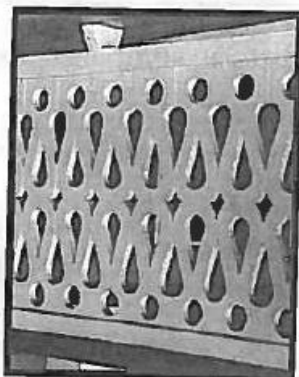


## HISTORIC NATCHEZ DESIGN GUIDELINES



*Above are two examples of historical patterns of balustrades, on the left is a turned balustrade and on the right is a cut balustrade.*

Fencing patterns ranged from simple wood picket fences to ornate cast and decorative iron fences. Most of the early fences were constructed to keep out the animals that were free to roam the streets. It wasn't until later that walls and fences became a decorative feature and became more ornate and elaborately designed. Fences in Natchez have been constructed out of wood, wrought iron or other metal. Walls have also been used extensively around Natchez as a decorative feature and to provide privacy. Many fences and walls were also constructed to define property boundaries and provide some screening between neighboring properties. If a property has an historic fence or wall every effort should be made to retain it because it is a character defining feature of the site, thus worthy of preservation.

## FENCES AND WALLS

- ◆ Fences
  - Repair/Replacement
  - New Construction
  - Patterns
- ◆ Walls
  - Repair/Replacement
  - New Construction
  - Patterns



Along with wonderful architectural features on Natchez homes, walls and fences around the property had their own unique and ornate designs further distinguishing one house from another.

## FENCES

### REPAIR/REPLACEMENT

#### *Preferred:*

Using similar size, scale, materials, and design to replace portions of fencing that are beyond repair.

Replacing individual rotten pickets or boards rather than replacing an entire section of historic fence.

#### *Not Preferred:*

Removing an historic fence and completely replacing it because a few components are damaged or rotten.

Replacing an existing fence with a new fence that is of an

## HISTORIC NATCHEZ DESIGN GUIDELINES

inappropriate style or pattern for the historic building.

### **NEW CONSTRUCTION**

#### *Recommended:*

Using fencing to screen parking areas, mechanical equipment, and other unsightly areas.

Front yard fencing should be no higher than three feet high and have a pattern with space in between the vertical members to form a translucent surface or see through surface.

Rear and side privacy fences should be no higher than six feet high.

The style and design of a new fences should fit with the architectural style of the building and blend in with the surrounding fences, or use a pattern typical of other Natchez fencing.

Placing the structural members of a fence, such as posts and horizontal supports, on the inside of the fence leaving the flat side to face other properties.

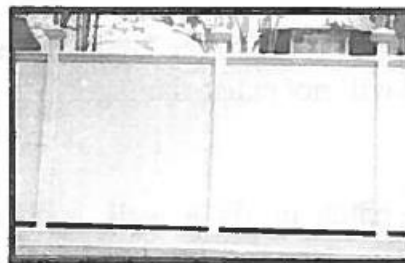
#### *Not Recommended*

Using materials that are not appropriate for the historic district such as vinyl fencing, chain link fencing, barbed wire, or other inappropriate material. Chain link fences may be permitted for the rear of the property if it is not visible from other properties and is painted a dark green color.

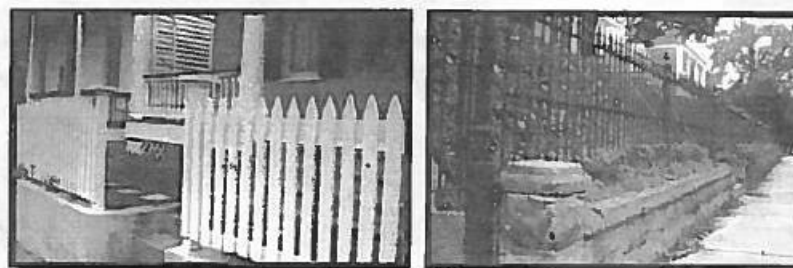
Constructing a fence of inappropriate size or of an incompatible pattern with the historic architecture of the building.

### **PATTERNS**

There are several patterns of fencing that are appropriate for Natchez. Patterns should typically match the architectural style of the house. Books and drawings are available in the Planning Department which illustrate typical historical fence patterns appropriate for Natchez.



*Example of a flat wood board privacy fence on the side of the house.*



*Typical fence types for Natchez, wood picket (left) and wrought iron (right).*