

“Reversible” is an alteration that renders an element capable of being returned to its original condition/appearance. For example, enclosing an architectural element in a way that does not damage the element so that it could later be revealed would be considered reversible. Or, adding signage to a historic building that could be removed without damaging the building would be considered reversible. Typically, reversible alterations do not damage building material during placement or removal and the historic or original appearance is either well documented or physically obvious to ensure that the element could be returned to its original condition/appearance.



19th century storefront “filled in.”



Original storefront columns exposed to view again. Windows reconstructed based on historic photographs.

An **“addition”** is an exterior expansion constructed anytime after the original completion and occupancy of a building. While each change to a building is part of its history, not every change is equally important. Factors to consider in evaluating the significance of an addition include whether it was built during the time span during which the structure gained architectural, historical or geographical importance. Typically, HPC requires additions constructed during this “period of significance” to be retained. Additions, no matter when they were constructed, can also gain importance in their own right, for instance the portico on the White House (see below) became a character defining architectural feature. A major function of Aspen’s current historic preservation program is the review of new additions to historic buildings.



The Georgian style White House, as seen in 1817.



A portico, added in 1824, transformed the White House into a Neo-Classical building.