

Carleton Place Properties Designated Under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act



The Ontario Heritage Act provides for the designation of individual properties (Part IV of the Act) or heritage conservation districts (Part V).

Designation denotes a public recognition of the cultural heritage value of these buildings that are valued by the community for their contribution to our understanding and appreciation of the history of a place, event or people.

One of the most important tools used by the Town of Carleton Place to protect heritage resources is the designation of individual properties under Part IV (or districts under Part V) of the Act.

James Rosamond House

37 Bell Street

Plan 276, Part Lot 125, Section B

By-law 2-79



This house was built in 1832 for James Rosamond, one of the first industrial developers of Carleton Place. He started a woolen business in the 1830s with a small carding and fulling mill. In 1846 he built and operated a woolen mill along the Mississippi River close to the house. This was the first known textile mill run by waterpower in Eastern Ontario.

The lot was originally part of the 100-acre grant to William Morphy in 1819. The house remained in the Rosamond family for forty years. In 1857 James Rosamond moved to Almonte, and the house was occupied by his daughter Rosalind and her husband Dr. William Hurd until his death in 1870. The Muirhead family then purchased and lived in the home until 1957.

This is a fine example of a 2 ½ story Georgian style home, with a shingled gable roof with returning eaves. The rough dressed limestone was quarried locally. Flat radiating wedge shaped pieces of limestone form arches over the double hung windows. In 1900 the original front door was converted to a bay window, and the entranceway moved to the east side of the house. The frame kitchen wing was added in 1901.

David Findlay House

49 High Street

Lot 18, Plan 276, Section D

By-law 3-79



This red brick home was built by David Findlay in 1874, who had built his first iron foundry in 1862 on the lot directly behind the house. Findlay's Foundry operated in Carleton Place for 110 years, and Findlay stoves were sold around the world. It was one of the town's main industries, employing at its peak more than 400 people. David Findlay died in 1890 and his wife Catherine lived in the house until her death in 1933. The house remained in the Findlay family for 98 years, being used as a company guest house for the last 23 years.

The lot was originally part of a 100 acre Crown grant to Edmond Morphy, co-founder of Carleton Place, in 1819. It was acquired by Findlay, a Scottish immigrant who had settled in Perth prior to arriving in Carleton Place in 1860. He first built a log cabin with his small foundry behind. Here he produced castings for ploughs and coolers. When this brick house was built in 1874, the log building became the foundry office. A memorial playground and cairn mark the sites of these original structures.

The house consists of two sections, each with a gable roof, the larger main part being built first. Built during a prosperous time of building construction in Carleton Place, the house is characteristic of the larger, 2 ½ story brick houses of the 1870's.

Old Town Hall

267 Edmund Street

Part Lots 15, 16, 17, Plan 276, Section B

By-law 14-78

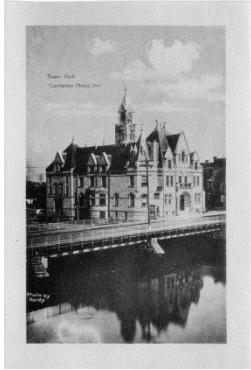


This limestone building was constructed as the Carleton Place Town Hall in 1872. After considerable controversy between north and south riverside residents, this site on the north side of the river was chosen by a ratepayers' vote.

Built by stonemason William Willoughby, the first floor contained a lock-up, council chambers and a caretaker's apartment. The upper floor was used as a public hall.

The town hall was converted into a public school in 1879. The council chambers moved to new quarters, but the lock-up remained in use and stories are handed down of lawbreakers being dragged through the classroom into the jail at the back of the building! Initially known as the Town Hall School, and later as Victoria Public School, it served schoolchildren for over ninety years, closing in 1969. It presently houses the Carleton Place and Beckwith Heritage Museum.

Carleton Place Town Hall
175 Bridge Street
Lot 70, Plan 276, Section D
By-law 42-78



The Carleton Place Town Hall was built on the site where William Morphy, one of the first settlers, built his home in 1819 and gave the village its first name, Morphy's Falls. From here the town spread out on both sides of the Mississippi River.

The site was purchased in 1891 from William Morphy, grandson of the original settler for \$3,300 and the Morphy home was demolished in 1895. Construction of the new town hall began that year and it was completed in 1897 at a cost of \$26,000.

The building is a fine example of the "Richardson Romanesque" style, particular to North America in the latter part of the 19th century and originating in the work of American Henry Robson Richardson. It features rough Beckwith limestone, semicircular arches on windows and doors, round towers and triangular shaped dormer windows. The square bell tower was built for use by the fire hall and still houses the original bell.

Hugh McMillan House

344 Bridge Street

Part of Lot 15, Plan 787

By-law 57-86



This log structure was built on land deeded to Hugh McMillan in 1837 and appears to have been constructed circa 1830. McMillan came to Canada with his wife and two daughters in 1821 as part of a group emigration of Lanarkshire weavers.

Joseph Yuill House
56 Front Street
Lot 17, Plan 133
By-law 44-87



An excellent example of a 19th century residence, with gothic revival roofline in central gable. The Portico, however, is a Regency feature found on few stone houses. The patterned stonework illustrates the quality of work done by Scottish stonemasons here in the 19th century.

McArthur Woolen Mill

150 Mill Street

Part of Lot 15, Concession 12

By-law 45-85



This five-story stone mill was built on a man-made island in 1871 by Archibald McArthur. The McArthur Woolen Mill produced fine worsteds and tweeds. It was powered by a turbine water wheel with teak wooden teeth built outside on free standing timbers, rather than internally to prevent the end of the mill from being shaken to pieces. The building originally had an open basement allowing the river to run underneath and enabling raw wool to be washed clean in the current.

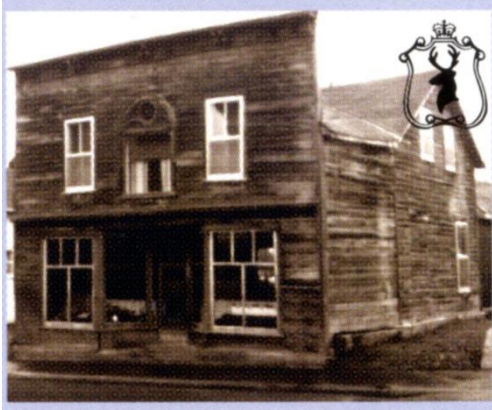
Purchased and expanded to include a brick wing by Bates and Innes Mills in 1907, the company played a key role in supplying wool to the military for WWI and WWII uniforms. In 1918, at their peak, they supplied one million dollars' worth of underwear and blankets to the armed forces. Their OV "Ottawa Valley" label produced underwear, blankets and knitted suits, but by 1959 were devoted entirely to blankets. The mill closed in the early 1960s.

Levine Store

20 Bridge Street

North east half Lot 4, Section C, Plan 276

By-law 30-85



This frame structure was built as a false front store with residence behind circa 1870. The building was rebuilt to the original design following a devastating fire in 1986. The stained-glass window on the second level is original to the first building.

Hugh Williams House
222 William Street
Pt. Lot 5, Lot 6, Plan 258, Section L
By-law 46-84



Built by lumber buyer Hugh Matthias Williams c. 1886. This frame house was later the home of Samuel Allen, printer and co-editor of the Carleton Place Herald newspaper. It features very elaborate woodwork on the front porch and a flower patterned wrought iron cresting around the top of the bay window.

Gillies Machine Works

150 Rosamond

Pt. Lot 1, Lot 2, Section M, Plan 474

By-law 47-84



Built in 1875 by John Gillies, this building was originally four stories. It was built as a business venture for his son Alexander. It originally manufactured steam engines, water wheels, gearing, shafting, pullies, and boat engines. Alexander died tragically at 23 and John sold the business.

Later owned by Bates and Innes Mills as a felting operation, it has since been home to several electronic and high-tech companies.

Carleton Hotel

224 Bridge Street

Part Lot 10, Lot 11, Plan 276, Section A

By-law 44-84



This limestone building was built circa 1840 by brothers Robert and James Bell as the Carleton House hotel. It was owned and operated for 17 years by local hotelier Napoleon Lavallee and was the setting for municipal council meetings in the 1840s and 1850s.

A third story was added about 1900 and includes a false window to provide symmetry. The stone building was renovated into shops and apartments in the 1950s.

Tuttle Residence
58 John Street
Pt Lot 31, Plan 133
By-law 45-84



The original quarter acre property here was owned by Margaret McDonald, wife of Allan McDonald, prominent Carleton Place wool manufacturer. The land was sold to William Thomas in 1885, and the frame home constructed by 1887. Thomas was a printer and machinist. Later resident included James Scott, carriage and wagon maker.

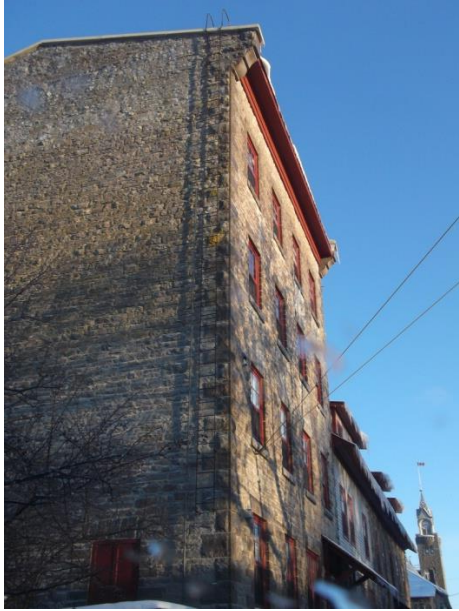
The barge boarding, skirting and railing on the decorative porch is representative of the buildings of this periods.

Boulton – Brown Flour Mill

45 Mill Street

Part Lots 65, 66, 67, Section D, Plan 276

By-law 30-84



This property was the site of a grist mill built in 1823 by Hugh Boulton and financed by Robert Bell and James Rosamond. Horace Brown purchased the mill in 1878, and in 1885 he added the five-story roller process mill and elevator. His son James Morton Brown carried on the business and built the Brown Electric power company, generating electricity from the river for his mill and for homeowners.

The mill ran under various owners between 1920 and the 1960s when it was severely damaged by fire. It was renovated into apartments in the 1980s.

De-designated by By-law 136-2021

Abner Nichols House

274 Bridge Street

Part Lot 35, Plan 276, Section A

By-law 37-84



This was the home of Abner Nichols who moved to Carleton Place in 1867 from Kemptville, Ontario. Nichols served the town as Deputy Reeve in 1890, and as Mayor in 1894 and 1899. He worked as sawyer at Gillies and McLaren Canada Lumber Sawmill until 1879 when opened his own planning mill on Rosamond Street. In 1886 Nichols built a larger mill and window sash factory at Lake Avenue and Moore Street. It was operated by three generations of family for over 70 years. Abner Nichols and Sons later opened a sawmill on Flora Street; the last sawmill to bring logs down the Mississippi River.

Abner's son William was Mayor of CP in 1902, and his grandson William was Mayor in 1936 and 1937. The building also served as the rectory for St. James Anglican church.

The massing and structure of the house is transitional between the 1 ½ story Greek revival-inspired home with its symmetrically organized façade and the gothic revival Ontario home with its steeper roof slope. The ample, sloped cornice with no return eaves is common in Carleton Place homes of this period. The siding, corner boards and base rim are original to the house.

Dr. Wilson House

105 Bell Street

Lot 116, Part Lots 113, Lot 117, Plan 276, Section B

By-law 35-81



This house is a fine example of a 1 ½ story Georgian home. The Loyalist door and exterior details remain unaltered except for the window glazing. The impressive entry features an elliptical transom, elaborate lozenge pattern in the sidelights and transom, and paneled reveals to match the cross and bible door.

The house was built in 1845 for Dr. William Wilson, town surgeon and coroner for 40 years. His granddaughter, Evelyn Wilson, served as a nursing sister in WWI. She managed several field hospitals and was awarded the Bar to the Royal Red Cross for her services under fire – one of only four women to receive this honour. She lived in the home until her death in 1967.

Bell House

233 Bridge Street

Part Lot 131, Plan 276, Section B

By-law 35-81



This home was built in the late 1830's for Robert Bell, son of the Reverend William Bell, the first Presbyterian minister of the Perth district in 1817. Robert was one of the most influential public figures in Carleton Place during its first generation of growth. He was a merchant, mill owner, magistrate, postmaster and district council warden. He was also a member of the legislative assembly of Canada for Lanark and Renfrew counties from 1848 to 1863.

This two-story house is of rough dressed Beckwith limestone, quarried locally. Window types include mansard dormers with segmental windows on the second level of the main portion and shed dormers with flat rectangular windows on the kitchen wing. The elliptical fanlight and sidelights are typical of the period. An enclosed porch with ornamental low gable contains a front door as well as doors on each side, originally leading to verandahs along the front of the house.

The house is believed to have been constructed in two sections at different times as evident by the two-foot-thick foundation between sections, the visible line in the stonework, and the lower level of the rear kitchen.

Willis Farmhouse

384 Lake Avenue West

Part NE Half Lot 12

By-law 2-80



This log house was built c. 1820 and is likely the oldest residence within the Carleton Place town limits. It was built by George Willis on part of his 100-acre land grant. The land remained in the family until 1871 when George Willis Junior sold all but the two acres around the house and a right of way. The Willis family cemetery was originally located across the road in what is now Riverside Park. A memorial stone marks its location.

For many years, the Willis men worked as river men, towing log booms for the Caldwell Sawmill, originally located on the shore of present-day Riverside Park and owning the last of the many steamboats that plied the Mississippi Lake and River.

James Dunlop House
111 Townline Road East
Part Lot 4, Plan 970 Section B
By-law 4-79



This house was built in 1853 by James Dunlop, a carpenter and millwright, whose family had settled in Ramsay Township in 1821. He used the present dining room as a workshop for building coffins, and later built the frame workshop still in use behind the house. He occupied the house with his wife and seven children until his death in 1887.

His son James Fitz Charles Dunlop continued to live in the house until 1941. James F. and his brother Adam were also millwrights and boat builders. James later worked in the Gillies Boat Works, producing boat engines and marine craft for national distribution. Adam was the leading builder of skiffs and small boats in Carleton Place, starting in the 1870's in his father's workshop and later from the white frame house and workshop he built next door at 118 Townline Road East.

This unique frame house is the only one of its type in Carleton Place. It is of clapboard construction with an unusual shed roof and decorative brackets along the frieze on the front and sides. The two story porch is supported by four columns on each level. The front has a 12 paned French window on either side of the central door on both first and second levels. The main door has a four paned transom and rectangular sidelights. The clapboard on the front of the house is tongue in groove construction, with the sides and back being of regular clapboard.

Roy Bates House
180 Moffatt Street
Lot 14, Plan 637, Section N
By-law 5-79



This yellow brick home with mansard roof was built in 1883 by local contractor William Pattie for Peter C. McGregor. In 1887 the house was purchased by Mrs. Mary J. Chatterton, who operated the Chatterton House on Bridge Street, later known as the Queen's Hotel. Between 1903 and 1916 the house was occupied by David Findlay, eldest son of David Findlay who started the prosperous Findlay Foundry on High Street.

In 1916 Roy W. Bates purchased the home and lived here until his death in 1963, a total of 47 years, and the house became known as the Roy Bates House. Bates was Mayor of Carleton Place from 1918 to 1920. He was a partner in the firm of Bates and Innes, textile manufacturers located in the McArthur Woolen Mill and known nationally for its excellent woolen blankets, rugs and knitted goods.

The mansard style of architecture was popular in Ontario during the latter part of the nineteenth century. Features include the bell cast mansard roof, and double semicircular windows and dormers. The house is asymmetrical, with the four wings being of unequal length. The front door has an arched two panel transom and single sidelight on the left. Projecting brickwork on the corners and around the windows is reminiscent of earlier styles of architecture. An interesting feature is the round headed windows of frame construction.

Canadian Pacific Railway Train Station

132 Miguel Street

Lots 1 to Lot 5, Plan 98

By-law 52-93



This C.P.R. Station was constructed in 1921-22 to the designs of the C.P.R Chief Engineer's office in Montreal. The contractor was Sullivan & Son of Arnprior. It served both freight and passenger traffic between Montreal, Ottawa, and points west. Passenger service was interrupted in the early 1970s and discontinued in 1989. The station became redundant when tracks between Ottawa and Carleton Place were removed in 1990.

The building of an improved C.P.R. facility in Carleton Place was delayed by the war but the appointment of Carleton Place native D' Alton Coleman as C.P.R. Vice-President, the C.P.R. built this station. It is the only remaining of seven stone C.P.R. stations in the Upper Ottawa Valley. The nearby roundhouse and railway shops on the main line, and the adjacent homes fashioned from earlier hotels, boarding houses, and tenement terraces, maintain the fabric of the station's historical setting.

The exterior of the building is defined by the long, low stone walls and deep-set openings beneath a distinctive broad hip roof with broadly flared eaves. This exterior has survived relatively intact. The roof retains its form with a dominant central hip, offset brick chimney, smaller west extension and the detailing of the deep eaves, with their tongue-and-groove soffits and elegant shallow brackets. The masonry is a dressed and coursed limestone with contrasting darker stone for the base courses and the window quins. The horizontal effect is reinforced by projecting drip courses defining the base, and by the deepness of the window and door recesses with their continuous lintel heights.

John Bell House
15 High Street
Lot 14, Plan 276, Section A
By-law 36-96



This residence was built in the 1830's for John Bell, son of the Reverend William Bell, the first Presbyterian minister of the Perth district in 1817. The Bell family were prominent businesspeople in the early history of Carleton Place.

Constructed of rough-hewn stone it is a fine example of the Georgian style of architecture prominent during the 19th century. The home retains the original roofline, soffit, and fascia. The front door displays a semi-elliptical fanlight and sidelights. Adjacent to the residence are two architecturally significant stone hedges (walls) on the east and south side of the property.