

Shopfront Design Guide



NEW FOREST DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN
SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE

Shopfront Design Guide

S U P P L E M E N T A R Y P L A N N I N G G U I D A N C E

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1. PREFACE

- 1.1 This document provides Supplementary Planning Guidance on the subject of the design of shopfronts. It amplifies the policies of the New Forest District Local Plan. These policies are set out in Section 4 of this Guidance.
- 1.2 This guidance was issued for public consultation in July 2000. The document was revised in the light of the views expressed, and adopted formally as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the New Forest District Local Plan by the Policy and Resources Committee on 17 January 2001.
- 1.3 We would of course welcome any further comments. Please write to:-

Director of Environment Services
New Forest District Council
Appletree Court
Lyndhurst
Hants.
SO43 7PA
- 1.4 Any queries about the document should be addressed to Paula Freeland. Tel: (023) 8028 5326 at the above address.



2. FOREWORD - NEW FOREST SHOPFRONT DESIGN GUIDE : ITS PURPOSE

- 2.1 The purpose of this Guidance is to assist those considering repairing, replacing and designing commercial elements of building within the street scene. It will also assist the development control process, and be used to assess the appropriateness of planning applications in conjunction with the policies of the New Forest District Local Plan and other relevant guidance and legislation.
- 2.2 The guidance will complement any local design statements and/or conservation area appraisals that are undertaken within the District.
- 2.3 The Guidance draws attention to the overall scale of trading areas and the centres of our towns, many of which are conservation areas with significant numbers of listed buildings. It illustrates various types of shopfront in the District and explains that changes to shopfronts need to complement rather than weaken the street scene and how this can be achieved. The Guidance also covers those areas where permission is required.
- 2.4 A Directory covers specific elements of shopfront design and can be used for quick reference to assist the design process, including access arrangements for the disabled.

For the purpose of this guide, a "shop" is defined as any street premises having a fascia, sign and/or display window and includes such non-retail premises as banks, betting offices, restaurants, estate agents and building societies.

3. INTRODUCTION - LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTROLS

- 3.1 Shopfronts play an important part in the scale and character of our shopping areas, many of which have historic origins. The quality of the environment in these intensively used locations needs to be protected from harmful change.
- 3.2 The Local Planning Authority will seek to protect valued elements of the town centres and in particular shopfronts and premises which are either listed or contribute to the character of the area. New schemes should strengthen rather than weaken the local character.
- 3.3 There will always be pressure for change to shopfronts and premises. National influences, corporate identity, and the desire to be conspicuous in the street can all vie to compromise the local character, scale and architectural quality of individual buildings.
- 3.4 The Local Planning Authority has specific policies which relate to shopfronts, commercial premises and advertising. (see Section 4 of this guidance).

Planning Permission

- 3.5 Normally, if you want to alter or extend your shopfront, planning permission will be required. The expected quality of shopfront design is covered in general terms by District Local Plan policies (see Section 4 of this guidance).
- 3.6 Only where you are repairing an existing shopfront, or carrying out minor alterations (i.e. those which do not “materially” affect the appearance of the building) will this not be necessary. You can also alter the inside of the building without having to make a planning application.
- 3.7 Where shops lie within conservation areas, this does not affect when planning permission is needed; but could determine whether a particular proposal is likely to be given planning permission.

Listed Building Consent

- 3.8 Where a shop premises is a listed building, a separate listed building consent may be required. Such buildings are listed so that the Council can have full control over any changes which might harm their character and interest. This control will cover even minor changes and alterations to interiors.

Advertisement Consent

- 3.9 The control of signs and advertising is set out in separate legislation - the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 1992. These Regulations say when formal consent is needed but the criteria it uses are complex. Most fascia signs and projecting signs on the fronts of shops do not need consent as long as they are below first floor windows. Subject to the method used this could include some illumination.
- 3.10 Again, if the premises are listed, separate listed building consent is likely to be required for signs and advertising.
- 3.11 Canopies or blinds on shopfronts will normally require planning permission or advertisement consent depending on their design and whether or not they are used for ‘advertising’ the shop.



- 3.12 As these planning controls are not straightforward, you should get in touch with the Development Control section of the Council if you would like advice on whether a particular proposal will need permission. This can best be done by writing to them at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst, Southampton SO43 7PA sending a drawing (a sketch would often do) of what changes you are intending to make.

Building Regulations

- 3.13 Shopfront designs should incorporate the requirements of the Building Regulations current revision (parts M and N), which cover means of access for public and disabled people, and glazing requirements to meet safety standards. Whilst every effort should be made in new design to provide ramps and gradual inclines, it may be difficult in existing shopfronts and those which form part of listed buildings to accommodate all criteria. Liaison with Building Control and Conservation Officers should be sought at an early stage, to assess the level of access that will be acceptable.

4. POLICIES

New Forest District Local Plan

- 4.1 One of the three principal aims of the New Forest District Local Plan is “Conserving and improving the environment” (Aim 3). The associated objectives relevant to the design of shopfronts are:

Objective 3 Town Centres

To enhance the attraction of town centres in the District.

Objective 7 Built heritage

To protect and enhance the archaeological and historic built heritage of the District; ensure that the integrity of buildings and places is respected; and promote public education and understanding of the historic built environment.

Objective 9 Environmental design

To encourage the highest possible standards of design in new development and in environmental improvements; and to provide attractive, stimulating and safe places in which to live, work and play.

Objective 10 Special needs

To ensure that the special needs of people with impaired or restricted mobility are met.

Objective 20 Shopping

To support and initiate measures to improve the quality and, where appropriate, quantity of shopping and service facilities available in both town centres and local shops; and to resist proposals which would adversely affect the vitality and viability of existing centres.

- 4.2 The policies of the New Forest District Local Plan relating specifically to shopfronts, and to advertisements (which include shop signs), are in Sections C1, Design Layout and Landscape (Policy DW-E13), and C2, History and Archaeology (Policies DW-E21 and DW-E22). These are as follows:

Policy DW-E13 Shopfronts

New shopfronts and alterations to existing shopfronts should be appropriate and sympathetic in character, design, construction and materials to the buildings of which they form a part, and to the street scene.

Policy DW-E21 Shopfronts in Conservation Areas

Traditional shopfronts which contribute to the character of the Conservation Area shall be retained and restored. The alteration and replacement of other shopfronts will be permitted provided that the design is sympathetic to the character of the building and the Conservation Area, in accordance with [Policy DW-E13, Section C1](#).

Policy DW-E22 Advertisements in Conservation Areas

The siting and design of advertisements shall be appropriate and sympathetic to the character of the Conservation Area.

Policy DW-E22 is accompanied by a number of criteria in the text which are as follows:

- i projecting signs in the form of traditional hanging signs may be acceptable. However, projecting box signs of a modern style will not normally be appropriate;
- ii all lettering should be of good design, appropriate to the architectural character of the building involved;
- iii fascias and signs should normally consist of traditional materials, avoiding strong colours and shiny or reflective finishes; and
- iv internally illuminated box signs, fascias and individual signs, neon and fluorescent signs will not normally be appropriate, but the careful use of spotlighting may be acceptable.

5. THE DISTRICT'S SHOPFRONTS

- 5.1 The New Forest District has a variety of shopfronts ranging from those of the late 18th Century to today's "high-tech". Good quality shopfronts play a part in the interest and diversity of the street scene.



A restored 18th Century shopfront with delicate detailing



Simple Edwardian style with a shaped head over a glazed tile base



A new development utilizes a completely timbered shop front



A modern frontage set behind traditional beam and post construction



The large scale opening is softened by subdivision and a series of design effects



A modern shopfront in a 30's building utilizes round display windows and a stylised pair of doors

- 5.2 The local planning authority is keen to protect and where necessary see reinstatement of historic shopfronts and retain those designs which represent good examples of contemporary popular design and flair.
- 5.3 There are also many unsympathetically handled and altered frontages that mar the appearance and quality of buildings and their locality. There are a set of objectives covered in the Council's policies to ensure that unsympathetically handled and altered buildings are improved. (see Section 4 of this guidance).



Large, bulky poorly designed premises... they could be anywhere



Oversized sign and fascia mars the appearance of the historic building and the quality of the street.



60's style. A cumbersome fascia with little support looks very top heavy

Understanding the Development of Shopfronts

- 5.4 Early frontages surviving from the 18th Century tend to have small panes of glass and fairly modest, often angled fascias with painted, sometimes gilded, signing onto a painted background. The glass is thin and glazing bars moulded and fine, giving an overall delicate effect. The front has a stallriser at the base and is often divided by pilasters or columns, incorporating either a central or side entrance and sometimes a separate entrance to upper floors. The bay window is also a typical feature. Elevations usually relate to the symmetry or allocation of windows on upper floors to provide an overall pleasing composition. In fact, many shopfronts will have originated from the adapted ground floors of early town houses.
- 5.5 The development of plate glass significantly changed shopfront design and brought a tendency for larger panes. Also the designs became more elaborate. The shopfront was set on the face of the building but often a display bay was created by inseting the doorway. They were still framed with pilasters at either end, a fascia and a cornice above and a stallriser at the base.
- 5.6 Many established shopfronts of the 19th and early 20th Century display strong architectural style and design influence of their time and use glazed tile, etched or coloured glass, radiating 'fanlights', flowing leadwork, cast iron and delicate detail. They often form part of shopping parades.
- 5.7 In the 1920s classically designed shopfronts began to die out, and function started to become the basis of design with emphasis placed on the shop opening being as large and uninterrupted as possible.

- 5.8 In the 1960s and 70s the trend continued, the use of modern materials such as aluminium and stainless steel, perspex and plastic minimised maintenance whilst very large sheets of glass - often down to ground level - maximised the opportunity for conspicuous displays. These shopfronts sometimes spread over several frontages and give the appearance of no support to upper floors. This, combined with fluorescent strip and internally illuminated signs, produced many poor, out of scale schemes, often completely out of context with the character of the premises of which they formed a part.



An attractive new glazed frontage combines well with robust historic features



Original window heads often lie behind large plastic signs

Shopfronts Today

- 5.9 Pressures for "corporate identity" and national style can go against the grain of local character and scale. Established businesses who trade under a successful 'house style' or image often wish to adapt existing shopfronts to meet those needs or are reluctant to consider alternative schemes in the case of new shopfronts. However, in sensitive locations, listed buildings and conservation areas, high standards of design apply. More subtle alternatives to the brasher marketing devices are needed.
- 5.10 There will be a presumption against unsympathetic replacement of historic shopfronts, and repairs and reinstatement should replicate the original. The works should be carried out using appropriate materials and finishes, utilising traditional timber sections and constructional details
- 5.11 Shopfronts of traditional appearance can complement or enhance the overall appearance of more traditional premises. The alternative, very modern format can be successful, but, in the simplicity of such modern styles, mediocre design ability stands out, as does poor quality in materials and workmanship. Replacements of good modern shopfronts with mediocre versions will be resisted.

IMPROVING FRONTAGES

Sometimes, because of poor design or a series of unsympathetic changes, shopfronts mar the character and quality of the locality, particularly where they are:

- conspicuously located;
- adjacent to important or historic buildings or
- adjacent to a main public space.

Measures can be taken to redress this:

Example 1

- A simple brick and slate building, adjacent to a listed building.
- Immediately opposite a major shopping area.
- The original character marred by harsh plastic/metal fascias of varying sizes.
- The buildings' proportion has been lost, the group lacks cohesion, the result is a poor quality, untidy frontage.



Simple measures can transform the status and quality of the frontage.

- Correctly proportioned upper windows avoid a piecemeal appearance
- Splitting the signing between fascias and hanging signs allows the fascias to become less bulky.
- Projecting corbels help subdivide the length of the frontage and relate to the windows above.
- Shopfronts can be inserted within a structured format, allowing some variation between units.



Example 2

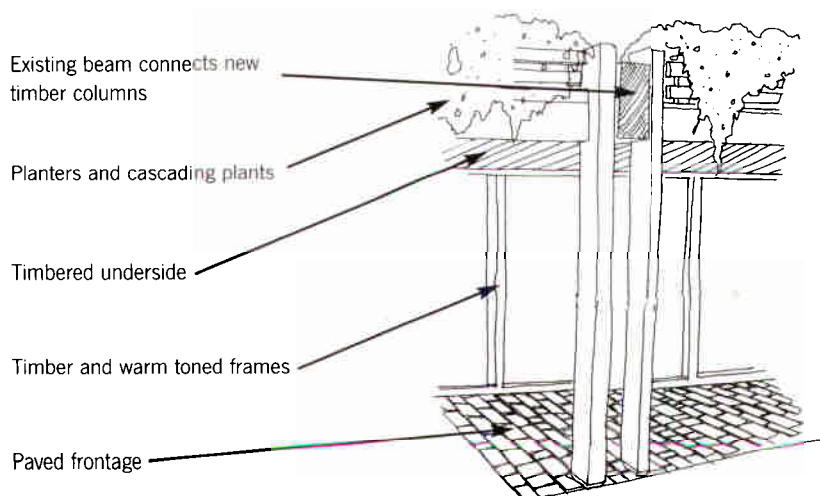
- 1960's shopping development, with a style that is now out of fashion.

It's harsh characteristics can be softened whilst still maintaining the importance of the building:

- Simple, well-proportioned frontages in timber from sustainable sources can add warmth and character.
- Stylish signing and careful use of colour can add interest and vibrancy without appearing cheap or garish.
- Robust, grained timbers can often promote a more mellow appearance.
- The underside of canopies can be clad in materials to conceal unsightly concrete surfaces.
- Measures can sometimes be taken to turn cantilevered roofs into attractive arcades.
- External planting can assist in softening the overall appearance of a large shopping development. Subtle lighting can impart a similar effect at night.
- Where ownership allows, the use of sett or paved thresholds to frontages can help highlight the importance of the premises whilst improving the overall ambience of the area.



Detail of remodelled canopy (subject to structural checks)



Example 3

- An important group of frontages facing towards a market square but with very unsympathetic alterations from the 1950's /60's

The improvements made:

- The bulky fascias removed.
- The individual character and identity of frontages re-introduced.
- Glazing subdivided to provide support and more traditional subdivision.
- Upper windows replaced by more traditional units.

Building before improvement



Building following improvement



RECENT SCHEMES

In these more recent shopfronts, traditional materials are combined with some interesting features to produce effective schemes.



A corbelled bay with vertical panes under a lead roof



A vertical theme continued in this convex window set into a former coach-house



This new development has been designed to emphasise a quality commercial frontage at ground level and complement the locality



A modest scheme which introduces a blind and painted signs on the elevation



A formal frontage with a traditional fascia set over glassy rounded bays

6. DIRECTORY

Overview of Main Elements (see Design Sheet 1)

- 6.1 Traditionally, shopfronts had subdivided areas of glazing, with a vertical emphasis in their overall appearance and proportion. Fascias often form a strong formal 'capping' and sometimes incorporate blinds which serve to protect window displays and external stalls. Stallrisers, positioned between the back of the pavement and the base of the display window protect the glazing from kicks and damage. Often windows are returned inward to produce a lobbied area with further glazed display space.
- 6.2 Several design components help to frame the shopfront. Pilasters give definition at the vertical edge, whilst end consoles and corbels form end stops to the main fascia. Fascias can be angled, and are often edged with a timber moulding and finished at the top with an attractive projecting cornice.
- 6.3 Appropriate signing of buildings is both important to the building itself and the character of the streetscene. Oversized fascias and lurid corporate logos can detract considerably from the individuality of a building and its broader setting. The effect that each shopfront is conspicuously vying for attention with the next at the expense of local scale and character should be avoided, as should any proposals which seek to dominate or detract from the appearance of the building of which it forms a part.

Glazing Bars and Subdivision (see Design Sheet 2)

- 6.4 Windows need to be proportioned to relate to the elevations above, and to ensure that the symmetry or other main features are carried through, otherwise the shopfront can appear divorced from the premises and out of place. The subdivision and extent of glazing will play an important part in the strength or delicacy of the shopfront.
- Glazing bars can look very refined; the use of lathed timber, chamfers and shaped brackets can add to the intricacy. Lambs-tongue sections are the most delicate.
 - Pilasters can be used to provide vertical edges to shopfronts with moulded or routed detail, either in render, stone or timber. Such relief helps take the bulk out of large areas of panelling.

Doors and Thresholds (see Design Sheet 3)

- 6.5 Doors often feature design aspects of the main shopfront. As a main focus, it may be part or fully glazed, shaped or given vertical and horizontal subdivision.
- The lower timber panel of the door can reflect the height of the stallriser (usually between 470 and 650mm high) or horizontal glazing bars can coincide with those on the adjacent shop window.

- Quality schemes can result from the subtle use of purpose made joinery.
- Thresholds can be almost flush, incorporating a water bar where necessary. Often pavements can be adjusted by tilting the paviors to minimise the height of an existing stepped threshold.
- Various surfacing patterns and materials can be used, depending on the period of the shopfront.
- Certain places - restaurants, bars, places with public entertainment licenses, need outward opening doors for escape.

Fascias and Consoles (see Design Sheet 4)

6.6 These elements are the most important. Together with the pilaster, they 'frame' the shopfront. The console (or corbel) caps the ends of the script fascia, whilst the fascia can be flat or canted.

- Fascias should not visually dominate a shopfront.
- They are normally about 600mm high from the top of the cornice to the window frame below.
- Fascias should not extend uninterrupted across a number of adjacent buildings, even if a shop occupies several units.
- The fascia should never be more than 900mm deep.
- If the replacement of a traditional canted fascia is proposed, this too should be canted.
- Internally illuminated and plastic fascia boxes are not appropriate for historic buildings or areas.
- It is possible to achieve good design using simple details and refined decorative tones and script.

Script and Hanging Signs (see Design Sheet 5)

6.7 The character, location and extent of script on a building or shopfront can play a major part in the overall appearance of a scheme.

- Traditional painted or applied letters are encouraged, in various tones including silver and gold.
- Raised gilded and fine metal moulded letters can be appropriate on certain types of building.
- Wherever possible, script style and scale should complement the period of the building and the scale of space available.
- Raised plastic digits and perspex should be avoided.
- Script should not be oversized or impart an untidy appearance.
- Hanging signs can add interest, impart a historic feel.

- They can be quite varied in format, but should avoid being bulky.
- Signs should generally not exceed 650mm x 650mm and should always complement the scale of the building.
- Signs should be decorated both sides.
- Timber, edged ply or metal can be used effectively, but plastic, perspex signs and thick internally illuminated boxed signs should be avoided.
- Wherever good timber or iron brackets exist, they should be retained.
- New brackets should be of traditional scale.
- There should not normally be more than one hanging sign on an elevation.
- Small brass plaques can be used to advertise practices and other professional services. Their size should not exceed 300mm x 225mm.
- The Local Authority will seek to lose vulgar and oversized signing from buildings and shopfronts wherever the opportunity arises as part of improvements and revision to the shopfront or building concerned.

Decoration (see Design Sheet 6)

6.8 Decorations should not jar with the character of a building or shopfront. Tones should be selected to appear neighbourly and sometimes, especially in the case of listed buildings, utilise traditional paint finishes of the period.

- Lurid colour schemes should be avoided.
- Bright white and high gloss finishes will not look as effective as softer finishes on historic buildings - traditional oil based paints and pigments should be considered.
- Many high quality schemes revolve around minimalist and monotone paint combinations. Such simple decorations considered with stylish but plain script can provide a very successful result.
- Many primary colours can look more elegant if given an element of black pigment in the content as this avoids a garish appearance.
- Painted timber is always preferred to stained or varnished hardwoods, although 'solid' colour stains are sometimes possible.
- Where properties are of a specific period, utilise manufacturer's specialist colour charts when considering tones. The choice of colour should be compatible with adjacent properties.
- External gloss finishes need to combine well with the external masonry finish. Manufacturer's charts now provide for a far wider selection.
- Avoid colours which clash.

Lighting (see Design Sheet 7)

- 6.9 Proposals for lighting will only be considered where used sparingly and where it will not cumulatively have an inappropriate effect on the appearance of an area or building.
- Timber and robust iron brackets for lighting fixtures are common. Sometimes modest light units can be attached to the head of a hanging sign or fixed adjacent to the script on the face of the building.
 - Flood-lighting should be very carefully considered. Although it can sometimes enhance the appearance of a building, it can also appear out of place and garish.
 - To ensure that illumination does not appear excessive, spotlights should focus light on the script only. Horizontal strip lights and 'trough' lights should be avoided.
 - In historic areas, internally illuminated signs will be resisted, as will neon and other non-traditional lighting types.

Access to Shops and Premises for Disabled People (see Design Sheet 8)

- 6.10 Shops and commercial premises need to take into account the needs of disabled people, including those that have wheelchairs or other aids to mobility, and people who are visually impaired, deaf, or hard of hearing. Under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, service providers (including shops) will from 2004 have to take reasonable steps to remove, alter or provide reasonable means of avoiding, physical features that make it impossible, or unreasonably difficult for disabled people to use their service.
- 6.11 These are some of the measures that can make access safer and easier for all. Always try to provide:
- flush thresholds, dropped kerbs;
 - ramped access where necessary because of changes in level (where feasible in relation to a listed building), and/or steps of appropriate dimensions;
 - non-slip, well lit surfaces;
 - doors with easy operation;
 - stippled surfacing where defining relationship of shop thresholds to main circulation and crossing points;
 - assistance bells within easy reach of those in wheelchairs;
 - grab handles and door pulls;
 - satisfactory space for manoeuvring in lobbied areas;
 - space to place wheelchairs alongside circulation routes.

Avoid:

- loosely gravelled surfaces with no alternative means of access for wheelchairs;
- access only via steps;
- open drainage grilles that can catch walking sticks;
- heavy doors.

6.12 In April 2000 this Council published Supplementary Planning Guidance "Access for Disabled People". Please refer to this for further information.

6.13 Special considerations need to be given to listed buildings, conservation areas and ancient monuments. The main issue here is potential conflict between providing access for disabled people and the need to retain the particular interest and special character of the historic environment. Key points are noted in "Access for Disabled People" (mentioned at 6.12) Section 10.

Blinds and Canopies (see Design Sheet 9)

6.14 The design and materials used for blinds and canopies is important to the character of the premises and the streetscene. They are a traditional feature which plays an important part in covering and protecting goods from damage from sunlight. They can also define a private frontage or an external display area. More recently available Dutch Blinds and plastic awnings are often out of context and should be avoided.

- Existing traditional canvas blinds and blind boxes are valuable features which should be repaired and retained.
- New blinds should be capable of being retracted into a recessed area.
- They should be of traditional materials, with wood frames and battens with a matt material for the blind itself.
- Blinds can be plain or patterned, can be in a matching or contrasting colour.
- Applied signing may be appropriate.

Security (see Design Sheet 10)

6.15 Security blinds in the form of heavy, boxed metal roller blinds will not be acceptable in historic areas or on historic buildings. Whilst they may seem an obvious solution, they also have a number of disadvantages for both the shop and the community. The impact on the appearance of the building and the streetscene can be very gaunt and unattractive. It is not possible to see if anything is happening in the shop with the main shutters down and thieves may go unobserved. Window shopping out of hours is not possible and may lead to loss of trade. A street of shutters creates a lifeless and hostile environment suggesting that the area is vulnerable to crime, thereby discouraging use of the street and increasing the possibility of crime.



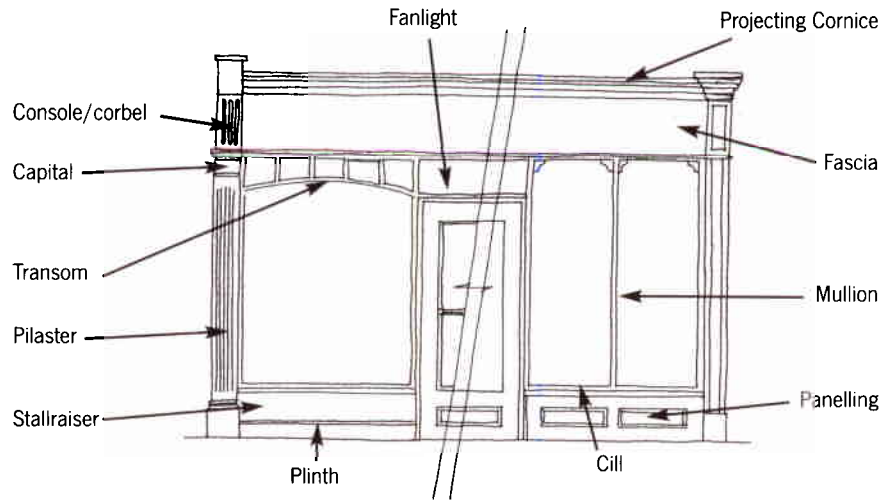
- The presence of a traditional robust stallriser can impair 'ram-raiding'.
- Smaller glass panes with transoms and mullions can be more difficult to break than shattering a large pane of glass.
- A mesh security screen to the rear of display windows can protect displays, whilst giving clear views of a well lit shop at night.
- Timber panelled shutters were common from the 18th to the 20th Century and these may be appropriate in some circumstances to give a more traditional appearance. They should be painted to suit the shopfront colour scheme.
- Security of shop premises is seen by many people as an increasingly important issue, in order to combat not only theft but also vandalism and 'ram-raiding'. All aspects of security should form an integrated part of shopfront design.
- Attention is drawn to New Forest District Council's Supplementary Planning Guidance on Design for Community Safety.

Ventilation and Grilles (see Design Sheet 11)

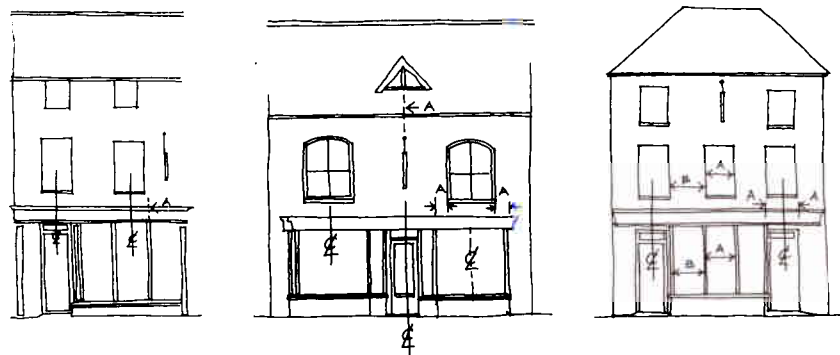
6.16 Where ventilation is necessary:

- The most refined types of vent are provided through mesh panels set into panelling or behind slotted timber fascias or brass plates within the shopfront.
- Openable glazing above doors can also be effective without marring the appearance of the shopfront.
- Top hung 'fan lights' tend to add bulk and untidiness to a shopfront and should be avoided unless they can be subtly introduced.
- It is sometimes possible to set ductwork and air handling plants behind panelling, so that installation is unobtrusive.
- Suspended ceilings can conceal mechanical equipment and other services. A splayed edge to a ceiling can minimise their impact and can sometimes be screened behind a tracery of pattern applied to the upper section of a display window.

DESIGN SHEET 1: OVERVIEW OF MAIN ELEMENTS



Shopfront Components



Doors and windows can be aligned to relate to the elevations above. Consider the centre-line relationship to jambs and the spaces between openings.



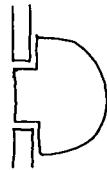
Two examples to demonstrate the effect of symmetry

DESIGN SHEET 2: GLAZING BARS AND SUBDIVISION



Fine lambs tongue glazing bars produce a delicate effect

Edwardian detail contrasts larger planes with smaller upper units



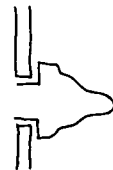
Rounded



A high opening subdivided to incorporate traditional door heights with a well proportioned top light above



Shaping achieved by joining mullion and transom with a curved bracket



Lambs Tongue



Window head terminates with a strong detailed moulding



Beaded



Large areas of glazing subdivided with a trellis of glazing bars



Rounded mullion onto a square stooling



Chamfered

DESIGN SHEET 3: DOORS AND THRESHOLDS



A plain door incorporating shapes and panelling



The centre rail reflects the style of a curved window



Carborundum strips set into stone aggregate screed



Perimeter shaping reflects rounded bays



Riven slate takes up changes in level



Flush recessed surface using small module Victorian tile



Modern materials and ironmongery contrast effectively with older fabric



Combination doors are designed to continue the theme

DESIGN SHEET 4: FASCIAS AND CONSOLES



A rounded console and capital



Vertical fascia capped by a cast iron motif



The console joins the side pilaster, both are routed vertically



The cornice consists of several rounded profiles above a dentil course



A simple fascia and cornice projection



Fascia continues over doorway, supported by a shaped bracket,



A formal console abuts a fascia

DESIGN SHEET 5: SCRIPT AND HANGING SIGNS



A modern sign reflects upon a traditional theme



A traditional painted advertisement



Hanging signs can add appeal in the historic streetscene



Small spaces need more modest sized script



A modest domestic scaled display window is complemented by a modest sized sign



The sign is positioned to emphasise symmetry

DESIGN SHEET 6: DECORATION



Green, White and Ivory



Country Cream and White



Grey and White



Victorian Blue



Crimson and Gold

Some colour schemes which demonstrate effective colour combinations.

Some suitable colours for external masonry and render:



Some suitable colours for joinery and detail:

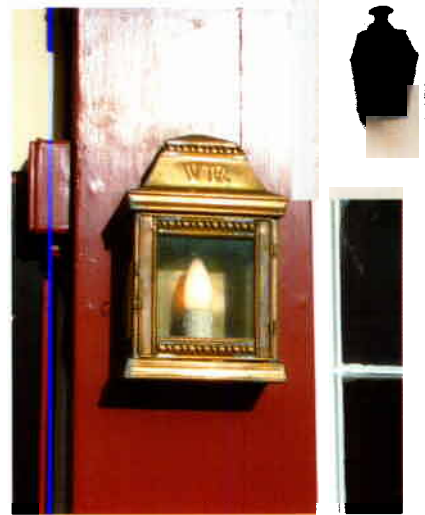


These are not intended as a comprehensive set of colours but they illustrate a range of options which are appropriate for buildings and areas of historic interest.

DESIGN SHEET 7: LIGHTING



Effective use of simple spot light in complementary tone.



Small carriage lamps can be appropriate on historic buildings

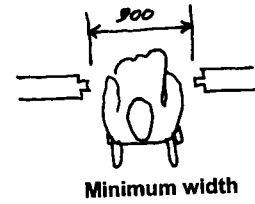
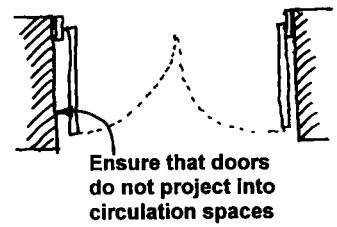
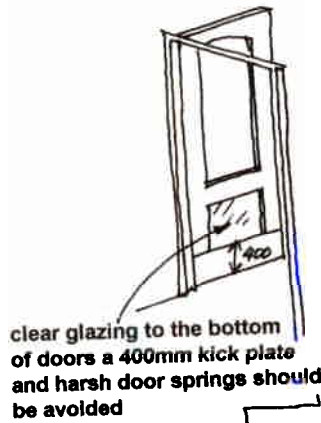
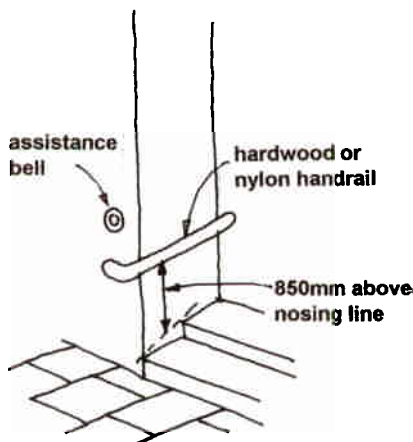
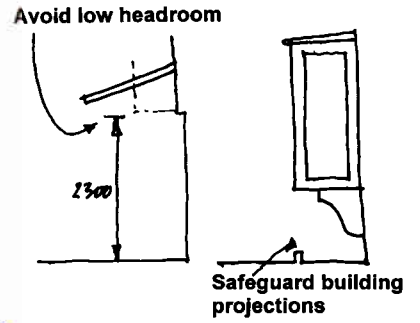
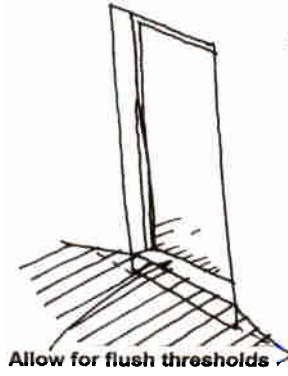
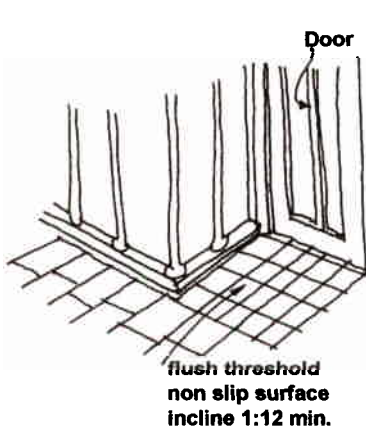


Internally illuminated box signs look bulky and out of character,

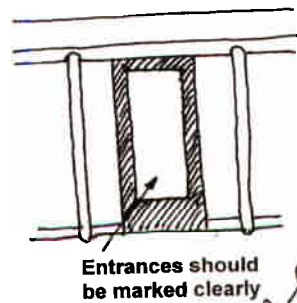
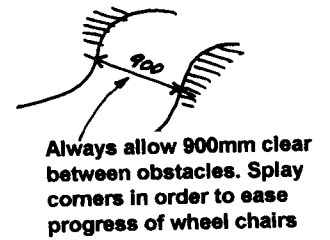
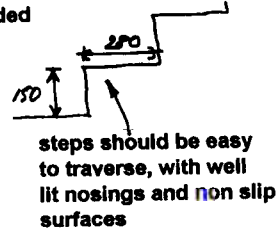
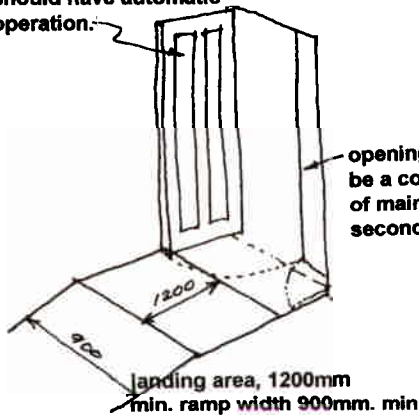


Untidy or excessive lighting should be avoided

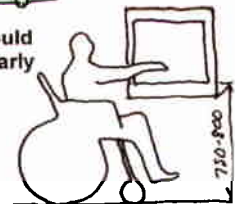
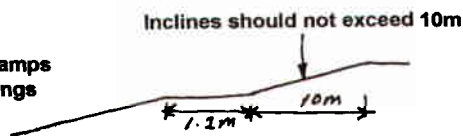
DESIGN SHEET 8: DISABLED ACCESS



Where doors are large, they should have automatic operation.



Ramps.
Steep, unrestrained ramps are dangerous. Landings may be necessary



DESIGN SHEET 9: BLINDS AND CANOPIES



Existing traditional canvas blinds and blind boxes are valuable features.



New blinds should be capable of being retracted into a recessed area

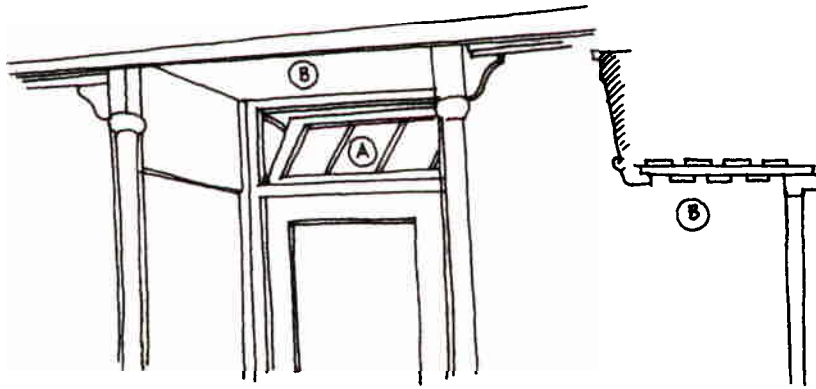


Traditional blinds of different design



Inappropriate use of non traditional, fixed plastic blinds. Those at high level look particularly awkward.

DESIGN SHEET 10: VENTILATION AND GRILLES



A Tilting Vent B Slot Ventilation



Stylised slots vent the area above the window



Narrow vents set above the window head

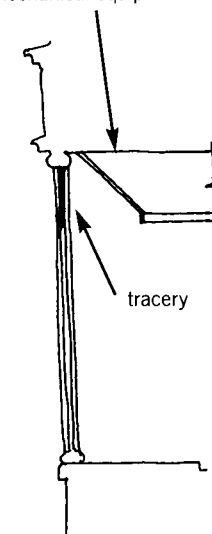


Glazed tiles and brickettes in stall riser.



Ironwork in stall raiser

Splayed suspended ceilings can be subtly integrated behind etched glass and tracery in order to conceal mechanical equipment.



DESIGN SHEET 11: SECURITY



Smaller panes can be more difficult to break



Large sheets of glass and low windows are vulnerable



A mesh security screen allows displays to be viewed after trading hours



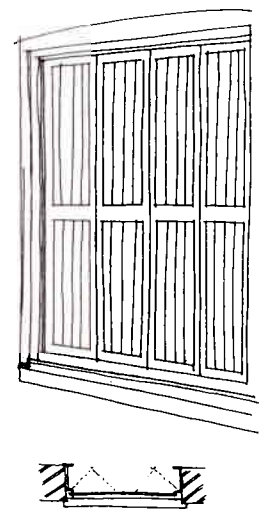
A solid stall riser can deter ram raiding



Some windows can accommodate external ironwork



An iron gate can add security to a recessed entrance



Traditional hinged folding panelling can be adopted for use in a shopfront