MUNICIPALITY OF PORT HOPE

HERITAGE DESIGNATION

Address: 202 Walton Street

Known as: McDougall Smart House

Architectural Style: Classic Revival

Date Built: Circa 1850-53

Date Designated: September 19, 1983 to By-Law No. 51/83, SCHEDULE B-2

Lot Description: BALDWIN BLK PT 8



Architectural Description

202 Walton Street was built sometime previous to the construction of the railroad. It is a vernacular house with an interesting main facade. Throughout its history it has undergone a few changes: for example, there used to be a window well in front of the main facade, but this was filled in to make room for pavement. Shortly after the house was built a north wing was added on. The roof has a parapet gable roof trim, and it has no overhang where it slopes down on the north and south sides. Four single chimneys, two on either side of the gable peak, emerge from the parapet trim. The roof on the north wing is separate. The main facade has six openings: there are three equally spaced windows looking out from the second floor, and directly below are two more windows and the new front door with its single sash transom above. All of the windows have six-over-six vertical double hung sashes on the interior. On the exterior they all have single sashes, the ones on the main floor having two panes of glass each, and the ones above having four panes. The surrounds consist of wooden lugsills, voussoirs, and wooden moulding, which vary, being simpler on the second floor.

The brickwork is basically arranged in a stretcher bond pattern, but this is broken at equal intervals by four pilasters. Also, just below the roof line, some brick dentations decorate the wall's surface. The west facade is broken where the oldest part of the house meets the north wing. In this older section there is a three-panel back door with a three-pane transom on the main floor, two six-over-six vertical double hung sashes on the second floor, and, lighting the attic, there is a six-pane casement window. Around the back door there is a small inner closed porch composed of panels of wood and glass divided by chamfered strappings. A large porch extends over this and down to the road. It has an elevated concrete floor on which stands four columns: these columns are square-based and have bevelled edges. They are crowned with simple capitals, and from these, decorative supports and small brackets extend up to the roof. On the north wing of the west façade, there are two windows with large single four pane sashes on the exterior, and six-over-six double hung sashes on the interior, as well as a single sash window with four panes at the basement level (which now serves as a door).

The east facade stares directly into the west facade of 200 Walton Street. However, there are a few openings that stare directly into this brick wall; a clear indication that 202 Walton Street was built sometime before its neighbour. These openings include a single sash eight pane basement window, a small double sash bathroom window, and a freshly re-cut attic window which looks over the town. Also in the north wing one can find two more six-over-six windows. The rear (north) facade has three windows, one on the main floor and two on the second, all of which are similar to the ones found on the west facade's floor. Here, like the two adjacent facades, and unlike the main facade, the bricks are laid in a common bond pattern. Also dentils decorate the top of the wall's surface. At the very north end of the house there is an old shed attached to the north facade. It has a roof, which slants at a medium pitch down to the west side. Also on the west side, cut into the board surface, there are two old six-pane windows. An interesting

detail of the garden is a recent addition of a picket fence that replaces the original one. This used to belong to a house in Bowmanville. Also in the garden, on the west side, there are concrete stairs and a wall of the same material. It is thought that below all of this one can find the well.

Historical Abstract

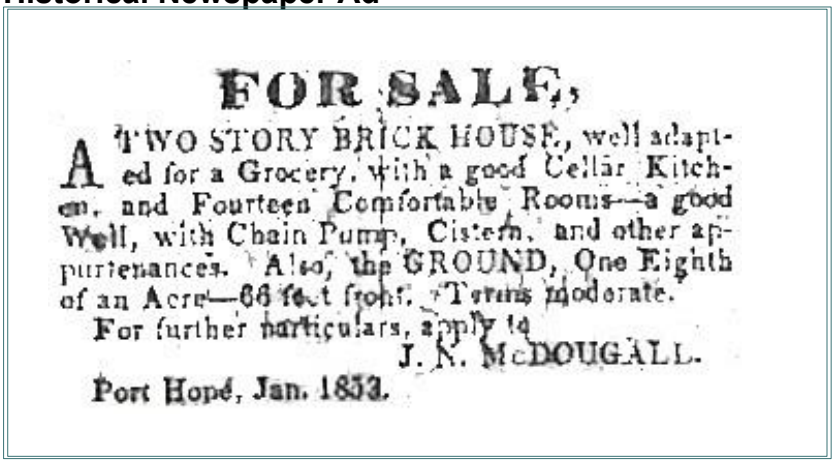
James Madison Andrews and Henry Howard Meredith ons-in-law of John Brown, early Port Hope settler, acquired the property in 1850. In 1853, they sold the property, which may have now included a house, to J.S. McDougall, a boot maker, who in turn sold to John Smart (1825-1891) the same year.

Smart, originally from Montrose, Scotland married a Smith, Catherine Sophia Smith, daughter of E.P. Smith who, in 1850, had constructed the E.P. Smith Block (34-46 Walton Street). In addition to purchasing this property, Smart purchased the property on which 69-71 Walton Street was erected in 1853, and arranged for the construction of the commercial block.

John Smart was an agent for the Bank of Upper Canada prior to its demise in 1866. In 1851, he was an accountant, broker and notary and an agent for the lots being sold by Thomas G. Ridout as part of his extensive land holdings. He was briefly an insurance agent in 1865, and then by 1868, he was Manager of the Ontario Bank that had been established in 1857. In 1867, he was appointed Town Clerk Treasurer. Upon John Smart's death in 1891, he had acquired a considerable amount of property in Port Hope including numerous lots on Merritt, Thomas and Sherbourne Streets, 69-71 Walton Street, and his residence "Medalta" located on Pine Street (71 Pine Street North).

John Smart sold the house in 1874 to Robert Mulligan, the proprietor of a grocery store on Walton Street. 202 Walton remained in the Mulligan family for many years. After the death of Robert in 1887, the house transferred to his wife, Julia and then to his daughter-in-law, Adelaide Mulligan. In 1890, it was sold to Alfred Skitch, third generation tailor of the Skitch tailoring business.

Historical Newspaper Ad



FOR SALE,

A TWO STORY BRICK HOUSE, well adapted for a Grocery, with a good Cellar, Kitchen, and Fourteen Comfortable Rooms—a good Well, with Chain Pump, Cistern, and other appurtenances. Also, the GROUND, One Eighth of an Acre—66 feet front. Terms moderate.

For further particulars, apply to

J. N. McDOUGALL.

Port Hope, Jan. 1853.

A For Sale Notice that appeared in the paper for this house in 1853 when J. McDougall wanted to sell.