



City of Vancouver *Land Use and Development Policies and Guidelines*

Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability Department

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RIVERSIDE RS-1B GUIDELINES

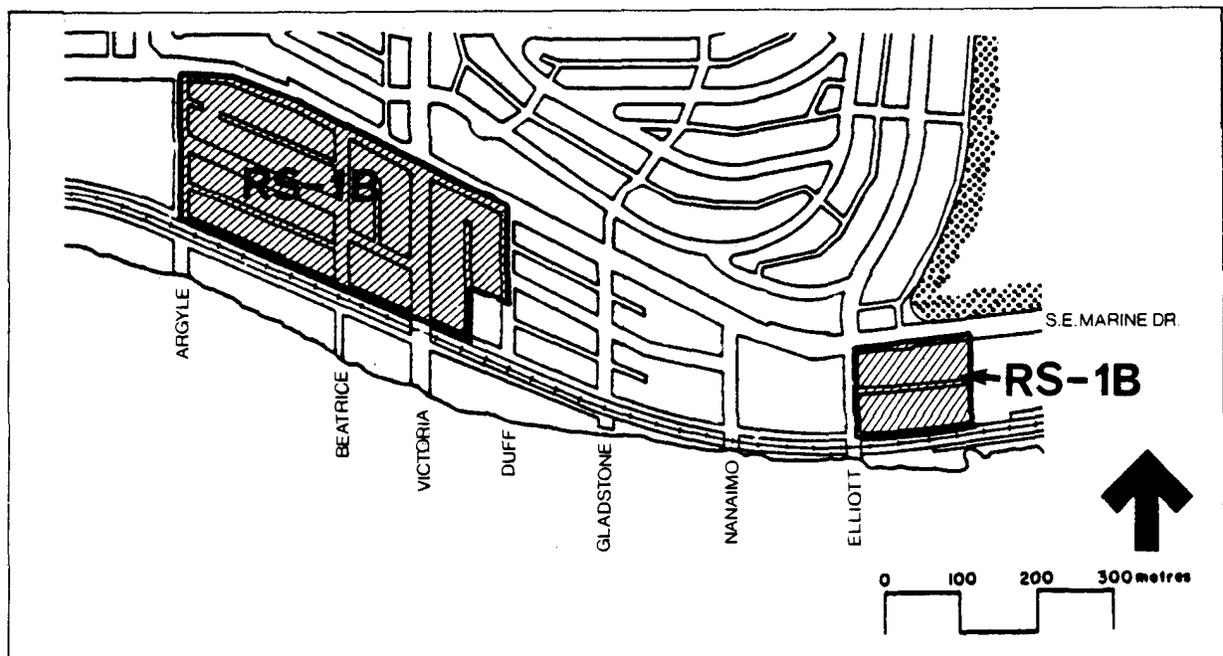
Adopted by City Council on August 9, 1983

Amended April 24, 1990, February 4, 1992, and July 20, 2022

1 Application and Intent

These guidelines are to be used in conjunction with the RS-1B District Schedule of the Zoning and Development By-law for developments in Riverside (Figure 1). They deal with important design criteria that should be considered in the planning and design of secondary dwellings. The guidelines should be consulted in seeking approval for conditional approval uses or the relaxation of regulations. They may also be helpful in designing developments involving outright approval.

Figure 1. Riverside RS-1B Zoning District



2 General Design Considerations

2.1 Orientation

Siting of the principal single detached house or special needs residential facility should respect the existing streetscape (Figure 2).

A secondary dwelling on a corner site should orient to the flanking street (Figure 3).

A secondary dwelling should be designed to respect the privacy of the principal dwelling, the neighbouring dwellings and the secondary dwelling. Secondary dwellings should have an identifiable presence at the street and a clear means of access to and from the street (Figures 2 and 3).

Figure 2. Orientation on Typical Site

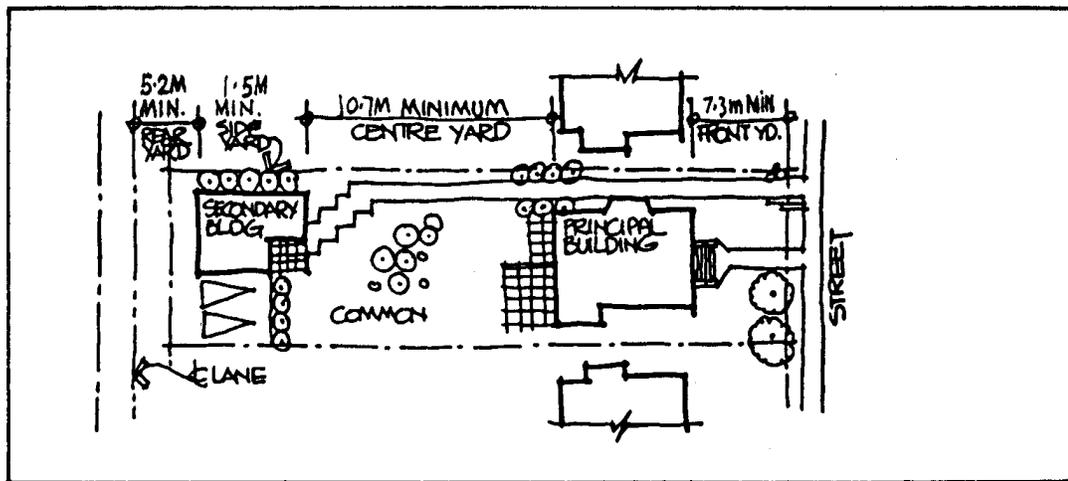
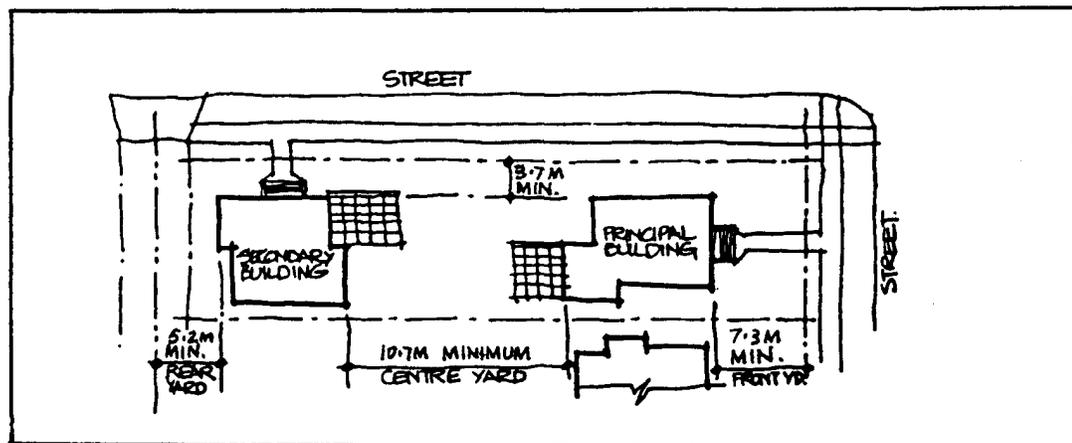


Figure 3. Orientation on Corner Site



2.2 Noise

It is essential that careful consideration be given to the acoustic environment of all residential developments. When evaluating development permit applications, the Director of Planning should consult with the Medical Health Officer with respect to the projected acoustic environment in those situations in which there is a concern about acoustics.

In order to provide a good quality acoustic environment, careful attention should be given to siting, orientation, design, and construction. The following list provides some indication of possible noise attenuation procedures:

- (a) Orienting outdoor areas/bedrooms away from noise sources.
- (b) Sheltering doors and windows from noise sources.
- (c) Fencing.
- (d) Glass walls around outdoor decks/patios.
- (e) High walls around outdoor decks/patios.
- (f) Glass block walls.
- (g) Acoustically rated glazing.
- (h) Sheltering of openable portions of windows.
- (i) Provision of alternate ventilation.
- (j) Managing interior noise levels.

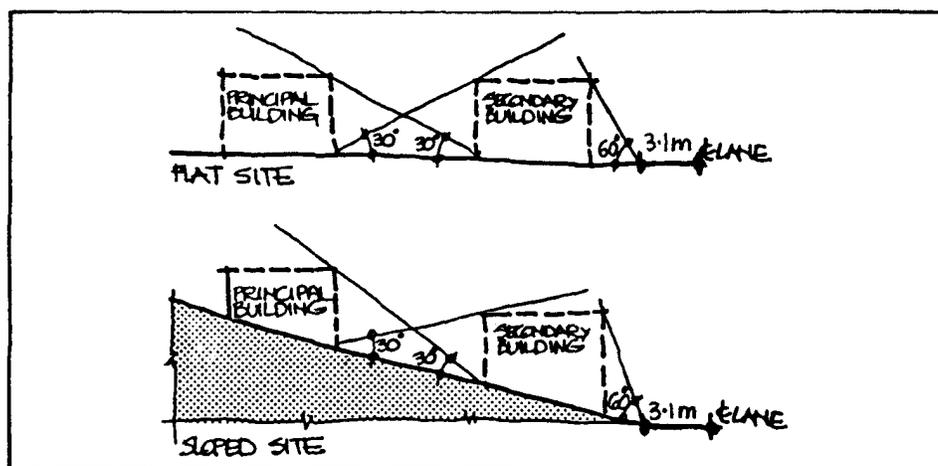
3 Guidelines Pertaining to the Regulations of the Zoning and Development By-law

3.1 Building Height

Massing of a secondary dwelling should not dominate either the principal single detached house or the lane.

Building height control angles have been established to preserve daylight to both the principal and the secondary dwellings (Figure 4). Relaxation may be granted where the slope and/or orientation ensure adequate daylight to each dwelling.

Figure 4. Measurement of Building Height Control Angles

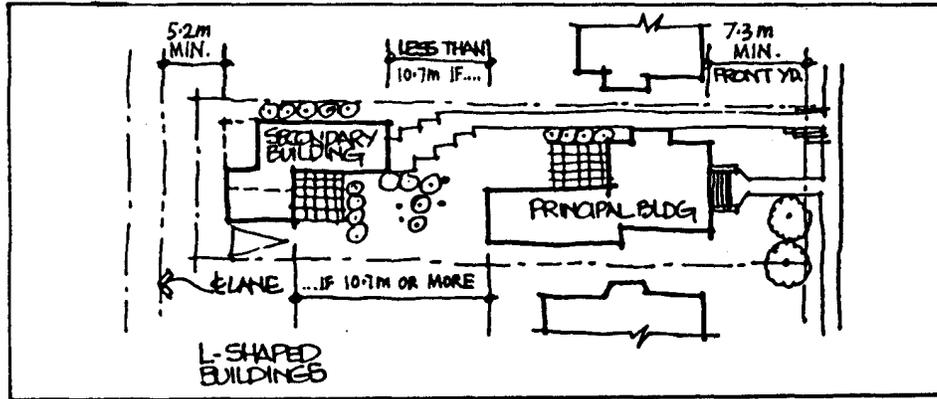


3.2 Rear Yard

A secondary dwelling should be located to the rear of the principal single detached house. Placement of accessory buildings in a yard between a principal and a secondary dwelling is not encouraged.

Relaxation of the 10.7 m yard between a principal single detached house and a secondary dwelling may be allowed where it will enhance the privacy and useability of the yard (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Relaxation of Yard



3.3 Off-Street Parking and Loading

Parking should be located to the rear of the site.

4 Architectural Character

The Riverside neighbourhood has developed a particular mix of rural, natural and marine/industrial character. The objective is to maintain this theme in the design of new residential dwellings.

4.1 Roofs

Roofs on new buildings should have substantial slope and should be designed to reduce the bulk of the building on upper floors. This is most important for the secondary building.

Wood shingle or shake roofs are encouraged. Tile, metal or asphalt shingle roofs require attention to colour, texture and style to achieve the intended theme for the neighbourhood.

4.2 Windows

Windows should be installed to give an appearance of depth to the wall through being inset, or through the use of trim boards.

4.3 Entrances

The principal entrances (including stairs) to new buildings should be defined by porches or canopies designed integrally with the style of the building.

4.4 Exterior Walls and Finishing

4.4.1 Materials

Wood siding or wood shingles are encouraged for exterior walls. If vinyl siding is proposed, sufficient articulation and attention to window and door location is needed to avoid long straight lengths which results in exposed siding joints. Stucco may be used as a principal material if it is smooth in finish, and if facade interest is added, for example, through the use of window trim boards.

Brick or concrete block is not encouraged other than for chimneys, steps, paths, planters and retaining walls, or to cover low, exposed foundations.

4.4.2 Colour

Main colours on the elevation and roof should be relatively muted, avoiding stark whites and very bright colours. Whites and stronger colours can be used effectively on trim and doors.

5 Open Space

5.1 Private Open Space

Design of private open spaces for secondary dwellings and principal dwellings should preserve privacy and yet maintain a feeling of openness. Fences, landscaping, siting, and orientation are important in this regard.