



Village of Northbrook

DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING SERVICES

Zoning Code Interpretation

Purpose:	Clarification of Encroachment of an Open Porch into a Required Yard
Northbrook Zoning Code Section(s):	Section 3-110-H-10 Specified Structures in & Uses in Required Yard
Date:	April 5, 2013

Reason for Interpretation

Section 3-110-H-10 of the Zoning Code has certain standards for allowed yard encroachments. The Code stipulates that “the following structures and uses, except as limited below, may be located in any required yard:

- d) Awnings, canopies, eaves and gutters projecting not more than three feet from an exterior wall.

The Code does not specify how to treat an open porch. This interpretation is intended to provide standards for addressing when (and by how much) an open porch may extend into a required yard.

Interpretation:

A covered porch/stoop, as long as it remains open on the sides, can encroach up to 3 feet into a required yard. (For example, if you have a six-foot deep front porch, three feet can encroach into the front yard.) The Code states that the 3-foot standard is measured from the exterior wall.

This interprets the code to mean the porch can encroach three (3) feet into the required front yard no matter how deep it is. (For example, if you have a six-foot deep front porch, three feet of it could encroach into the front yard. See illustration below.



Reviewed and Affirmed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Thomas R Poupard', written in a cursive style.

**Thomas R Poupard, AICP
Director of Development & Planning Services**