Chapter 4
DOORS & ENTRIES

Primary Entrance and Entrances

In many cases, there will be one primary entrance and doorway, often placed symmetrically on the street facing façade. The scale, proportions and design emphasis placed on this entrance ensures it as a key character-defining feature of the building, and also the façade sequence in the street. The entrance may be at grade, but usually provides direct access to a raised first floor above an elevated basement level. Consequently, it is more often elevated above street level, gaining prominence and visual emphasis from its scale and stature, often accentuated by decorative steps, railings, lighting and canopy.

A larger historic apartment complex though may have several entrances, characteristically with each providing access to a separate wing or section of the building. Each entrance will have its own role as a focal point in the composition of each façade. In such a case, the original design and also the relationship between the entrances, both become important characteristics which should be retained.

4.1 The original proportions, design, solid-to-void relationship, detailing, materials and finishes of a historic entrance should be retained, and/or repaired to match if required.

- Reinstatement of the original design is encouraged if this has been compromised in the past.

4.2 The design relationships between several key entrances to a larger apartment complex should be retained.

Balcony Doors

With an early apartment building, doors providing access to balcony space are an important part of the fenestration pattern.

4.3 The original design, finishes and detailing of balcony doors should be retained, as should the common design relationship between this pattern of doors.

Secondary or Service Doors

Service doors may be a feature of the primary façade/s or more likely the side and the rear facades.

4.4 Secondary and service doors should be maintained and retained where they are original to the building.

See also: A Preservation Handbook for Historic Residential Properties & Districts in Salt Lake City, Ch.4 Doors
DOORWAYS