MUNICIPALITY OF PORT HOPE

HERITAGE DESIGNATION

Address: 180 Dorset Street East

Known as: Margaret & Charles Stuart House (Ballintruan)

Architectural Style: Italianate

Date Built: Circa 1879 (original cottage circa 1843)

Date Designated: November 3, 1980 to By-Law No. 41/80, SCHEDULE B-4

Lot Description: CON 1 PT LOT 2



Architectural Description

Ballintruan is an excellent example of the later Victorian two-storey brick house of Port Hope comprising extensive additions and alterations by John E. Bilcher, architect and chartered surveyor in 1879 to an earlier building already on the site, named Hillside Cottage. The owner at the time was Charles Stuart. The house has a centre doorway, bay windows to the ground floor, segmental heads to windows above with a doorway to a balcony over the front verandah from the second floor. This central feature is essentially a pair of narrow round-headed doors or French windows set into an opening with a centre lozenge, the whole device resulting in a Florentine window. Above, with a separate low-pitched gable, above the main eaves, is a pair of round-headed attic windows.

The roof frame of the house is a low-pitched hip with centre flat deck, end chimneys, a projecting side wing to the rear, and a rear kitchen wing, both of two storeys. The brickwork is Flemish bond. The verandah remains but has been modified by the replacement of the original balustrades. Inside the house and above the vestibule doors is situated the Stuart Coat of Arms. Another interior feature is the three-panelled vaulted ceiling above the front staircase landing. The ceiling emphasizes an arched window (located in the north wall) of patterned opaque glass bordered by a band of red glass. Ballintruan was the name of Charles Stuart's home in Scotland. The initials C.S.J. are in the red glass panel over outside front door.

Historical Abstract

Ballintruan was owned by several generations of one family for a period of one hundred and seven years ending in 1948. The house stands on a parcel of land that was once part of a large property holding of J. T. Williams, owner of Penryn Homestead (82 Victoria Street South). In 1841, Williams sold to George Gladman part of lot two in concession one lying south of the Old Cobourg Road (Ward Street). Mr. Gladman sold parcels of this property, which comprised approximately twenty-five acres to John Helm Jr., Alexander Fisher and William Anderson in 1856. He retained the southerly parcel containing approximately twenty-five acres. A house named Hillside Cottage was constructed circa 1843.

George Gladman was born in Upper Canada in 1800. In 1848, Gladman was a merchant, and in a later business directory of 1857, he was a printer on Mill Street. By 1861, he was age 61 and a gentleman. When the railroad was built and crossed Rose Glen Road near Hillside Cottage, the crossing was referred to as Gladman's Crossing. Tragically, a Grand Trunk Railway train accidentally hit George Gladman in 1863. His property was left to his wife Harriet who conveyed it by deed to her son, Joseph Gladman. Joseph died in 1875 leaving the property to his wife Mary, and daughters Elizabeth Vincent and Margaret Stuart.

By 1878, Margaret Gladman Stuart was the sole owner of the property. Margaret and her husband, Charles, hired John E. Belcher, a Peterborough architect, to transform Hillside cottage into Ballintruan.

The property remained in the Stuart name until 1948 when Margaret Dorothy Grant sold the property to Murdoch and Lottie Johnston thus ending a century of ownership by the same family. In March 1955, the property was

purchased for the Anglican Special School for Girls.



Architectural Detail

This central window is essentially a pair of narrow round-headed doors or French windows set into an opening with a centre lozenge, the whole device resulting in a Florentine window.