

When historic restoration projects arise, the manufacturer recommends the following:

Step 1

If a building is in a historic area, local Historic District or has been designated as a historic building, make sure that approval for the use of vinyl siding has been obtained from the local historic society or local Historic District Commission. This applies to building additions as well.

Step 2

Before a historic building is resided, it should be examined for moisture, insect infestation, structural defects, and other problems that may be present. These problems should be addressed and the building pronounced “sound” before residing with any material.

Step 3

Do not damage or remove the original siding. If at all possible, do not alter the original structure, so that the application of vinyl siding is reversible (i.e., the original siding would remain intact in the future, so that if desired, the vinyl siding could be removed). Exception: “In cases where a non-historic artificial siding has been applied to the building, the removal of such a siding before application of vinyl siding would, in most cases, be acceptable”.

1Preservation Briefs, Number 8, U.S. Department of Interior, 1984.1

Step 4

Exercise every care to retain architectural details wherever possible. Do not remove, cover, or add details until the building owner’s written approval has been obtained. Determine that the owner has consulted the local historic society for approval.

Step 5

Use siding that closely approximates the appearance of the original siding in color, size and style. In historic districts, the goal is to match the product as closely as possible and retain the original trim.

*For further information, contact:
Historic Preservation at www2.cr.nps.gov*