

City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

memo

DATE: June 9, 2026

TO: Historic Districts Review Board Members

VIA: Heather Lamboy, Planning & Land Use Department Director, #LL
Maggie Moore, Assistant Land Use Director *MM*
Gary Moquino, Historic Preservation Division Manager *GM*

FROM: Lani McCulley, Senior Planner, Historic Preservation Division, *LJM*

2026-012285-HDRB. 619 West Alameda St., Westside-Guadalupe Historic District, Contributing, Dura Build Construction, agent for Max Scott, owner, proposes to construct a 169 sq. ft. addition to a height of 11'-6" and a freestanding 763 sq. ft. casita to a height of 11'-1", where the maximum allowable height is 14'-10".

REFERENCE ATTACHMENTS (Sequentially):

CITY SUBMITTALS

District Standards & yard wall
& fence standards.

Historic Inventory Form

Zoning Review Sheet

Other: previous cases

APPLICANT SUBMITTALS

Proposal Letter

Site Plan/Floor Plan

Elevations

Photographs

Other:

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the project and finds that the application complies with 14-4.6(E) General Design Standards for all Historic Districts and 14-4.6(G)(5) Westside-Guadalupe Historic District Design Standards.

Sample motions:

- a. In case 2026-012285-HDRB, for 619 West Alameda Street, approve or deny the project as submitted.

Should the Board deny the request, the applicant shall return with an alternative proposal for review and approval.

The property lies within the Historic Downtown Archaeological Review District. See Chapter 14, SFCC, Article 14-3.13(B)(1). There may be archaeological concerns associated with this project, and archaeological clearance may be required.



Figure 1: Location of Property.

BACKGROUND & SUMMARY:

Background:

The property came before the Historic Districts Review Board on March 24, 2026, under case 2026-011825-HDRB with a proposal to install a bond beam, repair historic windows, re-roof the existing residence, and construct 3'-4" high yard walls. An exception was requested to section 14-4.6(E)(2)(IV)(b) to raise the height of a contributing structure. The HDRB approved the project as submitted. Upon further consideration, the applicant felt that adding a replacement for the previously demolished addition would be advantageous for the small residence.

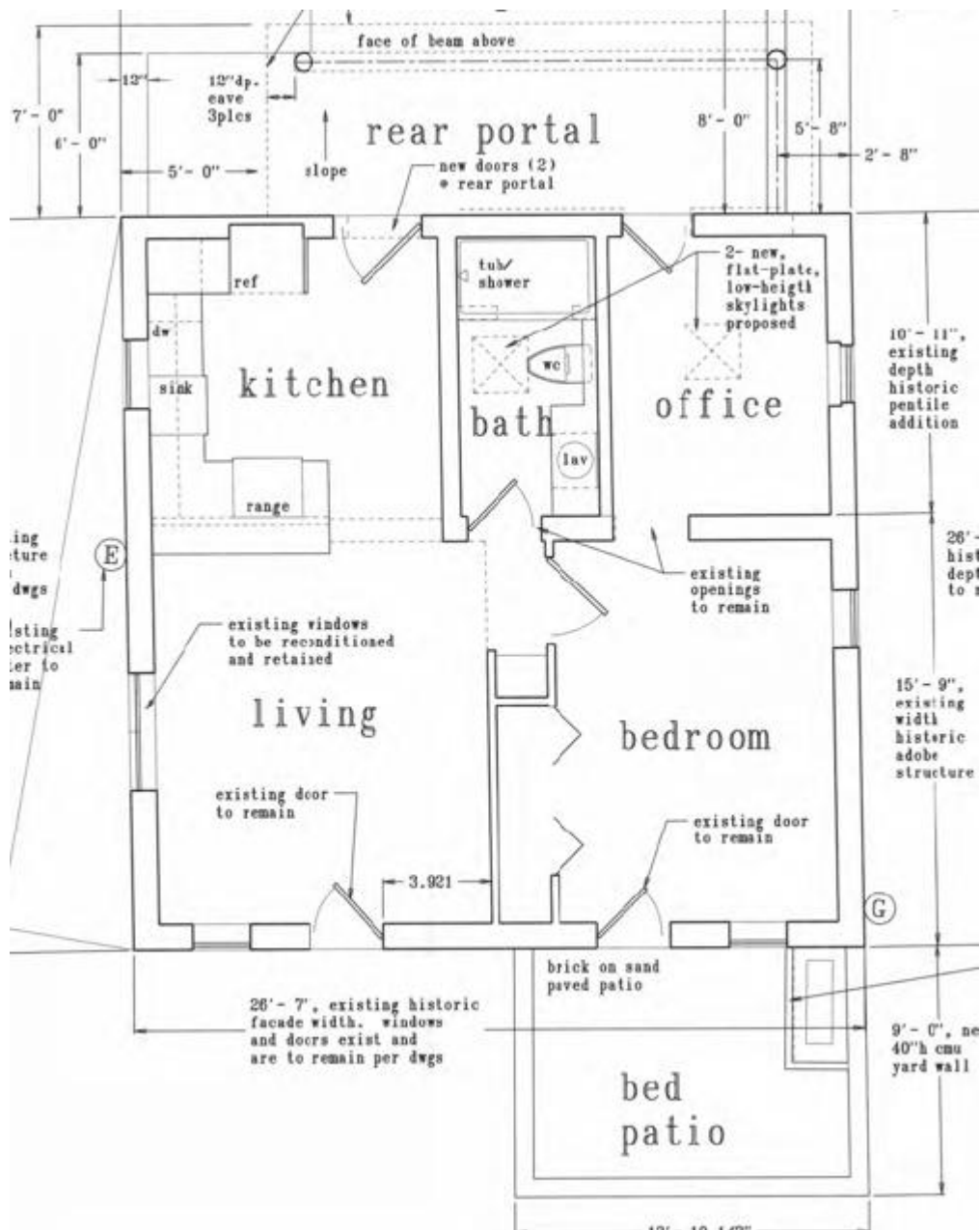


Figure 2: Previously Approved Site Plan

Streetscape and Context:

The property at 619 West Alameda is located across from the Santa Fe River Park, a passive recreational area featuring landscaping, picnic tables, and a walking path. The park is bounded on one side by the ten-foot drop to the riverbed and on the other side by Alameda Street. This parkway was developed for the visual enhancement of the nature of the site.

Across from the Santa Fe River is the residential sector of Alameda Street. The houses range in style, with the most prominent styles being Spanish Pueblo Revival and Vernacular in this area. Most of the residences are lower single-story buildings with an average height on the streetscape of 12'8". The street is lined with low yard walls with an average height of 46" (3'10"). The yard walls are stuccoed concrete masonry units colored to match the corresponding building.



Figure 3: South Façade of Existing Residence.

Site Description:

The 702 sq. ft. single-family residence at 619 W Alameda Street is listed as contributing to the Westside-Guadalupe Historic District. The Spanish Pueblo Revival structure is constructed of adobe and pentile.

The adobe portion of the residence was constructed around 1943, with the pentile addition being constructed by 1951. The wood-framed addition appears to have been constructed in 1975 and collapsed in 2024, and it has been removed from the property. There are projecting vigas at the exterior of the adobe south walls, though the interior portion of the vigas appears to have been removed at some point. The north wall has projecting roof joists on the pentile addition. Roof drainage is a single-sheet metal channel on the north elevation. The exterior walls are cement stucco on chicken wire with paint on the stucco.

All except one window are wood, double-hung, single-glazed one-over-one windows. There are some wood screens, though not all windows have these screens. The two front doors on the south may be handmade wood, frame, and panel with a glazed flower petal design. The western rear door is a frame-and-panel door, and the eastern rear door is a hollow-core wood door. All windows and doors are recessed about 6”, and the windows have projecting concrete sills. The two front doors have two small steps.

The property held a front wire fence with a wire gate, which has been removed. There is also a side chain link fence, short cast concrete posts, a couple of wood posts, and possible remains of a stone boundary. The residence is typical of the streetscape.

There is also a pentile-lined well on the west side of the property. The well is listed as a contributing structure.

PREVIOUS CASE SUMMARIES:

ARC:

No archaeological clearance has been issued for the property.

HDRB:

A remodel of the residence was approved on March 24, 2016, under case 2016-0011825-HDRB. The remodel consists of installing a bond beam, repairing historic windows, re-roofing the existing residence, and constructing 40” high yard walls. An exception was granted to section 14-4.6(E)(2)(IV)(b) for raising the height of a contributing structure.

The property's status was reviewed on July 8, 2025, under case 2025-010664-HDRB. The residence was designated as contributing, and the south and west elevations as primary. The pentile-lined well was designated as contributing.

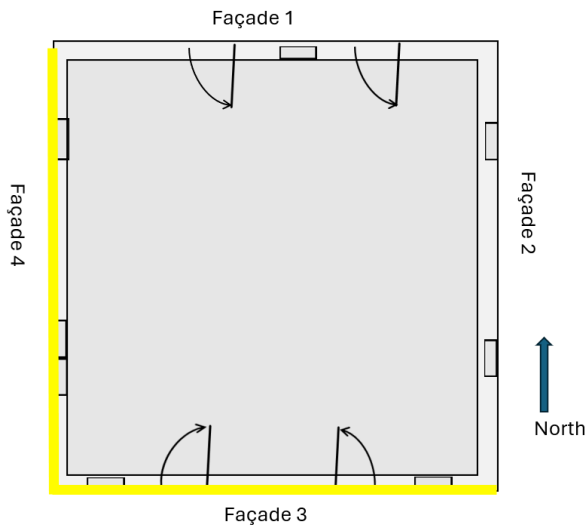


Figure 4: Primary Facades

ADMINISTRATIVE:

There are no administrative approval cases on record for the property in the Historic Preservation Division files.

APPLICANT’S REQUEST:

The applicant proposes the following exterior alterations:

Existing Structure:

- 1) Construct a 169 sq. ft. addition to a height of 11’- 6” to replace the demolished 1975 addition and create a foyer on the north elevation of the residence.

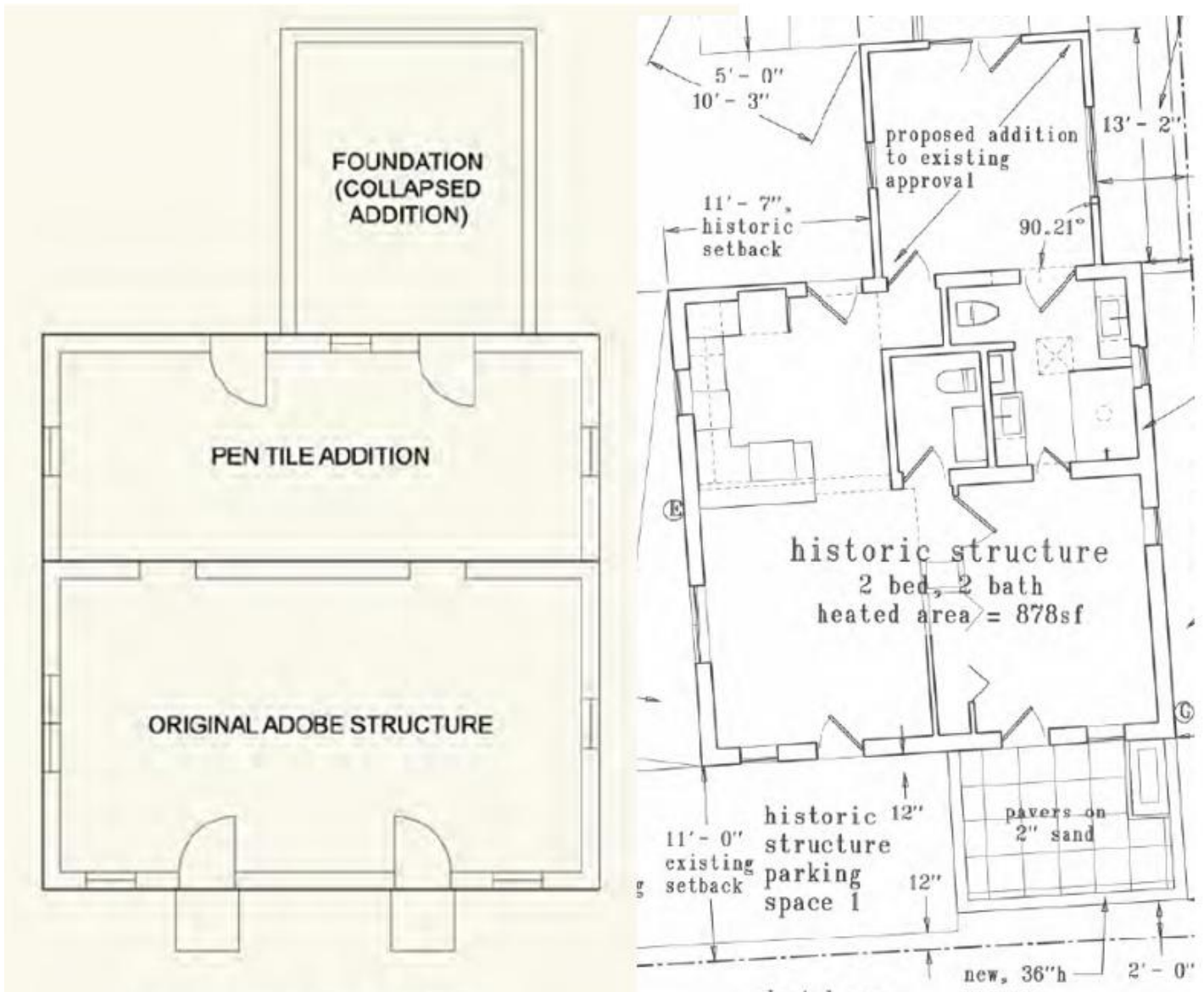


Figure 5: Previous Floor Plan Compared to Proposed Plan

New Structure:

- 2) Construct a 745 sq. ft. residential structure to a height of 10'-6½" where the maximum allowable height is 14'-10" in a recent Santa Fe style
 - a. The roof will be flat with a parapet
 - b. Windows include single-lite, double-hung wood-clad windows on each elevation and a single sliding window on the north elevation.
 - c. Doors include a 4-panel solid wood door and a double 4-panel solid wood door on the south and a single-lite French door on the north.
 - d. Stucco will be cementitious in suede color.

Property:

- 3) Construct a 60" high interior coyote fence between the structures.

4) Hardscaping is proposed.

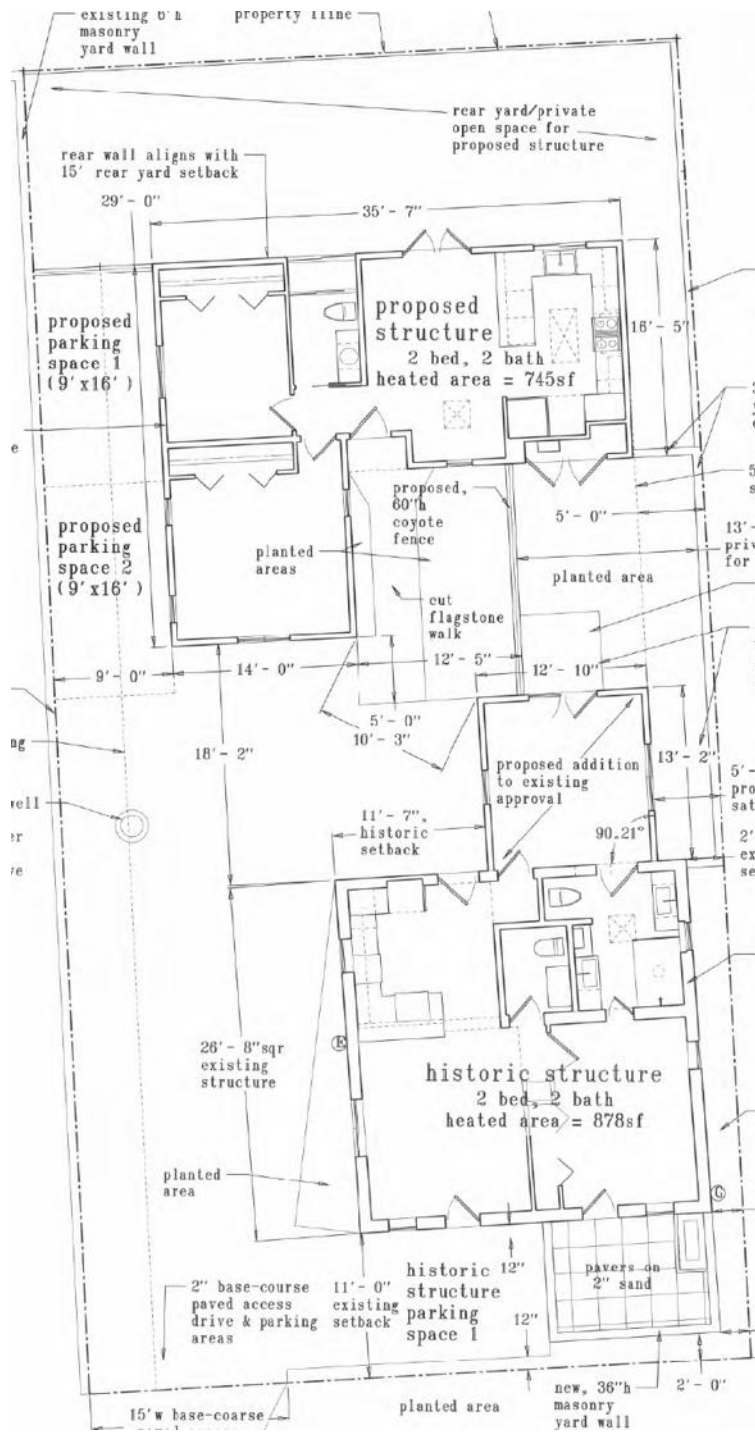


Figure 5: Proposed Site Plan

RELEVANT CODE CITATIONS:

14-4.6 HISTORIC DISTRICTS

A. General Provisions

Purpose

To promote the economic, cultural, and general welfare of the people of Santa Fe and to ensure the harmonious, orderly, and efficient growth and development of the City, the Governing Body deems it essential to preserve the qualities relating to the history and culture of Santa Fe, maintain a harmonious outward appearance to preserve property values, and attract residents and tourists alike. The specific purposes of this section are to preserve qualities relating to the history of Santa Fe, such as the following:

- I. Continue the existence and preservation of historic areas and buildings;
 - II. Continued construction of buildings in Santa Fe's historic styles; and
 - III. General harmony as to architectural style, form, color, height, proportion, texture, and material between buildings of historic design and those of more modern design.
2. Conflicting Standards
 - I. Zoning District Regulations

All designated landmarks and all properties located in historic districts shall be subject to the regulations of the base zoning district in which they are located, except for height as regulated in Section 14-4.6E, *General Design Standards for All Historic Districts*. When the requirements of the base zoning district conflict with the requirements of this Section 14-4.6, *Historic Districts*, the more restrictive standard shall apply.
 - II. Multiple Overlay Regulations

When a designated landmark or property located in a historic district is also located within another overlay, and there is a conflict between the requirements of the historic district and the other applicable overlay district, the more restrictive standard shall apply.
 5. Boundaries
 - a. The boundaries for the historic districts are as shown on the Official Zoning Map and incorporated in this Code by reference.
 - b. If the boundary line of a historic district bisects or crosses a property without encompassing the entire lot, the applicable requirements of the historic district shall be as determined by the Planning and Land Use Director.
 6. Design of Buildings

Full responsibility for the design and development of structures is upon the applicant. The case file of any prior application related to a property is available for review by the applicant upon request.

7. Nonconforming Buildings and Structures

Any building or structure in the historic district that does not meet the standards for architectural style outlined in this section shall be considered nonconforming, and subject to the provisions of Section 14-1.13(), *Legal Nonconforming Structures*, unless given special approval by the HDRB for architectural or historic interest, or unless individually entered in the state register of cultural properties or in the national register of historic places or designated as significant on either register.

B. Minimum Maintenance Requirements

All historic landmarks and all buildings and structures in the historic districts shall be preserved against decay and deterioration and maintained free of structural defects.

C. Buildings with Significant or Contributing Historic Status

I. Purpose

Historic designation is intended to address the following:

- I. Recognizing each structure as a physical record of its time, place, and use.
- II. Preventing changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as the addition of conjectural features or architectural elements from other buildings;
- III. Preserving and retaining changes to structures that have acquired historic importance in their own right, recognizing that most structures change over time;
- IV. Preserving distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a structure; and
- V. Avoiding making new additions and related or adjacent new construction in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the original form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

2. Designation of Significant, Contributing, or Noncontributing Status

I. Status Designation

Structures within historic districts may be designated a status of "significant," "contributing," or "noncontributing," as defined in Section 14-9.3, *General Definitions*. Staff shall maintain a record of the current status of structures located in the historic districts.

II. HDRB Authority to Review Status Designation

- a. The HDRB may change the status of a structure or designate a status for a structure that has no status designated.
- b. A change in status or the designation of a status shall be based upon an evaluation of data provided through a survey or other relevant sources of information and the definitions of "significant," "contributing," or

"noncontributing."

- c. When the HDRB designates a structure as contributing, it shall also specify which facades of the structure are primary.

V. Restoration of Status

If a property owner makes changes to a structure without the proper City approvals, which result in the lowering of the structure's status, staff or the Board may require the property owner to restore the structure such that its former status is restored.

3. Review by Historic Districts Review Board Required

- I. Except where this chapter provides for review by staff, the HDRB shall review all applications for new construction, alteration, or demolition in the historic districts and of landmark structures throughout the city, based on the standards set forth in this section.
- II. The historic board shall judge any proposed alteration or new structure for harmony with adjacent buildings, preservation of historical and characteristic qualities, and conformity to the standards for architectural style set forth in this section.
- III. The HDRB may approve, deny, approve with conditions, or, with the consent of the applicant, postpone an application.
 - a. For applications approved with conditions, no permit shall be issued until the HDRB conditions have been met.
 - b. An application that is postponed shall be heard at a date agreed upon by the HDRB and the applicant.
- IV. No permit shall be issued until the time for appeal to the Governing Body has expired.

4. Compliance with General and Specific Design Standards Required

All development located within the historic districts and subject to this section shall comply with all applicable general development standards set forth in Section 14-4.6E, *General Design Standards for All Historic Districts*, as well as any applicable specific development standards set forth in Section 14-4.6G, *Additional District-Specific Design Standards*.

D. Exceptions

The HDRB may grant an exception to the regulations set forth in this section, provided that such exception does not exceed the underlying zoning, except when the board of adjustment grants a variance. Staff shall determine whether an exception to general design and preservation standards described in Section 14-4.6E is required and shall recommend that the HDRB approve, approve with conditions, or deny the exception.

E. General Design Standards for All Historic Districts

These standards shall apply to all additions or alterations to existing structures in the Historic Districts. Contributing, significant, and landmark structures may be subject to specific additional restrictions and district-specific standards in Section 14-4.6G.

I. General

- I. The historic status of a property with a historic status designation of significant, contributing, or landmark structure shall be retained and preserved. If a proposed alteration will cause a property to lose its significant, contributing, or landmark status, the application shall be denied. The removal of historic materials or alteration of architectural features and spaces that embody the status is prohibited.
- II. If a proposed alteration or new construction will cause an adjacent property to lose its significant, contributing, or landmark status, the application may be denied.
- III. For the regulations of this subsection, all facades of a significant structure are primary facades.

2. Building Additions

I. Design

- a. Building additions that meet the standards of Section 14-4.6G.2), *Downtown and Eastside Historic District*, shall continue to meet those standards, in addition to the standards set forth in this section.
- b. Building additions shall have similar materials, architectural treatments, styles, features, and details as the existing structure, but shall be distinguishable from and not attempt to duplicate the existing structure.

II. Size and Location

- a. Building additions are not permitted on primary facades.
- b. All building additions shall be set back a minimum of ten feet from the primary facade.
- c. Building additions shall not exceed 50 percent of the square footage of the building's historic footprint and shall not exceed 50 percent of the historic length in linear feet of the primary facade.
- d. To the extent architecturally practicable, new building additions shall be attached to any existing non-primary facade of a structure rather than attaching them to the primary facade of a structure.

III. Height

- a. The maximum height of building additions to significant and landmark structures shall be at least six inches lower than the parapet or equivalent roof feature of the existing adjacent connecting facade.
- b. Building additions to contributing structures shall be no more than one additional story higher than the existing structure. To the extent architecturally practicable, two-story additions shall be set to the rear or the side rear of the structure. When an additional story is to be placed upon an existing contributing structure, that footprint may be no greater than fifty percent of the footprint of the existing structure, subject to the provisions of Subsection A(1) above. For the purposes of this paragraph, an additional story shall not exceed twelve (12) feet from the existing rooftop to the highest point of that story.

- IV. Remodeling to Increase Height
 - a. For remodeling of an existing significant or landmark structure, no increase in height of the structure is permitted.
 - b. For remodeling an existing contributing structure, a height increase may be permitted through approval of an exception, as described in Section 14-4.6D.

- V. Rooftop Equipment

Rooftop equipment, including but not limited to solar collectors, clerestories, decks, or mechanical equipment, may only be installed on contributing and noncontributing structures and shall not be publicly visible, nor shall a parapet be raised to conceal such equipment.

- 3. Porches and Portals

Existing porches or portals on significant and landmark structures, and on primary facades of contributing structures, shall not be permanently enclosed.

- 4. Windows, Doors, and Other Architectural Features

- I. For all facades of significant and landmark structures and for the primary facades of contributing structures:
 - a. Historic windows shall be repaired or restored wherever possible. Historic windows that cannot be repaired or restored shall be duplicated in the size, style, and material of the original. Thermal double-pane glass may be used. No window opening shall be widened or narrowed.
 - b. Window depth and other characteristics of window and door fenestration shall be preserved.
 - c. No new opening shall be made where one presently does not exist unless historic documentation supports its prior existence.
 - d. No historic opening shall be closed.
- II. For all facades of contributing, significant, and landmark structures:
 - a. Architectural features, finishes, and details other than doors and windows shall be repaired rather than replaced.
 - b. In the event replacement is necessary, the use of new material may be approved. The new material shall match the material being replaced in composition, design, color, texture, and other visual qualities.
 - c. Replacement or duplication of missing features shall be substantiated by documentation, physical, or pictorial evidence.

- 5. Roofs

The existing historic roof styles and materials shall be maintained or replaced in kind if necessary. The addition of dormers or other roof features should only be considered when they are an existing historic feature of the structure.

- 6. Surface Cleaning

The surface cleaning of structures shall employ the gentlest means possible. Chemical or physical treatments, such as sandblasting, that cause damage to historic materials are not permitted.

7. Archaeological Resources

Discovery of archaeological resources made during the development of a historic property shall be referred to the Archaeological Review Committee. See Section 14-2.1G.1.V.c, *Unexpected Discoveries*.

8. Signs

Sign applications and required submittals shall be reviewed by the Planning and Land Use Department. Approval or denial shall be indicated by the department on the application for the construction permit and on each of the required submittals.

9. Murals

If an application impacts a mural funded through the Art in Public Places program or is otherwise within the scope of the arts commission's enabling responsibilities,

10. Pedestrian-Oriented Areas

- I. The HDRB shall recommend to the Governing Body appropriate streets or portions of streets within the historic district to be set aside for pedestrian-oriented areas.
- II. The Governing Body may set aside the areas recommended, provided that three-fourths of the property owners adjoining the street or portion of street affected have given consent thereto.
- III. Such pedestrian-oriented areas shall be closed to vehicular traffic, and any improvements made by the City in the public right-of-way within the area shall be for pedestrian purposes.
- IV. No pedestrian-oriented area shall be set aside unless there is adequate space available conveniently related to the area for vehicle parking. The HDRB's recommendation to the Governing Body shall include a statement of the available parking spaces.

F. Height, Pitch, Scale, Massing, and Floor Stepbacks.

The height, pitch, scale, and massing of any structure in a historic district, as defined in this section, shall be limited as provided for in this section, unless further restricted elsewhere within this chapter.

G. Additional District-Specific Design Standards

5. Westside-Guadalupe Historic District

I. District Standards

Compliance with the following structural standards shall occur whenever those exterior features of buildings and other structures subject to public view from any public street, way, or other public place are erected, altered, or demolished.

- a. Slump block, stucco, brick, or stone shall be used as exterior wall materials.

Wood and other materials may be used for details. Aluminum siding, metal panels, mirrored glass, and unstuccoed concrete block or unstuccoed concrete shall not be used as exterior wall materials.

- b. The color of stuccoed buildings shall predominantly be in browns, tans, local earth tones, and soft pastels. Surfaces of stone or brick shall be in the natural color. Entryways and portales or porches may be emphasized by the use of white or other colors. Painting of buildings with a color that causes arresting or spectacular effects, or with bold repetitive patterns, or using buildings as signs is prohibited. Murals, however, are permitted and may be referred to the city arts board for an advisory recommendation.
- c. Roof form, slope, and shape. It is intended that the buildings be designed to be "wall-dominated". "Wall-dominated" means that the building's geometry is more defined by walls than by roofs. Buildings with flat, gabled, shed, or hipped roofs can be designed as "wall-dominated" solutions and are allowed. The height of the roof above the wall shall be no greater than the height of the wall. Folded plate, hyperbolic, or mansard roofs are not allowed;
- d. The use of solar and other energy-collecting and conserving strategies is encouraged. The use of large glazed areas on south-facing walls for trombe walls or other solar collectors, direct gain, or other energy-collecting purposes is allowed. When in view from any public street, way, or other public place, solar equipment shall be screened as follows:
 - raising the parapet;
 - setting back from the edge of the roof;
 - Framing the collector with wood.
 - In the case of pitched roofs, by integrating the collector into the pitch;
 - In the case of ground solar collectors, by a wall or vegetation;
 - In the case of wall collectors, by enclosing or other walls;
 - Other means that screen the collector or integrate it into the overall structure. Non-glare materials shall be used in solar collectors.
- e. Mechanical, electrical, telephone equipment, microwave satellite receiving dishes, and other obstructive equipment shall be architecturally screened with opaque materials by raising the parapet, boxing in the equipment, or other appropriate means. The equipment shall be of a low profile to minimize the screening problems.
- f. Walls and fences shall be of brick, adobe, masonry, rock, wood, coyote fencing, or similar materials. Wrought iron fences and slump block walls are allowed. Walls of unstuccoed concrete block, unstuccoed concrete, chain-link, metal wire, or similar materials are prohibited, except where the wall or fence is not in the street frontage.
- g. Greenhouses;
- h. Attached greenhouses that front on the street shall give the appearance of being integrated into the structure of the building or of being a substantive addition rather than having a lean-to effect. The use of corrugated fiberglass or rolled

plastic for the external surface of attached or freestanding greenhouses that front on the street is prohibited. Greenhouses with slanting sides shall be bracketed at the ends, and greenhouses made from enclosed porches or portals shall maintain the shape of the porch or portal.

- i. Porches and portales are encouraged;
- j. When parking spaces are required for commercial or multi-family residential buildings, they shall be placed to the rear or side of the building.

II. Walls; Fences; Solar Collectors: Administration

Applications for the erection, alteration, or demolition of walls, fences, and solar collectors and required submittals shall be reviewed by the planning and land use department. Approval, disapproval, or referral shall be indicated by the division on the application for the building permit and on each of the required submittals, all of which shall be signed by the division staff assigned to the review. The division staff shall report approvals, disapprovals, and referrals to the board at its next regular meeting as an informational item. (Ord. No. 2007-45 § 30, Ord. No. 2020-22)