Style Guide

Old & Historic Alexandria District

City of Alexandria
Be sure to distinguish the different massing on a structure. Additionally, ensure that all elevations/locations facing a public right-of-way are surveyed for each element (or ‘tab’).

- When surveying the foundation, survey all visible foundations for each massing, whether or not it is street facing.
- When surveying chimneys, count all visible chimneys—regardless if it is street facing or not.
- Under the ‘Window’ tab, list the elevation of windows surveyed under ‘Window Notes’.

Helpful Reminders:

- When surveying the foundation, survey all visible foundations for each massing, whether or not it is street facing.
- When surveying chimneys, count all visible chimneys—regardless if it is street facing or not.
- Under the ‘Window’ tab, list the elevation of windows surveyed under ‘Window Notes’.
Piers

Post-In-Ground

Slab

Solid/Continuous
Wood

Lapped

Beveled

Drop (Novelty)

Shiplap-
Wood

Horizontal Tongue & Groove

Channel

Shiplap
Vertical
Board on Board
Vertical Tongue & Groove
Wood Log Shingle

coursed
staggered
fishscale
sawtooth
diamond
chisel

Exterior Finishes
Unpainted & Painted

Flemish Bond:
Headers and stretchers alternate in each course with the center of each header over the center of the stretcher di-

English Bond:
Alternating courses of headers and stretchers; the bricks in all stretcher courses line up verti-
Unpainted & Painted Brick

**Stretcher Bond:**
Consisting of only stretcher, each alternate course of stretchers is moved over half the length of a brick.

**Header Bond:**
Consisting of only headers, each alternate course of headers is moved over half the width of a brick.

**Stack Bond:**
Consisting of only vertically aligned bricks.
Unpainted & Painted

Basket Weave:
Composed of groups of two or three bricks laid perpendicular to all surrounding group.

Handmade Bricks: bricks molded by hand through the use of a wooden box, then fired. Popular up until the mid to late-1800s

Machine Made Bricks: bricks made with machinery, tend to be much more uniform than handmade bricks
Stucco: “An exterior wall covering consisting of a mixture of cement, sand, lime, and water; sometimes fiber or crushed stones are added for texture.”
Concrete

Precast Concrete

Poured in Place Concrete

Concrete Blocks

Dressed/Imitation Stone
Exterior Finishes

Metal
- Corrugated Metal
- Metal Sheet
- Aluminum

- Metal Shingle
- Cast Iron
- Copper
Exterior Finishes

Stone

Fieldstone/Rubble

Dressed Stone

Slate

Marble

Sandstone/Limestone

Granite
Wall Features

Engaged Columns/Pilasters

Pier & Spandrel

Tower or Turret

Belt/String Course

Water Table

Quoins

Exterior Finishes
Wall Features

Decorative or Carved Panels/Plaques

Date Stones

Vent
Roof Type

- Cross Gable
- Stepped Gable
- False Mansard
- Flat/Low Slope
- Flat/Low Slope with Parapet
- False Gable
Roof Materials

- Ceramic Tile
- Metal Shingle
- Standing Seam Metal
- Slate
- Living Roof
- Built-Up Roofing (EPDM, TPO)
- Synthetic Slate
- Tar & Gravel
Roof Materials

- Corrugated Metal
- Composition (3 Tab)
- Composition (Rolled)
- Composition (Architectural Grade)
- Wood Shingles or Shakes
Roof Architectural Features:

- Cupola/Lantern
- Dome
- Monitor
- Belvedere

- Finial
- Cresting
- Crenellation
- Pendant
Cornice & Eave Types

Closed Eave

Exposed Raft-

Plain or Decorated

Bargeboard

Brackets

Cornice/Fascia
Cornice & Eave Types

Parapet

Balustrade

Sloped Soffit

Corbeled Brick Cornice

Molded Brick Cornice

Plain Boxed Cornice

Roof
Chimney Features

Chimney Hood

Corbelled

Flue/Vent

Decorative
Chimney Location

Exterior Gable Wall

Exterior Eve

Interior End

Interior Slope

Interior Ridge

Central
Light Configurations

12/12
9/9
6/6
6/9
2/2
9/1
Window Operations

- fixed
- double- or single-hung (upper sash may be fixed in early examples)
- casement
- sliding
- hopper
- awning
- pivot
- louver
Under the ‘Window’ tab, list the elevation of windows surveyed under ‘Window Notes’.
Decorative Windows

Oculus (Bull’s Eye)

Bay/Box/Bow

Oriel

Palladian/Venetian

Queen Anne Sash

Lattice

Lancet

Tracery
Decorative Windows

Round/Elliptical  Lunette  Arched  Foil

Window Glazing

Single  Double  Single with Storm Window

Wavy/Cylinder
Window Muntin Style

Sandwich Muntins

Snap-In-Grids

SDL (simulated divided light)

TDL (true divided light)
Dormer Window Types

gabled
shed
hipped
deck
flat
eyebrow
segmental
arched
inset

roof dormer, with or without side walls
wall dormer, always with side walls
cross gable, always without side walls
Door Type

Single Panel
Two-Panel
Four-Panel
Six-Panel
Flush
Multi-Light Glazed (French)
Modern/Contemporary
Porch Type

- Stoop/Platform
- Portico/Entry Porch
- Overhang/Awning
- Balcony (Cantilevered)
- Pent Roof
Georgian

Wood, Fishscale Shingles Stained Red

Flush, wide-board siding painted white or oxide red, typ.

517-519 Duke St.
c. 1786

400 Prince St., c. 1797
Georgian
Federal

- Lunette Window
- Side Gable Roof w/ Front Gable
- Simplified Stone Lintel Over 6/6 Window Sash
- Flemish Bond Brick
- Palladian Window
- Elliptical Arch Above 6-Panel Door w/ Sidelights
- Slender Colonettes
- 5-bay Center Hall Plan

Original Flounder
Greek Revival

Classical Entablature on elevated wall

Cast Iron (?) Window Hood

6/6 & 9/9 Windows in new locations

Classical Entablature & Ionic Columns on Porch

4-panel Door w/ Transom & Sidelights
Greek Revival

- Side Gable Roof w/ lower slope
- Molded Brick Classical Cornice
- Stone Lintel
- Extruded Brick in Running Bond
- Windows Become Smaller at Each Floor
- Door Surround w/ Full NeoClassical Entablature & Pilasters
- Use of Octagon Form
- Cast Iron Balcony Rail
- Simple Granite, Marble or Seneca Sandstone Steps
Greek Revival

Windows in Frieze
Gothic Revival
Italianate

- Bracketed, Dentiled Cornice & Frieze
- Low Slope Roof Sheds to Rear
- Cast Iron Head & Sill with 1/1 Windows
- Incorrect 6 panel door
Romanesque

- Polychrome Slate
- Semicircular Arch
- Slate or Tile Roof
- Molded Copper Trim
- Copper Window Bay
- Visually Heavy Massing & Dark, Earth-Tone Colors
- Rusticated Seneca Sandstone Base
Second Empire

- Mansard Roof w/ Slate
  Fancy Cut Shingles
- Bracketed Cornice
- Segmental Arch over Windows
- Original 2/2 Windows
- Inappropriate 6/6 replacement windows
- Bracketed Entry Architrave
- 2/2 windows
Queen Anne

- Fishscale Shingle Siding
- Knob & Spool Fretwork Porch
- Corbeled Brick Cornice w/ Low Slope Shed Roof
- Molded Brick Segmental Arch Over 1/1 Windows
Queen Anne

- Decorative Brick Patterns
- Front Gable & Bay
  Provide Vertical Expression
- Corbeled Brick Cornice
- Molded Brick Segmental Arch
- 1/1 Windows
- Patterned Brick Panel
- Brick String Course
Beaux Arts
Colonial Revival
Moderene
Art Deco
International