The height of a new building should reflect its historic context. Window rhythm and storefront treatment are important. Materials should be substantial and reflect the palette of materials in the district.

Stucco is not a preferred material in Troy’s historic district. Bring samples and discuss your material selections with the HRC.

This block of Fifth Avenue in Troy suffered several inappropriate infill projects in the 1970s.

APPROPRIATE TREATMENT GUIDE

All infill construction is subject to HRC review. Meet with HRC during the schematic design phase.

- Respect adjacent and surrounding building height. This does not mean exactly aligning with any building but keeping within a range of those on the street.
- Respect the spacing between existing buildings.
- Maintain the proportion of width to height seen in adjacent buildings.
- The front of the new building should align with its neighbors. In Troy, respecting the building lines means abutting the sidewalk.
- The rhythm and proportions of window openings and divisions should be similar to that of adjacent historic buildings.
- The overall ratio of openings to wall area should closely match historic buildings nearby.
- Infill buildings should be designed to complement adjacent buildings not to imitate them. This might mean materials with horizontal visual emphasis to continue the horizontal pattern of brick buildings.
- Color has the potential to be controversial. Ideally, infill keeps within the range of colors and materials on the street.

From MAIN STREET Keeping Up Appearances a very helpful publication of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

This large addition, left, is a successful example of appropriate infill. Height, mass, rhythm and materials are all complimentary with and informed by the original building.

A lack of upper story windows and a gap in the street wall deemed this infill design inappropriate.

New materials can be utilized if height, massing and rhythm of the building design is successful.

Meet with the HRC in the early phases of schematic design for smooth and informative review process.