

ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTER & VARIETY

As mentioned in the overview, one of the goals of Milltown Commons is to design within a wide range of vernacular styles and time periods that are appropriate to the New England Region. While the overall architectural character of Milltown commons might best be described as variations of the colonial revival style, the new buildings also incorporate forms and detailing found in Georgian Colonial, Folk & Italianate Victorian, shingle style, and even traditional bucolic structures. None of the buildings are intended to be exact historic reproductions but instead are intended to create a varied and visually interesting built environment that, while unique in its design, still respects the scale proportions and character of traditional southern new England villages. This design approach applies to both residential and commercial structures.

A variety of architectural forms, features, details and materials are proposed for Milltown Commons in order to give the buildings a distinct character and to control scale and building mass. In many cases variations of the same elements are used on multiple buildings in order to provide a consistency to the architectural character of the whole community. These elements include gable roofs, dormers, porches, and cupolas, along with standard elements like corner boards, skirt boards, frieze boards and wide window casings.

Although the traditional village setting has numerous different building types and styles, the same basic building forms are often repeated. To create more interesting and varied architectural patterns, different siding materials, window lite patterns, porch designs, additions and color schemes are all used to differentiate these forms (figures 1-4).



Figure 3: Varied Porch Designs



Main Building Form



Figure 4: Additions to Main Building Form

When applied to the different building types and styles proposed for Milltown Commons, these types of variations offer almost limitless opportunities for creating a diverse architectural landscape while maintaining the appropriate village scale and character.



Figure 1: Siding Variation



Figure 2: Window Lite Pattern Variation

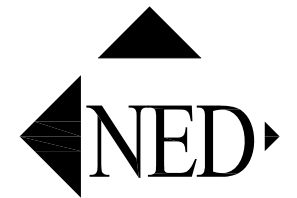
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Milltown Commons

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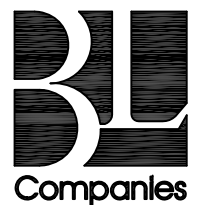
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