

GOOD FENCES DO GOOD NEIGHBORS MAKE

Or so the saying goes....

Catherine Morley

However, when our homes were constructed the front yards were open and landscaped with grass, flowers and shrubs. The green front yard framed the house, allowing the architecture of the house to be enjoyed from the street and sidewalk.

Today, some homeowners want fences for privacy and security. They



The writer's fence acts as a trellis to allow her roses to flourish

fence can be an attractive addition to the property. If you make a decision to



A wisteria encroaches the Long Beach Pergola

may need the protection of a fence to keep children and dogs secured.

The preservation guidelines, which apply to exterior restoration on our homes, apply to any fences, arbors, or pergola's we install as well. These guidelines are in place to protect the historic character and integrity of the property as a whole.

Fencing can enhance or detract from the architectural character of the home. A compatible

fence should be an attractive addition to the property. If you make a decision to install fencing the material used should match the materials found on your house. If your home is wood the fence should be wood. The fence should be simple in design so that it does not compete with the architecture. Plan your fence so that there is space to plant flowers and bushes to soften the look and create attractive landscaping. Fences which are constructed with modern materials such as steel, unfinished concrete block and chain link are modern materials which are not compatible and are not advised. Elaborate ornamental fences detract from the architecture of the home. Solid fences that form

a solid wall across the front of the property are discouraged.

Should you consider installing a fence, a City of Long Beach building permit is required as well as a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Neighborhood Historic Preservation Office. Contact the Preservation Office (562.570.6864) for additional information and to obtain the application form. Working together, we can keep our neighborhoods historic integrity intact. ♦