MUNICIPALITY OF PORT HOPE

# HERITAGE DESIGNATION

## Address: 13 King Street

**Known as**: Joseph Clarke House

**Architectural Style:** Classic Revival

**Date Built:** Circa 1845

**Date Designated:** May 16, 1983 to By-Law No. 31/83, SCHEDULE B-6

**Lot Description:** TOWN PLOT PT LOT 12



## Architectural Description

Once a flat-topped townhouse, this home has been capped by a steeply pitched hipped roof. The addition of the new roof necessitated the removal of a flat front parapet wall. Cedar-shingled, flat-topped dormers sit on the roof. The eaves project and house a plain-boxed cornice. All the structural openings in this common-bond brick structure are set in recessed wall panels. The panels are separated by pilasters, which run up through the stepped decorative bricking found under the eaves. Most of the windows are two-panes over two set in flat openings with wooden lugsills and heavy lintels.

The main facade has a large, semi-elliptical picture window with a stained and leaded glass transom panel. A dentilled muntin separates the transom from the single pane below. The main entrance lies to the side under an open verandah. (At one time, the entrance was on the left of the main facade and enclosed within a wooden vestibule.) The hipped roof verandah is supported by small open brackets and bevelled posts. On the south facade is a one-storey bay and a two-storey frontispiece with paired two-pane-over-two windows and a pedimented gable.

## Historical Abstract

In 1830, John David Smith, who was the owner of Town Plot 12, sold three acres of land to John Hatton Jr. In 1853, John Hatton built a townhouse on a portion of the three acres (5 King Street). In 1844, he sold three quarter of an acre to Joseph Clarke. In the mid to late 1840's, Joseph Clarke is thought to have constructed this house. Joseph Clarke appears in early assessments for Port Hope in the late 1830's. By 1876, he has died and the house has been conveyed to his daughter, Sarah Jane Clarke. By 1884, Sarah Jane has married Thomas Long and has acquired her mother's dower right suggesting she and her husband were residing in the house. Thomas Long (1840-1913) was an insurance agent and dealer in musical instruments. His business was located in the Robertson Block (35 Walton Street). He was born in New York City in 1840 and emigrated to Newtonville at the age of five. He married Sarah Jane Clarke in 1876 and had one son, A.H.C. Long.

Tom Long established his insurance and ticket business in the Robertson Block in 1870, and until 1885, it ran in conjunction with the sale of musical instruments which Mr. Long gave up that year leaving R.B. Williamson to carry on the business. Williamson had been in the building with Tom Long since 1872. In 1882, the Bell Telephone Company established the first telephone switchboard in Port Hope in Tom Long's office, and his staff operated it. Tom Long moved his business to the Stevenson Block (18-22 Queen Street) at the turn of the century. Tom Long died suddenly in 1913. The house remained in the family for many decades.

The original house would have originally been constructed in the townhouse style evident in some other contemporary houses in the neighbourhood (92 King and 6 William Street) with an entrance on the street façade and a flat roof with parapet walls at the north and south end. Alterations were later made to the house including moving the entrance from the street front to the side, and adding a verandah. The flat roof with parapets was replaced with a hipped roof. Dormers were also added to the

roof but have since been replaced with skylights. The large semi-elliptical window in the front facade has been replaced by a double hung sash. The majority of the window sashes are now six over six.



**Architectural Detail**

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