MUNICIPALITY OF PORT HOPE

HERITAGE DESIGNATION

Address: 118 Bruton Street

Known as: James Leslie Cottage

Architectural Style: Ontario Cottage - Regency

Date Built: Circa 1854

Date Designated: August 30, 1993 to By-Law No. 42/93, SCHEDULE B-3

Lot Description: PLAN 1 PT LOT 6 N/BRUTON ST



Architectural Description

This is a simple one storey Ontario Cottage style house built likely circa 1854. The symmetrical front facade has two large six over six windows and a central door with sidelights. This entrance has been restored and although some of the wood detailing is not authentic, the overall impact is sympathetic with the period of the house.

The six over six windows have aluminium storm windows replacing original wood storm windows and shutters that are not authentic. The brick is a red brick laid in running bond which has been cleaned. In some areas there is evidence of brick spalling. The windows have attractive flat arch headers.

The rear portion of the house has had new windows added replacing the original but do not detract from the character of the house. At the rear is a new board and batten frame addition and is not part of this designation.

The roof is a low slope cottage roof with asphalt shingles. Originally shingles could have been wood. New aluminium soffits have replaced original wood soffits. The foundation is stone. A new wood front stoop has been added and is not in character with the original house.

This house, despite some of its improvements, is a good example of an Ontario Cottage style prevalent in Port Hope making it worthy of designation.

Historical Abstract

The property on which the house is situated was part of the original land acquired by Toronto banker, Thomas Gibbs Ridout. The Ridout Subdivision was Lot 8 in the First and Broken Front Concession of the Hope township survey. His land holdings extended from Victoria Street on the west, to Jocelyn Street in the north, to east of Julia Street in the east. This land was Clergy Reserve, transferred to King's College in 1828 and registered to Thomas Gibbs Ridout in 1832. He transferred the lot to the Bank of Upper Canada and bought it back in 1844. Subdivision of the property and sale of the lots began in 1847.

In 1854, he sold a part of lot 6 to James Leslie. The house does not appear on the Wall and Forrest Map of 1853, but does appear on a map of the Town dated 1854. This suggests Mr. Leslie built the cottage on the property immediately upon purchase of the land because in 1854, he sold the property to Samuel Sevey.

James Leslie (1829-1904) was born in Ireland later emigrating to Canada. By 1851, he is listed as a plasterer residing on Bruton Street. In 1857, after the sale of the above property, he is listed as a plasterer residing on Sullivan Street.



Architectural Detail

This entrance has been restored and although some of the wood detailing is not authentic, the overall impact is sympathetic with the period of the house.