Eighteenth Century Connecticut River Valley Architecture


Ashley House, Deerfield, Massachusetts, 1734, gambrel roof added 1780
Frontis from the Elijah Williams House, Deerfield, Massachusetts. 1760.

Frontis from the Daniel Fowler House, Westfield, Massachusetts. 1762.
Original Second Floor Plan
Original Third Floor Plan
Art Room, c. 1929
1. First and foremost, any work affecting the 1928 library should be done in a way that avoids altering or damaging the historic integrity of the building.

2. Respect for the original design intent, features and elements must be considered in the planning, design and implementation of improvements. Ideally the use of spaces should be compatible with the original plan and/or function so as to minimize changes to the layout and volume of the spaces.

3. Original materials and character defining elements should be retained to the greatest extent possible.

4. New programs introduced into the original library building should be sympathetic to the historic fabric of the spaces.

5. Materials used in the repair of the building should meet or exceed the quality used in its original construction.

6. Repairs made to original material should match the workmanship of the original construction in appearance and quality of execution.

7. All efforts should be made to ensure that the installation and/or replacement of modern services and systems do not adversely affect the integrity of the building.

8. Past alterations that detract from the integrity of the library should be reversed when circumstances allow.

Preservation involves treating existing construction in a manner that respects the original design and intent of the architecture.

Establish a framework and shape an approach to work that preserves and protects the character defining features of the building, both inside and out, so that future repairs and improvements can be planned, implemented, and even removed, with the least impact to the integrity of the building.
“May it be that in 2027 our children’s children shall look back and say that they of 1927 loved truth and beauty, that they loved and chose the best, and that they built well.”