MUNICIPALITY OF PORT HOPE

HERITAGE DESIGNATION

Address: 254 Ridout Street

Known as: Richard Trick House

Architectural Style: Ontario Cottage - Regency

Date Built: Circa 1850

Date Designated: December 6, 1982 to By-Law No. 03/82-83, SCHEDULE B-2

Lot Description: RIDOUT PLAN 1 PT LOT 4



Architectural Description

This house is one of the finest examples of a brick Ontario Cottage in Port Hope. It is a raised cottage with the front entrance elevated from street level and approached by double stairs. This is tastefully done from ground level, leaving the main entrance elevated and approached by stairs. The heavy lintels of the basement windows form a continuous line with the entrance platform. Incredible care and planning show in the form and details of the house. Capping the house is a low-pitch hipped roof with projecting eaves and a centre gable. The cornice is boxed and has fine crown moulding. Each corner and the ends of the gable have small acorn drops. A turned finial and drop pierce the front gable apex. Beneath the eaves is an interesting brick frieze. The frieze consists of protruding brick courses enclosing brick dentilling. An open circle of brickwork decorates the front gable.

All of the front facade windows have timber lintels, which appear to be twice the height of the lugsills below. The main-storey openings hold paired, double-sash windows with doubled, mullioned transoms above. These casement windows are much the same, although larger, as the lower windows. At each window corner, just under the lintels, protruding blocks have been placed. This small but classic example of imagination and care on the part of the planner suggests an eared treatment. The main entrance in its moulded housing consists of a panelled door, flanked by sidelights. Topping the door is an unusual ogee transom with well-arranged muntins. The corners of the house exhibit brick quoins. The entire house is a showcase for the talents of Richard Trick, the original owner of this house, and a prominent local bricklayer.

Historical Abstract

Lot 4 of the Ridout Plan on which this house is situated was part of the original land acquired by Toronto banker, Thomas Gibbs Ridout. Subdivision of the property and sale of the lots began in 1847. As this area of Port Hope developed, it was commonly referred to as "Englishtown".

Richard Trick (1822-1890), originally from Hartland, Devon, England, came to Canada with his brother William about 1836. He established himself as a local mason and was responsible for building many of Port Hope's important brick structures. Built circa 1850, during Port Hope's most prosperous period, the house is another excellent example of an outstanding dwelling being built by a local craftsman.

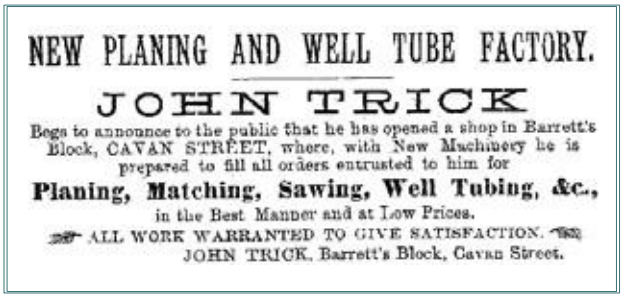
The land transactions for the property suggest the house was built circa 1850. The house appears on the 1853 Wall and Forrest Map of Port Hope identified as being owned by R. Trick. He and his brother William were listed as masons in several directories throughout the 1850's.

The Gothic arched ogee shaped transom is not a common shape for windows or arches. There are three houses in Englishtown displaying this type of main entrance: 254 Ridout Street, Richard Trick's house, 9 Church Street (William Trick's cottage) and the house located at 64 Charles Street. Some of our downtown structures exhibit R. Trick's craft including St. Mary's Church and the George Hooker House (160 Walton Street), and another nearby

residence, Brand House (350 Lakeshore Road).

Richard Trick died in 1890 leaving the house to his only son, John, who also played a prominent role in the local building trade. In the late 1860's he was a carpenter and then by the 1880's he had established his own business, J. Trick Planing Mill and Well Tube Factory located in Barrett's Block, Cavan Street. By the late 1890's, he had opened a grocery store in this residence on Ridout Street.

Historical Ad



NEW PLANING AND WELL TUBE FACTORY.

JOHN TRICK

Begs to announce to the public that he has opened a shop in Barrett's Block, CAVAN STREET, where, with New Machinery he is prepared to fill all orders entrusted to him for

Planing, Matching, Sawing, Well Tubing, &c.,

in the Best Manner and at Low Prices.

☞ ALL WORK WARRANTED TO GIVE SATISFACTION. ☜

JOHN TRICK, Barrett's Block, Cavan Street.

An ad from an 1880 business directory for Richard Trick's son, John's newly established business.



Architectural Detail

There are three houses in Englishtown displaying this type of main entrance: Richard Trick's House (254 Ridout Street); William Trick's House (9 Church Street); and a house located on Charles Street (64 Charles Street).