



Garden District Balcony, New Orleans, LA

Iron Work

Wrought iron balconies are probably the best known and most visible of the blacksmith's decorative contributions to the New Orleans cityscape. Bending and twisting relatively thin bars into whatever patterns were requested, they provided an ornate filigree of iron that served to dress up a building's sober facade. On occasion, blacksmiths would even combine some decorative castings with their forge work. Cemeteries were yet another context where the decorative efforts of blacksmiths were prominently on display.