

Location : Parts of Lots 81, 82 and 83, Anderson Section,
 Clyde Street,
 Almonte, Ontario.

Present Owner : Diocese of Ottawa

Present Occupant : St. Paul's Anglican Church (church); Rector of
 St. Paul's (rectory); Almonte and Carleton
 Place Alternate School (Parish House).

Present Use : Religious Services (church); residential
 (rectory); institutional (Parish House).

Statement of Significance:

The Anglican Church (1863) and Rectory (c.1875) form a unified and impressive Gothic Revival complex which is intimately tied to the history and development of the town of Almonte. The adjacent Parish House is a more vernacular construction but closely related in age and architectural qualities. The three buildings together with their associated landscape are important in establishing the rich historical character of this part of Almonte.

The church has been used continuously as a place of religious service since 1863, and the rectory as the associated parsonage since 1878. The Parish House served as a private residence until 1965, when it was acquired by the congregation.

CHURCH:

PART I: HISTORICAL INFORMATION:

A. Physical History: The church building has always been owned by its congregation. It was erected in 1863. The builder was James Scott. It is possible that he also designed the building; the plan of the church of St. John the Baptist in Lyn, Ontario was used as a model. The church was enlarged between 1887 and 1889. The cost of the addition was \$4000, with the masonry done by G. W. Willoughby and the carpentry by James Wilson.

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

During most of the period before the church was built, the Anglican services were held in the Temperance Hall on Union Street. By 1862 the congregation had grown such that a new church was needed, and so construction began in 1863.

The cornerstone was laid by Dr. Mostyn (then Mayor) June 15, 1863. The Church building was ready for occupancy in 1863 but could not be consecrated until it was paid for. Most of the financing was provided by James Rosamond, the most prominent citizen of Almonte during the 19th Century and an active member of the congregation. It was consecrated on St. Peter's Day, 1864 by the Bishop of Ontario, the Rt. Rev. John Travers Lewis.

Two stones were presented to the church by the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury Cathedral. One is from the wall of Canterbury and the other from the church of "Our Lady of Queningate" within the walls of Canterbury, dating from Saxon times.

PART II: ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION:

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: St. Paul's is a very good example of the second wave of Gothic Revival of religious architecture in Canada. It shows the principles of this style as promoted by the Cambridge Camden Society (later Ecclesiological Society) including the clear demarcation of nave and chancel, the absence of the stepped bell tower, the entry through a side porch and the use of heavy buttresses for both decorative and structural purposes. The general proportions reflect the ecclesiological interest at the time in 14th Century English Gothic precedents. The addition in 1887-89 made the church interior cruciform in

the original English Parish Gothic style of the exterior survives

B. Description of Exterior:

The building is two bays wide by six bays long. The foundations and walls are of beige squared limestone with darker contrasting quoins. There are stone buttresses along the walls. There is a date stone on the original section. There is one stone chimney at the south end of the church.

The Gothic-style doors are wooden with diagonal boarding. These are surrounded by stone voussoirs. The windows are of a Tuscan Gothic design. They are of stained glass, with stone voussoirs. There are high gables at the ends of the building and the ends of the narthex. The roof, including dormers, is sheathed in asbestos shingles which replaced the original roofing in the 1930's. There is a stepped stone steeple at the north end of the building which houses the church bell.

RECTORY:

PART I : HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History: When the 48 acres of land that is now known as the Anderson Section (see Parish House) was divided into town lots in 1861, Mathew Anderson sold lot 81 and 82 to James Rosamond and his wife. They were the owners at the time the church was built in 1863. The church and land was then turned over to the Lord Bishop of Ontario (Rt. Rev. J. Travers Lewis) and it has been owned by its congregation ever since.

The rectory was built circa 1878. The architect is unknown. The builder may have been Andrew Bell. Originally there was a small open verandah at the main entrance and a large two-storey verandah across the side facing the river. Both have since been replaced. The verges of the main gables originally had decorative vergeboards similar to those of the smaller gables. In 1961 new plumbing, wiring and heating ducts were installed, as well as new ceilings in the principal rooms and new decorating throughout the house. An enclosed staircase was added in 1986 along the west facade to provide covered access to the basement level, and an enclosed verandah along part of the south facade at the second level.

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure: Many prominent citizens of Almonte were members of the committee appointed in 1866 to collect funds for the building of a rectory. The various rectors, beginning with Rev. I. L. Stephenson, who have occupied the building over the years have been active both in the life of the congregation and in the development of the larger community.

PART II: ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement: The house shares the steeply-pitched gables, pointed-arch windows and strongly textured stonework of the adjacent church.

1. Architectural Character: The rectory of St. Paul's is an impressive Gothic Revival structure uniquely adapted to its sloping site. Its picturesque qualities were originally enhanced by the elaborate verandahs, and are still evident in the surviving vergeboards, and windows.

The house is approximately 13 m (3 bays) wide and 11 m (2 bays) deep. It is two + $\frac{1}{2}$ stories in height with a full basement that opens to grade on the downhill side.

The foundation and exterior walls are constructed of cut limestone, broken course with a natural finish. The addition on the west facade is of vertical wood siding. There are two offset chimneys of brick, one broad and one narrow.

The main entrance door, now hidden by recent enclosed porch, is rectangular with a flat transom and double lights. The porch has one wooden leaf with four panels of diagonal boarding. Another door on the back of the house is rectangular with panels double lights in the flat transom and stone verandah at the head.

The windows are of varying shape and size. There are rectangular windows with two or four panes and pointed arch windows with four panes. The windows have stone voussoirs at the top and plain luteal sills. There are shutters on some windows while on others only the shutter hinges remain.

The rectory has a high gable roof with one main gable and one smaller gable on the north facade. There are double gables facing the river. Asphalt shingles have replaced the original roofing. The roof trim is wooden and the fascia is decorated at the verges with the smaller gables.

PARISH HOUSE:

PART I HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent Owners: In 1829 the Crown granted David Shepherd 100 acres in the northeast half of lot 15 in Concession of Ramsay Township. In the same year David Shepherd sold the land to Daniel Shipman for \$600. In 1852 Daniel Shipman mortgaged 46 acres of the land to John Romanes in consideration of \$5,200. and through an assignment of mortgage James D. Gemmill acquired the land in 1858. In 1859, for \$4,140. James D. Gemmill sold to Mathew Anderson the 48 acres of land that is now known as the Anderson Section in the town of Almonte. The town plan was established and Mathew Anderson's 48 acres was divided into town lots. Mathew Anderson sold lot 83 to Ann Anderson for \$1. in 1861. The next owner was Janet Anderson who bought it from Ann Anderson for \$5. in 1868. Janet Anderson sold part of lot 83 for \$5. in 1900 to Mary S. Anderson who sold it to Alfred Mansell Greig and Percy Alfred Greig for \$1,200. in 1906. Alfred M. Greig then sold his share of the property to Percy A. Greig for \$1. in 1927. By 1950, Percy A. Greig sold the house + land to James Savage and Elizabeth Susan Savage for \$3,000. St. Paul's Anglican Church finally acquired part of lot 83 and also part of lot 82 in 1964 for \$7,000. from George M. Dunfield et al., executor for James Savage.

The exact date of construction of the house is unknown; it appears in drawings and photographs from the 1870's on and would appear to date from about the 1850's.

Decorative treillage that was formerly along the eaves of the verandah is no longer there and the finial has been removed from the centre gable in the facade. The chimney that was formerly offset left was torn down and replaced by a new chimney on the exterior left of the house.

- B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure: When the town plan for Almonte was established a merchant from Scotland, Mathew Anderson and his family lived in the house and also owned a lot of land in that area. The Anderson Section of town was named after him.

PART II ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: The Parish House is a good example of the picturesque building style. Of particular note are the open verandah which formerly had decorative trim and the centre gable with round-headed window. This centre gable is also characteristic of the early adaptation of Gothic Revival to domestic architecture. The other original windows are rectangular with 6 over-sash. The buildings size and simple decorative features give it a cottage-like appearance. The principal facade faces the Mississippi River, although the main access is now off Clyde Street. The main building is 3 bays wide by 2 bays deep. There is also a wing on the west which is 2 bays by 1 bay with a small shed attached to it. It is one and a half storeys in height with a full basement that is partially below ground.

The foundations are of coursed fieldstone, with a separate stone foundation under the verandah. The walls are of horizontal clapboard with corner boards and moulded door and window trim.

There is an open verandah across the river facade of the house. The original treillage has disappeared; there are now four square posts and an open railing.

There is a chimney which is offset on the right side of the building and a newer chimney on the exterior left between the main building and the wing. They are both constructed of brick. The main door is four panelled and located in the centre of the south facade. It has pilasters on either side. The head is decorated with a flat transom with two lights. Most of the windows are rectangular with plain slip sills. The pane arrangement is six over six. Some newer windows have been installed in the upper storey on the gable ends. The centre gable window has two three-pane casements and a four-lite semi-circular head.

The roof on the Parish House is a medium-pitched gable, with returned eaves. Black asphalt shingles replace the original roofing. There are decorative vergeboards on the fascia of the centre gable.

SITE (for all three)

The church property consists of the lots on which the buildings are situated as well as two additional lots to the west donated in 1952. It slopes from Clyde Street down to the Mississippi River. The property provides a beautiful and spacious setting which enhances the picturesque qualities of the architecture. Because of the river frontage, the property is visible from Bridge Street as well as directly from Clyde Street and forms an important element in establishing the character of the area.

The church and rectory have been carefully sited to form deliberate balance and harmony; the Parish House, because of its related age and architectural qualities, provides an additional element of great value.

80958

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

87 OCT 1 AM 9 57

Land Registry Office at Almonte, Ontario.

B. J. Moss
LAND REGISTRAR

New Property Identifiers

Additional: See Schedule

Executions

Additional: See Schedule

(8) This Document provides as follows:

(1) Registry Land Titles pages (2) Page 1 of 7

(3) Property Identifier(s) Block Property

(4) Nature of Document
BY-LAW (#39-1987)

(5) Consideration

Dollars \$

(6) Description

Lots 81, 82 and 83 on Clyde Street in the Anderson Section, Plan 6262, Town of Almonte, County of Lanark

(7) This Document Contains: (a) Redescription New Easement Plan/Sketch

(b) Schedule for:

Description

Additional Parties

Other

Continued on Schedule

(9) This Document relates to instrument number(s)

(10) Party(ies) (Set out Status or Interest)

Name(s)

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ALMONTE
by its solicitor, Michael J. Galligan

Signature(s)

[Signature]

Date of Signature Y M D

1987 09 19

(11) Address for Service

P.O. Box 400, 14 Bridge Street, Almonte, Ontario K0A 1A0

(12) Party(ies) (Set out Status or Interest)

Name(s)

Signature(s)

Date of Signature Y M D

(13) Address for Service

(14) Municipal Address of Property

Document Prepared by:
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Fees and Tax

Registration Fee

Total

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