MUNICIPALITY OF PORT HOPE

HERITAGE DESIGNATION

Address: 25 John Street

Known as: Meredith House

Architectural Style: Victorian

Date Built: Circa 1853

Date Designated: April 15, 1985 to By-Law No. 21/85, SCHEDULE B-4

Lot Description: STEWART P PT TOWN PLOT 55



Architectural Description

This symmetrical design with two-storey bay windows flanking the wide double entrance is a good example of late Victorian brick building and for us a notable feature on John Street. Decorative trim appears on the front facade. A flat roof, simple chimney, and two-storey verandah are additional features. 25 John Street is a late Victorian building of symmetrical design. It is an integral part of John Street.

Historical Abstract

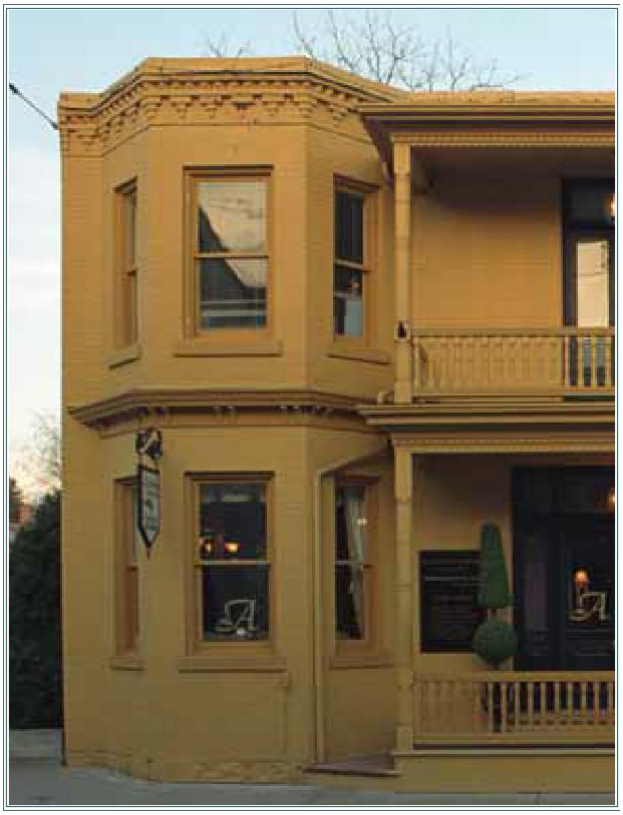
In 1853, H. H. Meredith purchased the lot on which this building stands and three years later he sold the property to Charles Cameron, a physician.

Henry Howard Meredith (1815-1892) was a prominent figure in Port Hope. He was a native of Ireland who came to Canada in 1829. In 1840, he married Margaret Brown, the third daughter of John Brown, a notable early settler. Meredith, along with his father-in-law, John Brown, and brother-in-law, James Madison Andrews, ran the Port Hope Harbour and Wharf Company until 1851 when the Board of Harbour Commissioners was established. Meredith was secretary for the Company from 1829 to 1851. Over the next decade, he would acquire extensive real estate holdings including the Crawford Block (41 Mill Street N.), and blocks on Walton Street (53-57, 59, 63 and 65 Walton Street) and his estate Hill and Dale to the north of this lot (47 Pine Street South)

The building is thought to have been constructed between 1853 and 1856 possibly when Dr. Charles Cameron took out a mortgage from H.H. Meredith. In 1856, Dr. Cameron provides John Street as the address of his medical practice in partnership with Dr. James Gilchrist. Dr. Cameron had his office at this location until 1875.

The building continued to be used as the location for a doctor's office in the twentieth century. In 1908, the building was used as a doctor's office when Dr. W. McKinley purchased it. He used it as a private hospital for many years. Another doctor, Dr. Tucker purchased the building in 1947.

In 1967, notable Canadian author and Port Hope resident, Farley Mowat purchased the property. The building is now being used as a commercial block.



Historical Newspaper Ad

C. McD. Cameron, A. B., M. D.
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON,
AND
ACCOUCHEUR,
JOHN STREET, PORT HOPE.

An advertisement that appeared in the local paper in 1856 indicating that Dr. Cameron had his office located on John Street. His practice included physician and surgeon, and accoucheur or obstetrician.

Architectural Detail

The facade to John Street with two-storey bay windows flanking the wide double entrance is a good example of late Victorian brick building. Decorative brickwork accentuates the front facade.