MUNICIPALITY OF PORT HOPE

HERITAGE DESIGNATION

Address: 71 Brown Street

Known as: John Hutchins House

Architectural Style: Victorian

Date Built: Circa 1882 (original cottage Circa 1856)

Date Designated: October 23, 1989 to By-Law No. 91/89, SCHEDULE B-12

Lot Description: STEWART PLAN PT LOT 74



Architectural Description

This two storey brick house sports a gable roof; to the rear stands a gable-roofed kitchen tail. The house has a narrow frontage, accented by a prominent three-sided bay window, which rises the full height of the house. The bay lends the house a distinctive vernacular look not without a certain charm.

The bay is plainly appointed. The attic storey is graced by a diminutive round-arched. window. The apex of the gable is emphasized in vertical wood trim and flanked by similarly styled plain wooden motifs. The verandah, which is squeezed into the corner of the facade, adopts a lighter tone with collared posts and modest scrollwork

Other features worthy of mention are the remaining chimney, the arrangement of windows, the window glass (many of the stained perimeter panes are still in evidence) and shutters. The front entrance is topped by a transom. A small, delicately trimmed verandah is wedged into the small space over the front door.

Historical Abstract

The house is situated on Lot 13 on the east side of Brown Street comprised of Lots 74 of the original Town Plots, part of the original land that was granted to Elias Smith and Jonathan Walton in 1797. John P. McDermot and James B. Walsh, local businessmen acquired many of the lots in Town Plot Lot 74 in 1852. The subdivision of lots on Brown Street was registered in 1854, on Plan 18. J. Hutchins purchased the property on which this house is situated in 1856 from McDermot and Walsh.

In 1856 business directories, John Hutchins gave his address as Harcourt Street. By 1868, he was a miller residing on Brown Street. Originally from England, John Hutchins was born in 1831. On the Bird's Eye View of Port Hope of 1874, a small cottage perhaps one and a half storey with the gable end to the street appears on this lot built some time after the land was purchased in 1856.

In 1882, John Hutchins took out a mortgage with Robert Chalk, owner of Chalk Carriage Works (46 Cavan Street) suggesting he was going to expand or rebuild the building. In 1882, he sells the house to Joseph W. Craig realizing a significant profit from the amount of the mortgage suggesting the house had now been modified or rebuilt. Certain features of the house can be seen in some neighbourhood houses having a contemporary construction date. The wood detailing under the eaves can be seen on houses on South Street (39-41 South Street).

Joseph Wilkinson Craig was the son of William Craig of William Craig and Sons Tannery. The Tannery was located south and north of this house on Cavan Street near Bedford on the west side of the street. In an 1880 business directory, prior to moving to this house with his wife Eva and three small children, he provides his occupation as tanner, and he resided at Barrett's Terrace as a tenant. The Joseph Craig family resided on Brown Street until 1889 when the house was sold to Frederick Outram. Joseph Craig took up residency in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Frederick Outram had established the File Works in 1888, and later in 1905 purchased the Waddell Block on Walton (1-3 Walton Street) .

In 1897, the property transferred to his wife, Mary Wilkinson Outram. In 1905, the property was conveyed to son, George Alfred Outram, who had a hardware store in the Knowlson Block (98-106 Walton Street) from 1911 until his death.



Architectural Detail

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