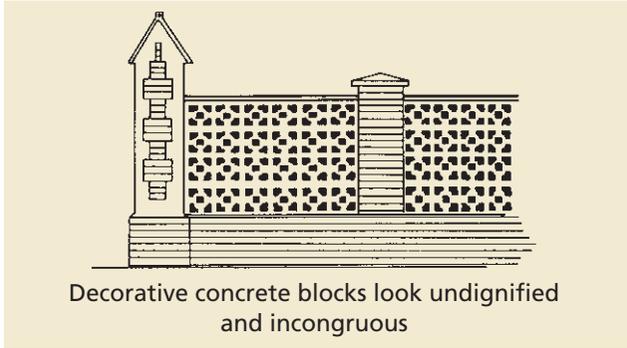


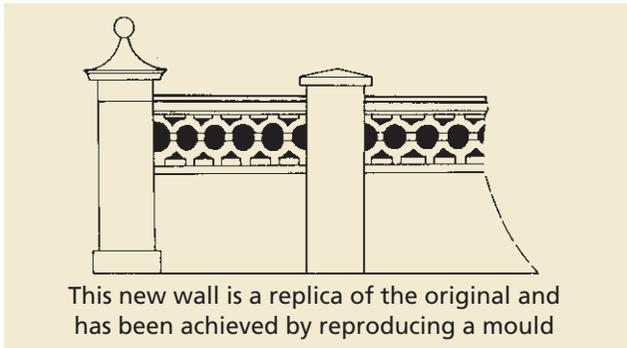
The Conservation Officer  
 Planning Services  
 Civic Offices, Guildhall Square  
 Portsmouth PO1 2AU  
 Phone: 023 9284 1127  
 Email: [ben.cracknell@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:ben.cracknell@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

# Boundary treatments to Historic Buildings

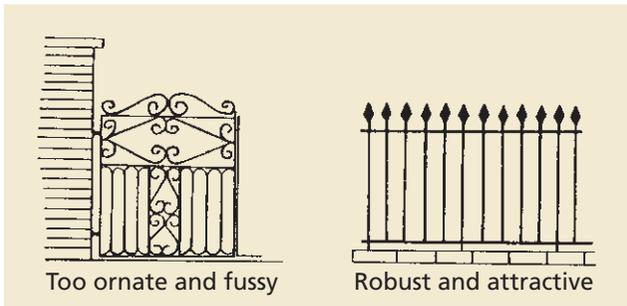
## Conservation and planning advice



been replaced. If re-building or replacement is proposed then every effort should be made to establish the original design or to achieve an appropriate alternative.



Where railings/gates exist or are proposed, a black painted finish is nearly always the most acceptable colour. A plain vertical design, as opposed to over-fussy and ornate wrought iron is considered most appropriate especially where the property is domestic in scale.



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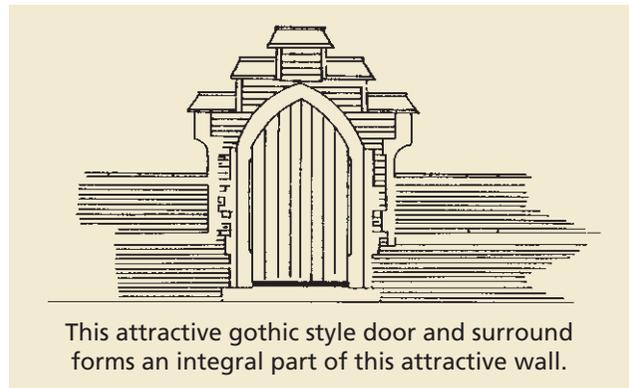
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## Introduction

Most historic buildings in the City are either Georgian or Victorian period, although a small number have even earlier origins. The boundary treatment of these buildings is an integral part of the architectural design.



## Legal Position

Within conservation areas, demolition of walls or any other means of enclosure, generally requires conservation area consent except where:

- the gate, wall, fence or railing is less than 1 metre high where adjoining a public highway or public open space;
- or 2 metres high in any other case;
- an Article 4(2) Direction is in place.

For boundary walls and other means of enclosure around a listed building, any demolition, in whole or in part, would require listed building consent if it were to affect the character or appearance of that building.

Any repairs carried out to the boundary treatment of a property within a conservation area or around a listed building, would generally not require consent unless the character of the structure was to be altered.

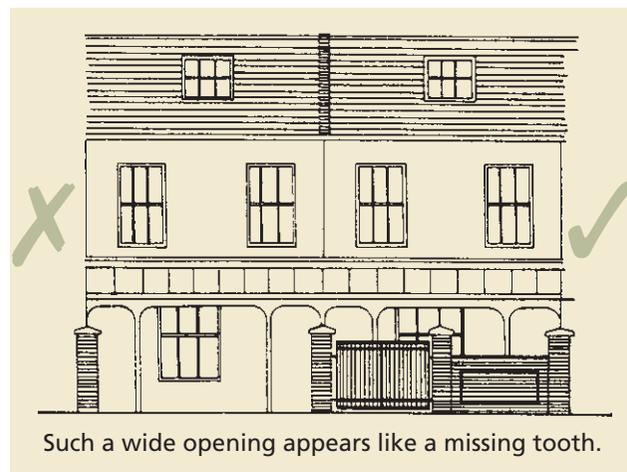
For non-listed historic buildings outside the boundaries of a conservation area, demolition of boundary walls does not require the consent of

the Local Planning Authority. However, removal of boundary walls may have a detrimental effect upon the character of the historic building and is strongly discouraged.

To be sure of the legal position it is always advisable to check with the Planning Services before carrying out any works involving change to the boundary treatment of an historic building. A contact address and telephone number is provided overleaf.

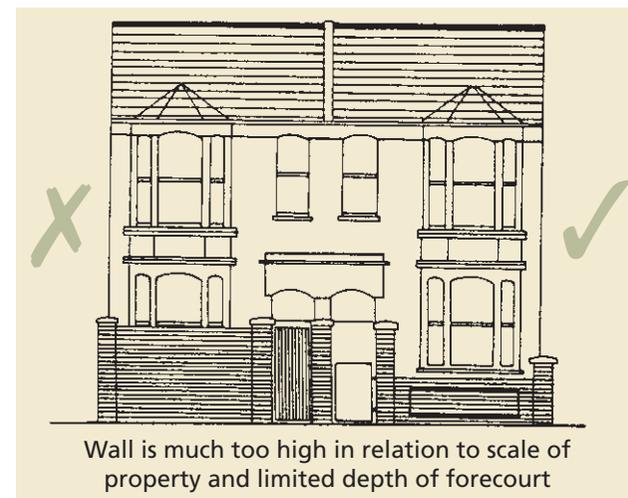
## Guidelines

Wherever possible, original and other attractive boundary walls fronting a highway should be retained, including entrances and gates. The demolition of a wall fronting a terraced row of houses should be avoided as the continuity of the terrace can be lost.



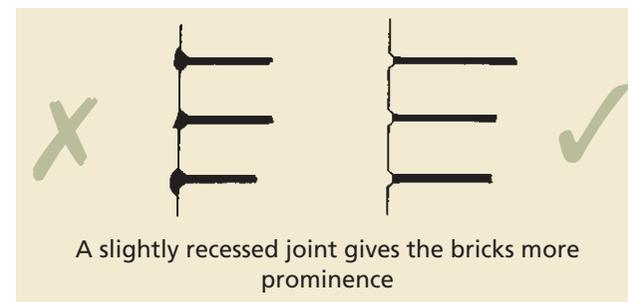
Where a vehicular entrance is to be formed, care should be taken to retain the integrity of the streetscene. Containing the access with substantial gate piers is desirable.

The height of a wall or other means of enclosure in relation to the forecourt/front garden and scale of the property is important. Often increasing the height of a wall results in a situation which is visually discordant.



Where repair is necessary, second hand or salvaged bricks and stone should be considered. If this is not possible then great care should be taken to select appropriate new materials.

If the wall is beyond repair, then re-building should take place to copy the existing wall if it is an attractive feature in the streetscene. In addition to the use of salvaged bricks/stone, care should be taken to use an appropriate mortar mix and to achieve joints which are both historically and technically correct.



Decorative concrete blocks, heavily textured render finishes and timber fences are unacceptable materials for boundaries fronting a road.

Sometimes existing walls/fences/railings are clearly unsympathetic, the original structures having