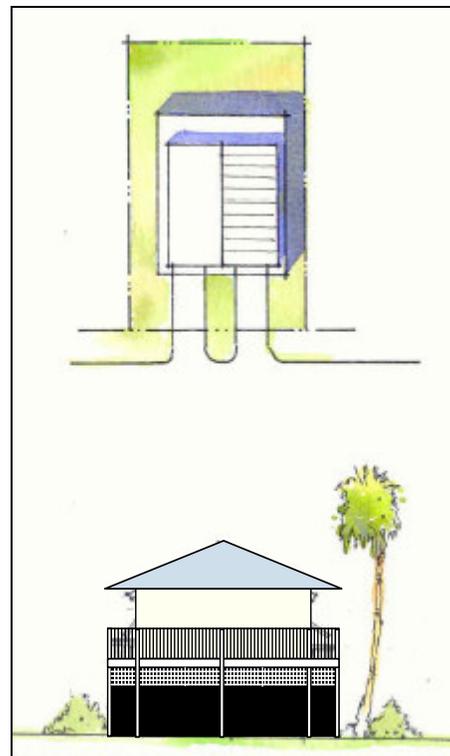


Figure 56. Single Family Building with Elevated Base

Duplexes

There are two recommended typologies of duplexes. In both cases some land assembly may be required since the standard lot width of 60 feet is not sufficient to accommodate a larger building or to respond to the density requirements of the zoning law. The first typology is a one-story building split into two adjacent dwellings (Figure 57).

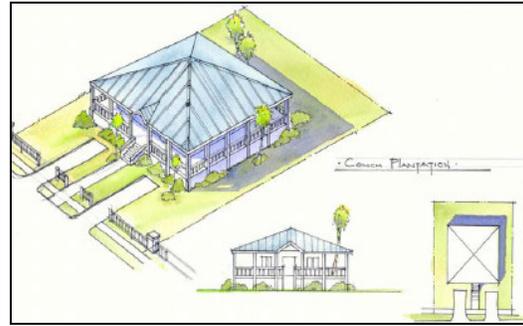


Figure 57. One-Story Duplex

The second typology is a two-story building in which each dwelling is a separate flat. The style and architecture of these building should be compatible with the description above.

Multifamily Residential

The architecture of the building should consist of the materials recommended in these guidelines and it should be compatible with architectural and urban character of Tavernier. Access to individual units that is obvious from the street level is encouraged.

The width of a multifamily building should not be greater than 50 feet. A building wider than 50 feet should be architecturally defined as a series of smaller and repetitive units, with insets between primary façades. The inset façade should not be setback less than 6 feet. The inset façade should not be wider than 1/3 of a primary façade section (Figure 58).

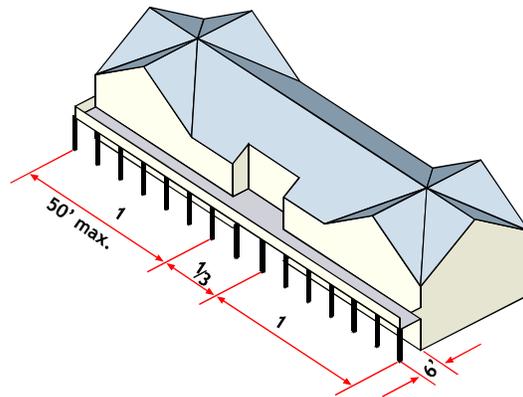


Figure 58. Articulating Long Façades

When the depth of a multifamily building is greater than 50 feet, it should include architectural insets so that the building is defined as a series of smaller repetitive units. The minimum façade inset depth should be 3 feet (Figure 59).

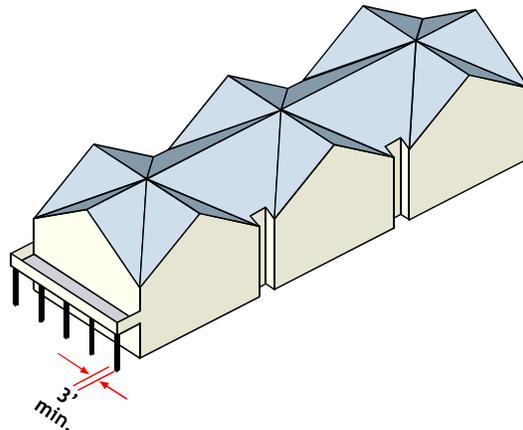


Figure 59. Articulating Long Depths

Appendix 1 Community Participation

The following is a summary of the existing conditions, architectural character of the Tavernier Historic District and the findings from a four-day community-based design exercise held at the Lion's Club in Key Largo between February 22 and 25, 2005. In addition, the consultant team held a telephone conference and met with Historic Florida Keys Foundation (HFKF) historic preservationist, George Born. Between 22 and 25 February 2005, the HDR Team hosted a planning workshop to gauge the community's interest and understanding of its historic resource. On a separate session, the HDR Team met with members of the Monroe County Historic Preservation Commission (and others not in the HPC) to gather their expert view and aspirations for the historic district.

a. Image Preference Survey (IPS)

Methodology

The IPS was developed utilizing commercial and residential images taken from the Tavernier Historic District and the US 1 corridor. The goal was to provide the attendees with a comprehensive "snapshot" of individual historic buildings and architectural elements. The end result would be an analysis of the goals and objectives for the design guidelines.

Summary

The IPS was conducted Tuesday, February 22, 2005 during the first meeting and again Thursday, February 24. The attendees were asked to rate the images, which were grouped into categories and subcategories. The attendees rated the images based on a scale of -5, -3, -1, 0, 1, 3 or 5, with -5 being the least preferred and 5 the most preferred. The survey was divided into two parts. Part 1 concentrated on the US 1 commercial corridor and Part 2 examined the residential historic district. Each section contained an average of 50 images.

Results of the Survey

Part 1 US 1 Commercial Corridor

1. Placement – the attendees preferred buildings located in the mid-lot range; not too close to the road but not too far back.
2. Scale – the attendees preferred smaller one-story buildings.
3. Materials – wood was the material of choice by the attendees.
4. Roofs – hip roofs with dormers were the roof type preferred by the attendees.
5. Opening (Doors and Windows) – classic vertical rectangular doors and openings are preferred.
6. Ground Plane – the attendees preferred that there should be some landscaping located adjacent to where the building hits the ground. Lattice work is preferable as a material linking buildings to the ground.
7. Color- muted colors and white were the color preferences for buildings.
8. Brackets and railings – there wasn't a general consensus for brackets and railings, however concrete railings were not desired.

9. Shutters – the attendees rated the shutters that were non-functional and fixed to the wall as the worst type of shutters. The other shutters were all seen as desirable.
10. Signs – color and creativity are preferred elements when noting signs. The interior lit signs were the least favorable.

Part 2 Residential Historic District

1. Placement – the attendees preferred the residences to be located in the mid-lot range.
2. Scale – the scale preference of the attendees leaned towards smaller structures.
3. Materials – the attendees preferred wood to stucco. A combination of the materials received mixed views.
4. Roofs – every roof shown received favorable ratings. Hip roofs are the typical roof form found in the historic district.
5. Openings (Doors and Windows) – the attendees preferred openings based on vertical windows and wood doors with either a single pane of glass or multiple panes of glass.
6. Ground Plane – landscaped ground plane adjacent to the building was preferred by the attendees.
7. Color – muted colors and white were preferred.
8. Brackets and Railings – attendees preferred wood brackets and railings to metal ones. Also within the context of the building style attendees preferred buildings with brackets and railings as opposed to those without.
9. Shutters – all traditional shutters were seen as appropriate except aluminum clam shell shutters.

b. Design Workshops

The residents of Tavernier were invited to attend a four-day series of design activities conducted by Monroe County and HDR, Inc. The purpose of the activities was to solicit input and gather comments regarding the development of design guidelines for the US 1 commercial corridor and the residential historic district. The activities included two-hour long workshops consisting of presentations that incorporated the existing conditions, built environment analysis and guidelines for development on the US1 commercial corridor and within the residential historic district. The workshops also included an image preference survey and question / answer session among the residents.

The workshops yielded a set of new options for development along the US 1 corridor and the residential historic district. The options were displayed as architectural renderings. The renderings derived from the existing architectural heritage of Tavernier and the results of the image preference survey. The renderings included residential, commercial, and mixed-use types.

The activities culminated with a report on the image preference survey results, meetings with stakeholders and a summary of the four-day visioning workshop. The consensus of

the residents was to create a consistent image of Tavernier through the implementation of design guidelines. In addition, the attendees agreed that enhancement of the commercial design standards for commercial development would benefit the overall economy of Tavernier.

Workshop Notes

- Some attendees felt that the zero setbacks (buildings directly on the property line) were not desirable for the commercial corridor.
- The general consensus from the attendees was that the design guidelines should be more restrictive.
- One attendee was in favor of no restrictions at all.
- The T2, T3, T4 districts are seen as a good way to mix the guidelines.
- The notion of the “greenbelt” for Tavernier was brought up in regards to the districts.
- The attendees mentioned that landscape requirements should be incorporated into the guidelines.
- The sentiment that the “new buildings should match the old buildings” was agreed upon by the attendees.
- There was a suggestion that Monroe County provide financial incentives to the property owners to improve the appearance.

Appendix 2
Land Development Regulations Text Amendments

The following code language is contained within the existing Monroe County Land Development Regulations. Text amendments are identified (underlined text) where appropriate to codify these guidelines.

Sec. 9.5-260.1 Tavernier Historic District Overlay.

- (a) Purpose: The purpose of the Tavernier Historic District Overlay is to implement the policies of the comprehensive plan and Tavernier Creek to Mile Marker 97 Livable CommuniKeys Master Plan to protect the historic resources of the community and to encourage development that is sensitive and compatible with the historic character of the Tavernier Historic District as identified through the Tavernier Creek to Mile Marker 97 Livable CommuniKeys Master Plan.
- (b) Application: The Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines are hereby adopted by reference and declared part of this chapter. Within the overlay district, the Historic Preservation Committee shall review new development, remodeling or redevelopment of uses permitted as of right and uses requiring a minor or major conditional use permit, based on the Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines.
- (c) The Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines may be amended by resolution of the board of county commissioners upon recommendation of the planning commission and the director of planning.

Sec. 9.5-452. Definitions.

Contributing, in the Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines, means the property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the Florida Master Site File list of historical structures or Monroe County Board of County Commissioners designated historical properties.

New Building, in the Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines, means new buildings developed within the Tavernier Historic District.

Non-Contributing Structures, in the Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines, means existing buildings within the historic district that are not recorded as historic.

Sec. 9.5-456 Certificates of appropriateness.

- (a) *Certificate of appropriateness required:* Except as provided herein, a building, moving, or demolition permit, or any other development order, shall not be issued for a designated historic property or property within the Tavernier Historic District Overlay,

until a certificate of appropriateness is awarded. Contributing, non-contributing structures and new buildings as defined in the “Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines”, that apply for work listed in Sec. 9.5-456 (b), shall require a regular certificate of appropriateness as if they were a designated historic property. All work on contributing, non-contributing structures and new buildings not covered under Sec. 9.5-456 (b), shall require a special certificate of appropriateness. Within the Tavernier Historic District Overlay, all work requiring a certificate of appropriateness shall be reviewed by the director of planning or the Monroe County Historic Preservation Commission, as required, based on the “Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines”. However, a certificate of appropriateness is not required for the issuance of any building permits for interior improvements to a designated historic property, unless the interior of the subject historic property is cited as significant in the property’s designation.

**Appendix 3
Contributing Structures as of 07/27/05**

For current contributing structures in the Tavernier Historic District, refer to the National Register of Historic Places, the Florida Master Site File list of historical structures or Monroe County Board of County Commissioners designated historical properties.



114 Lowe Street - Built 1935-1951 - RE 565980 - MO01989 - 1/05



118 Sunrise Drive - Built 1930 - 1938 - RE 506390 - MO02001 - 1/05



114 Tavern Drive - Built 1930 or 1934 - RE 55910 - MO02007 - 1/05



120 Sunrise Drive - Built 1932 - RE 506380 - MO02002 - 1/05



123 Coconut Row - Built 1948 - RE 566100 - MO03645 1/05



120 Tavern - Built 1929 - 1934 - RE 555890 - MO02008 - 1/05