

Your Yard

Decorate Yards With Ornamental Fencing

(NAPSA)—Like the wrought iron of the past, today's ornamental fences add distinction to any yard, and with new materials and coatings available, require less maintenance.

"Many consumers choose ornamental fencing because it is a strong, secure fence with an open design that doesn't detract from landscaping," revealed Paul Bulten, of Ameristar Fence Products in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Ornamental fences can be made of maintenance-free aluminum or vinyl, or steel with a rust-resistant coating.

Black and white are standard colors for ornamental fences, and some brown, gray, green or bronze finishes are also available. For an additional expense, colors can be matched to a home.

Personalizing an ornamental fence is easy. Homeowners can choose arched or swooping pickets, add extra rails or use rings, ball caps, scrolls or finials in the same or a complementing color, to create the fence of their dreams. Twisted pickets add a customized feel to a fence.

Aluminum and vinyl ornamental fences require little maintenance. Periodic washing is all the maintenance required. Ornamen-



A top rail gives this ornamental fence distinction.

tal steel fences with a low-end finish on them should be repainted periodically to avoid rust, while higher end coatings may only require a little touch up painting if the coating is breached, according to Bulten.

In addition to their good looks, ornamental fences provide good security and are often used around pools because they are hard to climb and provide an unrestricted view of the property.

To find a reputable fence contractor, call the American Fence Association at (800) 822-4342 or visit the Web site at www.americanfenceassociation.com.