MUNICIPALITY OF PORT HOPE

HERITAGE DESIGNATION

Address: 162 Peter Street

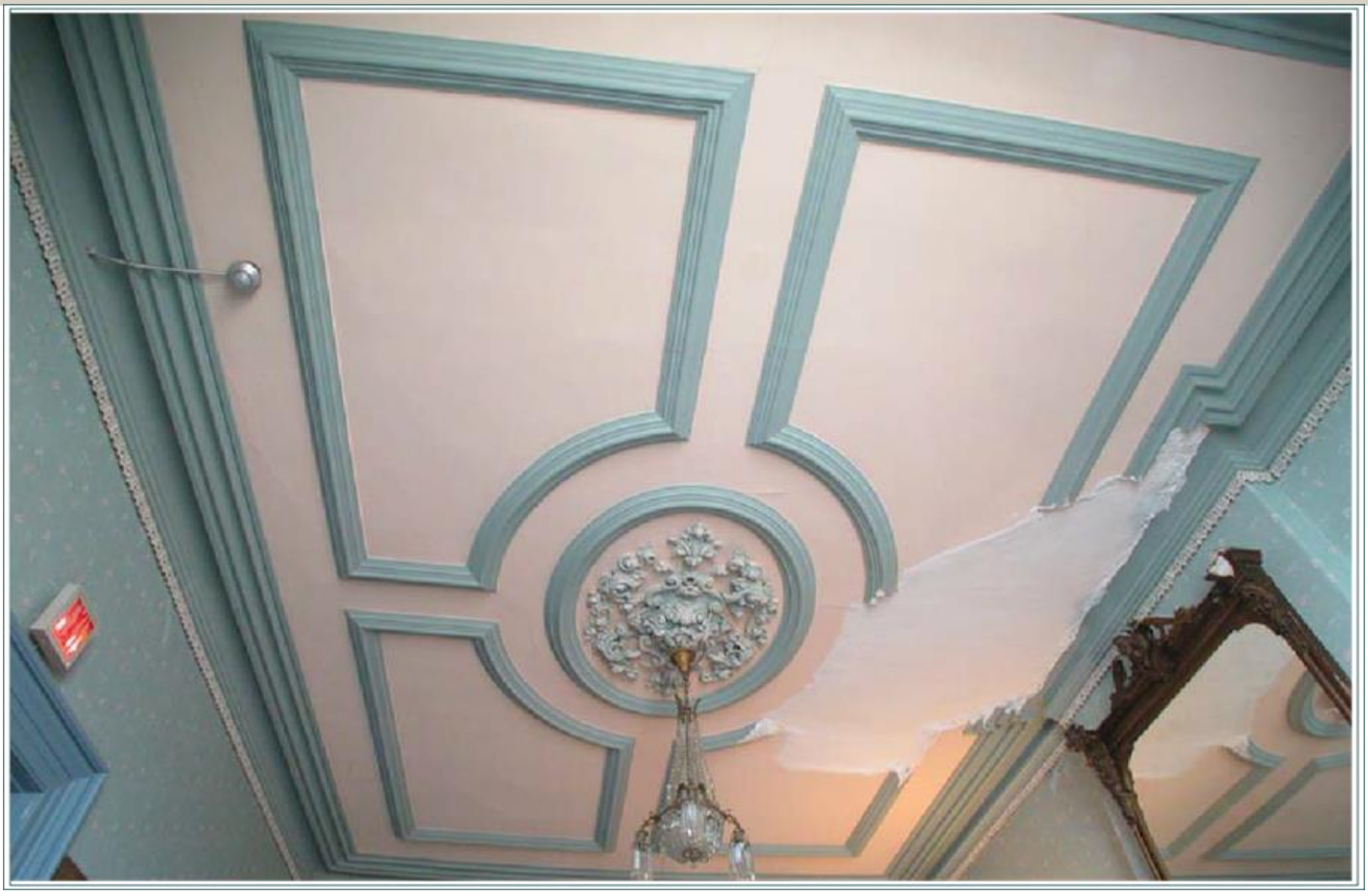
Known as: John Helm Jr. House (Belgrave) Interior Room - Durham

Architectural Style: Italianate

Date Built: Circa 1866

Date Designated: September 30, 1985 to By-Law No. 62/85, SCHEDULE B-4

Lot Description: CON BF PT LOT 3



Architectural Description

The Durham Room - Central plaster medallion, moulded plaster ceiling, wide plaster cornices, deep baseboards and wooden trim around doors and windows. Marble mantelpiece typical of the mid-Victorian period.

Historical Abstract

John Helm Jr. (1816-1912) was a prominent local businessman who established a foundry and machine shop on Mill Street in 1849, capable of making steam engines, boilers, threshing machines, and reaping machines. The foundry was later located at Queen and Peter Streets powered by Helm's Dam on the Ganaraska River. He learned the trade from his father, John Helm Sr. at his father's foundry on College Street in Cobourg.

John Helm acquired approximately thirty acres of land including property purchased from George Gladman in 1856 on a neighbouring lot (180 Dorset Street East) in order to build his estate. He constructed his house, Belgrave, in 1866.