

Pacific Garden Mall
Santa Cruz, California



Society Hill Historic Preservation
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Balboa Park
San Diego, California



C. Lighting

"Light is the medium through which most of us perceive and experience the world around us."* Light can create a climax: to show up a monument as we come from a narrow street onto a great plaza; to make it worth our while to stroll to the far end of a garden; to call our attention to a significant feature of the landscape; to create interesting reflections.

The street light by its very number is one of the most ubiquitous pieces of street hardware, but the practice of street lighting evokes much controversy. There is a conflict between lighting engineers on the one hand, who feel that the intensity of light is the only important factor in doing the job. And on the other hand the environmental design professionals who question the environment that the high intensity light produces and the choice of fixtures which are usually unattractive and out of scale.

Light quality must be geared to the specific use of the area. A district such as "Old Town" requires a warm, simple lighting geared to its distinctive character. The lighting must be more human in scale, closer spaced and lower than is usually found in other areas. Each light must also be attractive to look at during the day when the pole, base, and light add another dimension to the urban scene.

The current rules and regulations with respect to illumination are as follows:

1. The public sidewalks, places and alleys, exteriors, roofs, outer walls and fences of buildings and other constructions and signs visible from any public street, place or position in the Old San Diego District shall not be illuminated by privately controlled lights or any other illumination except as permitted herein.
2. Building or roof outline tube lighting shall not be acceptable. Use of luminescent or reflective wall surfaces shall not be acceptable. Building or wall lighting shall be indirect. A limited number of lights may be used to create shadow, relief or outline effects when such lighting is concealed or indirect.
3. It is encouraged that interior building lighting shall be left on at night to enhance pedestrian activity on the street.

In order to expand the current Rules and Regulations in lighting, it is suggested that the following goals and standards be considered.

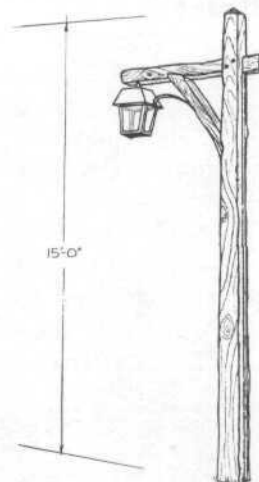
1. Develop a lighting system that shall express the unique character of the area. Do not use neon, mercury vapor, exposed fluorescent, or exposed high intensity lights.

CITIES, Lawrence Halprin, Reinhold, New York 1963.

Old Town San Diego
along Congress and Juan Streets



Parking Lot Lights, Old Town
San Diego State Park



Old Town State Park Lighting
proposed by Department of Parks
and Recreation

2. Define the organization of streets and circulation. Lighting of **intersections**, pedestrian **walks**, plazas, and in special cases **buildings** should be well **lighted** with numerous **small** fixtures. If flood **lighting** is used their sources should be well hidden. Light sources should be low and closely spaced to maintain pedestrian scale. The maximum height, with the exception of safety lights at intersections, should be approximately 12 feet. **Intersections** might have increased wattage for definition and to alleviate **automobile/pedestrian conflicts**. The effect would be one of **varying-size** pools of light. Either gas or **electric lights** would be suitable.
3. Parking areas should be well lighted but with numerous small fixtures or **lights** from hidden sources.
4. Large developments should use the same fixtures throughout.
5. The lighting system should contribute to the overall **orientation** of the **public** in order to enable people to find their way around Old San Diego, **Traffic lights** and signs should be integrated with safety lighting of **auto/pedestrian interfaces**.

Decorative Aspects of Lighting

Building Exterior Lighting

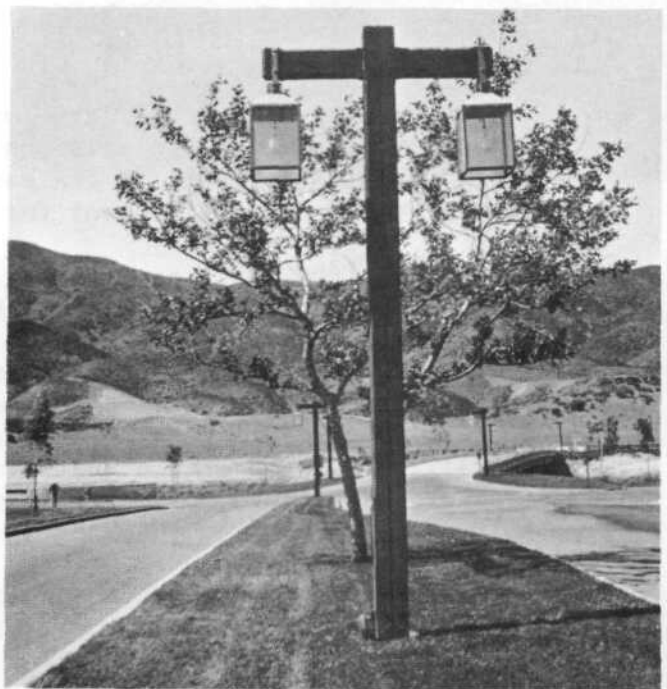
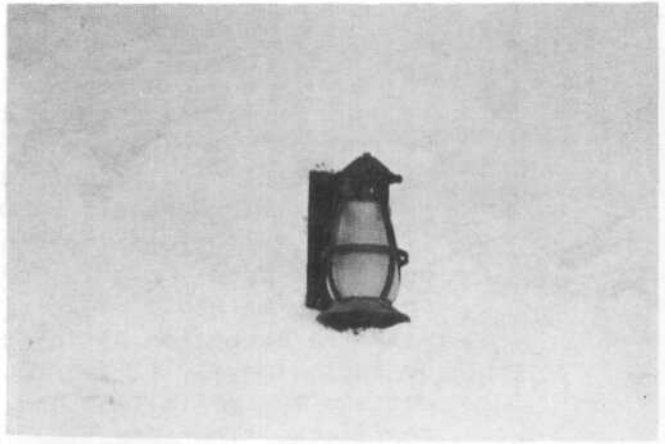
The exterior lighting of public use buildings is intended to give full time **visual** appreciation and to attract attention to these buildings during the night hours as **well** as during **daylight** hours. The **lighting** must always create a favorable impression with passersby. In this sense, the lighting of these buildings is often a subtle and **dignified**, yet highly effective, form of advertising.

Public buildings, churches, and monuments are generally lighted as an expression of civic pride, although here, too, the **advertising** aspect is present if the end result is to create an attractive evening environment for the community.

Decorative lighting is essentially an art rather than a science. While calculations of luminance (**photometric** brightness) will generally be necessary, successful **lighting** depends to a large extent on the **designer's** ability to manipulate brightness relationships, textures, to enhance the color of buildings. Thus, lighting is part of the **architectural** vocabulary and as such can be **utilized** to help create and dramatize a **nighttime** image of a structure, sculpture, or garden thereby extending the hours of their **usefulness**.

Exterior lights should be located and shielded so that units do not **light** adjacent units thereby **revealing** their presence.

Wall-Fixture
Mission San Diego de Alcala
San Diego, California



Light Standards
Rancho California
Temecula, California

Illumination Level

To serve as a design and calculation **guide, acceptable illumination** levels for building exterior lighting are given in the table below. These should be considered as **acceptable levels**. Because **of** the decorative and advertising nature of **building lighting**, variation from these levels is to be expected depending on the type of **building**, its location, and the ultimate purpose for **floodlighting**.

Illumination Levels for Building Exterior Lighting

Surface Material	Reflectance (percent)	Bright Acceptable Level (footcandles)	Dark Level
Light marble, white or cream terra cotta, white plaster	70-85	15	5
Concrete, tinted stucco, light gray and buff lime- stone, buff face brick	45-70	20	10
Medium gray limestone, common tan brick, sandstone	20-45	30	15
Common red brick, brownstone, stained wood shingles, dark gray brick	10-20	50	20

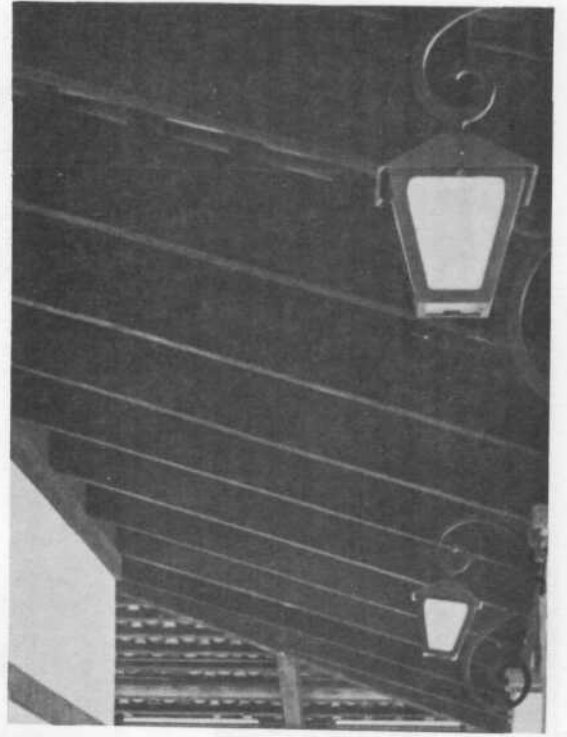
Probably the most important single rule that should be followed in decorative as well as functional type lighting installations is to **conceal the light source**.

(Discussion and Table taken from Section 17 of the Illuminating Engineering Society Handbook)



Jackson Square
San Francisco, California

Plaza de las Cuatro Banderas
Solana Beach, California

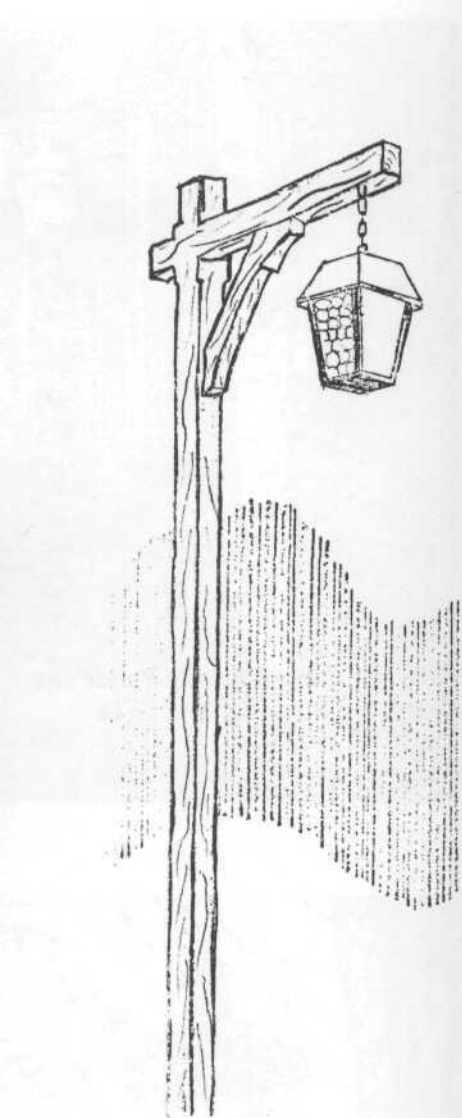
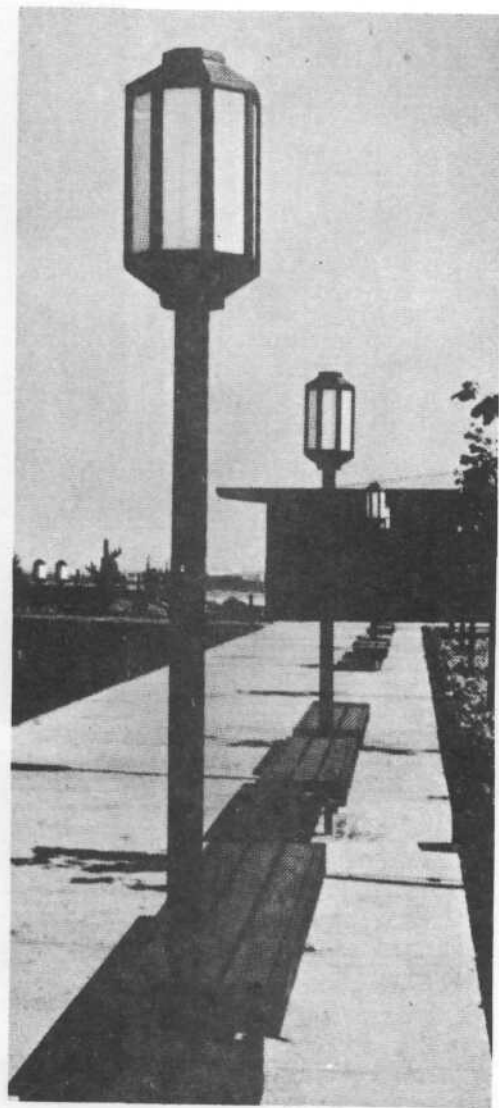


Wall mounted fixture



Mercado at Rancho Bernardo
San Diego, California





Commercially Available
Lighting Fixtures