

# Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

## Building Entryway Treatment and the Sense of Arrival

Maurice Amiel · Tuesday, October 12th, 2021

**The feature image**, reprised below, illustrates what the *entryway* of an apartment building, located in a select neighborhood, can encompass:

- It is technically the *point of entrance* into a building and, perceptually, *through its treatment at the scale of the building*, the marker of *its location on that building*
- It is perceptually, through the *nature and visibility of its treatment at the scale of the street*, the mean by which the building *can be distinguished from others*, thereby comforting *one's sense of pending arrival*.



Entryway treatment as marker of location on building and in the city

**The following examples** will illustrate the gradual increase in *perceptual quality* of selected apartment buildings entryway treatments in my immediate conventional neighborhood.

**The minimally treated façade bound scheme**, whereby the change of material around the door is perceptually enhanced with a slightly recessed placement of the door, accommodating a single step mini-landing transition from outside to inside the building.





Minimum treatment of entryway as marker of location on building and in the city

**The façade bound decorated scheme whereby the entryway is not only framed with a reminder of a classic frontal colonnade, but is also located atop a series of steps which, *with handrail, night lights and creeping ivy, clearly identify THE entry doorway.***





Improved entryway treatment with decorative elements, raised landing and landscape elements

The improved façade bound scheme with transition providing extension, whereby the entryway, is made noticeable by *the addition of projecting planters delimiting two small landings two steps apart extending to the sidewalk with a noticeable landscaped walkway.*





Improved entryway treatment with extended landing and landscape elements

**The façade bound scheme with a projecting cylindrical awning**, whereby the sides of the entryway are treated with concrete block finish, *helping one to locate it at a distance.*

*Noted is the row of light-bearing posts, leading to the entryway from the sidewalk, and adding a ceremonial sense of arrival to the experience of entering.*



Most complete entryway treatment involving façade and front yard treatment elements

## End words

**A certain humanistic conception of “architecture”** would define its essence in *the meaningful physical, functional and social presence of a building.*

The entryway treatments presented here aimed to illustrate the gradual reaching for that state, *from a hole in the wall to a spatially articulated and lit up walkway from sidewalk to entryway.*

*Credit all photographs to Maurice Amiel*

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