
ARTICLE V

ESTABLISHMENT OF ZONING DISTRICTS

Section 501. Zoning Districts. For the purpose of this Chapter, the Town of Granite Falls planning and development regulation jurisdiction is hereby divided into Conventional and Conditional Zoning Districts designated as follows:

Conventional Zoning Districts

R-15	Residential Single-Family District
R-8	Residential Medium-High Density District
R-8A	Residential High-Density District
R-MH	Residential Mobile Home Park District
O-I	Office and Institutional District
N-B	Neighborhood Business District
C-B	Central Business District
H-B	Highway Business District
M-1	General Manufacturing District
R-20	Residential Low-Density District
R-20A	Residential Medium Density District
TND	Traditional Neighborhood Design District
R-15A	Residential Single-Family District
R-6	Residential Single-Family High-Density District

Conditional Zoning Districts

Pursuant to G.S. §160D-703(b), the Town Council may establish by ordinance Conditional Zoning Districts only in response to a petition by all owners of the subject property. A Conditional Zoning is a legislative map amendment with site-specific conditions incorporated into the zoning map amendment. Conditional Zoning Districts provide the opportunity for developments that do not fit easily into existing conventional zoning districts and that also demonstrate excellence in site design, circulation, use coordination and compatibility with neighboring properties such that it is in the public interest to create a new and novel zoning district to accommodate them. Conditional Zoning Districts shall be designated on the Town of Granite Falls Zoning Map by adding “-CZ” to the corresponding conventional district.

Section 502. District Boundaries Shown on Zoning Map. The boundaries of the districts are shown on the map accompanying this Chapter and made a part thereof entitled "Town of Granite Falls Zoning Map." The zoning map and all the notations, references and amendments thereto, and other information shown thereon are hereby made a part of this Chapter the same as if such information set forth on the map were all fully described as set forth herein. The most current and updated version of the Zoning Map properly attested is maintained by the Zoning Administrator and is on file at the Town Administrative Offices and is available for inspection by the public.

Section 503. Due Consideration Given to District Boundaries. In the creation by this Chapter of the respective districts, careful consideration is given to the particular suitability of each and every district for the particular uses and regulations applied thereto, and the necessary and proper grouping and arrangement of various uses and densities of population in accordance with a well-considered land use plan for the physical development of the Town.

Section 504. Rules Governing Boundaries. Where uncertainty exists as to the boundaries of any aforesaid districts as shown on the zoning map, the following rules shall apply. (Such uncertainty shall be determined by the Board of Adjustment):

- 504.1 Where district boundaries are indicated as approximately following the centerline of streets or highways, street lines or railroad right-of-way lines or such lines extended, such centerlines, street lines, or railroad right-of-way lines shall be construed to be such boundaries.
- 504.2 Where district boundaries are so indicated that they approximately follow lot lines, such lot lines shall be construed to be such boundaries.
- 504.3 Where district boundaries are so indicated that they are approximately parallel to the centerlines of streets, highways, or railroads, or rights-of-way of same, such district boundaries shall be construed as being parallel thereto and at such distance therefrom as indicated on the zoning map. If no distance is given, such dimension shall be determined by use of the scale shown on said zoning map.
- 504.4 Where a district boundary line divides a lot in single ownership, the district requirements for the least restrictive portion of such lot shall be deemed to apply to the whole thereof, provided that such extensions shall not include any part of such a lot more than thirty-five (35) feet beyond the district boundary line. The term "least restrictive" shall refer to zoning restrictions, not lot or tract size.

ARTICLE VI

USE REQUIREMENTS BY DISTRICTS

Within the districts indicated on the zoning map, no building or land shall be used, and no building shall be erected or altered which is intended or designed to be used in whole or in part, for any use other than those listed as permitted for that district in this Article.

Section 601. R-15 Residential Single-Family District. The R-15 Residential Single-Family District is established as a district in which the principal use of the land is for low density, single-family residential purposes, and to provide and protect low density residential areas for those desiring that type of environment. These districts are intended to ensure that residential development having access to public water supplies and dependent upon septic tanks for sewage disposal will occur at a sufficiently low density to provide a healthful environment. The regulations of this district are intended to discourage any use which, because of its character, would substantially interfere with the development of single-family residences and be detrimental to the quiet residential nature of the areas included within this district.

601.1 The following uses are permitted:

- Single family dwelling units, excluding manufactured homes.
- Accessory buildings to residential uses, provided that no accessory building shall be rented or occupied for gain. Furthermore, in no instance shall an accessory building be placed upon a parcel which is absent of a principal use. Customary accessory uses and structures may include: carports, detached canopies, garages, non-commercial structures, greenhouses, swimming pools and tennis courts. No more than three (3) accessory buildings shall be permitted per lot, other than those exceptions noted for lots of one (1) acre and larger in Section 707. Dimensional standards for accessory buildings can be found in Section 601.3 and Section 707.
- Governmentally owned public works facilities such as transformer stations, pumping stations, water towers, and telephone exchanges, provided:
 - (a) such facilities are essential to the service of the immediate area and no vehicles or materials shall be stored on the premises;
 - (b) all buildings and apparatus as specified in district regulations shall be set back from all property lines and shall be designed, buffered and landscaped in such a way as to blend in with the surrounding area;
 - (c) such facilities as water towers, pumping stations, and other dangerous apparatus, shall be surrounded by a chain link fence at least six (6) feet in height.
- Small day care homes.
- Adult day care homes.
- Adult day health homes.
- Family care homes as defined in G.S. §160D-907 (A family care home shall not be located within one-half mile, as measured by straight line, of another family care home.
- Educational and philanthropic uses, excluding correctional or penal institutions.
- Home occupations as defined in Article VII, Section 712 of this ordinance.
- Municipal, county, state or federal use including parks and playgrounds, but excluding landfills, storage yards, and mechanical workshops.
- Golf courses and clubhouses when approved as an accessory to a larger residential subdivision.
- Parks, playgrounds, and community centers operated on a non-profit or non-commercial basis for recreational purposes only.
- Temporary Health Care Structures as defined in G.S. §160D-915 (per the requirements of Section 706.5)

601.2 Special Uses. The following Special Uses are permitted when authorized by the Granite Falls Board of Adjustment after said Board holds an evidentiary hearing. A Special Use must be proven to not materially endanger public health and safety, to not substantially injure adjoining property values and be in general harmony with the surrounding area. A Special Use Permit may only be granted upon presentation of competent, material and substantial evidence establishing compliance with one or more general standards requiring that judgement and discretion be exercised as well as compliance with specific standards, and in accordance with Section 1107 of this Chapter.

- Any residential accessory structure exceeding the size requirements of Article VII, Section 707 and meeting the following criteria:
 - The property is larger than one (1) acre in size and contains a single-family dwelling.

- The property may not be subdivided to the extent that the principal structure and accessory structures remain on a parcel of land less than one (1) acre in size.
- The structure may exceed the allowable square footage set forth in Section 707 by a maximum of 35%.
- The structure may not be used for commercial purposes.
- The structure is located as near to the center of the property as possible. This shall be demonstrated by the presentation of a sketch plan showing the proposed location of the structure(s).
- The structure must be located in the rear yard.
- Schools (public, private and religious)
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 3. Any associated signage and exterior lighting shall be designed to reduce glare and to mitigate any adverse effects of sign size and height in order to make the property aesthetically pleasing and compatible with the residential character of surrounding properties.
- Religious institutions, located not less than thirty (30) feet from any lot in any residential district.
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 3. Any associated signage and exterior lighting shall be designed to reduce glare and to mitigate any adverse effects of sign size and height in order to make the property aesthetically pleasing and compatible with the residential character of surrounding properties.
- Planned Developments (per the requirements of Section 804)
- Privately owned utility facilities such as transformer stations, pumping stations, water towers and telephone exchanges with a disturbed area greater than or equal to one half (½) acre (21,780 ft²) and/or any structures fifteen (15) feet or greater in height provided:
 1. All buildings shall be designed, buffered and landscaped in such a way as to blend in with surrounding area.
 2. All dangerous apparatus shall be enclosed by a chain link fence at least six (6) feet in height.
 3. If a mature vegetative canopy exists, the facility shall preserve as much of said canopy as possible to serve as a buffer. Additional buffering may also be required.
- Commercial and Municipal cemeteries, provided:
 1. No burial site is located closer than ten (ten) feet from any right-of-way or property line.
 2. All structures meet all dimensional requirements of this district.
 3. No crematory operations are conducted on the premises.
- Temporary Sales Trailers – Purpose-built modular office units for temporary sales of residential lots and/or homes within a residential subdivision.
 - Only permitted in conjunction with a residential subdivision of at least thirty (30) lots or at least 20 acres.
 - Must be located on a buildable lot and situated in a manner that would minimize impact on the surrounding residential neighborhood.
 - Must be connected to public water and sewer.
 - Shall not be occupied as a dwelling unit.

- The driveway must be surfaced in concrete or asphalt and designed in such a manner that a single-family home could utilize it in the future.
- Must meet all applicable building codes.
- Signage on the premises shall be limited to one freestanding or one wall sign for purposes of identification. Sign shall be no larger than six (6ft²) square feet and a maximum height of five (5') feet.
- Landscaping and design features similar to that of surrounding properties must be installed and maintained.
- Shall be removed within five (5) years or when 75% of the lots are sold, whichever is less. An extension may be granted for a period of up to five (5) additional years as an amendment to the previously approved Special Use.

601.3 Dimensional Requirements. Within the R-15 Residential Single-Family District(s) as shown on the zoning map, the following dimensional requirements shall be complied with:

Minimum lot size with water and sewer: 15,000 sq. ft. (excluding road right of way)

Minimum lot size without water and/or sewer: 20,000 sq. ft. (excluding road right of way)

Minimum mean lot width, 100 feet.

Minimum front yard, thirty-five (35) feet.

Minimum required side yards for the principal building shall be at least fifteen (15) feet. Minimum side yard on a street side shall be twenty (20) feet. (New subdivisions require thirty (30) feet for street side setbacks). Amended January 18, 1999 as per ordinance number 173.

Minimum required rear yard shall be twenty-five (25) feet.

Building setbacks for waterfront lots (Lake Rhodhiss, Lake Hickory or Mill Pond) shall be as follows:

- Front yard setback – Twenty-five (25) feet
- Side yard setback – Ten (10) feet
- Street side yard setback – Standard setbacks
- Rear yard setback – Standard setbacks, Watershed stream buffer or Catawba River Buffer Rule, whichever is greater

Maximum permissible lot coverage by all impervious surfaces including the principal building, pavement/concrete and all accessory buildings shall be determined by the Water Supply Watershed Protection Regulations (Chapter 151 of the Town Code of Ordinances).

Height of buildings shall not exceed thirty-five (35) feet unless the depth of the front and total width of the side yards required herein shall be increased by one foot for each two feet, or fraction thereof, of building height in excess of 35 height.

Accessory buildings shall not be permitted beyond the front building line of the existing principal structure, excepting the following:

1. Detached garages that match the exterior finish and architectural design of the principal structure shall be allowed beyond the front building line of the existing principal structure so long as it does not extend beyond the average front building line of adjacent properties.
2. Detached canopies may encroach into the front yard a maximum of ten (10') feet, measured from the front facade of the principal structure, but may not encroach into the street right-of-way.
3. For properties under 20,000ft² in size and no more than 100 feet in width at the street a detached canopy may be located in the front yard, without the above limitation, but subject to the following:
 - a. No more than one (1) canopy per lot.
 - b. The canopy must not be enclosed on any side.
 - c. The canopy must be located to serve an existing driveway.
 - d. The size should not exceed the standard size for parking two passenger vehicles.
 - e. The canopy cannot be used for open storage of any materials.

Accessory buildings, other than those detailed above, shall not be erected in any front yard or within 20 feet of any street or highway line. An accessory building or use may be located in a side or rear yard provided it meets the following setbacks from adjacent property lines:

- Five (5') feet for buildings 144ft² or smaller
- Ten (10') feet for buildings larger than 144ft²
- Three (3') feet for detached canopies (carports) that meet the following criteria:
 - No more than one (1) canopy per lot.
 - The canopy must not be enclosed on any side and must be located to serve an existing driveway.
 - The size cannot exceed the standard size for parking two passenger vehicles.
 - The canopy can only be used for storage of motor vehicles, boats, recreational vehicles, trailers and the like. Vehicles must be sized to fit completely under the canopy.
 - The canopy cannot be used for open storage of any materials.

Off-street parking shall be provided as required in Article IX of this Chapter.

Section 602. R-8 Residential Medium-High Density District. The purpose of the R-8 Residential Medium-High Density District is to provide relatively medium density living areas restricted to immobile single-family, two-family and multi-family dwellings. The regulations are intended to prohibit any use which, because of its character, would interfere with the residential nature of this district. It is expected that municipal water and sewerage facilities will be available to each lot in such districts, or a reasonable expectation of such service in the near future.

602.1 The following uses are permitted:

- All uses permitted in the R-15 Single-Family Residential District.
- Cemeteries.
- Multi-family dwellings and row houses for any number of families.
- Hospitals, convalescent homes, orphanages, nursing homes, and charitable institutions not used primarily for the treatment of contagious diseases, alcoholics or drug addicts.

602.2 Special Uses. The following Special Uses are permitted when authorized by the Granite Falls Board of Adjustment after said Board holds an evidentiary hearing. A Special Use must be proven to not materially endanger public health and safety, to not substantially injure adjoining property values and be in general harmony with the surrounding area. A Special Use Permit may only be granted upon presentation of competent, material and substantial evidence establishing compliance with one or more general standards requiring that judgement and discretion be exercised as well as compliance with specific standards, and in accordance with Section 1107 of this Chapter.

- All Special Uses in the R-15 Single Family Residential District.
- Accessory Dwelling Units, per the requirements of Section 707.

602.3 Dimensional Requirements. Within the R-8 Residential District(s) as shown on the zoning map, the following dimensional requirements shall be complied with:

Minimum lot size with water and sewer: 8,000 sq. ft. (excluding road right of way)

Minimum lot size without water and/or sewer: 20,000 sq. ft. (excluding road right of way)

Minimum lot size for multi-family with water and sewer: 8,000 sq. ft. for the first unit and 3,000 sq. ft. for each additional unit.

Minimum lot size for multi-family without water and sewer: 20,000 sq. ft. for the first unit and 10,000 sq. ft. for each additional unit.

Minimum lot size for duplex with water and sewer: 10,000ft²

- Duplex lot may be divided into two (2) sublots with the following conditions:
 - Standard building setbacks must be maintained on all outer boundaries of the property.
 - Overall width of parent lot must meet the district minimum.
 - The subplot division must align with the shared common wall between the two units.
 - Each unit must have separate utility connections.

Eighty (80) feet minimum mean lot width.

Thirty (30) feet minimum front yard.

Minimum required side yards for a 1 1/2 story building shall be 8 feet; for a 2 or 2 1/2 story building, 12 feet; for a split-level residence, 8 feet on one-story side, 12 feet on the two-story side.

Combined width of both side yards - for a 1 or 1 1/2 story building, 25% lot width; for a split-level residence, 30% lot width; and for a 2 to 2 1/2 story building, 35% lot width.

Minimum required rear yard shall be twenty-five (25) feet.

Buffer Requirement for Multi-Family Uses (excluding duplexes): Upon any side or rear lot line which abuts a residential district or residential use there shall be a densely planted and maintained buffer strip.

No such buffer shall, however, extend nearer to a street right-of-way than the established building line of the adjoining residential lots and no buffer shall be required upon any yard which abuts a public street.

Maximum permissible lot coverage by all impervious surfaces including the principal building, pavement/concrete and all accessory buildings shall be determined by the Water Supply Watershed Protection Regulations (Chapter 151 of the Town Code of Ordinances).

Maximum permissible height by principal building is 35 feet unless the depth of the front and total width of the side yard required herein shall be increased by one foot for each two feet, or fraction thereof, of building height in excess of 35 feet.

Accessory buildings shall not be permitted beyond the front building line of the existing principal structure, excepting the following:

1. Detached garages that match the exterior finish and architectural design of the principal structure shall be allowed beyond the front building line of the existing principal structure so long as it does not extend beyond the average front building line of adjacent properties.
2. Detached canopies may encroach into the front yard a maximum of ten (10') feet, measured from the front facade of the principal structure, but may not encroach into the street right-of-way.
3. For properties under 20,000ft² in size and no more than 100 feet in width at the street a detached canopy may be located in the front yard, without the above limitation, but subject to the following:
 - a. No more than one (1) canopy per lot.
 - b. The canopy must not be enclosed on any side.
 - c. The canopy must be located to serve an existing driveway.
 - d. The size should not exceed the standard size for parking two passenger vehicles.
 - e. The canopy cannot be used for open storage of any materials.

Accessory buildings, other than those detailed above, shall not be erected in any front yard or within 20 feet of any street or highway line. An accessory building or use may be located in a side or rear yard provided it meets the following setbacks from adjacent property lines:

- Five (5') feet for buildings 144ft² or smaller
- Ten (10') feet for buildings larger than 144ft²
- Three (3') feet for detached canopies (carports) that meet the following criteria:
 - No more than one (1) canopy per lot.
 - The canopy must not be enclosed on any side and must be located to serve an existing driveway.
 - The size cannot exceed the standard size for parking two passenger vehicles.
 - The canopy can only be used for storage of motor vehicles, boats, recreational vehicles, trailers and the like. Vehicles must be sized to fit completely under the canopy.
 - The canopy cannot be used for open storage of any materials.

Off-street parking shall be provided as required in Article IX of this Chapter.

Section 603. R-8A Residential High Density District. The purpose of the R-8A District is to provide a relatively high-density living area consisting of single-family detached and attached dwellings and multi-family dwellings. Housing types include both immobile and mobile dwellings, subject to the

applicable housing provisions of this Chapter. The regulations are intended to prohibit any use which, because of its character, would interfere with the residential nature of this district. It is expected that municipal water and sewerage facilities will be available to each lot in such districts, or a reasonable expectation of service in the near future.

603.1 The following uses are permitted:

- All uses permitted in the R-8 Residential Medium Density District.
- Manufactured homes subject to regulations in Section 709.

603.2 Special Uses: Same as R-8

603.3 Dimensional Requirements: Same as R-8

Section 604. R-MH Residential Manufactured Home District. The R-MH Residential Manufactured Home District permits high-density residential development. It is expected that municipal water and sewerage facilities will be available to each lot in this district. The regulations of this district are intended to provide the Granite Falls community with areas of relatively high-density neighborhoods for compact living with planned amenities.

604.1 The following uses are permitted:

- Manufactured home parks, subject to Article VII, Section 710, of this Chapter.
- Manufactured homes shall be allowed subject to appearance criteria set forth in Section 709.

604.2 Special Uses.

- None

604.3 Dimensional Requirements.

All dimensional standards as required by Article VII, Section 710 governing manufactured home parks shall be applicable in the R-MH District.

Maximum permissible lot coverage by all impervious surfaces including the principal building, pavement/concrete and all accessory buildings shall be determined by the Water Supply Watershed Protection Regulations (Chapter 151 of the Town Code of Ordinances).

Section 605. O-I Office & Institutional District. The O-I Office and Institutional District is established to reserve areas for the development of office and institutional uses where the scale is compatible with that of the adjacent uses and where infrastructure is adequate to serve those uses. A mixture of office and residential uses is permitted in the O-I District. This District may serve to provide for a mixture of uses along thoroughfares where the predominant use is commercial or may serve as a transition between residential and commercial areas. Due to the location of this district near residential areas, uses in this district shall conduct most of their activities during daylight hours.

605.1 Permitted Uses. The following uses are permitted, provided such uses do not exceed twenty-five hundred (2500ft²) square feet of gross floor area:

- Single family dwellings, excluding manufactured homes
- Arboretums
- Governmental recreational uses
- Adult day care home
- Adult day health home
- Child day care home
- Child day care center, small
- Child day care center, medium
- Church/Religious institution
- Library
- Advertising agency
- Detective Agencies
- Financial Institutions/Banks
- Interior Designers
- Barber shops/salons
- Health, spa and fitness facilities
- Medical/Dental Clinic
- Medical/Dental Lab
- Music Studio
- Office, Accounting
- Office, Architect
- Office, Auditor/Bookkeeper
- Office, Contractor
- Office, Engineer
- Office, Insurance agency
- Office, Legal services
- Office, Mail order
- Office, Management
- Office, medical, dental, psychiatric
- Office, Professional
- Office, Real estate
- Office, Surveyor
- Personnel services
- Public relations firm
- Radio/TV studios
- Studios, galleries and workshops for artists, craftspeople, designers, photographers
- Travel agency

605.2 Special Uses. The following Special Uses are permitted when authorized by the Granite Falls Board of Adjustment after said Board holds an evidentiary hearing. A Special Use must be proven to not materially endanger public health and safety, to not substantially injure adjoining property values

and be in general harmony with the surrounding area. A Special Use Permit may only be granted upon presentation of competent, material and substantial evidence establishing compliance with one or more general standards requiring that judgement and discretion be exercised as well as compliance with specific standards, and in accordance with Section 1107 of this Chapter.

- Uses not otherwise named herein which come within the spirit or intent of the Office & Institutional District or which have a gross floor area in excess of twenty-five hundred (2500ft²) square feet.
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 3. Additional parking and access points may be required.
 4. Any associated signage and exterior lighting shall be designed to reduce glare and to mitigate any adverse effects of sign size and height in order to make the property aesthetically pleasing and compatible with the residential character of surrounding properties.
- Customary accessory uses and structures when located on the same lot as the main structure, excluding open storage. Additional screening may be required.
- Planned Developments (per the requirements of Section 804)

605.3 Dimensional Requirements.

No minimum mean lot width required, except that where a lot abuts any residential district there shall be a side yard or a rear yard clearance of at least 15 feet; a side yard of 20 feet is required on the street side of a corner lot.

Upon any side or rear lot line which abuts a residential district there shall be a densely planted and maintained buffer strip. No such buffer shall, however, extend nearer to a street right-of-way than the building setback line of the adjoining residential lots, and no buffer shall be required upon any yard which abuts a public street.

Minimum front yard setback of thirty-five (35) feet.

No building shall exceed forty (40') feet in height unless the depth of the front and total width of the side yards required herein shall be increased by one foot for each two feet, or fraction thereof, of building height in excess of 40 feet. In no case shall a building exceed fifty (50') feet in height.

Maximum permissible lot coverage by all impervious surfaces including the principal building, pavement/concrete and all accessory buildings shall be determined by the Water Supply Watershed Protection Regulations (Chapter 151 of the Town Code of Ordinances).

Off street parking shall be provided as required in Article IX of this Chapter.

Section 606. N-B Neighborhood Business District. The Neighborhood Business District is established to reserve areas for low intensity business centers which are accessible to pedestrians from the surrounding residential neighborhood. The intent of the district is to provide for the daily convenience and personal service needs of the surrounding residential neighborhood while minimizing conflicts

between residential and commercial uses. This district is designed to be located within or adjacent to residential neighborhoods where large commercial operations are inappropriate, but where small neighborhood-oriented businesses are useful and desirable.

606.1 The following uses are permitted: Provided such uses do not exceed twenty-five hundred (2500ft²) square feet of gross floor area.

- Antique Shops
- Banks and other financial institutions.
- Barbershops and beauty shops.
- Bakeries, retail.
- Boarding houses and tourist homes.
- Delicatessens
- Drug stores
- Dry cleaning or laundry pickup stations
- Dry goods stores.
- Florists and gift shops.
- Furniture and household appliance stores.
- Hardware stores.
- Laundromats and similar automatic laundries.
- Grocery, food, produce and meat stores.
- Greenhouse or horticultural nurseries.
- Electrical repair shops and electronic products.
- Jewelry repair shops and opticians.
- Libraries, museums and art galleries.
- Medical and dental clinics and laboratories.
- Medium child day care centers.
- Small day care centers.
- Newspaper offices.
- Offices, business, professional and public.
- Office supplies and equipment, sales and services.
- Photographic studios and camera supply stores.
- Religious institutions
- Shoe repair and shine shops.
- Tailor and dressmaking shops.
- Telephone and telegraphic offices.

606.2 Special Uses: The following Special Uses are permitted when authorized by the Granite Falls Board of Adjustment after said Board holds an evidentiary hearing. A Special Use must be proven to not materially endanger public health and safety, to not substantially injure adjoining property values and be in general harmony with the surrounding area. A Special Use Permit may only be granted upon presentation of competent, material and substantial evidence establishing compliance with one or more general standards requiring that judgement and discretion be exercised as well as compliance with specific standards, and in accordance with Section 1107 of this Chapter.

- Uses not otherwise named herein which come within the spirit or intent of this district or which have a gross floor area in excess of twenty-five hundred (2500ft²) square feet.
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 3. Additional parking and access points may be required.
 4. Any associated signage and exterior lighting shall be designed to reduce glare and to mitigate any adverse effects of sign size and height in order to make the property aesthetically pleasing and compatible with the residential character of surrounding properties.

- Eating establishments/restaurants (as defined in Article IV)
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 3. Additional parking and access points may be required.
 4. Any associated signage and exterior lighting shall be designed to reduce glare and to mitigate any adverse effects of sign size and height in order to make the property aesthetically pleasing and compatible with the residential character of surrounding properties.

- Civic or private clubs (as defined in Article IV)
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 3. Additional parking and access points may be required.
 4. Any associated signage and exterior lighting shall be designed to reduce glare and to mitigate any adverse effects of sign size and height in order to make the property aesthetically pleasing and compatible with the residential character of surrounding properties.

- Planned Developments (per the requirements of Section 804)

- Service stations and convenience stores with fuel pumps, provided that:
 1. All fuel pumps and other stationary equipment shall be located at least 12 feet behind the property line.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 3. Additional parking and access points may be required.
 4. Any associated signage and exterior lighting shall be designed to reduce glare and to mitigate any adverse effects of sign size and height in order to make the property aesthetically pleasing and compatible with the residential character of surrounding properties.

- Animal hospitals or veterinary clinics.
 - A minimum lot size of one (1) acre shall be required.
 - Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 - Additional parking and access points may be required.

- Any associated signage and exterior lighting shall be designed to reduce glare and to mitigate any adverse effects of sign size and height in order to make the property aesthetically pleasing and compatible with the residential character of surrounding properties.
- Customary accessory uses and structures when located on the same lot as the main structure, excluding open storage. Additional screening may be required.

606.3. Dimensional Requirements. Within the N-B District as shown on the Granite Falls zoning map, the following dimensional requirements shall be complied with:

No minimum mean lot width required, except that where a lot abuts any residential district there shall be a side yard or a rear yard clearance of at least 15 feet; a side yard of 20 feet is required on the street side of a corner lot. Furthermore, upon any side or rear lot line which abuts a residential district there shall be a densely planted and maintained buffer strip. No such buffer shall, however, extend nearer to a street right-of-way than the building setback line of the adjoining residential lots, and no buffer shall be required upon any yard which abuts a public street.

Thirty-five (35) feet minimum front yard setback.

Height regulations for buildings and structures in the Neighborhood Business District hereafter erected or structurally altered to exceed forty (40') feet in height shall be set back from the lot line on the ratio of one foot for each two feet rise above forty feet. In no case shall a building exceed fifty (50') feet in height.

Accessory buildings within the N-B Neighborhood Business District shall conform to the dimensional requirements set forth for principal structures.

Maximum permissible lot coverage by all impervious surfaces including the principal building, pavement/concrete and all accessory buildings shall be determined by the Water Supply Watershed Protection Regulations (Chapter 151 of the Town Code of Ordinances).

Off-street parking shall be provided as required in Article IX of this Chapter.

Section 607. C-B Central Business District. The Central Business District is established as the centrally located trade and commercial service area of Granite Falls. The regulations of this district are designed to encourage the continued use of land for community trade and commercial service uses, and to permit a concentrated development of permitted uses while maintaining a substantial relationship between the intensity of land uses and the capacity of utilities and streets.

607.1. The following uses are permitted:

- All uses permitted in the Office and Institutional District (O-I) and Neighborhood Business District (N-B), except kindergartens and day nurseries, rest and convalescent homes, religious institutions, animal hospitals or veterinary clinics, and greenhouses or horticultural nurseries.
- Alcoholic beverage control stores.

- Automobile parts and supplies, excluding auto repair, open storage of tires and storage of wrecked and/or inoperable vehicles
- Automobile parking lots and structures.
- Automotive car wash/detail shop.
- Business colleges, barber and beauty colleges, art schools, music and dance studios and similar uses.
- Dairy bars and ice cream manufacturing for retail sales on the premises only.
- Eating establishments/restaurants
- Feed and seed stores.
- Locksmiths and gunsmiths.
- Outdoor displays including merchandise and all others (excluding newspaper stands and vending machines). Must be located on the sidewalk within the side property boundary lines and within the first three (3) feet of the storefront or four (4) feet from the curb face, whichever is less from the storefront. Also no merchandise shall be allowed on the sidewalk between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. (Amended March 20, 2000)
- Retail establishments such as department, clothing, fabric, variety, floor covering, paint, antique, art supplies, gift, music, toy, sporting goods, books and stationary, magazine, candy, tobacco, pet and hobby and craft stores, but not excluding similar retail outlets.
- Taxicab stands.
- Theaters, indoor.
- Customary accessory uses and structures, when located on the same lot as the principal structures, excluding open storage.

607.2. Special Uses. The following Special Uses are permitted when authorized by the Granite Falls Board of Adjustment after said Board holds an evidentiary hearing. A Special Use must be proven to not materially endanger public health and safety, to not substantially injure adjoining property values and be in general harmony with the surrounding area. A Special Use Permit may only be granted upon presentation of competent, material and substantial evidence establishing compliance with one or more general standards requiring that judgement and discretion be exercised as well as compliance with specific standards, and in accordance with Section 1107 of this Chapter.

- Mixed Uses combining residential dwellings and commercial uses, provided that no residential use may be allowed on the primary floor of the structure (street level).
 - Residential unit must be a minimum of eight hundred (800ft²) square feet in size and meet all applicable Building and Fire Code standards.
 - Each residential unit must make provision for one (1) off-street, non-public parking space.
 - Conditions for rooftop decks or balconies over a public sidewalk shall be as follows:
 1. In no instance shall a balcony extend farther than one (1) foot from the front façade of the building or wider than one (1) foot on either side of an inward swinging door.
 2. Rooftop decks and balconies must be approved and sealed by an engineer and designed to meet all Building Code requirements for safety.
 3. Commercial signage shall not be attached to a rooftop deck or balcony that is an accessory to a residential use.
- Planned Developments (per the requirements of Section 804)

- Recreation and amusement facility
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 3. Hours of operation may be limited based on surrounding land uses and proximity to residential properties.
- Wine Shop/Wine Bar - An establishment that offers various wines for sale by the glass, for on premise consumption and by the bottle, for off premise consumption.

-or-

Craft Beer Bottle Shop/Taproom - An establishment that offers various craft beers for sale by the glass, for on premise consumption and by the bottle, for off premise consumption.

1. Sales of mixed beverages for on premise consumption prohibited.
2. Hours of operation for on premise consumption of wine/craft beer limited to the following:
 - a. Monday through Thursday 11am-11pm
 - b. Friday and Saturday 11am-12 Midnight
 - c. Sundays 1pm-10pm
 - d. Extended Hours for Special Events: Closing time extended to 1am for a maximum of twelve (12) special events per calendar year. Establishment shall provide advance notice of special events. Examples of Special Events can include holidays, private parties and fund raisers for non-profits.
3. On premise consumption prohibited outside the building, with the exception of outdoor seating areas located on the same property as the business. Outdoor seating areas shall be clearly defined and physically separated from adjacent properties, public spaces and parking areas.
4. Small scale brewing (nano-brewery: max. batch size of 3 barrels) allowed as accessory use.
5. Must comply with all other Local, State and Federal laws.

607.3. Dimensional Requirements. Within the C-B Central Business District as shown on the Granite Falls zoning map, the following dimensional requirements shall be complied with:

No minimum lot width required, except that where lot abuts a residential district there shall be a side yard or a rear yard clearance of at least 15 feet; a side yard of 20 feet is required on the street side of a corner lot. In addition, upon any side or rear lot line which abuts a residential district there shall be a densely planted and maintained buffer strip. No such buffer shall, however, extend nearer to a street right-of-way line than the established building line of the adjoining residential lots, and no buffer shall be required upon any yard which abuts a public street.

No minimum front yard setback required.

Height regulations for buildings and structures in the C-B Central Business District hereafter erected or structurally altered to exceed 80 feet in height shall be set back from the front line on the ratio of one (1') foot for each two (2') foot rise above said 80 feet.

Maximum permissible lot coverage by all impervious surfaces including the principal building, pavement/concrete and all accessory buildings shall be determined by the Water Supply Watershed Protection Regulations (Chapter 151 of the Town Code of Ordinances).

Off-street parking and loading shall be provided as required in Article IX of this Chapter.

Section 608. H-B Highway Business District. The H-B Highway Business Districts are located on major thoroughfares and collector streets in the Granite Falls planning and development regulation jurisdiction. They are intended to provide for offices, personal services and the retailing of durable and convenience goods for the community. Because these commercial uses are subject to public view and are important to the economy of the community, they should have ample parking, controlled traffic movement, pedestrian connectivity and suitable landscaping.

608.1 The following uses are permitted:

- All uses permitted in the O-I District, C-B District and N-B District, excluding multi-family and two-family dwelling.
- Animal hospitals or veterinary clinics, provided there is a minimum lot size of one (1) acre and no outdoor boarding of animals. Outdoor recreation yards must maintain a twenty (20') buffer strip when adjacent to residential property.
- Animal lodging or boarding facilities or commercial kennels, provided there is a minimum lot size of one (1) acre and no outdoor boarding of animals. Outdoor recreation yards must maintain a twenty (20') buffer strip when adjacent to residential property.
- Assembly halls, coliseums, gymnasiums and similar structures.
- Automobile parts and supplies, repair garages, excluding open storage of wrecked vehicles and tires.
- Automobile, recreational vehicle and manufactured home sales lots
- Automotive car wash/detail shops
- Bakeries and other establishments manufacturing prepared foods and miscellaneous food products.
- Boat works and sales.
- Breweries, Distilleries and Wineries.
- Building supply and equipment sales.
- Club, civic
- Club, private
- Customary accessory uses and structures when located on the same lot as the main structure, excluding open storage.
- Trucking terminals/distribution centers.
- Cold storage and freezer lockers.
- Fabricating shops, for example, wood products, textiles including furniture and metal products.
- Greenhouses or horticultural nurseries.
- Funeral homes or mortuaries.
- Large child care centers.
- Medium child day care center.
- Small day care center.

- Small day care homes.
- Adult day care facilities.
- Adult day care centers.
- Adult day care home.
- Adult day health home.
- Parking lots and parking garages
- Plumbing shops but excluding open storage.
- Printing, publishing and reproducing establishments.
- Recreation and amusement facility
- Rest and convalescent homes.
- Sexually oriented businesses as defined in Chapter 17 of the Town Code. Provided however:
 - a) No more than one (1) sexually oriented business can be located within a two thousand (2,000) foot radius (determined by a straight line and not street distance from the front entrance door of the sexually oriented business) from any other sexually oriented business.
 - b) No sexually oriented business can be located within a one thousand five hundred (1,500) foot radius (determined by a straight line and not street distance) of the closest boundary line of any residential district within the Town's zoning jurisdiction, and any church, school, day care, public park or playground within or without the Town's zoning jurisdiction.
 - c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter a sexually oriented business is permitted only in the H-B Highway Business District.
- Sign painting and fabricating shops.
- Tailor, dressmaking and millinery shops.
- Wholesale and warehouse establishments except for the storage of uncured hides, explosives, oil products, gas storage, etc.

608.2 Special Uses: The following Special Uses are permitted when authorized by the Granite Falls Board of Adjustment after said Board holds an evidentiary hearing. A Special Use must be proven to not materially endanger public health and safety, to not substantially injure adjoining property values and be in general harmony with the surrounding area. A Special Use Permit may only be granted upon presentation of competent, material and substantial evidence establishing compliance with one or more general standards requiring that judgement and discretion be exercised as well as compliance with specific standards, and in accordance with Section 1107 of this Chapter.

- Uses not otherwise named herein which come within the spirit or intent of this ordinance.
- Cellular towers (per the requirements of Section 803).
- Hotels, inns and motels.
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 3. Additional parking and access points may be required.
- Live music venues
 1. Parking, buffering, screening and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.

2. Minimum of two hundred (200') feet of separation from any residential zoning district, measured as a straight-line distance from the nearest limit of the residential zoning district to the nearest exterior wall of the business.
 3. Hours of operation may be limited based on surrounding land uses and proximity to residential properties.
 4. Additional measures to reduce or minimize noise levels may be required to protect nearby residential properties.
- Package stores
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 3. Hours of operation limited to 7am to 2am, Monday through Friday, 7am to 12 midnight on Saturday and closed on Sunday.
 - Planned Developments (per the requirements of Section 804)
 - Theatres, drive-in, subject to the following:
 - (a) No part of the theatre screen, projection booth, or other building shall be located closer than 500 feet to any residential district nor closer than 50 feet of any property line or public right-of-way; and no parking space shall be located closer than 100 feet to any residential district;
 - (b) The theatre screen shall not face a major street or highway; and reserve parking space off the street shall be provided for patrons awaiting admission in an amount of not less than thirty percent (30%) of the vehicular capacity of the theatre.
 - Wholesale storage of gasoline and oil products, including bottled gas and oxygen, provided the permit is obtained from the Bureau of Fire Prevention as required by the Fire Prevention Code.
 1. All storage tanks and loading facilities must be located a minimum of one hundred (100') feet from any exterior property line.
 2. The facility must have direct access to a public road.
 3. Minimum setback of two hundred (200') feet from any perennial stream, river or lake for facilities located within the Protected Area of the WS-IV Water Supply Watershed Protection Area. Minimum setback of three hundred (300') feet for facilities located within the Critical Area of the WS-IV Water Supply Watershed Protection Area. This area must be kept in a naturally vegetated and undisturbed state.

608.3 Dimensional requirements: Within the H-B District, as shown on the Granite Falls zoning map, the following dimensional requirements shall be complied with:

- No minimum mean lot width required, except that where a lot abuts any residential district there shall be a side yard or rear yard clearance of at least 15 feet; a side yard of 20 feet is required in the street side of a corner lot. Furthermore, buildings used for residential purposes shall comply with the dimensional requirements of the R-8 Residential District; buildings used wholly or in part for permitted nonresidential uses shall meet the dimensional requirements for the district in which they are located. Furthermore, upon any side or rear lot line which abuts a residential district there shall be a densely planted and maintained buffer strip. No such buffer shall, however, extend nearer to a street right-of-way than the established building line of the adjoining residential lots and no buffer shall be required upon any yard which abuts a public street.

Thirty-five feet minimum front yard setback required.

No building shall exceed 50 feet in height unless the depth of the front and total width of the side yards required herein shall be increased by one foot for each two feet, or fraction thereof, of building height in excess of 50 feet.

Maximum permissible lot coverage by all impervious surfaces including the principal building, pavement/concrete and all accessory buildings shall be determined by the Water Supply Watershed Protection Regulations (Chapter 151 of the Town Code of Ordinances).

Off-street parking and loading shall be provided as required in Article IX of this Chapter.

Section 609. M-1 General Industrial District. This district provides a place for the location of industrial and other uses which would be incompatible with general business areas. It is intended to permit in this district any use which is not inherently obnoxious to urban areas because of noise, odor, smoke, light, dust or the use of dangerous materials.

609.1. The following uses are permitted:

- Any use permitted in the H-B District.
- Any lawful retail, repair, or wholesaling use, not specifically referred to in this section.
- Gasoline, oil or fuel storage above ground, provided permit is obtained from the Bureau of Fire Prevention as required by the Fire Prevention Code.
- Tire recapping and retreading shops
- Hatcheries.
- Manufacture, processing or fabrication of the following products:
 - Animal feeds
 - Bedding, carpets, and pillows
 - Clothing, including hosiery
 - Electrical and electronic products
 - Foods and food products, including abattoirs
 - Glass
 - Household appliances
 - Leather goods, not including processing or storage of raw hides
 - Machine tools
 - Metals and metal products
 - Paints
 - Paper products, not including the manufacturing or processing of paper
 - Plastics
 - Pottery, porcelain and vitreous china
 - Rubber products, not to include the processing or manufacture of rubber
 - Soap, detergent and washing compounds
 - Textiles
 - Wood and wood products, including furniture

609.2. Special Uses. The following Special Uses are permitted when authorized by the Granite Falls Board of Adjustment after said Board holds an evidentiary hearing. A Special Use must be proven to not materially endanger public health and safety, to not substantially injure adjoining property values and be in general harmony with the surrounding area. A Special Use Permit may only be granted upon presentation of competent, material and substantial evidence establishing compliance with one or more general standards requiring that judgement and discretion be exercised as well as compliance with specific standards, and in accordance with Section 1107 of this Chapter.

- Manufacturing uses not otherwise named herein which come within the spirit and intent of this Chapter.
- Cellular towers (see Section 803).
- Stone cutting and polishing, but not including, crushing, mining or quarrying.
- Planned Developments (per the requirements of Section 804)
- Metal Recycling Facility, where scrap metal materials are collected from the general public and stored temporarily prior to shipment to a processing facility, including expansion of existing facilities, subject to the following:
 1. Minimum lot size of ten (10) acres for facilities located within the Protected Area of the WS-IV Water Supply Watershed Protection Area. Minimum lot size of twenty (20) acres for facilities located within the Critical Area of the WS-IV Water Supply Watershed Protection Area.
 2. Must be located two thousand (2,000') feet from another metal recycling facility, measured as a straight-line distance between property lines.
 3. The site must have direct access to a public road.
 4. Minimum setback of two hundred (200') feet from the property line of any adjacent parcel that is either zoned residential or used for residential.
 5. Within the above described setback, a vegetative buffer of at least eight (8') feet in height at time of planting is required. Existing vegetation may be allowed to fulfill this requirement if it is of sufficient height and opacity.
 6. Minimum setback of two hundred (200') feet from any perennial stream, river or lake for facilities located within the Protected Area of the WS-IV Water Supply Watershed Protection Area. Minimum setback of three hundred (300') feet for facilities located within the Critical Area of the WS-IV Water Supply Watershed Protection Area. This area must be kept in a naturally vegetated and undisturbed state.
 7. The entire facility must be surrounded by an opaque fence (or similarly opaque structure or vegetation), at least eight (8') feet in height to screen the property from public roads and other non-residential properties.
 8. Additional landscaping may be required outside of the fence for the portion that faces the public road.

9. Hours of operation limited to 7am-7pm Monday through Friday, 8am-3pm on Saturday and Closed on Sunday.
10. Scrap metal, auto parts or any other salvaged material may not be offered for sale on site.
11. No portion of the operation may be located within a designated flood zone as shown on most recent Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).
12. The entire operational area of the facility shall not exceed three (3) acres in total.
13. The facility must be maintained in full compliance with its required NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) General Industrial Stormwater Permit issued by NCDEQ (North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality).

609.3. Dimensional Requirements. Within the M-1 General Industrial District(s) as shown on the zoning map, the following dimensional requirements shall be complied with:

The minimum lot area for the M-1 General Industrial District shall be one (1) acre.

The minimum mean lot width shall be 200 feet (200').

Minimum front yard setback shall be 50 feet.

Minimum of 15 feet for side yard on each side of every principal building. When adjacent property is also in the M-1 District, the side yard setback shall be 5 feet.

Minimum of 20 feet required for rear setback. When adjoining property is also in the M-1 District, the rear yard setback shall be 5 feet.

Maximum permissible lot coverage by all impervious surfaces including the principal building, pavement/concrete and all accessory buildings shall be determined by the Water Supply Watershed Protection Regulations (Chapter 151 of the Town Code of Ordinances).

No building shall exceed sixty-five (65) feet in height unless the depth of the front and total width of the side yards herein specified shall be increased by one foot for each two feet or fraction thereof of building height in excess of sixty-five (65) feet.

Off-street parking as required by this Chapter may be permitted in required yards but shall be no closer than ten (10) feet from the front property line or any dedicated street or railroad right-of-way line.

Screening requirements. Whenever any M-1 district rear and/or side property line abuts upon a residential district or site of institutional use with no intervening street or highway or natural buffer, any buildings or parking area used for industrial purposes shall maintain a buffer strip of twenty (20) feet and within a portion of the buffer strip there shall be planted a contiguous screen of evergreen plants with an initial height of at least six (6) feet.

Off-street parking and loading shall be provided as required in Article IX of this Chapter.

Section 610. R-20 Residential Low Density District. The R-20 Residential District is established as a district in which the principal use of the land is for low density residential and agricultural purposes, and to provide and protect low density residential areas for those desiring that type of environment. These districts are intended to ensure that residential development not having access to public water supplies and dependent upon septic tanks for sewage disposal will occur at a sufficiently low density to provide a healthful environment.

610.1. The following uses are permitted:

- Any use allowed in the R-15 District.
- Religious institutions located not less than thirty (30) feet from any lot in any residential district.
- Cemeteries.

610.2. Special Uses. The following Special Uses are permitted when authorized by the Granite Falls Board of Adjustment after said Board holds an evidentiary hearing. A Special Use must be proven to not materially endanger public health and safety, to not substantially injure adjoining property values and be in general harmony with the surrounding area. A Special Use Permit may only be granted upon presentation of competent, material and substantial evidence establishing compliance with one or more general standards requiring that judgement and discretion be exercised as well as compliance with specific standards, and in accordance with Section 1107 of this Chapter.

- Any Special Use allowed in the R-15 District.
- Any residential accessory structure exceeding the size requirements of Article VII, Section 707 and meeting the following criteria:
 - The property is larger than five (5) acres in size and contains a single-family dwelling.
 - The property may not be subdivided to the extent that the principal structure and accessory structure(s) remain on a parcel of land less than five (5) acres in size.
 - The structure is not used for commercial purposes.
 - The structure is located as near to the center of the property as possible. This shall be demonstrated by the presentation of a sketch plan showing the proposed location of the structure(s).
 - Architectural elements similar to those of the principal structure (single family home) may be required.
 - Buffering and screening may be required in order to insure compatibility with the residential character of surrounding properties.
- Planned developments (per the requirements of Section 804)

610.3. Dimensional requirements.

Minimum lot size with water and sewer: 15,000 sq. ft. (excluding road right of way)

Minimum lot size with water and/or sewer: 20,000 sq. ft. (excluding road right of way)

Maximum permissible lot coverage by all impervious surfaces including the principal building, pavement/concrete and all accessory buildings shall be determined by the Water Supply Watershed Protection Regulations (Chapter 151 of the Town Code of Ordinances).

Minimum required mean lot width: 100 feet.

Forty (40) feet minimum required front yard setback.

The minimum required side yard on each side of every principal building shall be at least fifteen (15) feet, except that any side yard abutting a street shall be not less than thirty (30) feet.

Minimum required rear yard: 25 feet.

Maximum permissible lot coverage by all impervious surfaces including the principal building, pavement/concrete and all accessory buildings shall be determined by the Water Supply Watershed Protection Regulations (Chapter 151 of the Town Code of Ordinances).

Accessory buildings shall not be permitted beyond the front building line of the existing principal structure, excepting the following:

1. Detached garages that match the exterior finish and architectural design of the principal structure shall be allowed beyond the front building line of the existing principal structure so long as it does not extend beyond the average front building line of adjacent properties.
2. Detached canopies may encroach into the front yard a maximum of ten (10') feet, measured from the front facade of the principal structure, but may not encroach into the street right-of-way.
3. For properties under 20,000ft² in size and no more than 100 feet in width at the street a detached canopy may be located in the front yard, without the above limitation, but subject to the following:
 - a. No more than one (1) canopy per lot.
 - b. The canopy must not be enclosed on any side.
 - c. The canopy must be located to serve an existing driveway.
 - d. The size should not exceed the standard size for parking two passenger vehicles.
 - e. The canopy cannot be used for open storage of any materials.

Accessory buildings, other than those detailed above, shall not be erected in any front yard or within 20 feet of any street or highway line. An accessory building or use may be located in a side or rear yard provided it meets the following setbacks from adjacent property lines:

- Five (5') feet for buildings 144ft² or smaller
- Ten (10') feet for buildings larger than 144ft²
- Three (3') feet for detached canopies (carports) that meet the following criteria:
 - No more than one (1) canopy per lot.
 - The canopy must not be enclosed on any side and must be located to serve an existing driveway.
 - The size cannot exceed the standard size for parking two passenger vehicles.
 - The canopy can only be used for storage of motor vehicles, boats, recreational vehicles, trailers and the like. Vehicles must be sized to fit completely under the canopy.
 - The canopy cannot be used for open storage of any materials.

No building shall exceed thirty-five (35) feet in height.

Off-street parking shall be provided as required in Article IX of this Chapter.

Section 611. R-20A Residential Medium Density District. This district is composed of medium density residential development and of open areas which are used as farmland and woodland. The regulations of this district are intended (1) to insure that residential development not having access to public water supplies and dependent upon septic tanks for sewage disposal will occur at sufficiently medium densities to insure a healthful environment and (2) to protect agricultural and residential areas from an influx of incompatible uses which would render such areas undesirable for farms and future development.

611.1 The following uses are permitted:

- Any use allowed in R-20 Residential District.
- Two-family dwelling units.
- Public and private elementary and secondary schools having curricula approximately the same as ordinarily given in public schools.
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.

611.2 Special Uses. The following Special Uses are permitted when authorized by the Granite Falls Board of Adjustment after said Board holds an evidentiary hearing. A Special Use must be proven to not materially endanger public health and safety, to not substantially injure adjoining property values and be in general harmony with the surrounding area. A Special Use Permit may only be granted upon presentation of competent, material and substantial evidence establishing compliance with one or more general standards requiring that judgement and discretion be exercised as well as compliance with specific standards, and in accordance with Section 1107 of this Chapter.

- All Special Uses in the R-20 Residential Low Density District.
- Manufactured homes (individual or multi-sectional)
 1. Must meet the requirements of Section 709.
 2. Additional buffering or screening may be required.
- Multi family dwelling units.
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 3. Additional parking and access points may be required.
 4. Any associated signage and exterior lighting shall be designed to reduce glare and to mitigate any adverse effects of sign size and height in order to make the property aesthetically pleasing and compatible with the residential character of surrounding properties.
- Child day care facilities (all sizes).
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 3. Additional parking and access points may be required.

4. Any associated signage and exterior lighting shall be designed to reduce glare and to mitigate any adverse effects of sign size and height in order to make the property aesthetically pleasing and compatible with the residential character of surrounding properties.
- Adult day care center.
 - Cultural Community Centers which are designed to promote cultural preservation and advancement through educational, social or other cultural activities (provided that such facilities are not operated for profit).
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Minimum lot size of three (3) acres.
 3. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 4. Additional measures may be required in order to ensure compatibility with adjacent properties (i.e. hours of operation, parking, signage, etc.).

611.3 Dimensional Requirements.

Minimum lot size with water and sewer: 15,000 sq. ft. (excluding road right of way)

Minimum lot size with water and/or sewer: 20,000 sq. ft. (excluding road right of way)

Minimum lot size for multi family with water and sewer: 15,000 sq. ft. for the first unit plus 5,000 sq. ft. for each additional unit.

Minimum lot size for multi family without water and sewer: 20,000 sq. ft. for the first unit plus 10,000 sq. ft. for each additional unit.

One hundred (100) feet minimum required mean lot width per dwelling unit.

Forty (40) feet minimum required front yard setback.

Minimum required side yards setback for the principal building shall be at least fifteen (15) feet, except that any side yard abutting a street shall be not less than thirty (30) feet.

Minimum required rear yard shall be twenty-five (25) feet.

Buffer Requirement for Multi-Family Uses (excluding duplexes): Upon any side or rear lot line which abuts a residential district or residential use there shall be a densely planted and maintained buffer strip. No such buffer shall, however, extend nearer to a street right-of-way than the established building line of the adjoining residential lots and no buffer shall be required upon any yard which abuts a public street.

Maximum permissible lot coverage by all impervious surfaces including the principal building, pavement/concrete and all accessory buildings shall be determined by the Water Supply Watershed Protection Regulations (Chapter 151 of the Town Code of Ordinances).

Location of accessory buildings. Accessory buildings shall not be permitted beyond the front building line of the existing principal structure, excepting the following:

1. Detached garages that match the exterior finish and architectural design of the principal structure shall be allowed beyond the front building line of the existing principal structure so long as it does not extend beyond the average front building line of adjacent properties.
2. Detached canopies may encroach into the front yard a maximum of ten (10') feet, measured from the front facade of the principal structure, but may not encroach into the street right-of-way.
3. For properties under 20,000ft² in size and no more than 100 feet in width at the street a detached canopy may be located in the front yard, without the above limitation, but subject to the following:
 - a. No more than one (1) canopy per lot.
 - b. The canopy must not be enclosed on any side.
 - c. The canopy must be located to serve an existing driveway.
 - d. The size should not exceed the standard size for parking two passenger vehicles.
 - e. The canopy cannot be used for open storage of any materials.

Accessory buildings, other than those detailed above, shall not be erected in any front yard or within 20 feet of any street or highway line. An accessory building or use may be located in a side or rear yard provided it meets the following setbacks from adjacent property lines:

- Five (5') feet for buildings 144ft² or smaller
- Ten (10') feet for buildings larger than 144ft²
- Three (3') feet for detached canopies (carports) that meet the following criteria:
 - No more than one (1) canopy per lot.
 - The canopy must not be enclosed on any side and must be located to serve an existing driveway.
 - The size cannot exceed the standard size for parking two passenger vehicles.
 - The canopy can only be used for storage of motor vehicles, boats, recreational vehicles, trailers and the like. Vehicles must be sized to fit completely under the canopy.
 - The canopy cannot be used for open storage of any materials.

No building shall exceed thirty-five (35) feet in height.

Off-street parking shall be provided as required in Article IX of this Chapter.

Section 612. Traditional Neighborhood Design District

Sec. 612.1 Purpose

The purposes of these regulations are to lessen congestion in the streets, to secure safety from fire, panic and other dangers, to promote health and the general welfare, to provide adequate light and air, to prevent the overcrowding of land, and to avoid undue concentration of population, to facilitate the adequate and economic provision of transportation, water, sewerage, schools, parks and other public requirements, to conserve the value of buildings, and encourage the most appropriate use of land throughout the town, in accordance with the adopted Land Use Plan.

Sec. 612.2 Approval Process

All new developments using the Traditional Design option shall be currently zoned Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND).

The review and approval process for a development using the Traditional Design option is the same as a standard residential subdivision process as outlined in the Granite Falls Subdivision Ordinance. Plans shall include a separate plat, labeled "Proposed Use Districts", illustrating how each property or section thereof is to be used within the project. The use districts are outlined in "Subsection D" of this ordinance.

Sec. 612.3 General Requirements

- 1) **Frontage** of at least 35 feet on a public street is required for all lots. See 86.5.a
- 2) **Project Size** shall be a minimum of five (5) acres.
- 3) **Development Intensity** in the Traditional Neighborhood Development district shall meet the following standards:
 - single house lots, non-residential lots outside of planned open space developments, and lots in exempt subdivisions require a minimum lot size of 20,000 square feet and a minimum lot width 100 feet; no open space requirement.
 - The number of housing units which may be built in a major or minor subdivision using the Traditional Design option varies according to the utilities provided and location within a municipal water supply watershed. The basic density for projects utilizing the Traditional Design option is calculated across the entire project, and requires the preservation of at least 15% of the gross area of the tract as open space. Dwellings are expected to be clustered; projects may include a mixture of the building and lot types as permitted in this section. See 86.4.1.d.3
 - The following example chart is based on a 100 acre tract; PA is Protected Area and CA is Critical Area within a water supply watershed:

<i>Project Area</i>	<i>Density in DU/A</i>	<i>Percent Open Space</i>	<i>Maximum Dwelling Units</i>	<i>Minimum Lot Size</i>	<i>Minimum Lot Width</i>
WS-PA w/water & sewer	3.0	15%	300	N/A	N/A
WS-PA w/o sewer	1.5	15%	150	N/A	N/A
WS-CA w/water & sewer	2.0	15%	200	N/A	N/A
WS-CA w/o sewer	1.0	15%	100	N/A	N/A

- individual lots of less than 20,000 square feet and/or 100' width, existing prior to the effective date of this ordinance, are construed to be conforming.

See 86.4.1.d.4

- 4) **Open Space** is defined as any area which is not divided into private or civic building lots, streets, rights-of-way, parking, or easements established for purposes other than open space conservation, grass waterways, or floodplains. Urban Open Space shall assume one or more of the forms detailed in Subsection F(e) Urban Open Space, and may contain recreation equipment and amenities as indicated. Rural Open Space is site specific in its designation. Golf courses and other neighborhood and outdoor recreational uses which are designed and sited to preserve rural appearance, will be classified, in whole or in part, as rural open space. See 86.4.1.d.1

- 5) Determination of rural open space(s) to be preserved will be based on a site specific analysis to identify scenic vistas and features of the natural and built landscape of Granite Falls and its environs. These are considered rural heritage features, examples of which are:

See 86.4.1.d.2

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| groves of mature trees | hedgerows | rock outcroppings |
| cultivated fields | ponds | woods |
| pastures | bridges | fence lines |
| rolling hills | farm buildings | curves in rural roads |

In the Traditional Design option, at least 75% of the open space counted toward the basic open space requirement shall be set aside to maintain public views of rural heritage features. Up to 25% of the open space may be placed within the project and detailed as urban open space (Subsection F(e)). At a minimum, urban open space should be located within a ¼ mile walk of each residential building in a major subdivision, as measured along public streets rights-of-way.

- 6) **Open space preservation shall be irrevocable.** A metes and bounds description of the space to be preserved and limits on use shall be recorded on the subdivision plat, in homeowner covenants, and on individual deeds when open

See 86.4.1.d.3

space lands are not held entirely in common. Alternative means of permanent open space preservation may include acceptance by a land conservation trust or a unit of government. Private management alternatives which ensure the open space preservation required by this section will also be permitted. Restrictive covenants shall limit uses to the continuation of certain agricultural activities (pasture land, crop cultivation) or recreation uses that preserve the view from public streets of rural heritage features to be preserved. Upon verification by the town that restriction of development has been established by a permanent and irrevocable instrument, a letter so noting shall be simultaneously issued to the property owner(s) and to the Caldwell County Tax Administrator.

- Open space shall be deemed usable space for the neighborhood, as certified by the Town, prior to preliminary plat approval. In extreme cases, due to topographical constraints, relief or a variance from this requirement may be granted on the recommendation by the Planning Board and approval by Town Council.
- Open space shall be dedicated to a legally created homeowners association with formal arrangements established and approved by the Town Attorney for the levy of dues for upkeep, maintenance and taxes prior to final approval by the Town Planning Board. If dedication of open space and common facilities is not to be immediate, the legal arrangements shall assure that such dedication will be accomplished within thirty (30) days following completion of the development.

See 86.4.1.d.6

7) **Setbacks** are controlled by allowable building and lot types within the district.

a) On existing streets, new buildings shall respect the general spacing of structures, building mass and scale, and street frontage relationships of existing buildings.

See 86.4.2.d.1

- New buildings which adhere to the scale, massing, volume, spacing, and setback of existing buildings along fronting streets exhibit demonstrable compatibility.
- New buildings, which exceed the scale and volume of existing buildings, may demonstrate compatibility by varying the massing of buildings to reduce perceived scale and volume. The definition of massing in Article 4 illustrates the application of design techniques to reduce the visual perception of size and integrate larger buildings with pre-existing smaller buildings.

b) New streets, allowable building and lot types will establish the development pattern. All development projects defined as major subdivisions using the Traditional Design option require an approved subdivision sketch plan, according to the requirements of the Granite Falls Subdivision Ordinance. Sketch Plan submittals shall provide sufficient information to determine rural heritage features on the site. Therefore, submittal should include a topographic survey, as well as information regarding the location of existing buildings, fences, hedgerows, rock outcroppings, tree lines, creeks and other bodies of water.

See 86.4.2.d.2

8) **Utilities** shall be installed underground throughout the entire development. This shall include water, sewer, electricity, gas, telephone, cable, and etc.

Sec. 612.4 Use Districts

1) Open Space District (OS):

Intent: It is the intent of this district to preserve open space due to its relationship of floodplain, drainage, natural features, steep slopes and recreation. These lands shall also consist of un-buildable sites, other sites that are environmentally sensitive, significant, scenic, or possess unusual attributes that cause them to stand out.

(a) *Permitted uses:*

Uses permitted by right:

- Undisturbed natural open space

Uses permitted with conditions:

- Essential services 1 and 2
- Government buildings up to 5,000 square feet of gross floor area
- Neighborhood and outdoor recreation

(b) *Permitted building and lot types:*

- Civic building

(c) *Permitted accessory uses:*

- Accessory uses permitted in all districts

2) Neighborhood Residential District (NR):

Intent: This district is provided to encourage residential development in compact neighborhoods and rural compounds that set aside significant natural vistas and landscape features for permanent conservation. Streets shall be interconnected and a range of lot sizes is encouraged. The Neighborhood Residential District is to permit the completion and conformity of residential subdivisions.

(a) *Permitted uses:*

Uses permitted by right

- Single-family homes

Uses permitted with conditions

- Bed and breakfast inns (Section 601.2)
- Civic, fraternal, cultural, community, or club facilities
- Essential services 1 and 2
- Government buildings up to 6,000 square feet of gross floor area
 - Neighborhood and outdoor recreation,
 - Parks
 - Schools
 - Row houses, town houses or duplexes

(b) *Permitted building and lot types:*

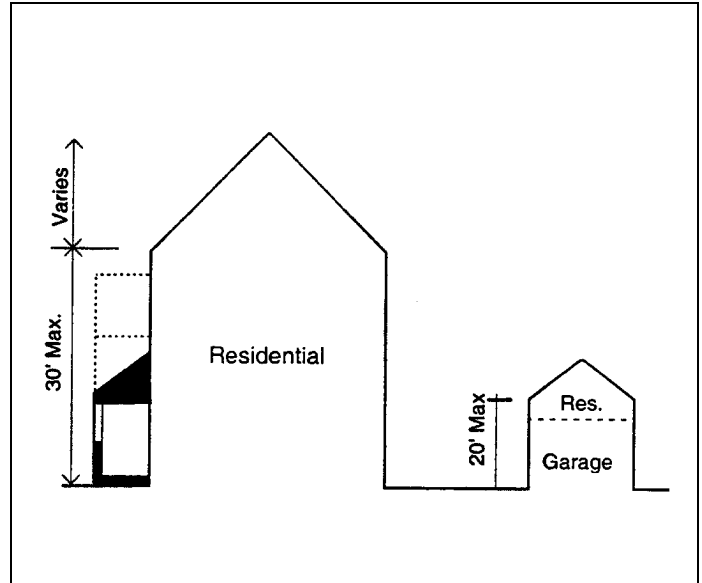
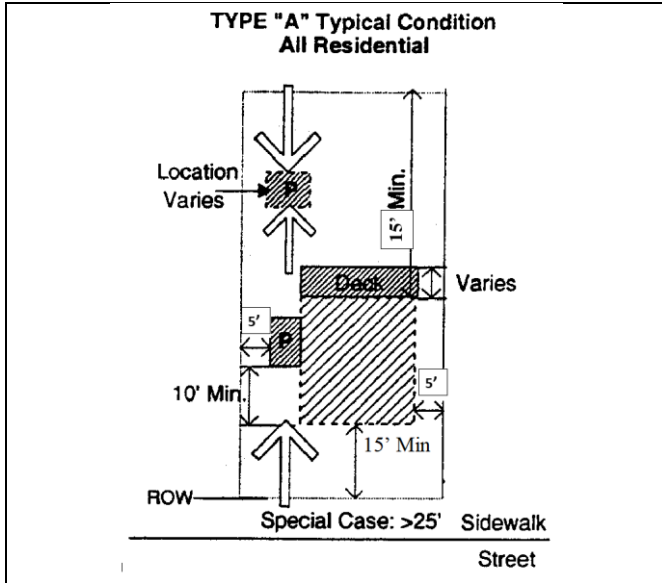
- Detached house
- Attached house
- Civic building

(c) *Permitted accessory uses:*

- Day care home (small) (Section 402)
- Home occupations (Section 712)
- Accessory uses permitted in all districts

Sec 612.5.a Lot Types / Detached House
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Building Placement/Parking/Vehicle Access	Permitted Height/Uses
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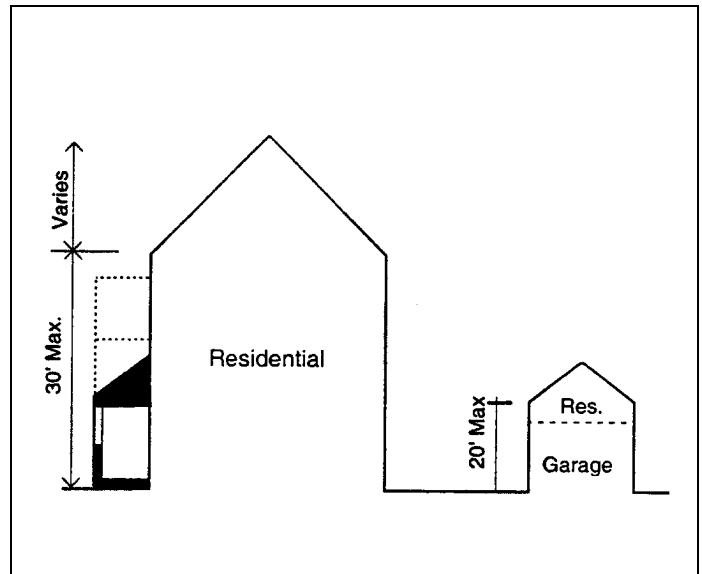
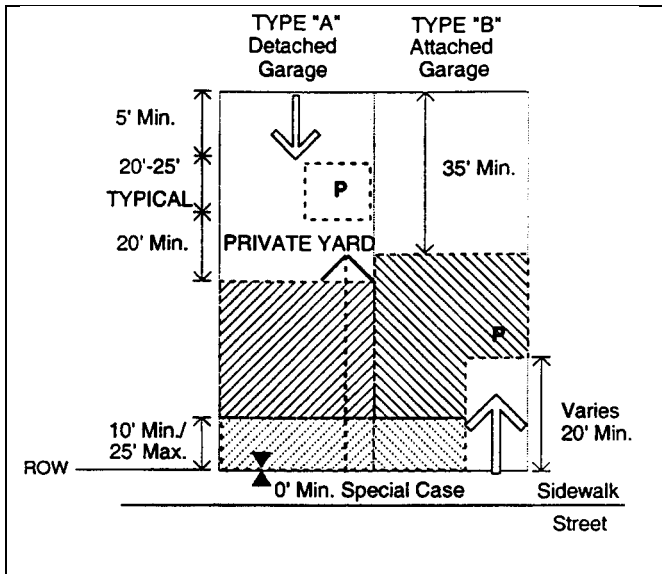
1. *Buildings shall be placed on the lot within zone represented by the hatched area.*
 - Along new streets, the build-to-line is fifteen (15) feet behind the street right-of-way. Special site conditions such as topography or lot widths permit a larger setback.
 - Along existing streets, front build-to-lines shall be equal to the average setbacks for buildings on the same side of the street within three hundred (300) feet. Only in the most exceptional circumstances having to do with extreme topography or very special design composition may such placement be varied.
2. Garages may be detached (entered from front or rear), or attached to the main dwelling. Front loaded garages, if provided, shall meet the standards of Section 612.6.4.3
3. A detached garage may be located only in the rear yard.
4. Points of permitted front or rear access to parking indicated by arrows.
5. Main pedestrian access to the building is from the street. Secondary access may be from parking areas.
6. Decks must be constructed only in rear yard area and are permitted to encroach into the rear setback up to twelve (12) feet.

- Special Conditions:
1. The intention of buildings in all locations must be to relate the principal façade to the sidewalk and public space of the street.
 2. Corners: Setback at street corners will generally replicate frontage conditions. However, side setbacks on a minor street may be less than the front dimension.
 3. *Within the limits described, these regulations apply to all houses built on public streets. For detached homes on large lots accessed by a private drive in Rural Neighborhoods, building placement and site planning will be dictated by landscape features and landscape preservation.*

Sec 612.5.b Lot Type / Attached House

Building Placement/Parking/Vehicle Access

Permitted Height/Uses



1. Buildings shall be placed on the lot within zone represented by the hatched area.
2. Along new streets, the build-to-line will range from fifteen (15) to twenty-five (25) feet behind the street right-of-way. Special site conditions such as topography or lot widths permit a larger setback.
- Along existing streets, front build-to-lines shall typically be equal to the average setbacks for buildings on the same side of the street within three hundred (300) feet.
 3. Building facades shall be generally parallel to front property lines or dedicated green space but shall have frontage on a public street.
 4. Front loaded garages, if provided, shall meet the standards of section 612.6.4.3
 5. Points of permitted access to parking indicated by arrows. Front access to parking at rear of Type 'A' is permitted to duplexes only.
 6. Side setbacks shall be eight (8) feet from all exterior lot lines and ten (10) feet on the street side.

- Encroachments/Pedestrian Access:
1. Main pedestrian access to the building is from the street. Secondary access may be from parking areas.
 2. Decks must be constructed only in rear yard areas and permitted to encroach into the rear setback up to fifty (50) percent of required.
- Special Conditions:
1. The intention of buildings in all locations must be to relate the principal façade to the sidewalk and public space of the street.
 2. Corners: Setback at the street corners will generally replicate frontage conditions. However, side setbacks on a minor street may be less than the front dimension.
 3. Front and side setbacks may vary depending upon site conditions. Setbacks should be used in a manner which encourages pedestrian activity.

Description:

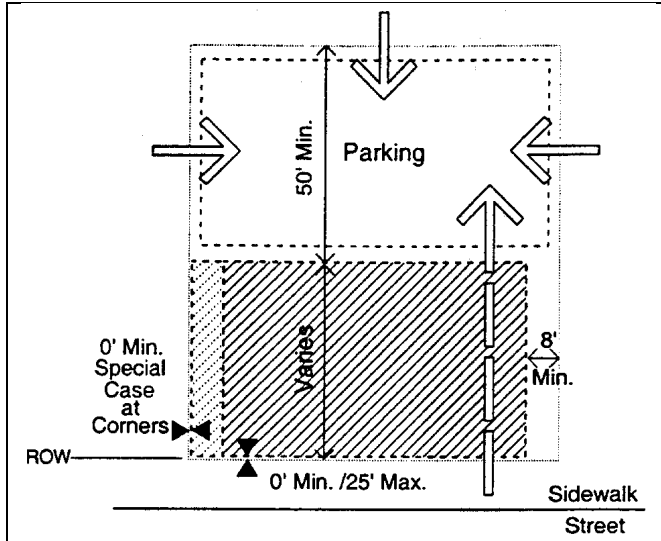
The attached house is a rowhouse, a townhouse, or a duplex. Traditional southern homes in Savannah and Charleston provide the historic model. Dilworth Crescent in Charlotte provides a good contemporary example. Generally, building plans will have narrow frontages with the plan depth being greater than its width.



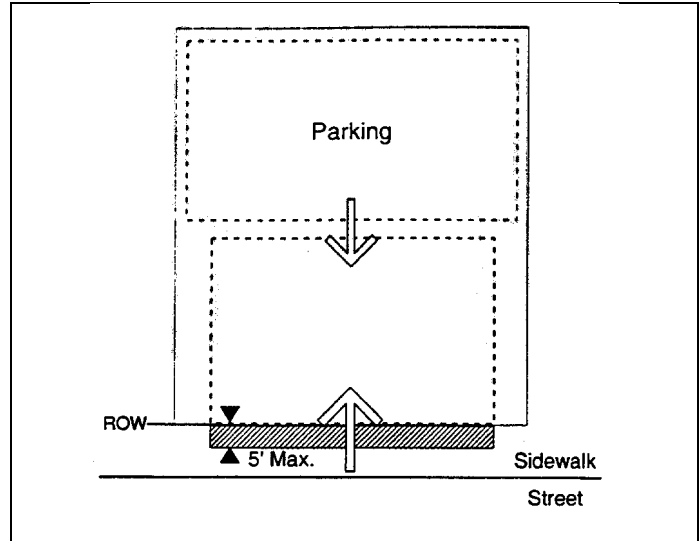
Sec. 612.5.c

Lot Type / Civic Building

Building Placement/Parking/Vehicle Access



Encroachment/Pedestrian Access



1. Buildings shall be placed on the lot within zone represented by the hatched area. In most cases, the build-to-line will range from ten (10) feet to twenty-five (25) feet behind street right-of-way. Special site conditions such as topography, lot width, or provision of a green or plaza will permit a larger building setback.
2. Parking shall be located to the rear of the building; sideyard parking shall occupy no more than twenty-five (25) percent of the primary frontage line and shall not be placed in any sideyard abutting an intersecting street. Where dimensions of existing lots restrict placement of parking behind buildings, the limitations on sideyard parking may be modified.
3. A planting strip or defined plaza should be provided to relate the building to the street.
4. Generally, building and street facades must extend parallel to frontage property lines.
5. Points of permitted access to the parking indicated by arrows.
6. Hedges, garden walls, or fences may be built on property lines or as the continuation of building walls. A garden wall, fence, or hedge (minimum three (3) feet in height) shall be installed along any street frontage adjacent to parking areas.
7. Parking areas on adjacent lots should be connected.
8. Trash containers shall be located in the parking area (see parking regulations).
9. Mechanical equipment at ground level should be placed on the parking lot side of building and away from buildings on adjacent sites.

Encroachment/Pedestrian Access:

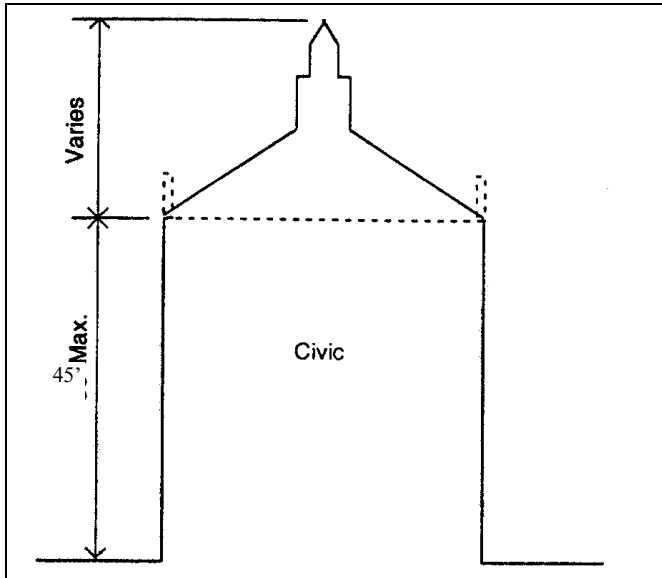
1. For buildings set back from sidewalk, balconies, stoops, stairs, open porches, bay windows, and awnings are permitted to encroach into front setback area up to eight (8) feet.
2. Main pedestrian access to the building is from the street. Secondary access may be from parking areas.

Description:

A civic building is a building used for purposes that are public in nature (e.g. schools, libraries, community buildings, clubhouses, government buildings, and churches). These buildings must be designed to take their appropriate place within neighborhoods as integral parts of the community. It is expected that the scale and architectural sophistication of these buildings will match their civic importance. Where possible, civic structures shall be designed to terminate vistas or serve as key focal points in the neighborhood. The intention of buildings in all locations must be to relate the principal façade to the sidewalk and public space of the street. Civic buildings shall not be set back on the lot behind a standard parking lot.

Sec. 612.5.c Building Type / Civic Building

Permitted Height and Uses



1. Building height shall be measured as the vertical distance from the highest finished grade relative to the street frontage, up to the eaves or the highest level of a flat roof.
2. The height of parapet walls may vary depending upon the need to screen mechanical equipment.
3. Maximum height of occupiable building shall be 45 feet. Uninhabitable portions of buildings with foot print area 500 square feet or less may exceed 45 feet (example: spire, cupola).

Architectural Standards

Principles:

1. To perpetuate the unique building character of the town and its environs, and to re-establish its local identity, development shall generally employ building types that are sympathetic to the historic architectural vocabulary of the area in their massing and external treatment.
2. Building elevations fronting or visible from public streets shall be clad with masonry, wood, vinyl siding, stucco, or similar material. Metal paneling may not comprise a street fronting building face.
3. The front elevations facing the street, and the overall massing shall communicate an emphasis on the human scale and the pedestrian environment.
4. Each building should be designed to form part of a larger composition of the area in which it is situated. Adjacent buildings should thus be of similar scale, height, and configuration.
5. Trailers (mobile units shall not be used as permanent civic buildings.
6. Schools, churches, and government buildings shall be built so that they terminate a street vista whenever possible, and should be of sufficient design quality to create visual anchors for the community.
7. At a minimum, the Americans with Disabilities Act standards for accessibility shall be met.

Configurations:

8. Street level windows shall be untinted. Mirrored glass is not permitted in any location.
9. Flat roof lines are allowed.
10. Classical columns, if provided, should have appropriate proportions and moldings according to true historic precedent.

Techniques:

11. Windows should be set to the inside of the building face wall.
12. All rooftop equipment shall be enclosed in building material that matches the structure or is visually compatible with the structure.
13. Windows should be of square or vertical proportion. Special windows may be circular or regular polygons.

Sec.612.6 Traditional Neighborhood Elements and Design

612.6.1) Streets.

612.6.1.a) Streets should be designed to suit their functions. Many streets, especially local ones, have purposed other than vehicular traffic. As an alternative to current N. C. Department of Transportation road standards, the following street designs are provided for non-state maintained streets within the municipal limits of Granite Falls and for streets within the Extraterritorial Zoning Jurisdiction which will be maintained by the town upon annexation. Streets built to the standards of this section are eligible for town maintenance.

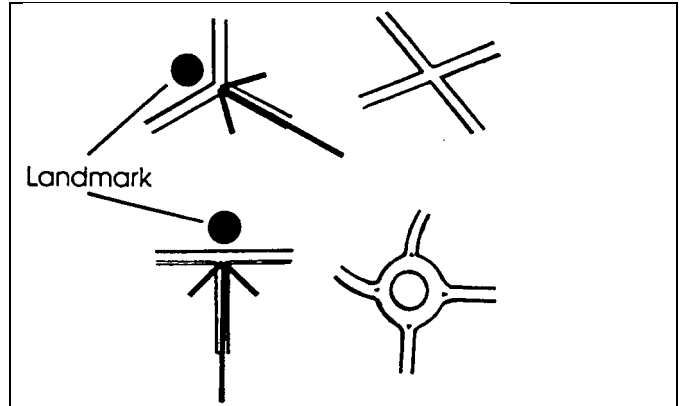
612.6.1.b) Streets in Granite Falls are to be inviting public space and integral components of community design. A hierarchical street network should have a rich variety of types, including bicycle, pedestrian, and transit routes. All streets should connect to help create a comprehensive network of public areas to allow free movement of automobiles, bicyclists and pedestrians. In order for this street network to be safe for motorists and pedestrians, all design elements must consistently be applied to calm automobile traffic.

612.6.1.c) In summary, streets shall:

1. Interconnect within a development and with adjoining development. Cul-de-sacs shall be allowed only where topographical and/or lot line configurations offer no practical alternatives for connections. Street stubs shall be provided within development adjacent to open land to provide for future connections. Consultation with the town planner is recommended to locate potential connections in new neighborhoods.
2. Be designed as the most prevalent public space of the town and, thus, scaled to the pedestrian.
3. Private streets are permitted within a new development, but shall meet the standards of a public street. Alleys will be classified as either public or private depending upon function according to the street acceptance policy.
4. Be the focus of buildings. Generally, all buildings will front on a public street.

612.6.1.d) The Town Planning Board may also require the following elements to be added before preliminary plat approval (See 612.8.3):

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| See 86.6.5.a.1 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be bordered by sidewalks on one or both sides, with the exception of rural roads, lanes, alleys, and the undeveloped edge of neighborhood parkways. 2. Be lined with street trees on both sides, with the exception of rural roads, lanes, alleys and the undeveloped edge of neighborhood parkways. |
|----------------|--|



612.6.1.e Intersections

Long segments of straight streets should be interrupted by intersections designed to:

- a. Disperse traffic flow and reduce speeds, thereby eliminating the creation of *de facto* collector streets with high speed, high volume traffic; and
- b. Terminate vistas with a significant natural feature, a building, a small park, or other public space.

Other traffic calming measures such as neck-downs, chicanes, mid-block diverters, intersection diverters, curb bulbs, serial hill crests, and related devices will be considered on a case by case basis, based on safety and appropriateness in the proposed location.

612.6.1.f Blocks

Street blocks defined by public streets are the fundamental design elements of traditional neighborhoods. Under most conditions, any dimension of a block may range from 250 to 500 linear feet between cross streets. Where a longer block will reduce the number of railroad crossings, major stream crossings, and when such longer blocks will still result in an arrangement of street connections, lots and public space consistent with this Article, the Town Planning Board may authorize greater block lengths at the time of subdivision preliminary plan review and approval.

Acceptance of Streets
Streets shall be accepted in accordance with the Street Acceptance Policy Adopted by the Town Council and on file in the office of the Town Manager.

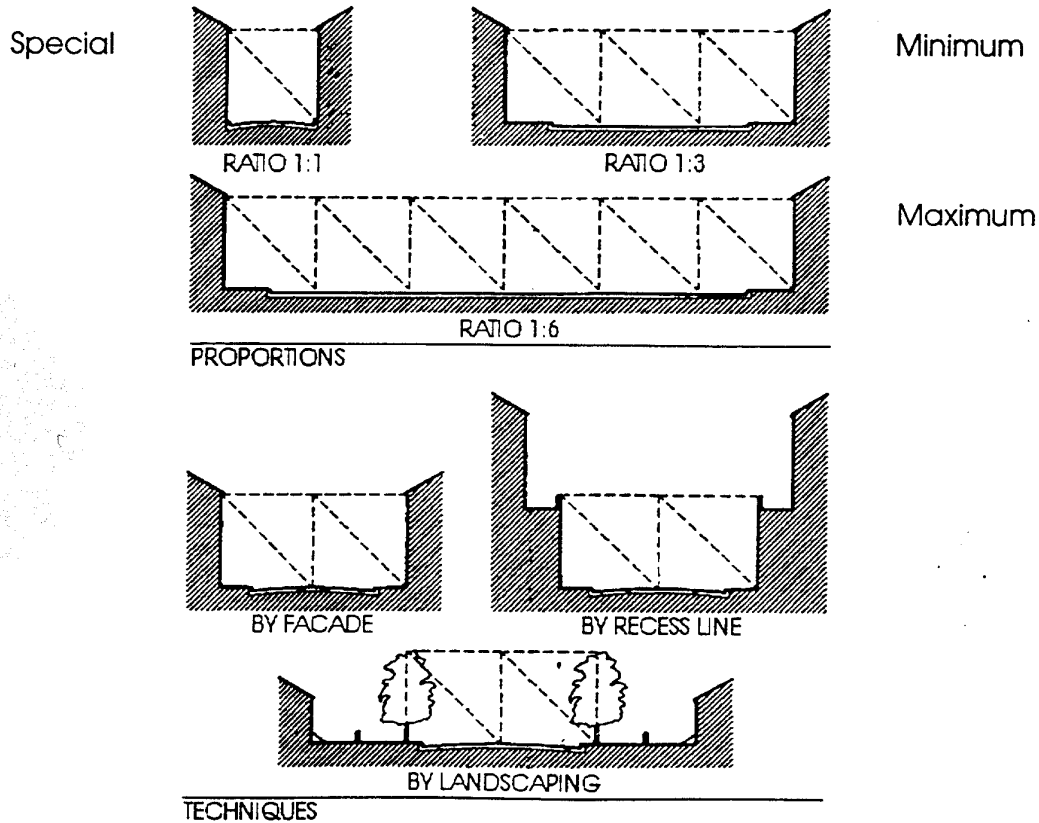
612.6.2) Defining Public Space.

As the most prevalent public spaces in Granite Falls, streets space should be defined by buildings. Proper alignment and delineation of the public street space occurs when the facades of adjacent buildings are aligned much like the walls forming a room. Buildings that make up the street edges are aligned in a disciplined manner. The defined space observes a certain ratio of height to width.

Building articulation must take place primarily in the vertical plane of the façade. Appendages such as porches, balconies, and bay windows are encouraged to promote the transition between the public street and the private dwelling.

For good definition, the ratio of one increment of height to six of width is the absolute maximum, with one to three being a good effective minimum. As a general rule, the tighter the ratio, the stronger the sense of place. Very tight relationships of one to one can create special pedestrian places.

In the absence of spatial definition by facades, disciplined tree planting is an alternative. Trees aligned for spatial enclosure are necessary on streets with deep building setbacks.



612.6.3) Street Specifications.

The Town Planning Board may require one or more of the following specifications for street design be integrated with the proposed development before preliminary plat approval. The Planning Board will review street design to ensure comfortable use of the street by motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists and promote the defining of streets as public space. Pavement widths, design speeds, and the number of motor travel lanes should be minimized to enhance safety for motorists and non-motorists alike. The specific design of any given street must consider the building types which have frontage and the relationship of the street to the overall town street network. The following specifications apply to street design:

1. Street trees and sidewalks shall be required on both sides of streets with exception of rural roads, lanes, alleys, and the undeveloped edge of neighborhood parkways or designated open space. Planting area for street trees should be a minimum of 5' in width and shall be planted at a spacing not to exceed 40 feet on center. Sidewalks shall be a minimum of 5' in width. If the two following criteria apply, the Planning Board may reduce the sidewalk requirement in specific portions of the development from two sides of the street to one side of the street, or in very rare instances allow for the elimination of sidewalks:
 - Topography is extremely rugged and hilly.
 - Eighty (80%) percent or more of the development is within a Critical Area water supply watershed.
2. On-street parking is recommended where building type and use will generate regular use. Occasional on-street parking can be accommodated without additional pavement width. For streets which serve workplace and storefront buildings, on-street parking lanes are required and should be marked as such. An on-street parking lane on at least one side of the street is recommended on streets serving apartments, attached houses, and detached houses with lots 60' or less in width. On-street parking should also be provided on one side of any street adjacent to a square, park or other Urban Open Space. Parallel on-street parking width is 7' to 8'. On-street parking should be parallel; angled parking is only permitted along the main streets of a retail center in a planned mixed-use development.
3. Design speeds should not exceed 30 miles per hour on any neighborhood street. Only arterials and boulevards may exceed this design speed.
4. Streets and alleys shall, wherever practicable, terminate at other streets within the neighborhood and connect to existing and projected streets outside the development. Cul-de-sacs shall not exceed two hundred fifty (250) feet in length, must be accessed from a street providing internal or external connectivity, shall be permanently terminated by a vehicular turnaround, and are permitted where topography makes a street connection impracticable. In most instances, a "close" or "eyebrow" is preferred to a cul-de-sac. Vehicular turnarounds of various configurations are acceptable so long as emergency access is adequately provided.
5. The average perimeter of all blocks should not exceed one thousand three hundred fifty (1,350) feet. No block face should have a length greater than eight hundred (800) feet without a dedicated alley or pathway providing through access.
6. Streets shall be organized according to a hierarchy based on function, size, capacity, and design speed; streets and rights-of-way are therefore expected to differ in dimension. The proposed hierarchy of streets shall be indicated on the submitted sketch plan. Each street type shall be separately detailed. Street types illustrated in the subdivision ordinance and TND street design guidelines represent the array of elements that are combined to meet the purposes of neighborhood streets: building placement line, optional utility allocation, sidewalk, planting strip, curb and gutter, optional parallel parking, and travel lane(s). Alternative methods of assembling the required street elements will be considered to allow neighborhood street designs that are most appropriate to setting and use.
7. To prevent the buildup of vehicular speed, disperse traffic flow, and create a sense of visual enclosure, long uninterrupted segments of straight streets should be avoided. Methods: (1) a street can be interrupted by intersections designed to calm the speed and disperse the flow of traffic and terminate vistas with a significant feature (building, park, natural feature); (2) a street can be terminated with a public monument, specifically designed building façade, or a gateway to the ensuing space; (3) perceived street length can be reduced by a noticeable street curve and deflect the view; (4) other traffic calming configurations are acceptable so long as emergency access is adequately provided.
8. Street construction standards shall conform to the standards in the Granite Falls Subdivision Ordinance.

612.6.4) Special District Conditions.

1. Accessory uses and structures that are clearly related to and incidental to the permitted principal use or structure on the lot.
2. Fences and walls.
 - (a) In a residential district a fence or wall in the established front yard or a building shall be a minimum of two (2) feet in height and a maximum of five (5) feet in height. Decorative caps or spires which extend above the highest horizontal member of the fence shall not be included in the measurement of height. Chain link or similar fencing materials, if used, shall be placed on the interior side of a masonry wall or solid wood fence and shall be planted with a semi-opaque vegetative screen between wall or fence and the public street.
 - (b) In a residential district a fence or wall in an established rear or side yard which abuts a street or alley may not exceed six (6) feet in height unless placed fifteen (15) feet or more inside property boundary. Within the first fifteen (15) feet, fences of chain link or similar material are permitted only if screened on the exterior side by evergreen shrubs planted no farther apart than six (6) feet on center, minimum height two and one-half (2 1/2) feet at installation, or if obscured from view by other screening method(s) which perform at the same or a higher level.
 - (c) In a residential district a fence or wall in an established rear or side yard which does not abut a street or alley may not exceed eight (8) feet in height.
3. Standards for residential garages and parking
 - (a) On lots greater than seventy-five (75) feet in width, front loading garages shall be recessed at least ten (10) feet behind the primary plane of the front façade of the structure.
 - Exception for single-family detached dwellings with one thousand four hundred (1,400) square feet or less of heated space: single bay front loading garages may be built flush with, but may not project in front of, the primary plane of the front façade of the structure; double bay front loading garages shall be recessed at least ten (10) feet behind the primary plane of the front façade of the structure.
 - (b) When the arrangement of permanent structural elements of a dwelling unit provides side view screening of a single bay front loading garage, the structural screening of the garage may be substituted by the homebuilder for the applicable standard above. An example of a permanent structural element which provides such screening would be an elevated porch or stoop with steps to ground level.
 - (c) In no case shall on-site residential parking extend into the public right-of-way, or into an easement for a public sidewalk on private property.
 - (d) On street parking at lot front, when specifically provided, may be counted toward all or part of the parking requirement of a dwelling unit.
 - (e) Vehicles used primarily for commercial purposes and with more than two (2) axles are prohibited from parking on streets, in driveways, or on private property in residential districts. This shall not be construed as preventing the temporary parking of delivery trucks, moving vans, and similar vehicles which deliver goods or services.
4. Home Occupation: A home occupation is permitted accessory to any dwelling unit (except manufactured housing) in accordance with the following requirements:
 - (a) The home occupation must be clearly incidental to the residential use of the dwelling and must not change the essential residential character of the dwelling.
 - (b) The use shall employ no more than one (1) person who is not a resident of the dwelling.
 - (c) A home occupation housed within the dwelling shall occupy no more than twenty-five (25) percent of the total floor area of the dwelling.
 - (d) There shall be no visible outside display of stock in trade which is sold on the premises.
 - (e) There shall be no outdoor storage or visible evidence of equipment or materials used in the home occupation, excepting equipment or materials of a type and quantity that could reasonably be associated with the principal residential use.
 - (f) Operation of the home occupation shall not be visible from any dwelling on an adjacent lot, nor from a street.

- (g) Only vehicles used primarily as passenger vehicles will be permitted in connection with the conduct of the home occupation.
 - (h) The home occupation shall not utilize mechanical, electrical, or other equipment which produces noise, electrical or magnetic interference, vibration, heat, glare, or other nuisances outside the dwelling or accessory structure housing the home occupation.
 - (i) Home occupations shall be limited to those uses which do not draw clients to the dwelling on a regular basis.
 - (j) Outdoor kilns used for the firing of pottery shall be provided with a semi-opaque screen to obstruct the view from the street and from adjacent properties located in residential districts, shall have a secured work area, and shall be a minimum of ten (10) feet from abutting property lines.
 - (k) No business identification or advertising signs are permitted.
 - (l) Must also follow all provisions of section 712, home occupations.
5. Standards for construction; Developer responsibility
- (a) Where standards responsibility for infrastructure construction, including but not limited to streets, sidewalks, and landscaping, are specified in this document or in the subdivision regulations of the Town of Granite Falls, town standards shall control.
 - (b) Each owner, developer or primary builder (permit holder) shall be responsible for damage and undue service caused due to their activity. Further, it shall be the responsibility of all developers to make contractors and suppliers aware of the requirements and it shall be the responsibility of the permittee to recover costs from their service providers.
 - (c) The town shall charge permittees for costs incurred in correcting or addressing any such matters. Costs will be billed to the permittee whenever reasonable attempts have not been made to correct conditions following notification by the town and/ or discovery of a situation requiring immediate attention. Charges for work include labor, equipment and material costs by town and /or private contractors hired by the town to correct the situation.

613.6.5) Urban Open Space.

- (a) Design standards:
 - (1) Open space defined. Open space is defined as all areas not divided into private or civic building lots, streets, rights-of-way, parking or easements.
 - Urban open space shall be planned and improved, accessible and usable by persons living nearby. Improved shall mean cleared of underbrush and debris and may contain one (1) or more of the following improvements: landscaping, walls, fences, walks, statues, fountains, ball fields, and/or playground equipment. Walls and fences shall be made of brick, stone, wrought iron, or wood and shall not exceed three and one-half (3.5) feet in height. (Exceptions: fences used in conjunction with ball fields.)
 - (2) Location of open space to be provided. In new developments, urban open space is expected to be integrated into the design of the site. It is expected that such open space will be within one-fourth (1/4) mile of each residential building.
 - (3) Open space as key public space. Urban open space features should provide focal points for the neighborhood. A central square or green, for example, may comprise a majority of the open space. There should be a hierarchy of open space within new neighborhoods to serve the needs of all residents.
 - (4) Conservation areas. Significant stands of trees, stream bed areas, and other valuable topographic features should be preserved within the required open space areas.

(b) Urban open space types:

(1) Squares.

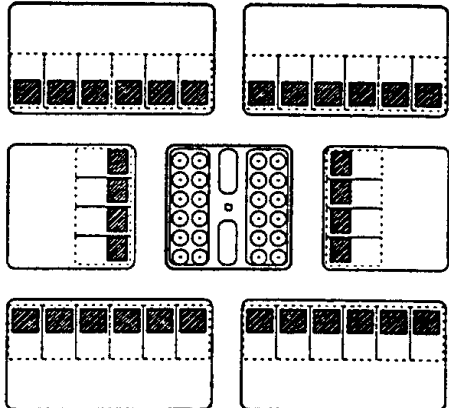
Squares are areas for passive recreational use. Squares shall be bounded by streets on a minimum of three sides or 75% of their perimeter.

Minimum size: 500 sq. ft.

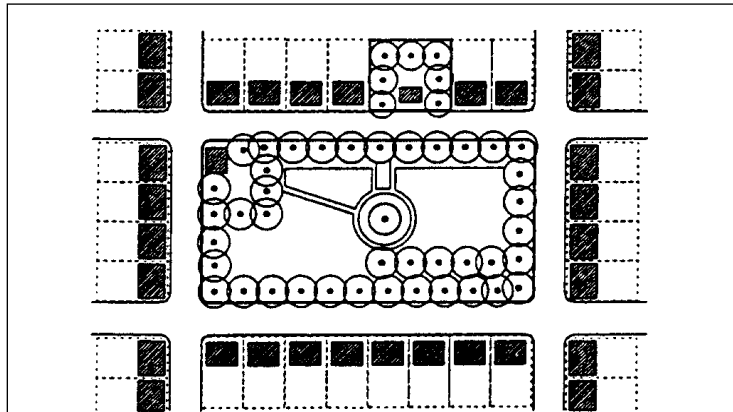
Maximum size: 1 acre

Squares may be entirely paved in crushed gravel, brick paver, or similar material, or partially paved with other areas of soft landscape.

Squares are encouraged to be planted parallel to all street ROW's with one tree species planted a minimum of 10 ft. on center and at a maximum of 30 ft. on center. Geometrical tree planting layouts for internal plantings are encouraged.



(2) Parks.

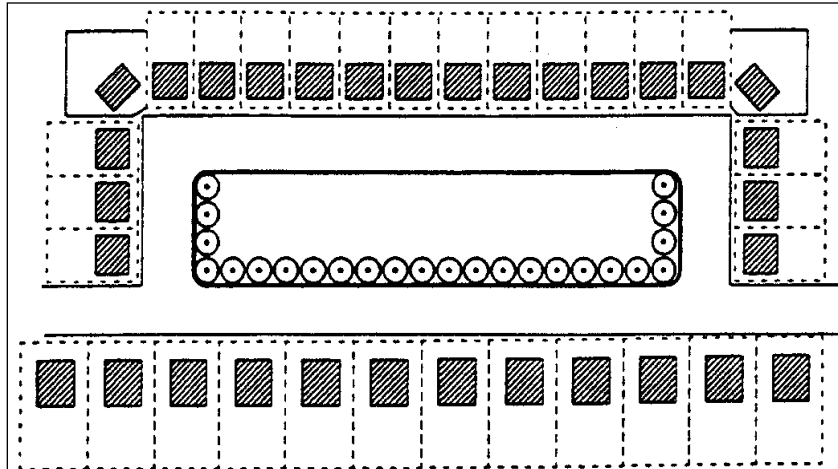


Parks may be designed for passive and/or active recreational use. Parks shall be bounded by streets on a minimum of 50% of their perimeter, and are encouraged to be enclosed by streets on all sides.

Minimum size: 1 acre
Maximum size: 3 acres

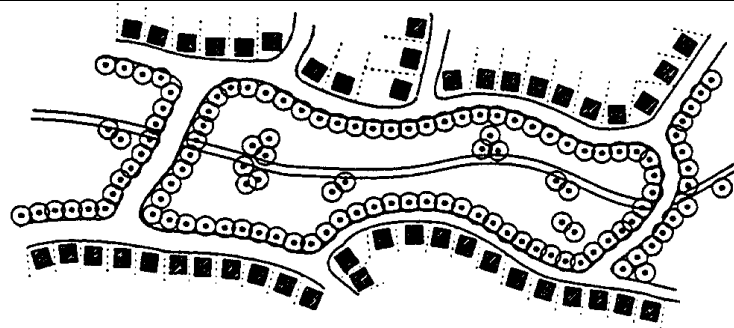
Maximum park size may exceed 3 acres if through design the park creates a central open space which services an entire neighborhood or group of neighborhoods; or incorporates physical features which are an asset to the community (i.e. lake, high ground, significant stands of trees).

(3) Forecourts.



Forecourts are open space areas which act as buffers between residential buildings and non-residential buildings or streets. Forecourts are entirely bounded by streets. It is recommended that forecourts be planted parallel to all street ROW's with one tree species. Such plantings shall be a minimum of 10 ft. on center and a maximum of 30 ft. on center.

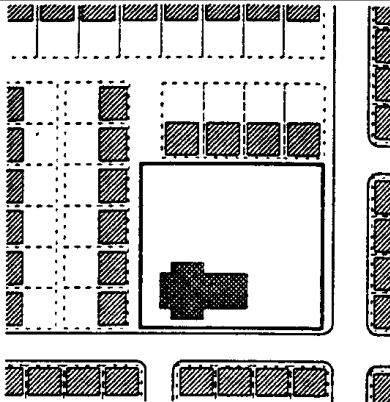
(4) Parkways.



Parkways are open spaces designed to incorporate natural settings such as creeds and significant stands of trees within a neighborhood. Parkway are to be entirely bounded by streets or pedestrian rights-of-way within developed areas. Parkway differ from parks and squares in that their detailing is natural (i.e. informally planted). Parkway are used for walking, jogging, or bicycling. In addition, small scale recreational features such as a playground area or soccer field are appropriate in parkways. Streets bordering the parkway shall match the parkway street standards in the land plan street regulations.

(5) Plazas.

A plaza is an open area adjacent to a civic or commercial building. Plazas function as gathering places and may incorporate a variety of non permanent activities, such as vendors and display stands. Limited parking is also permitted. Plazas are always paved in brick or another type of paver, or crushed stone. Plazas shall be level, stepped, or gently sloping (less than 5% grade).



The diagram shows a grid of streets. A building is located at the intersection of a vertical and a horizontal street. A plaza is situated to the right of the building, bounded by the horizontal street, a vertical street, and a dashed line. The plaza contains a small dark structure. The streets are shown with hatched patterns.

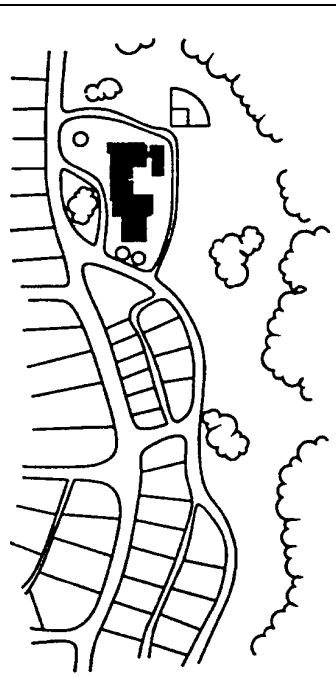
The following sizes are recommended but may be smaller or larger depending on the building or facility design. At no time shall a plaza's horizontal length or width be greater than 3 times the height of surrounding buildings.

Minimum size: 2,000 sq. ft.
Maximum size: 30,000 sq. ft.

Plazas may be left unplanted. If planted, trees should form the geometric frame of the plaza space or for the structure the plaza services. Spacing shall be a minimum of 10 ft. on center and a maximum of 30 ft. on center.

(6) Greenbelts.

Greenbelts run along the perimeter of a neighborhood or town and serve to buffer a neighborhood from surrounding non-compatible uses such as a highway corridor, industrial district, or a town from agricultural areas or adjacent towns.



The diagram shows a neighborhood with a grid of streets and a building. A greenbelt, represented by a wavy line with cloud-like shapes, runs along the perimeter of the neighborhood. The surrounding areas are shown with hatched patterns.

Section 613. R-15A Residential Single-Family District. The R-15A Residential Single-Family District is established as a district in which the principal use of the land is for low density, single-family residential purposes, and to provide and protect low density residential areas for those desiring that type of environment. These districts are intended to insure that residential development having access to public water supplies and dependent upon septic tanks for sewage disposal will occur at a sufficiently low density to provide a healthful environment.

613.1 The following uses are permitted:

- All uses permitted in the R-15 Residential Single-Family Density District.
- Manufactured homes per the requirements of Section 709.

613.2 Special Uses: Same as R-15.

613.3 Dimensional requirements: Same as R-15

Section 614. R-6 Residential Single-Family High-Density District. The purpose of the R-6 Residential Single-Family High-Density District is to provide relatively high-density living areas restricted to single-family dwellings. The regulations are intended to prohibit any use which, because of its character, would interfere with the residential nature of this district. It is required that municipal water and sewerage facilities will be available to each lot in such districts.

614.1 The following uses are permitted:

- Single family dwelling units, excluding manufactured homes.
- Accessory buildings to residential uses, provided that no accessory building shall be rented or occupied for gain. Furthermore, in no instance shall an accessory building be placed upon a parcel which is absent of a principal use. Customary accessory uses and structures may include: carports, detached canopies, garages, non-commercial structures, greenhouses, swimming pools and tennis courts, with the latter two only being permitted in the rear yard. No more than two (2) accessory buildings shall be permitted per lot. Dimensional standards for accessory buildings can be found in Section 614.3 and Section 707.
- Governmentally owned public works facilities such as transformer stations, pumping stations, water towers, and telephone exchanges, provided:
 - (a) such facilities are essential to the service of the immediate area and no vehicles or materials shall be stored on the premises.
 - (b) all buildings and apparatus as specified in district regulations shall be set back from all property lines and shall be designed, buffered and landscaped in such a way as to blend in with the surrounding area.
 - (c) such facilities as water towers, pumping stations, and other dangerous apparatus, shall be surrounded by a chain link fence at least six (6) feet in height.
- Family care homes as defined in G.S. §160D-907(A family care home shall not be located within one-half mile, as measured by straight line, of another family care home.
- Home occupations as defined in Article VII, Section 712 of this ordinance.

- Municipal, county, state or federal use including parks and playgrounds, but excluding landfills, storage yards, and mechanical workshops.
- Golf courses.
- Parks, playgrounds, and community centers operated on a non-profit or non-commercial basis for recreational purposes only.
- Temporary Health Care Structures as defined in G.S. §160D-915 (per the requirements of Section 706.5)

614.2 Special Uses. The following Special Uses are permitted when authorized by the Granite Falls Board of Adjustment after said Board holds an evidentiary hearing. A Special Use must be proven to not materially endanger public health and safety, to not substantially injure adjoining property values and be in general harmony with the surrounding area. A Special Use Permit may only be granted upon presentation of competent, material and substantial evidence establishing compliance with one or more general standards requiring that judgement and discretion be exercised as well as compliance with specific standards, and in accordance with Section 1107 of this Chapter.

- All Special Uses in the R-15 Single Family Residential District.
- Educational and philanthropic uses, excluding correctional or penal institutions.
 1. Parking and landscaping standards must be met per Article IX.
 2. Additional landscaping and buffering may be required when adjacent to residential properties.
 3. Additional parking and access points may be required.
 4. Any associated signage and exterior lighting shall be designed to reduce glare and to mitigate any adverse effects of sign size and height in order to make the property aesthetically pleasing and compatible with the residential character of surrounding properties.
- Small day care homes.
- Adult day care homes.
- Adult day health homes.
- Planned Developments (per the requirements of Section 804).

614.3 Dimensional Requirements. Within the R-8SF Residential District(s) as shown on the zoning map, the following dimensional requirements shall be complied with:

Minimum lot size with water and sewer: 6,000 sq. ft. (excluding road right of way)

Fifty (50') feet minimum mean lot width.

Fifteen (15') feet minimum front yard setback.

Minimum required side yard shall be five (5') feet. Minimum side yard on a street side shall be fifteen (15') feet.

Minimum required rear yard shall be fifteen (15') feet.

Maximum permissible lot coverage by all impervious surfaces including the principal building, pavement/concrete and all accessory buildings shall be determined by the Water Supply Watershed Protection Regulations (Chapter 151 of the Town Code of Ordinances).

Maximum permissible height by principal building is 35 feet unless the depth of the front and total width of the side yard required herein shall be increased by one foot for each two feet, or fraction thereof, of building height in excess of 35 feet.

Accessory buildings shall not be permitted beyond the front building line of the existing principal structure, excepting the following:

1. Detached garages that match the exterior finish and architectural design of the principal structure shall be allowed beyond the front building line of the existing principal structure so long as it does not extend beyond the average front building line of adjacent properties.
2. Detached canopies may encroach into the front yard a maximum of ten (10') feet, measured from the front facade of the principal structure, but may not encroach into the street right-of-way and shall be subject to the following:
 - a. No more than one (1) canopy per lot.
 - b. The canopy must not be enclosed on any side.
 - c. The canopy must be located to serve an existing driveway.
 - d. The size should not exceed the standard size for parking two (2) passenger vehicles.
 - e. The canopy cannot be used for open storage of any materials.

Accessory buildings, other than those detailed above, shall not be erected in any front yard or within 20 feet of any street or highway line. An accessory building or use may be located in a side or rear yard provided it meets the following setbacks from adjacent property lines:

- Five (5') feet for buildings 144ft² or smaller
- Ten (10') feet for buildings larger than 144ft²
- Three (3') feet for detached canopies (carports) that meet the following criteria:
 - No more than one (1) canopy per lot.
 - The canopy must not be enclosed on any side and must be located to serve an existing driveway.
 - The size cannot exceed the standard size for parking two passenger vehicles.
 - The canopy can only be used for storage of motor vehicles, boats, recreational vehicles, trailers and the like. Vehicles must be sized to fit completely under the canopy.
 - The canopy cannot be used for open storage of any materials.

Sidewalks shall be required when the R-6 District is applied to properties that were previously located in a District that required them, in order to maintain continuity of a previously initiated pedestrian network.

Off-street parking shall be provided as required in Article IX of this Chapter.

(Pages 71 Through 80 Are Reserved For Future Use)