Most older houses were not built with handrails along porch stairs. The Commission will consider applications to add them. In general, the less noticeable, the better.

A metal pipe rail no more than two inches in diameter is preferred. Such rails will be approved under a Certificate of Nonapplicability and will not require a public hearing.


A metal rail with plain spindles is a second option. Such rails will be approved under a Certificate of Nonapplicability and will not require a public hearing.


Wood rails which match the porch railing will be considered. Such rails may be approved under a Certificate of Appropriateness after a public hearing


Wood handrails which do not match the porch railing are inappropriate and will not be approved.

