

## Chapter 2 – Site and Setting

### 2.1 Site Features and Plantings

- .1 Preserve the relationship between the buildings and their environment such as site topography , retaining walls, foundation plantings, hedges, streets, walkways, driveways, and parks. If a landscape feature is completely missing, substitute a new feature compatible in nature. Landscaping features play a critical role in creating the character of a historic district. Proportions of the built area to open space should not be significantly reduced by new construction, additions, or paving.
- .2 Retain and maintain the building and landscaping features that contribute to the character of the historic district, including trees, gardens, yards, arbors, ground covers, fences, accessory buildings, patios, terraces, fountains, fish ponds, and significant vistas and views. If repair or replacement is necessary, use new materials that match the original materials, or materials traditionally found in a similar historic landscape.
- .3 Protect and maintain plantings through appropriate treatments, including pruning and vegetation management. Large trees and other significant site features must remain intact and undisturbed. A mature tree may be removed only after written certification of its unhealthy condition by an arborist, a landscape architect, a cooperative agent, or a city-designated agent. Diseased or severely damaged trees or hedges shall be replaced with a new tree or hedge of a similar or identical species.
  - .1 Protect large trees and significant site features from damage during construction. It is especially critical to avoid compaction of the soil within the drip line of trees.
- .4 Design new construction or additions so that large trees and other significant site features such as vistas and views are preserved. Use new plant materials consistent with the character of the neighborhood as well as similar elements within the site (i. e. hedge rows, grassy lawns, foundation plantings, paving materials, ground covers and gardens).
- .5 Locate contemporary equipment and incompatible site features (i. e. decks, mechanical units, playground equipment, satellite dishes and swimming pools unobtrusively, and screen them from view.
- .6 Do not use contemporary plant beds edging materials such as railroad ties or landscape timbers in areas visible from the street.