

9.0 CULTURAL LANDSCAPES GUIDELINES - MAINTAINING "THE LOOK"

The landscape guidelines contained within *Section 8.0: Natural Landscapes - Protecting the Design Context* may also apply to cultural and should be consulted when considering an alteration to a landscape feature within the local historic district.

9.1 ORIGINAL SUBDIVISION FORMS

The historic layout of the neighborhoods and subdivisions, located within the Druid Hills Local Historic District, has created the physical framework for the district. This layout, created originally by Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., has definable characteristics that have been replicated in more recent development plats by later designers. These plans guided the configuration of streets, public open spaces, and private lots. The original layout creates a historical context for the district. The cumulative effect of alterations to this layout would destroy this context. While some zoning classifications within the local district may allow the subdivision of existing lots, such proposed changes to the layout should be designed as a complement to the original design.

Guideline - Elements of the original layout to be retained include lot layouts for public and private spaces and the alignment of streets, drives, walkways, and streetscape profiles.

Example of the curvilinear alignment of roadways within the local historic district. Many original plats from various areas within Druid Hills are available for reference in



studying the district's original design layouts.

Many of Druid Hills' neighborhoods retain portions of the original streetscape layout. There are several exceptions. Stone gutters are not present and more narrow dimensions are found today for the tree planting strip and sidewalks.

Sidewalk Widths -

Throughout Druid Hills today, most sidewalks are predominately 4' wide. Walks along Ponce de Leon are an exception, and as called for in the original plans, are 6' wide.

Example of streetscape profile on Rosedale with sidewalks and tree planting strip lining the street



Guideline - In most cases, sidewalks to be repaired or new sidewalks to be added within the local historic district should be 4' wide.

9.2 TRADITIONAL STREETSCAPE PROFILE

Plans by Olmsted Brothers in 1902 document the design intent for the streetscape in Druid Hills. Elements of the traditional streetscape include: (1) street, (2) stone gutter, (3) tree planting strip, (4) sidewalk, (5) vine planting strip, and (6) turf gutter. The scale of the streetscape elements depended on the street's role within the road system. The more intense the anticipated use, the wider the elements. Streets (16'-24' wide) were bordered by a stone gutter, a tree planting strip (5'-6' wide), a sidewalk (4'-6' wide), vine strip, and a turf gutter. There was no curb present in Olmsted's original concept.

TREE PLANTING STRIP - The width of tree planting strips within the Druid Hills Local Historic District varies from 4' - 8'. "The more recent the subdivision plat, the wider the space" is a general rule. Today's tree planting strip contains a mixture of small and large hardwood trees. The placement of large hardwoods adjacent to the road was Olmsted's original intent. The ambiance created by these trees maturing over time is an important character-defining feature of the local historic district.

Example of limited tree planting strip containing mixture of trees types - large maple in foreground and smaller dogwoods behind the maple



Tree planting strips in the 4' wide range may require special features to allow space for large hardwoods. As an example, the 4' strip, located along Springdale and Oakdale Roads, provides a limited area for the large, mature trees now growing there.

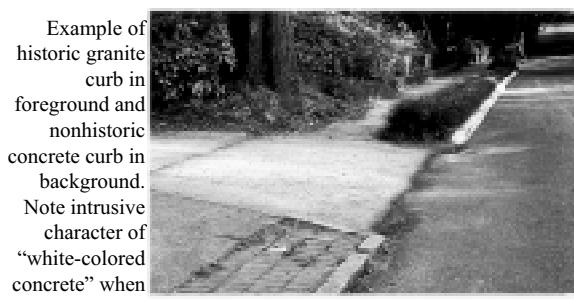
Guideline - Tree planting strips should be retained for that purpose only and should be a part of all new development.

Recommendation - The available space within the tree planting strip, which varies from 4' - 8', will determine the most appropriate type of tree to plant. The mature size of trees should be a major consideration. Oaks and maples are the types of trees most suitable for the more spacious locations. Dogwoods, redbuds, and crape myrtles are most suitable for the more narrow spaces.

Recommendation - In locations containing large hardwood trees, such as oaks and beeches, where the intent is to retain this type of established tree groupings, special accommodations will be necessary. Techniques to consider in expanding limited planting zones include: (1) using porous pavers in place of non-porous concrete paving for the sidewalk, which allows penetration of water to tree roots; or (2) a re-alignment of the existing sidewalk away from the base of the tree are techniques that will allow the trees maximum growing space.

GRANITE CURBS AND STONE GUTTERS

GUTTERS - The streetscape profile has changed over time from Olmsted's original concept. Raised granite curbs have replaced the stone gutter shown on Olmsted's original street sections. The granite curb is one of the most ubiquitous elements in the local district today.



Example of historic granite curb in foreground and nonhistoric concrete curb in background. Note intrusive character of "white-colored concrete" when compared to subtle shades of granite.

Guideline - Granite curbs are considered a historic element and should be retained and reused in any street improvements. The stone gutter and grassed swales from the original design were important elements in protecting the district's watershed. This design element should be reconstructed at all possible locations along roadways within the district. The "developed" character of the green space bordering roadways in residential neighborhoods will likely not allow for the introduction of a stone gutter. The reconstruction of stone gutters appears to be possible along roadways bordered by parkland and in other locations where curbing is not present.

9.3 VEGETATION

STREET TREES - The majority of the street tree plantings are native hardwoods, both large and small. Crape myrtles are an example of an exotic species, sometimes used as small trees in the tree planting strip. Native hardwoods are the most desirable trees for street tree replacements or new plantings. Large hardwoods are recommended to perpetuate Olmsted's original intent. In the more narrow planting strips, special accommodations may be required to allow space for large hardwoods. (Refer to guideline in *Section 9.2: Traditional Streetscape Profile*.) Dogwoods are encouraged as a tree to consider for small tree plantings. Residents fondly remember the character-defining role of these trees in the past when they were more pervasive than today. Other suitable small trees include redbuds, serviceberries, and fringe trees. The presence of overhead wires is another consideration in selecting the appropriate tree species.

APPROPRIATE PLANT SPECIES - The character of the landscape is determined by the type of vegetation used. Vegetation through its scale, texture, and form is an important character-defining feature. It is important within a landscape of cultural as well as natural significance to select vegetation appropriate to the area. In historic zones, it is important to select plant materials that would have been used within the period significant to the architecture. In natural areas, it is important to use an exclusive palette of native vegetation.



Example of cluster of maple trees along street within the district

Recommendation - The following plant list is intended to assist in the selection of appropriate plant materials. The list has been organized into large trees, small trees, shrubs, annuals/perennials, and vines/ground covers. The list has been developed using the following sources: (1) Olmsted's Planting List from several plans for Druid Hills; (2) Historic Plants compiled as part of the Georgia Landscapes Project by the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources; and (3) Native Species. Aggressive exotics have also been noted, so that their use can be limited to controlled situations. (Refer to *Section 8.1 Open Space and Parkland Preservation and Conservation: Eradication of Exotic Species*.)

Olmsted's list and the list from the Georgia Landscapes Project provide guidance in selecting materials appropriate for historic landscape projects. The Olmsted list has been updated with current plant names. There are other sources that can be consulted to identify additional plants used by Olmsted in Druid Hills, such as historic planting plans and, particularly the archival record at the Olmsted National Historic Site in Brookline, Massachusetts. The Olmsted list presented in this document should be considered a beginning. Residents of Druid Hills are encouraged to add to this list with historic plants that can be documented as having been used by Olmsted.

Example of planting of Bradford Pears within intrusion areas within the district. Bradford Pear is nonhistoric tree that would not be appropriate in historic areas of the district.



The native list should be used for natural areas within the district, such as creek corridors and drainage ways. Places within the district where the retention of healthy ecological environments is critical are best landscaped with native varieties. Since native plants have been available since the colony of Georgia was established in 1733, native plants are also appropriate for historic landscapes.

DRUID HILLS- RECOMMENDED PLANT MATERIALS LIST

Botanical Name	Common Name	Olmsted	Ga. Landscp Project	SE Native	Aggressive Exotics
LARGE TREES					
<i>Acer barbatum</i>	Southern Sugar Maple		✓	✓	
<i>Acer negundo californicum</i> (negundo)	Ash-leaf Maple	✓		✓	
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple		✓	✓	
<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Silver Maple	✓		✓	
<i>Betula alba lacinata</i>	Cut-leaf Birch	✓			
<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>	Western Catalpa	✓			
<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	Deodar Cedar		✓		
<i>Chamaecyparis obtusa</i>	Hinoki False Cypress		✓		
<i>Chamaecyparis pisifera plumosa</i>	Plume Sawara False Cypress	✓			
<i>Fagus pendula</i>	Weeping Beech		✓		
<i>Fagus sylvatica 'atropunicea'</i>	Purple Beech		✓		
<i>Firmiana simplex</i>	Chinese Parasol	✓			
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Ginkgo			✓	
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Honey Locust	✓		✓	
<i>Halesia diptera</i>	Silverbell	✓		✓	

Botanical Name	Common Name	Olmsted	Ga. Landscp Project	SE Native	Aggressive Exotics
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Red Cedar	✓		✓	
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Sweet Gum		✓	✓	
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Tree		✓	✓	
<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>	Cucumber Tree	✓			
<i>Magnolia fraseri</i>	Frazer's Magnolia	✓		✓	
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Southern Magnolia	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Magnolia macrophylla</i>	Bigleaf Magnolia	✓		✓	
<i>Paulownia imperialis (tomentosa)</i>	Paulownia	✓			✓
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Sycamore	✓		✓	
<i>Platycladus orientalis</i>	Oriental Arborvitae	✓			
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Cottonwood	✓		✓	
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White Oak	✓			
<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	Scarlet Oak	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Quercus laurifolia</i>	Darlington Oak	✓		✓	
<i>Quercus nigra</i>	Water Oak		✓	✓	
<i>Quercus phellos</i>	Willow Oak		✓	✓	
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak	✓		✓	
<i>Robina pseudoacacia</i>	Yellow Locust	✓		✓	
<i>Salix alba</i>	White Willow	✓		✓	
<i>Salix babylonica</i>	Weeping Willow		✓		
<i>Staphylea colchica</i>	Colchican Bladdernut Tree	✓			
<i>Staphylea trifolia</i>	Tree-leaf Bladdernut Tree	✓		✓	
<i>Stewartia ovata</i>	Mountain Stewartia	✓		✓	
<i>Styrax americanus</i>	American Storax	✓		✓	
<i>Styrax grandifolius</i>	Large-leaf Styrax	✓		✓	
<i>Styrax obassia</i>	Styrax	✓			
<i>Symplocos paniculata</i>	Symplocos	✓			
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	American Arborvitae	✓		✓	
<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	Hemlock	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Ulmus alata</i>	Winged Elm	✓			
<i>Ulmus parviflora</i>	Chinese Elm		✓		
<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Japanese Zelkova		✓	✓	
SMALL TREES					
<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	Silver Wattle	✓			
<i>Acer palmatum</i>	Japanese Maple		✓		
<i>Acer saccharinum Weirii</i>	Weir's Cutleaf Maple	✓			
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Mimosa				
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Redbud	✓	✓	✓	

Botanical Name	Common Name	Olmsted	Ga. Landscp Project	SE Native	Aggressive Exotics
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	Grancy Greybeard	✓		✓	
<i>Cornus florida</i>	Dogwood	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Cornus kousa</i>	Japanes dogwood	✓			
<i>Cornus mas</i>	Cornelian Cherry Dogwood	✓			
<i>Cornus officinalis</i>	Cornel	✓			
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	European Red Dogwood	✓			
<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	Stooling Cornel	✓			
<i>Cotinus americanus (obovatus)</i>	Smoke Tree		✓	✓	
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Crape Myrtle		✓		
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	Sweetbay	✓		✓	
<i>Magnolia x soulangiana</i>	Saucer Magnolia	✓	✓		
<i>Malus floribunda</i>	Japanese Flowering Crabapple		✓		
<i>Malus sargentii</i>	Sargent Crabapple		✓		
<i>Melia azederach umbraculifera</i>	Texas Umbrella Tree	✓			
<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	Sourwood	✓		✓	
<i>Prunus caroliniana</i>	Mock Cherry	✓		✓	
<i>Tamarix chinensis</i>	Tamarisk	✓			
<i>Vitex agnus castus</i>	Chaste Tree	✓			
SHRUBS					
<i>Abelia chinensis</i>	Abelia	✓			
<i>Abelia floribunda</i>	Abelia	✓			
<i>Abelia x grandiflora</i>	Glossy Abelia		✓		
<i>Aucuba japonica</i>	Japanese Acuba		✓		
<i>Berberis japonica</i>	Japan Barberry	✓			
<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	Common Box	✓	✓		
<i>Buxus suffriticosa</i>	Common Box		✓		
<i>Calycanthus floridus</i>	Sweet Shrub	✓		✓	
<i>Camellia japonica</i>	Camellia	✓	✓		
<i>Camellia sasanqua</i>	Fall Blooming Camellia		✓		
<i>Camellia sinensis</i>	Tea Plant		✓		
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Button-bush	✓		✓	
<i>Clerodendrum trichotomum</i>	Clerodendrum	✓			
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	White Alder	✓		✓	
<i>Cleyera japonica</i>	Cleyera	✓			
<i>Corylus americana</i>	American Hazelnut	✓		✓	
<i>Cotoneaster microphyllus</i>	Evergreen Cotoneaster	✓			
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Scotch Broom	✓			✓
<i>Deutzia gracilis</i>	Slender Deutzia		✓		

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<i>Diervilla sessilifolia</i>	Weigelia	✓			
<i>Eleagnus angustifolia</i>	Narrow-leaf Oleaster (Russia)	✓			
<i>Eleagnus argentea</i>	Silver Leaf Oleaster	✓			
<i>Eleagnus macrophylla</i>	Large-leaf Oleaster	✓			
<i>Eleagnus umbellata parvifolia</i>	Oleaster	✓			
<i>Eleagnus pungens</i>	Wild Olive/Thorny Eleagnus	✓	✓		✓
<i>Euonymous bungeana</i>	Spindle Tree				
<i>Euonymous hamiltoniana</i>	Spindle Tree	✓			
<i>Euonymous latifolia</i>	Broad-leaf Euonymous	✓			
<i>Euonymous japonica</i>	Japanese Euonymous				
<i>Forsythia suspensa</i>	Forsythia		✓		
<i>Gardenia jasminoides</i>	Cape Jasmine	✓			
<i>Gordonia franklinia Alatamaha</i>	Alatamaha Gordonia	✓		✓	
<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>	Shrubby Althaea	✓			
<i>Hibiscus syriacus Meehanii</i>	Meehans Bush Altheae	✓			
<i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>	Sea Buckthorn	✓			
<i>Hippophae salicifolia</i>	Hippophae	✓			
<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>	Wild Hydrangea	✓		✓	
<i>Hydrangea arborescens radiata</i>	Downy Hydrangea	✓			
<i>Hydrangea japonica</i>	Japanese Hydrangea	✓			
<i>Hydrangea paniculata</i>	Single Hydrangea	✓			
<i>Hydrangea paniculata Grandiflora</i>	Pegee Hydrangea	✓			
<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i>	Oak-leaved Hydrangea	✓	✓		✓
<i>Ilex cassine myrtifolia</i>	(Dahoon) Holly	✓		✓	
<i>Ilex cornuta</i>	Holly	✓			
<i>Ilex crenata</i>	Japanese holly	✓	✓		
<i>Ilex glabra</i>	Inkberry	✓		✓	
<i>Ilex opaca</i>	American Holly	✓		✓	
<i>Illicium anisatum</i>	Anise Tree	✓	✓		
<i>Jasminum nudiflorum</i>	Winter Jasmine	✓	✓		
<i>Kerria japonica</i>	Kerria		✓		
<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Common English Laurel	✓			
<i>Ligustrum amurense</i>	Privet	✓			
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Privet	✓			
<i>Ligustrum japonicum</i>	Wax Leaf Ligustrum		✓		
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	Privet	✓			
<i>Lindera melissaeifolia</i>	Spice Bush	✓		✓	
<i>Lonicera periclymenum belgica</i>	Dutch Honeysuckle	✓			
<i>Lonicera fragrantissima</i>	Fragrant/Winter Honeysuckl	✓		✓	

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<i>Lonicera Korolkowii</i>	Korolkow's Honeysuckle	✓			
<i>Lonicera Ledebourii</i>	Lebedour Honeysuckle	✓			
<i>Lonicera maackii</i>	Honeysuckle	✓			✓
<i>Lonicera Standishii</i>	Standish Honeysuckle	✓			
<i>Lyonia ligustrina</i>	Male Berry	✓			
<i>Lyonia mariana</i>	Staggerbush	✓			
<i>Magnolia hypoleuca</i>	Purple Japan Hydrangea	✓			
<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	Mahonia	✓			
<i>Mahonia bealei</i>	Leatherleaf Mahonia		✓		✓
<i>Michelia figo</i>	Banana Shrub		✓		
<i>Myrica cerifera</i> dwf	Dwarf Myrtle	✓		✓	
<i>Nandina domestica</i>	Nandina	✓			
<i>Neiviusia alabamensis</i>	Snow Wreath	✓		✓	
<i>Osmanthus fragrans</i>	Tea Olive		✓		
<i>Osmanthus heterophyllus</i>	Holly-leaf Osmanthus	✓			
<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	Phellodendron	✓			
<i>Philadelphus coronarius</i>	Mock Orange		✓		
<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>	Phillyrea				
<i>Pieris japonica</i>	Japanese Pieris	✓			
<i>Poncirus trifoliata</i>	Hardy Japan Orange	✓			
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	English Laurel	✓			
<i>Prunus lusitanica</i>	Portugal Laurel				
<i>Pterostyrax hispidus</i>	Pterostyrax	✓			
<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i>	Firethorn		✓		
<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i> lalandei	Evergreen Thorn	✓			
<i>Rhododendron indica</i> formosa	Indian Azalea	✓			
<i>Rosa bracteata</i>	Macartney Rose	✓			
<i>Shepherdia argentea</i>	Buffalo Berry	✓			
<i>Spiraea x vanhouttei</i>	Vanhoutte Spirea		✓		
<i>Spiraea prunifolia</i>	Bridal Wreath		✓		
<i>Spirea thunbergii</i>	Thunberg Spirea		✓		
<i>Syringa laciniata</i>	Cutleaf Lilac		✓		
<i>Syringa pekinensis</i>	Pekin Lilac	✓			
<i>Syringa villosa</i>	Syringa	✓			
<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>	Common Lilac	✓			
<i>Vaccinium arboreum</i>	Farkleberry	✓			✓
<i>Viburnum Opulus</i>	High-bush Cranberry	✓			
<i>Viburnum plicatum</i>	Japan Snowball	✓			
<i>Viburnum Wrightii</i>	Arrowwood	✓			

Botanical Name	Common Name	Olmsted	Ga. Landscp Project	SE Native	Aggressive Exotics
Weigela florida	Weigela		✓		
ANNUALS/PERENNIALS					
Ageratum houstonianum	Mexican Ageratum		✓		
Amorpha canescens	Lead Plant	✓			
Artemesia frigida	Artemesia	✓			
Artemisia abrotanum	Southern Wood	✓			
Calendula officinalis	Pot Marigold		✓		
Canna hybrids	Canna		✓	✓	
Catharanthus roseus	Madagascar Periwinkle		✓		
Centaurea gymnocarpa	Dusty Miller		✓		
Chrysanthemum hybrids	Chrysanthemum		✓		
Chrysanthemum x superbum	Shasta Daisy		✓		
Chrysanthemum leucanthemum	Daisy		✓		
Coleus hybrids	Coleus		✓		
Cytisus decumbens	Prostrata Genista	✓			
Dahlia hybrids	Dahlia		✓		
Echinacea purpurea	Purple Cone Flower		✓	✓	
Genista pilosa	Green-weed	✓			
Hosta plantaginea	Hosta		✓		
Hosta species	Plantain Lily		✓		
Iris x germanica	Bearded/German Iris	✓	✓		
Iris kaempferi	Japanese Iris		✓		
Oenothera biennis	Evening Primrose		✓	✓	
Oenothera fruticosa	Sundrops		✓		
Paeonia species	Peony		✓		
Peony lactiflora	Peony		✓		
Petunia x hybrida	Petunia		✓		
Petunia multiflora	Petunia		✓		
Phlox subulata	Thrift		✓		
Platycodon grandiflorus	Balloon Flower		✓		
Ruta graveolens	Common Rue	✓			
Salvia splendens	Scarlet Sage		✓		
Stokesia laevis	Stokes' Aster		✓	✓	
Tropaeolum majus	Nasturtium		✓		
Verbena canadensis	Verbena		✓	✓	

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<i>Viola odorata</i>	Sweet Violet		✓		
<i>Viola tricolor hortensis</i>	Pansy		✓		
<i>Zinnia elegans</i>	Small Flowered Zinnia		✓		
VINES/GROUND COVERS					
<i>Clematis x Jackmanii</i>	Jackman Clematis		✓		
<i>Clematis paniculata</i>	Sweet Autumn Clematis		✓		
<i>Euonymus fortunei vegetus</i>	Bigleaf Wintercreeper		✓		✓
<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	Yellow Jessamine	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English Ivy		✓		✓
<i>Ipomoea purpurea</i>	Morning Glory		✓		
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese Honeysuckle	✓			✓
<i>Lycium barbarum</i>	Matrimony Vine	✓			
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia Creeper		✓	✓	
<i>Parthenocissus tricuspidata</i>	Boston Ivy		✓		
<i>Rosa Banksiae</i>	Banks Rose		✓		
<i>Smilax lanceolata</i>	Similax		✓		
<i>Trachelospermum jasminoides</i>	Star Jasmine		✓		
<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	Chinese Wisteria		✓		✓

9.4 ENCLOSURES AND WALLS

The sensitive layout of the Druid Hills' neighborhoods by the Olmsted firm and subsequent designers following this original design intent has limited the need for retaining walls. A few retaining walls are used in locations with severe topography. Stone with concrete mortar are the traditional materials used in retaining wall construction. Fences, though noted on Olmsted's streetscape section as a location for vine plantings in front yard spaces, are not a common element within the district today. Without fences, private front yard spaces are visually connected. Together they create a continuous landscape intermittently framed with planting beds.

Fences are used, however, in the rear yard of residential spaces. Rear yard fencing is defined as fencing which starts at the rear of the structure (not the side or front of the building line). Rear yard fencing does not disrupt the visual continuity of the front yard spaces between structures. Rear yard fencing is appropriate within the neighborhoods of the local historic district. Rear yard fencing also assists in buffering obtrusive traffic noise at major intersections within the district.

Example of intrusive front yard fencing; note how fence blocks visibility between front yard spaces



Guideline - Fences and walls should not be built in front yard spaces and are strongly discouraged from corner lot side yard spaces. Retaining walls should only be used in situations where topography requires their use. In the review of the installation of fencing, the front yard shall be defined as the portion of land between the front entrance of the main structure on the property and the Right of Way of which the property is addressed.

Guideline - The plantings of shrubbery to create a hedge is considered fencing and will require review by the preservation commission.

Recommendation - Fences are appropriate in rear yard spaces. Rear yard fences should be coordinated with existing county codes. Suggested materials include wood and chain link. Vinyl- covered chain link fencing, typically in bronze, brown, or black, assist in making fences less obtrusive. Vines are suggested to "soften" the appearance of metal chain link fencing. If wood fencing is used, the paint color and design should be compatible with the architecture of the adjacent residence. Fence heights can range from 4' to 6' depending on the reason for the enclosure.

9.5 PARKING

Parking is a necessity within the district. The width of existing streets (20' and less in some cases) limits the space available for on-street parking. In most cases, parking will need to be accommodated within private residential lots.

Guideline - Parking should be addressed in a manner that does not distract from the overall character of the district. Parking to serve private residential lots should be accommodated on-site, when at all possible, using the pathway of original drives and parking. Front yard parking should not be allowed unless it is a public safety issue. When front yard parking is necessary, it should be added in a manner that does not destroy the unbroken landscaped character of the front yard spaces in Druid Hills. Rear yard spaces should be considered for expansion of parking areas

Guideline - Curb cuts should not be added or expanded in order to protect the character of the district's streets.

Recommendation - It is preferable to expand an existing driveway for parking, rather than to add a separate parking pad, since the result is usually less paved surface. Plant materials can be added around parking spaces to visually buffer the parking from the street.

Recommendation - In surfacing new parking areas, the use of impervious paving materials is discouraged. The intent is to limit the amount of run-off within the district's watershed. Consideration should be given to the use of porous materials that allow water penetration and preserve the open character of the landscape.

Caution should be used in considering porous asphalt paving. This material has been determined to create soil compaction and to deteriorate the paving material through oil and gas leaks. Other porous materials that have been shown to be effective are open paver blocks, sometimes referred to as "grasscrete" or "grass blocks". There are also a variety of soil compaction systems now available that offer additional porous surfaces. These systems are designed to accommodate vehicles within open lawn surfaces. Other options offer granular materials and result in a graveled surface effect.

Entire front yard space has been graveled to provide parking; front yard landscape lost



9.6 ACCESSORY BUILDINGS

There is a wide variety of accessory buildings within the local historic district, in terms of both types and styles. Many are no more than modest sheds, while others are miniature duplicates of the adjacent residences. Most are situated in rear yard spaces.

Guideline - New accessory buildings, such as garages and storage houses, are to be located in rear yard spaces and visually buffered from adjacent property owners and the public right-of-way. Accessory buildings that complement the architecture of the adjacent residence do not require the same level of buffering and may remain more visible within the local district. If the new building will be visible from the street, it should respect the established setbacks and orientations of the historic buildings in the area.

Recommendation - Recreational structures, such as tree houses and play houses, should be added only to rear yard spaces in a manner that is compatible with the architecture and siting patterns of the adjacent area.

9.7 RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE DESIGN

In developing a plan to guide residential landscape improvements, basic decisions will need to be made at the outset of a project. Is it the intent to accurately restore the grounds to the appearance when the building was constructed, or to a later period when the landscape design had matured? Is it the desire to keep the overall character of the property but to integrate modern plantings and features? Or is it the intent to use the site, and integrate parking and other functions necessary for contemporary use of the property?

Residential yards in the Druid Hills Local Historic District feature landscaped front yards with diverse collections of plant materials in naturalistic arrangements. Rear yards are used more informally and are not typically visible from the public right-of-way.

Olmsted's intent for front yards included planting beds filled with ornamental vegetation with free-flowing bed edges surrounding an open lawn. Sinuous-formed drives and walks extended from the public street to the house. Historic landscape layouts and forms should be retained or recreated or interpreted in improvements to residential yards. Olmsted also used planting beds to separate individual lots by lining drives with planting beds or extending a planting bed along a property boundary.

Callanwolde, example of high style residential landscape design



Recommendation - For residential yards, created without the assistance of landscape designers, historic landscape plans for other residential lots within the district should be used for guidance. These plans can be interpreted to create a new landscape plan that is based on historic traditions. Care should be taken to select designs for yards of similar size containing houses of similar style and scale.

Recommendation - Residential yards, originally created by noted landscape designers, will require special attention. Original plans and specifications can be used, if they can be located, in updating plantings. Suggested steps to follow in the redesign of residential landscapes are noted below:

- 1** Understand the original landscape design through historic research; for example, try to locate original plans and specifications and historic photographs;
- 2** Compare the existing landscape with the documented historic landscape;
- 3** Identify any features that are part of the historic landscape;
- 4** Be sensitive to the potential of archaeological features (Refer to *Chapter 10.0: Archeology*);
- 5** Identify site needs, develop a program for the site (circulation versus planting zone); and
- 6** Develop an updated plan for the landscape that retains as much historic material, as possible, and accommodates today's functional needs in a manner that is in the spirit of the historic design.

Guideline – The plantings of individual trees, shrubs, annuals, perennials, and ground covers that are not a part of a landscaping project will not require review by the preservation commission.

9.8 SIGNAGE WITHIN RESIDENTIAL AREAS of LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

Guideline - Signage is incompatible with the residential character found in most areas of the local historic district. Permanent signs are prohibited in residentially-zoned areas. Public signage within public right-of-ways in the district should be designed to be compatible with the character of the district.

Recommendation - Temporary signs, such as posters and banners announcing upcoming events, should be displayed in a timely manner prior to the events and should be removed promptly after the events. Nonpermanent signs, including small security signs, may be allowed.

9.9 COMMERCIAL STREETSCAPE

Emory Village constitutes the major commercial area within the local historic district. Emory Village is currently a mixture of historic and non-historic commercial structures in a predominately paved landscape.

View of Emory Village, illustrating dominance of the automobile



Recommendation - Improvements to Emory Village in the future should include the following considerations: (1) encourage pedestrian access by establishing new walkways or enhancing existing sidewalks; (2) explore other options to parking in front of stores, if parking must be retained, mix parking spaces with tree plantings; (3) provide for short term parking spaces to allow ease of access to businesses; (4) enhance the character of Emory Village with compatible pedestrian amenities - benches, trash receptacles, bike racks, and lighting; (5) consider restoration/rehabilitation of historic storefronts to enhance architectural character of the building grouping; and (6) promote additional tree plantings in a manner that provides shade while allowing visibility to signs.

9.10 COMMERCIAL SIGNAGE

Guideline - Signage on commercial historic buildings should be subordinate to the architecture of the building and sized for legibility at a reasonable distance, particularly to pedestrians on sidewalks and motorists driving past Emory Village. Signage on historic or nonhistoric buildings should be set flush on the building face. Appropriate locations for signage within a traditional storefront include the lintel space which separates the storefront from the upper floor and the space above the transom in the storefront. Other potential locations include the window. Signs for nationally-franchised concerns can be designed to complement the scale and character of the district with recognizable logos still readable.