

LOYAL ORANGE LODGE

153 Reserve Street,
Almonte, Ontario

(Albert & Reserve Sts.)
Lots 89 & 90
Anderson Section

Reason for Designation:

The Loyal Orange Lodge has served as an important element for the Loyal Orange community in Almonte. Many of Almonte's most illustrious citizens have belonged to the Loyal Orange Lodge over the years.

The building is an early example of stone residential architecture in Almonte. It follows the design of the 'Almonte' style - heavily massed structures of Beckwith stone.

Detailed Description:**History:**

In 1861 William Riddell sold the land to John Naismith, who constructed the building in 1870, and the same year sold it to George Bryson. In 1872 Bryson sold it to James Greig. It subsequently passed through the hands of John Gemmill, James Dowdall, John McPherson and John Munro until 1915 when Munro's heirs sold it to the Loyal Orange Lodge.

The present owner, John Gibson, purchased the building in 1989.

The construction period (1870) coincided with the period of introduction of the railway to Almonte. Its location is important in that context.

Architecture:

The building is a two story structure with an asymmetrical facade, four bays square. The facade is rather severe in design with little ornamentation.

The foundations are of natural stone and the walls of squared, natural beige stone. Interior walls are masonry, load-bearing.

There was originally a cupola on the roof and a 'widow's walk', which have subsequently been removed. A stone enclosure over the main door is a later addition.

The building has four stone chimneys, one each on the north and south ends, and two on the east side.

The doors are plain panel doors with a plain glass transom. There are doors on each facade. On the east there is a

centre door; on the west there are two doors and on the south facade there is one door in the centre.

The roof is a hipped roof sheathed in metal, with a plain boxed cornice.

Site:

Situated at the corner of Albert and Reserve Streets, the building faces south towards Reserve Street and the former train station.

NCC

239-5555

Murphy
Newton

Location: 153 Reserve Street,
Almonte, Ontario.

Present Owner: Loyal Orange Lodge, No. 378
Present Occupant: Same
Present Use: Business/ Recreational/ Residential

Statement of Significance: This is an early example of stone residential architecture in Almonte. It has served as an important element for the Loyal Orange community in Almonte.

Part II: Historical Information:

A Physical History:

1 Original and Subsequent Owners: In 1861 William Riddell sold the land to John Naismith for \$100. He constructed his building in 1870 and the same year sold it to George Bryson for \$5000. In 1872 Bryson sold to James Greig for \$4050. This decrease in price has not been explained. It subsequently passed through the hands of John Gemmill, James Dowdall John McPherson and John Munroe until 1915 when Monroe's heirs sold it to the Loyal Orange Lodge.

2 Date of Erection: 1870.

3 Architect: Unknown

4 Alterations and Additions: There was originally a cupola on the roof and a 'widow's walk' which have subsequently been removed.

B Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

This building was built during the period of introduction of the railway to Almonte. Its location is important in the context of that time period.

Many of Almonte's most illustrious citizens have belonged to the Loyal Orange Lodge over the years.

Sources of Information:

Old Views:

Photograph of building, c.1900 Lowry Collection, North Lanark Historical Society

Bibliography:

The Ottawa Country, C.S.J. Bond, Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1968

Other Sources:

National Capital Commission, Heritage Division -
file on building

Deeds, etc.:

North Lanark Registry Office

Part II: Architectural Information:

A General Statement:

1 Architectural Character: This building follows the design of the 'Almonte' style - heavily massed structures of Beckwith stone. The facade is rather severe in design, with little ornament.

2 Condition: Poor

B Description of Exterior:

1 Overall Dimensions: This is a two storey structure with an asymmetrical facade, four bays square.

2 Foundation: The foundations are of natural stone.

3 Wall Construction, Finish and Colour: The walls are of squared, natural beige stone.

4 Structural System and Framing: Masonry, load-bearing walls.

5 Porches: There is a stone enclosure over the main door, which is a later addition.

6 Chimneys: There are four stone chimneys, one each on the north and south ends and two on the east end.

7 Openings:

a) Doors and Doorways: There are plain panel doors with a plain glass transom. There are doors on each facade: on the east, there is a centre door; on the north there is a door at the west end; on the west there are two doors and on the south facade there is one door in the centre.

8 Roof:

a) Shape, Covering: The hipped roof is sheathed in metal. There is a plain, boxed cornice. At one time, there was a wooden cupola and a metal belvedere, both of which have disappeared.

C Description of Interior: Not done

D Site:

a) General Setting and Orientation: The building is situated at the corner of Albert and Reserve Streets. It faces south towards Reserve Street and the train station.

b) Outbuildings: There is an old wooden shack in the rear which is in the process of falling down.

Part III: Project Research:

Prepared by Susan Algie, under the auspices of the Local Advisory Committee on Architectural Conservation and the Ministry of Culture and Recreation, August 1977.