



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
CITY HALL ANNEX, 57 INMAN STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

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POLICY ON SCREENS, STORM WINDOWS, AND STORM DOORS

Voted at meeting of November 10, 1970

Although screens, storm windows, and storm doors are not stylistically appropriate on most old houses, they are generally considered necessary and desirable for modern living, and forbidding them could be deemed a hardship. Therefore, the Cambridge Historical Commission is willing to allow these elements on buildings in Cambridge historic districts, without public hearing or certificate of appropriateness, PROVIDED:

- (1) the shape of the proposed screen, storm window; or storm door is the same as that of the window or door on which it is placed (i.e., no rectangular storm windows on round-arched window openings);
- (2) any cross bars or other divisions on the screen, storm window, or storm door coincide with similar elements on the window or door proper;
- (3) the color of the frame of the screen or storm window is the same as the color of the window trim; and
- (4) the color of the frame of the storm door is the same as the color of the door itself.

The Commission considers that screens, storm windows, and storm doors installed according to these criteria do not change the exterior appearance of a building sufficiently to require formal procedures under the Historic Districts Act, but if the criteria are not followed, an official application must be filed, a public hearing held, and a certificate of appropriateness granted.