

THE GLEN

Location: Malcolm and Hamilton Streets, Almonte, Lanark County, Ontario.
Blocks F, G, and H, Cameron Survey.

Present owners: Lt. Col. and Mrs. John R. Cameron

Present occupant: Same

Present use: Dwelling house

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Glen is an excellent example of Tudor Revival, an architectural style seen nowhere else in the Almonte area. Since renovated to the contemporary style of 1919, the structure has been well cared for, maintaining such details as metal roof cresting, multiple panes and bargeboard, which give the home its character. Moreover, this large, grand home and forested lot is characteristic of the residence of prominent town industrialists.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. The patent for 100 acres (the southwest half of Lot 16, Concession 9, Ramsay) was awarded to James Shaw in the summer of 1825. James Gibb Ross bought the 100 acres in 1867 for \$10,000 and in 1870 sold to Christina C. Cameron for \$5,500. It is believed that Malcolm Cameron, a surveyor who bought large tracts of land and divided them up into individual lots for sale, bought this property in his daughter's name. Indeed, by the autumn of 1870, part of the original 100 acres, Town Blocks F, G, and H, Cameron Survey, was sold to Andrew Elliot for \$3,000. Although there is no documented evidence, it is suspected that Elliot built the original frame house at this time. In 1888 Elliot released his claim on the Glen and other lands in the mill area of Almonte to James A. Cantlie and Alexander Ewan, Montreal manufacturers' agents, for \$37,000. Then, in 1893, Ewan released his claim on the lands for \$10,000 leaving Cantlie as the sole owner. A year later, Cantlie sold Blocks F, G and H to Donald M. Fraser for \$2,287.73 and assumption of the mortgage. The property was transferred to Rebecca A. Fraser in 1897 for \$5,000. In 1916 she sold to William H. Stafford who immediately sold to Archibald G. Rosamond for the same price of \$1,460 and assumption of the mortgage. This home was not the residence of Archibald Rosamond and his family until the first week of February, 1919, after expansion and remodelling of the structure to stone and stucco. In 1945, Francis M. Rosamond, executor of the will of Archibald Rosamond, granted himself the estate. A few months later, John Barry O'Neill became the owner for \$10,000 and in 1951 the property was transferred to his heirs, Terence O'Neill and Madeline O'Neill. They sold to the present owner in 1955.

- A. Physical History: Date of erection.
2. It is believed that the house was built just after the land was purchased by Alexander Elliot in 1870. There is no evidence of another reason, such as that of starting a farm, lumbering, or beginning an industry, for him to buy the land, and as owner of a woollen mill he would have the finances to build a grand home. An old photograph taken about 1871 depicts the original frame home in the Gothic Revival style, popular in the 1860-70s, as the residence of Alexander Elliot. Thus it is concluded that the house was constructed in 1870-1871.
 3. Architect: Unknown.
 4. Alterations and additions:
The original Gothic Revival frame house was enlarged and renovated in 1916-1919 under the ownership of Archibald Rosamond. Walls of stone for the first floor and a frame structure finished with stucco and imitation half-timbering for the second floor was added to the exterior of the original frame house. The windows were changed but steep gables, bargeboard, and in general the roof line, remained. As evidence by remains of the original foundation in the basement, the home was enlarged with the addition of wings. The structure appears to be unchanged since renovation.
- B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:
- B. Andrew Elliot and his firm, Elliot, Routh and Sheard, purchased Mill No. 2 from Bennett and William Rosamond Co. in 1870. They ran a woollen manufacturing business of which Elliot had some previous experience. By 1882 the company was changed to Elliot, Sheriffs Co.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement.

1. ARCHITECTURAL character.

Imitation half timbering is the distinguishing feature of Tudor Revival, a variation of the Queen Anne Revival style popular around 1900. Indicative of this style, the Glen is a large, commodious house of two and one half storeys, with steep gable and hip roofs and tall chimneys.

2. Condition.

The home remains in excellent condition.

B. Description of Exterior.

1. Overall dimensions:

The irregular shape of this two and one half storey building does not permit a description in terms of bays. There is a main block with a porch to the southeast, a gable extending to the northeast, a kitchen wing to the west, and a gabled sunroom to the southwest (please refer to aerial plan).

2. Foundations:

Light beige Ottawa Valley Sandstone laid in broken course forms the foundation. A full, below-ground basement contains remnants of an earlier foundation which indicates the size and shape of the original house.

3. Wall construction, finish and colour:

The first floor is constructed of the same material as the foundation while the upper storey is surfaced with white stucco and false half timbering in the Tudor Revival Style. At the back of the main block between the kitchen and sunroom wings, and on three sides of the sunroom itself, the stone wall rises only to the level of the base of the large windows. Stucco is then found on the first floor of these areas.

4. Structural system and framing:

The original frame building was sheathed with the exterior materials visible today. Thus both frame work and masonry walls support the structural load. The wings, which are not common with the original structure, are supported by the masonry walls alone.

5. Porches:

A porch constructed of stone arches (one arch deep by three arches wide) is located on the southeast side of the main block.

Each arch has stepped radiating voussoirs. A third (One arch) of the roof of this porch is flat serving as a balcony for the second floor. The other two-thirds is the base of a second-storey gable which extends to the south east. Outer corners of the porch are buttressed.

6. Chimneys:

There are five stone chimneys: a large exterior one on the north side of the main block, a similar one on the north side of the kitchen wing, one where the kitchen wing joins the main block, one on the peak of the sunroom wing, and one on the flat part of the main block.

7. Openings:

a. Doors and doorways:

The main door is located at the front or north east side of the main block, in the angle formed by an extending gable. This angle is bisected by a stucco and spindle gazebo-like structure that has a gable roof. The round-headed opening has radiating voussoirs and a dark brown wood surround; the door itself consists of four panels.

There are four other doors. At the end of the kitchen wing, a stone room open to the south is trimmed with green latic work and a wood arch. The plain kitchen door opens to this area. An opening on the south side of the kitchen wing is headed with radiating voussoirs and the dark brown door has a screen and four lower panels. French doors, each with eight panes and two lower panels, opens to the north side of the sun room. The door has a wide wood surround. Another door entering onto the porch or patio area is similar to the main door.

b. Windows and shutters:

Windows of the first floor have radiating stone voussoirs and cement lugsills. Those of the main block are semi-elliptical with a wood surround, four sashes where a vertical decorative wood spindle halves the window, and six-over-six double hung sashes. All wood trim is painted a dark brown. The first floor windows of the kitchen wing are four-over-four or six-over-six double hung sash or four-paned single sash. The wood trim is dark brown but in most cases the window itself is white.

On the second floor, half timbering forms the trim outside the structural opening of the windows. The four-over-six double hung sash windows are generally arranged in twos. All wood is painted dark brown.

There are triple French windows located on the first floor at the back of the main block and on two sides of the sunroom and on the second floor opening onto the balcony. Each window has a semi-elliptical head, half-timbering surround, and nine-over-twenty-four or nine-over-nine double-hung sash. Wood of the window itself is painted white.

8. Roof:

- a. The roof is an asphalt shingled steep gabled roof with hipped kitchen and sunroom wings. The shape of the building allows a flat area on the roof of the main block. A simple metal cresting tops the peaks. This roof is slightly flared at the eaves. Bracketed eaves, and verges with bargeboard and a drop at the peak, trim the roof edge.
- b. A dormer is located at the back of the main block. It has a hipped roof with overhand and is finished in dark brown boards similar to that of the half timbering.

C. Interior: Not done.

D. Site:

- a. The house is located on a hill within a spacious forested lot overlooking a bridge and creek. It faces northeast towards Malcolm Street. A retaining wall, supporting the northeast side of the hill, and gateposts are constructed of the same stone as the house.
- b. Outbuildings: There is a garage and shed area to the northwest of the kitchen wing.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

North Lanark Registry Office, Almonte

"Almonte Illustrated" Old photograph taken c. 1871
from Canadian Illustrated Magazine, Vol. XIX,
No. 1, January 4, 1879, pages 8-9.

"Almonte Faces and Places, 1880-1980" edited by Sheila Marsh
and Jill Moxley. Copyright, Corporation of the
Town of Almonte, 1980.

PART IV. Survey and research performed by J. Jane Tosh, August, 1982.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF ALMONTE

IN THE MATTER OF The Ontario Heritage Act,
1980, Statutes of Ontario, 1980, Chapter 337,
AND IN THE MATTER OF the lands and premises
known municipally as Blocks F, G and H in the
Cameron Survey, in the
Town of Almonte, in the Province of Ontario.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation
of the Town of Almonte on the 8th. day of
November 1983, decided to designate the lands and
buildings known municipally as Blocks F, G and H,
in the Cameron Survey,
as a property of architectural and historical value
or interest under the Ontario Heritage Act, 1980.
Statutes of Ontario, 1980, Chapter 337 1980.

SHORT STATEMENT OF REASON FOR
THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION:

This property known as "The Glen" is an excellent
example of Tudor Revival, an architectural style
seen nowhere else in the Almonte area. Since ren-
ovated to the contemporary style of 1919, the
structure has been well cared for, maintaining such
details as metal roof cresting, multiple panes and
bargeboard, which give the home its character.
Moreover, this large, grand home and forested lot is
characteristic of the residences of prominent town
industrialists.

NOTICE OF OBJECTION to the designation may be
served on the Clerk within thirty (30) days of the
24th. day of November 1983.

DATED at Almonte this 22nd. day of November 1983.

R. J. FRANCE,
Town Clerk,
14 Bridge Street,
Almonte, Ontario.
KOA 1AO.

CORPORATION OF THE TOWN
OF ALMONTE

BY-LAW NUMBER 2 - 1984

A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE
PROPERTY KNOWN MUNICIPALLY
AS Block F, G & H, ALMONTE
Block F, G & H, ALMONTE
ONTARIO, AS BEING OF ARCHITECTURAL
AND HISTORICAL VALUE OR INTEREST.

WHEREAS section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O 1980 authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of architectural or historic value or interest; and

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Almonte has cause to be served on the owners of the lands and premises known as Blocks F, G & H in the Town of Almonte and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks; and

WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the clerk of the municipality;

THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Almonte enacts as follows:

- 1) There is designated as being of architectural and historical value or interest the real property known as "The Glen" in the Town of Almonte, and being Lots Block F, G, & H Cameron Survey, Plan 6262, as
- 2) The municipal solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in the proper land registry office.
- 3) The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served on the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of the passing of this by-law to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks.

Read a first and second time this 10th day of January, 1984

Read a third time and passed this 13th day of March, 1984


Mayor


Deputy Clerk