

4.6 Fences and Walls

Many different types of fencing and walls can be found in the historic district including low masonry walls, wooden picket and privacy fences, and wrought iron fences and gates. In residential areas, fences and walls were used historically to enclose yard areas and define property lines. In commercial areas, fences and walls can be used to screen service areas and parking lots. Fences are prominent landscape features and should be constructed in a manner and design that is sensitive to the character of the historic structure and district. The introduction of new fences and walls should be handled with concern for design, materials, height, details, color and placement. The applicant requesting permission to erect a fence or wall shall submit a site plan locating the fence or wall configuration and a scaled elevation drawing. ***The applicant shall also be present at the HPC meeting so they will be available for questioning by the Commission, neighbors, or members of the audience.*** A photograph from the public right of way is required for any proposed fencing. ***All fences and walls shall be approved by the Historic Preservation Commission as Major Works.***



Fence and Wall Guidelines

4.6.1 Retain and preserve historic fences and walls whenever possible including gates, hardware, cast or wrought iron details, ornamental pickets, etc.



4.6.2 Wood, brick, stone, decorative block, ***ornamental aluminum or iron***, and equivalent materials



of authentic design are appropriate fencing materials in the Historic District. Welded Wire, vinyl, and chain link, **post and rope or chain** fences are not allowed.

4.6.3 Deteriorated fence and wall elements should be repaired rather than replaced. **If more than 50%, deteriorated or destroyed, fence and wall elements should be replaced according to new guidelines.** New elements should match the original in material, texture, and design.

4.6.4 Repairs to existing chain link fences may be allowed up to 50% of a fence run (area between right angles). If 50% or greater of any linear feet of chain link fence run is damaged or otherwise requires repair, **the entire chain link fence that fence run** shall be removed and it replaced, shall be with a new fence made of material other than chain link and consistent with these guidelines.

4.6.5 Fences and walls should be properly maintained according to guidelines for masonry, wood, and metal.

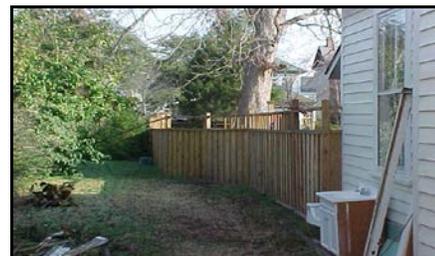
4.6.6 New fences and walls **in the front facade** should be of a design that is appropriate to the architectural style and period of the historic structure.

4.6.7 Front yard **wooden and wooden** fences erected adjacent to a main street or a

side street should be of an open design, such as picket and no greater than four (4) feet in height **and painted or stained white.** It is prohibited to use solid privacy fences in front yards. Split rail, basket weave, lattice and shadowbox are also prohibited.



4.6.8 Privacy fencing shall only be allowed in the rear yard. If a majority of a privacy fence is visible from the public right-of-way, a landscape buffer shall be included. No fence, including a privacy fence, shall exceed ~~six (6)~~ **five (5)** feet in height. **If a wood privacy fence is selected, it should be of a shadowbox style or the spaces between boards should be no less than one (1) inch.**



4.6.9 A rear yard privacy fence shall place the framing for the fence to the inside facing the owner's property. The outside **and inside** of all wooden rear yard privacy fences shall be finished using an opaque stain or paint. If painted, the color shall be compatible with the structure. **Painted white or stained white or opaque. No privacy fence can extend beyond the rear corner of the house. (figure 4.1)**

4.6.10 All newly constructed wooden fences which are parallel to a main street or side street shall be finished using an opaque stain or painted. If painted, the color shall be compatible with the structure. **Must be painted white or stained white. Both sides of the fence will be painted.**



4.6.11 **4.6.10** It is inappropriate to construct walls and fences on the waterfront that obstruct views and vistas from the historic district or from the water. No privacy fence that exceeds four (4') feet in height

~~shall be allowed in the side or rear yards of property located south of Main Street. Areas south of Main Street, which have water views and vistas from the historic district or from the water, shall not be allowed to block a view by constructing a privacy fence that exceeds four (4) feet in height in the side or rear yard.~~

4.6.12 **4.6.11** The use of plant screenings, in the form of hedgerows and landscaping, is encouraged as an alternative to fences and walls. Any such plantings shall comply with the height and location standards of these guidelines.



4.6.13 **4.6.12** Fences and walls should be used to screen service areas, refuse receptacles, and parking lots in the commercial areas. **Fences should follow the same guidelines as in the residential areas. In the screening of smaller commercial utility areas, refuse receptacles, and such, shadow box fencing and/or brick walls shall be**

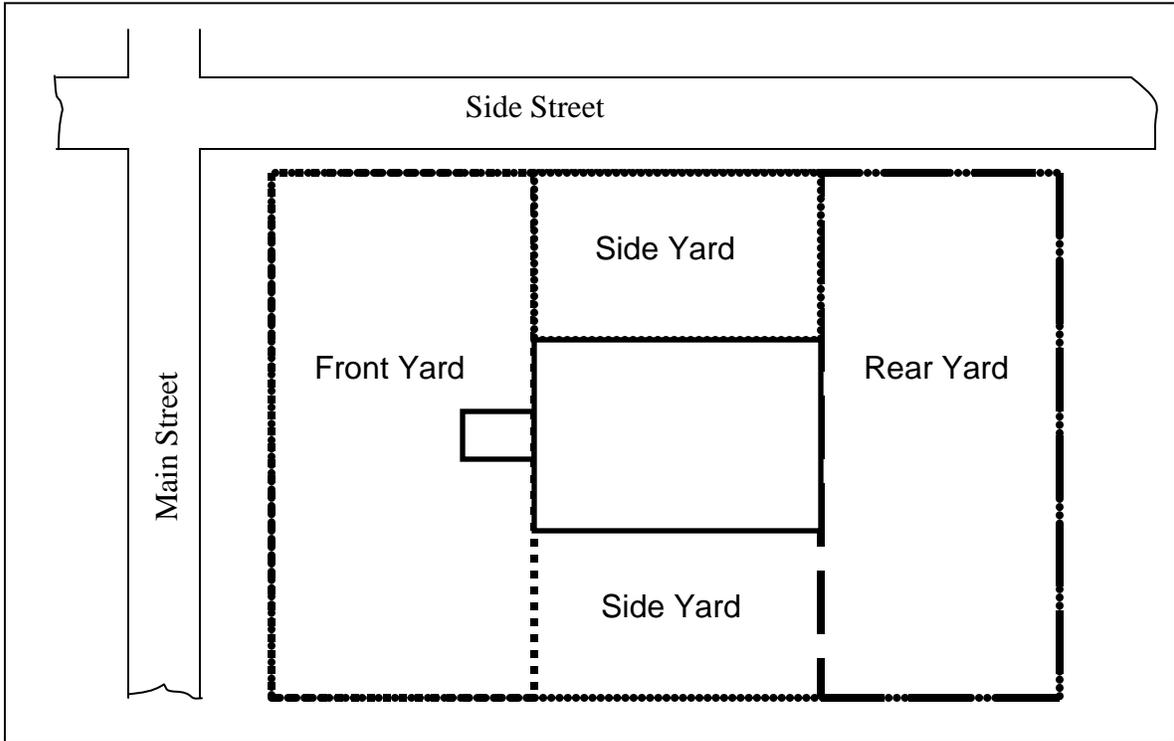
preferred materials, and shall not exceed 3" in height above said utility. In other respects these screenings shall adhere to the same historic guidelines as in residential areas. Parking lot walls shall be of brick, not to exceed 3 feet in height. Large dumpsters shall be surrounded on ALL sides by commercial grade vinyl or wood fencing, dark in color, and shall be no taller than 3" above the dumpsters

~~4.6.16~~ **4.6.15** *When shielding residential utilities, areas shall follow the existing guidelines for fences and walls, and shall not exceed 3" above the height of the utility.*

~~4.6.14~~ **4.6.13** Masonry walls that were historically unpainted should not be painted. Repainting previously painted masonry walls is permitted.



~~4.6.15~~ **4.6.14** Retaining walls, when visible from a public right-of-way, must be constructed of brick or stone. Landscape timbers and railroad ties may be used when they are not visible from the public right-of-way.



*Typical Yard Layout
(figure 4.1)*