

# Noblesville Archway Design Standards



The City of Noblesville seeks to integrate archways as a design element to delineate, activate and beautify spaces in the Downtown District and the Cultural Arts District. Arch-like design elements grace many of the buildings and other structures on or near the courthouse square and the City wants all new archway and arch-like design features constructed in public spaces to complement and enhance the historic nature of the Downtown core. Therefore, the City has identified the following design standards for archways:

## **Archways are defined as:**

Any structure used to delineate any form of boundary in, into, or adjacent to a public spaces that includes an overhead crossbeam, arc, arch, or sign, including but not limited to:

- Arches
- Gates
- Gateways
- Fencing
- Decorative or privacy walls
- Support structures for public infrastructure such as pedestrian bridges &

overpasses [Any safety or structural standards mandated by the state, federal government, or other governing body supersedes these appearance standards] “Public spaces” include but are not limited to alleys, streetscapes, parks, public right-of-ways, and city property

These standards could also be applied to or influence designs for:

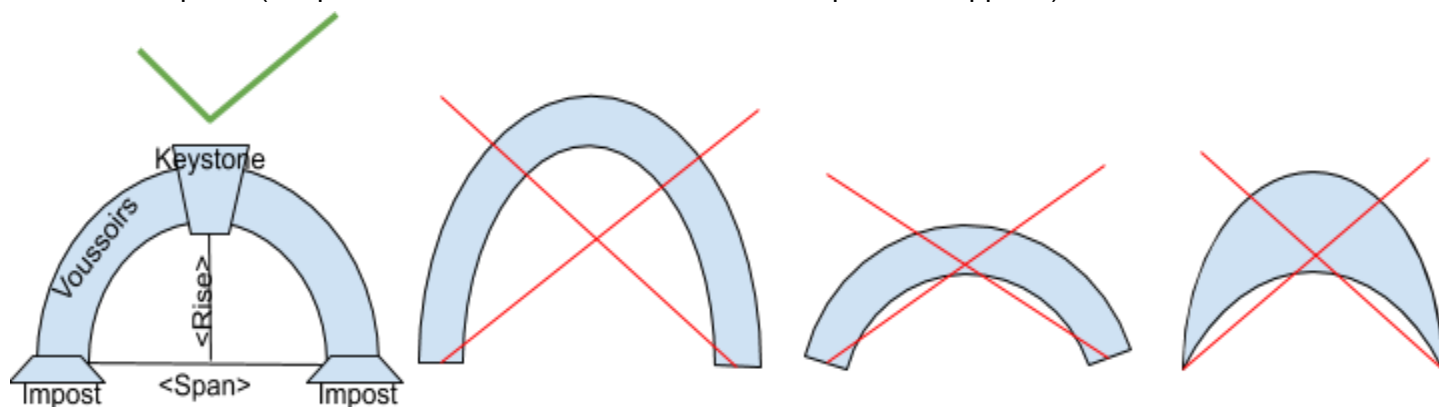
- Supports for awnings, canopies and shade structures
- Street arm closures
- Bike racks
- Wayfinding signage
- Lighting



## **Arch Properties:**

Arches must be round, not pointed or angular. The rise should be  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the span, meaning that the arch forms a half circle. The ‘legs’ or vertical supports of the arch should be 2-3 times longer than the span of the arch. The

voussoirs or material making up the arch should be a consistent width from end to end (the arch should not taper). Arches may include a larger keystone or other decorative element at their center and may have decorative imposts (the part at the bottom of the arch and the top of the supports).



### **Materials and Other Design Features:**

To best fit the City's design standards, free-standing archways should be made to emulate wrought iron, meaning that the primary structural material of the arch should appear to be glossy, black metal. Avoid chrome, brushed metal, or oxidized (rusty) metals. Alternative types of materials for the primary structure may be considered and approved on a case-by-case basis, based on the location, surrounding materials, and structural needs of the project. Secondary materials and colors may be incorporated into the design of an arch if they reflect or pay homage to surroundings, the city's history and/or established design standards.

Arches outside of the Downtown District should utilize the city's green color scheme.



### **Other Design Elements:**



Archways should utilize Victorian design elements, to compliment the era in which the majority of buildings in the downtown core were built. Key design elements include scrollwork that emulate acanthus leaves or vines, similar to those seen on the City's benches. Victorian fretwork, spindles, brackets and gingerbread found on many of the nearby historic homes may also be incorporated. Each set of archways should be unique and reflect the unique needs, history, and purpose of their location. Historic images and information are available upon request.

Any text incorporated into an archway should be easily readable at a distance and scaled to compliment the site and the archway's use. All proposed text must be reviewed and approved in advance of installation.



## **Resources and References:**

When planning an archway project, please refer to the following:

- The Noblesville Downtown Streetscape Master Plan
- Noblesville's Unified Development Ordinance

The Downtown District Committee has selected the following examples of archway design elements and Victorian architecture in downtown Noblesville for reference:

- The arched windows on the top floor of 839 Conner Street (the building that is currently home of NobleMade and Private Capital Management Group.
- The arched windows on the second floor of 60 and 68 North 9th Street (the windows above what is currently Kiln Creations and Rosie's Place)
- The arched windows and embellishments on the 3rd floor of the building at 984 Logan Street (the current home of Nova 29 and Grindstone Public House)
- Noblesville City Hall
- 864 Logan, currently home of Li'L Bloomers and Alexander's on the Square
- The Historic Sheriff's Residence & Hamilton County Historical Society - 810 Conner Street
- Restored Victorian homes located along:
  - Conner and Logan Streets between 10th and 15th Streets,
  - 9th Street between Division and Cherry Streets
  - 9th and 10th Street, between Clinton and Harrison