



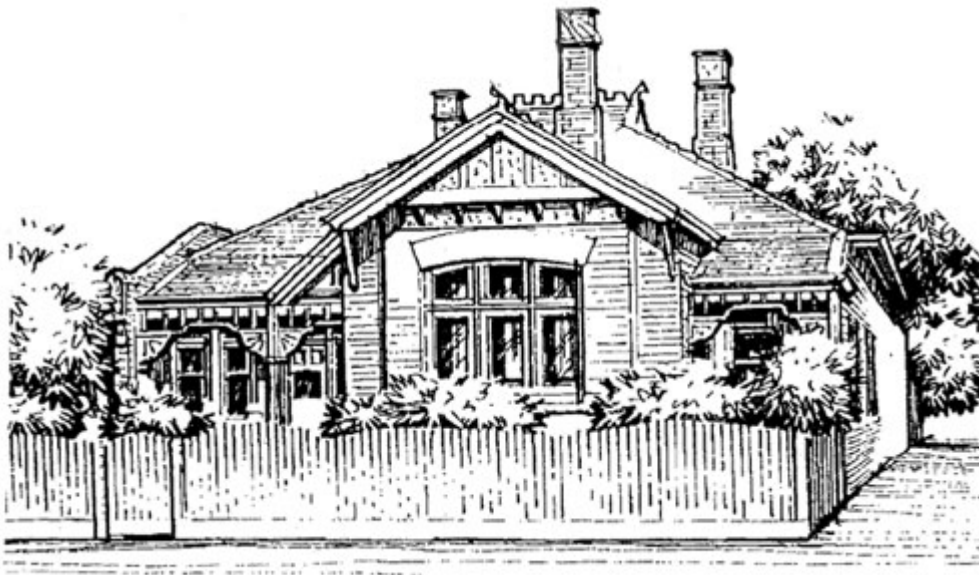
### FEDERATION & EDWARDIAN FRONT FENCES

- Planning Permits are required for all fences in Heritage Overlay Areas of the City of Port Phillip;
- This guideline provides options for and information on fencing for Federation & Edwardian dwellings. This guideline can help you select the appropriate period type fence and its details. This guideline should be read in conjunction with the 'Fencing Application Form' for a fast track planning permit approval.

#### 1.0 CHARACTERISTICS OF EDWARDIAN/FEDERATION DWELLING TYPES

Free standing, attached or terraces.

The Edwardian/Federation period was one of great diversity in types of dwellings, their built form and details. There are a number of specific styles identified under the general heading, eg, Queen Anne, Arts and Crafts, Freestyle, Gothic, Anglo-Dutch, Romanesque, and Transitional forms from the earlier Victorian (usually subtle variations) and to later styles such as Bungalow and Interwar arts and crafts. A number of books explain the period<sup>1</sup>. In the melting pot of innovation and creativity of this short period (1890-1915), the vernacular expression of these styles in dwellings was frequently eclectic and individual buildings can defy classification.



<sup>1</sup> Apperly R, Irving R, Reynolds P, *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture*, (Angus and Robertson, 1989.)

Frazer H, Joyce R, *The Federation House, Australia's Own Style*, (Lansdowne Press 1986).

Howells T, Nicholson M, *Towards the Dawn*, (Southwood Press, 1989).

In dwellings, the following characteristics can be used to define the period, if not the style.

- Large asymmetrical hipped roof forms with projecting bays, secondary gables and gablets, diagonal gables, pyramidal roofs, attic dormers.
- Strongly projecting gable ends with brackets, half timbering, shingles, vents, gable end frames, etc.
- Exposed eaves rafters often without gutter boards.
- Terra cotta roof tiles and cresting, finials, gargoyles, etc. Slate and corrugated iron also used.
- Tall chimneys, terra cotta pots and vertical tabs.
- Verandah roofs contiguous with the main roof often with “broken back” pitch.
- Phasing out of cast iron decoration and its replacement with decorative timber, including turned and routed (grooved) posts, square posts with tapered chamfers, arches, frets and ladder frames. Federation cast iron is more geometric and flat.
- Introduction of roughcast stucco, mainly red brickwork, banding of brickwork with render (“blood and bandages”).
- Windows in multiple sets of casements with a level smaller casement hoppers above, bowed and boxed windows, stained leaded glass, portholes and other shapes in small windows.

Generally:

- Arts and crafts examples tend to be more plain with more vernacular detail.
- The Bungalow examples tend to be lower with broader more extensive verandahs and simpler detail. Attics are common.
- Terraced buildings tend to be closer to Victorian forms with variations in details and materials only.

## 2.0 FEDERATION & EDWARDIAN FENCE TYPES

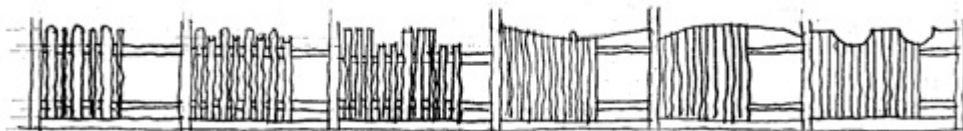
Always use simple types and details for simple dwellings. Timber picket and wire fences will always be appropriate. Brick and metal fences should only be used for brick dwellings.

### 2.1 TIMBER AND TIMBER AND WIRE

See Guideline 1A (Victorian timber fences). All these earlier types of fences can be used for Edwardian/Federation dwellings, but posts and pickets should be varied to Edwardian/Federation types. The following selected examples are more specific to the later period (there are many more).

#### 2.1.1 OPEN TOP PICKET TYPES (INTERMEDIATE POSTS OPTIONAL)

**A** Alternating width    **B** Alternating shape    **C** Castellated    **D** Shaped tops



**Closed top types (intermediate posts optional).**

**D** dual height

**E** With fret valance.

**F** Ladder frame

**G** Scalloped

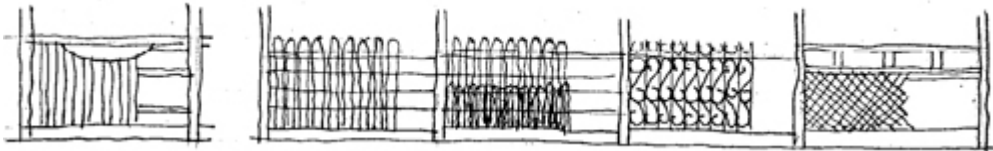


**Wire and metal strap (intermediate posts optional).**

**H** Woven "Emu" wire

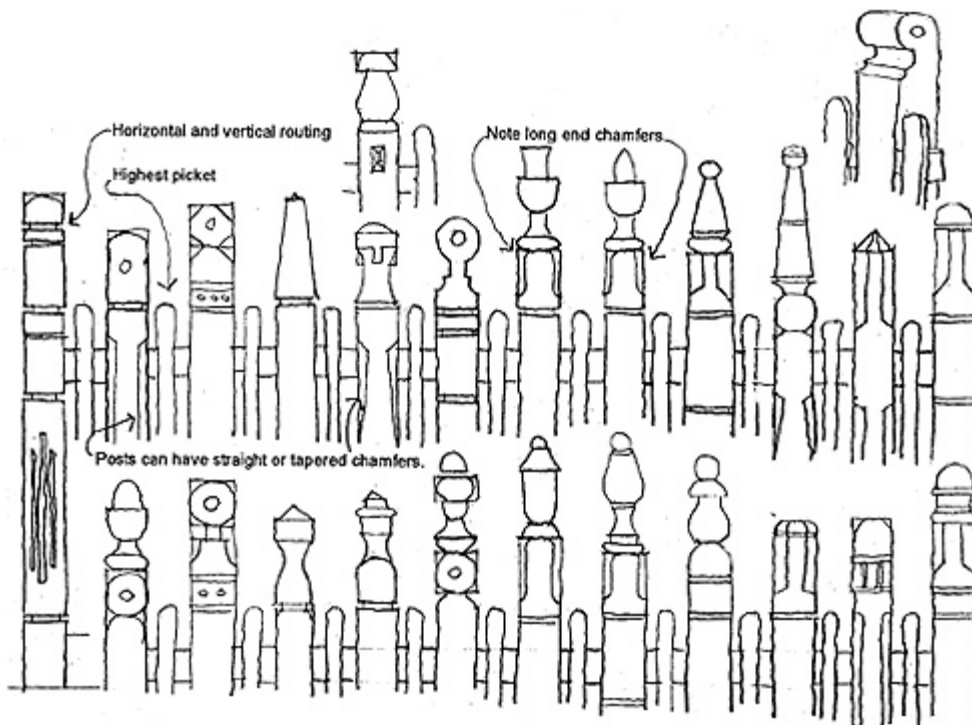
**J** Rolled steel

**K** Chain wire mesh



**2.1.2 A SELECTION OF MAIN POSTS**

(120-150mm square). Generally, turned post tops tend to taper.

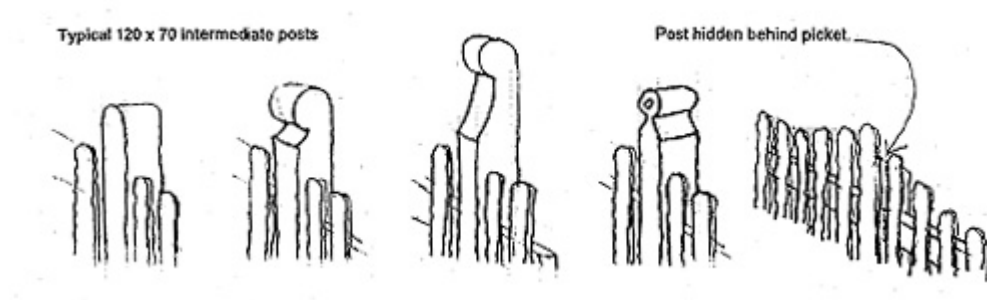


### 2.1.3 SECONDARY OR INTERMEDIATE POSTS

Main posts should be used at ends, gates and changes in direction of front fences. Secondary/intermediate posts should generally be hidden or be one of the examples below. These are characteristic Edwardian/Federation intermediate posts. The use of main posts in intermediate locations will be acceptable where the frontage exceeds 9 meters.

125 x 75 intermediate posts

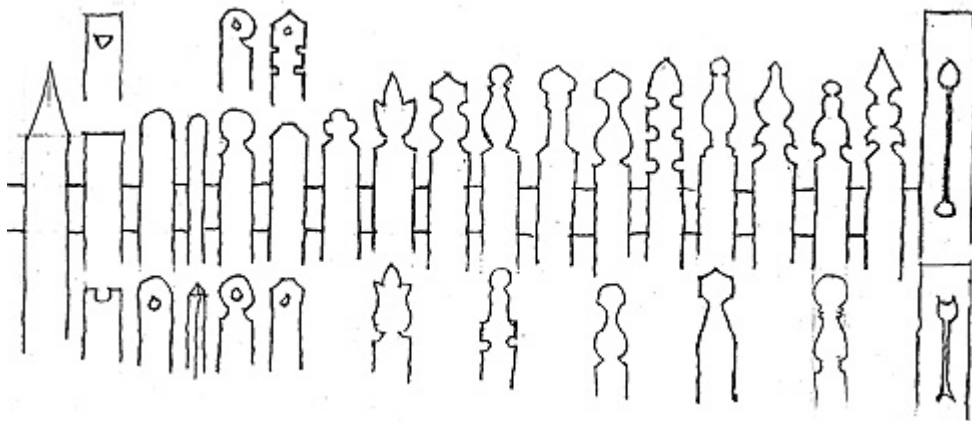
Post hidden behind picket.



### 2.1.4 A SELECTION OF PICKETS

35 x 20mm – 100X20mm. Varied spacing usually about 25mm.

Edwardian/Federation pickets were both simpler and more complex than the Victorian versions. The range is extensive. Simple types are best for new fences. Plain, slim semi-circular pickets are very appropriate.



## 2.2 FENCES USING MASONRY WITH SECONDARY MATERIALS

In the Edwardian/Federation period, the traditional cast iron palisade with iron or rendered piers (See Guideline 1B) gradually fell out of fashion and morphed into a combination of a higher brickwork base with a variety of materials making up the height. Full brick fences also became popular. There are numerous remaining examples of these types in Port Phillip and a selection of examples are appended. Below are the characteristic types.



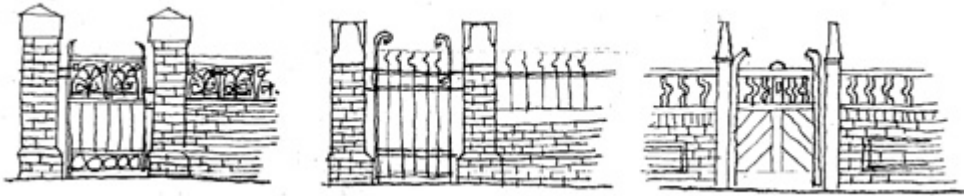
Victorian palisade fences should not be used for Edwardian/Federation dwellings unless there is specific evidence of their use on that site in the past, ie, in a terrace with a remnant fence.

**2.2.1 Brick and metal types (intermediate posts optional).**

**A** Brick and cast iron

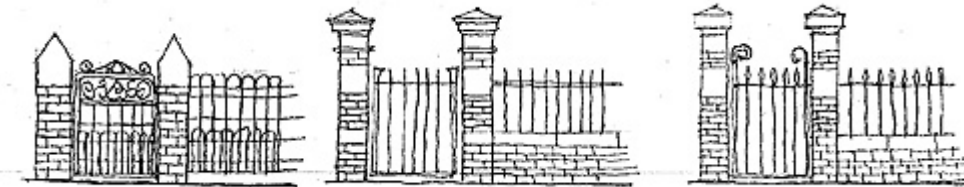
**B** Brick and wrought iron

**C** Brick and timber



**D** Brick and wire

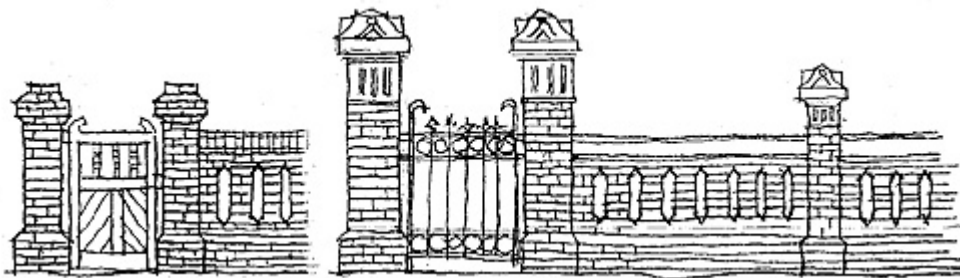
**E** Late palisade types (wrought tip or no tip).



**2.2.2 Brick types (intermediate posts optional).**

**D** Plain brickwork

**E** Brick and render



**2.3 GATES**

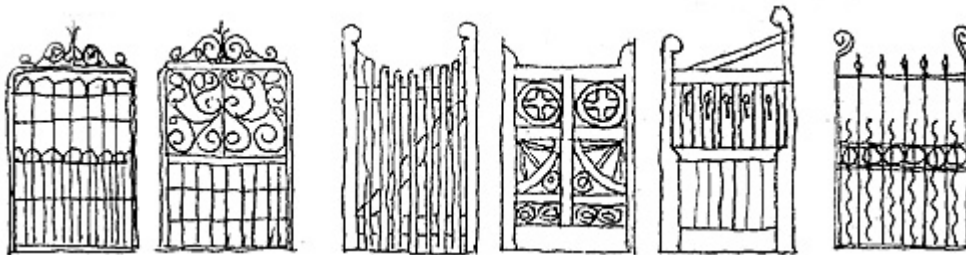
- The pedestrian gate may be asymmetrical on the frontage or at a corner.

- Recessed gates should generally be avoided and should not be used for single fronted dwellings or where the setback is less than 4 meters.
- Gates can be of different pattern to fence in order to emphasise entry point.
- Double gates to vehicular entries can match the pedestrian gate or the fence.
- Gates should have timber frames (avoid metal), the vertical members being expressed as shown below.

1. Wire gates.

2. Timber panelled gates.

3. Wrought iron gates.



### 3.0 GENERAL NOTES AND GUIDELINES.

- Variations to the guidelines will be acceptable where valid physical or photographic evidence is produced;
- Any elements of an existing historic fence, for example, an original remaining post should be retained and included in the new fence as the basis of its design;
- Any combinations of the suggested forms, posts, pickets, gates, etc, may be used;
- Fences should be kept as simple as possible, especially on simple dwellings. Avoid over-elaboration unless there is specific evidence;
- Brick and metal fences should only be used where buildings are constructed of brickwork or are rendered and are of more elaborate character;
- Fences for terraces or obvious groups, attached pairs, etc, should match. See Fence Policy HSPN 1 for further guidelines.

### 3.1 SLOPING FRONTAGES (See Guideline 1A).

### 3.2 HEIGHT OF FENCES

- Single storey dwellings, 1200 to 1350mm (measured from highest footpath level at lowest picket, see stepped fences above.)
- Two storey dwellings, 1200mm to 1650mm (solid fences no more than 1500)
- Higher fences may be acceptable where the floor level of the dwelling is considerably elevated above the footpath, or where there is a retaining wall at the frontage, to achieve 1200 internal height.

### 3.3 LOCATION OF FENCES

- Full width of the frontage with gates to all openings and with no setback. Do not place plants in front of fences.

- On corners of streets, the front fence should return along the side street to the line of the front of the house.
- On corners of lanes, the front fence should be to the frontage only.
- Dividing fences between sites should be of simple solid form or match front fence.

### 3.4 HEDGES

Hedges may be used for additional privacy.

### 4.0 CONSTRUCTION OF FENCES

Some fence builders frequently cut corners on the quality of materials and construction. See Guideline 1A for timber fences.

For all front fences, building permits are required if any part of a fence exceeds 1200 in height. Consult your Building Surveyor.

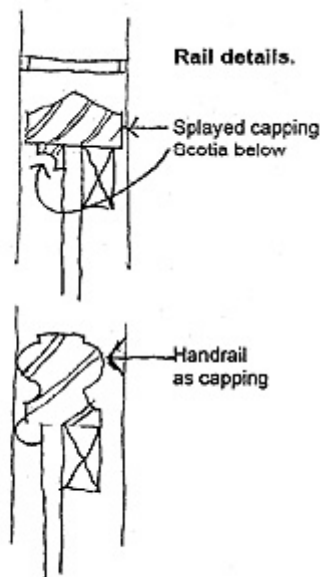
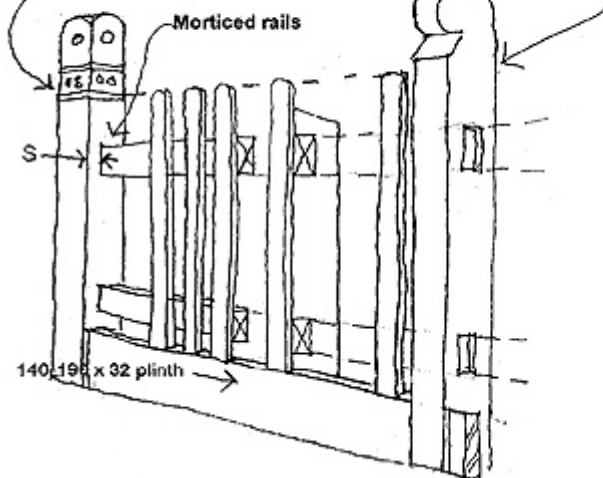
Woven wire fences should be "Emu" brand or equivalent quality. Some brands lack adequate rigidity.

Typical construction of timber fences.

S = plinth thickness plus 5mm.

120-140sq. main posts

70 x 120 intermediate posts



## **5.0 A SELECT LIST OF ORIGINAL EDWARDIAN/FEDERATION FENCES IN THE CITY OF PORT PHILLIP.**

### **Timber fences.**

48 Dickens Street, St Kilda.  
78 Armstrong St, Middle Park (post only).  
80 Armstrong Street, Middle Park (post only).  
203 Page Street, Middle Park (post only).  
1 York St, Middle Park (original posts had cast iron caps).  
66-76 Nimmo Street, Middle Park (some original, some reconstructed).  
37-39 Armstrong Street, Middle Park (parts only).

### **Brick fences.**

5 Tennyson St, Elwood.  
22 Mozart Street, St Kilda.  
2 Fitzroy Street, St Kilda.  
17 Robe Street, St, Kilda.  
79 Canterbury Road, Middle Park.  
14 York Street, Middle Park.  
68 McGregor Street, Middle Park.  
270 Beaconsfield Pde, Middle Park.

### **Brick and render fences.**

44 Mary Street, St Kilda West.  
8 Acland Street, St Kilda.  
5 Tennyson Street, St Kilda.

### **Brick and rolled steel fences.**

58 Tennyson St, Elwood.

### **Brick and wire fences.**

171-2 Canterbury Road, Middle Park.

### **Brick and cast iron fences.**

Grey Street, St Kilda.  
21-31 Mary Street, St Kilda West.  
7-11 Cowderoy Street, St Kilda West (frame over No 9 gate is not original).  
118 Canterbury Road, Middle Park.  
140 Canterbury Road, Middle Park.  
145 Canterbury Road, Middle Park.  
84 Armstrong Street, Middle Park.  
48 Patterson Street, Middle Park.  
7 Kerferd Road, Middle Park.  
11 Kerferd Road, Albert Park.

### **Traditional cast iron palisades on transitional buildings.**

169 – 179 Richardson Street, Middle Park.  
181-191 Richardson Street, Middle Park.