



An agency of the Government of Ontario



Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

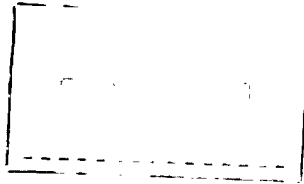
This document was retrieved from the Ontario Heritage Act Register, which is accessible through the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust at **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.

Ce document est tiré du registre aux fins de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, accessible à partir du site Web de la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien sur **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.

Durham

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF WHITBY
In the Regional Municipality of Durham

Telephone
905-668-5803
Toronto
905-686-2621
Fax
905-686-7005



MUNICIPAL BUILDING
575 Rossland Road East
Whitby, Ontario
Canada
L1N 2M8

February 3, 2000
File: A-2160 (LACAC)

[REDACTED]
219 Keith Street
Whitby, Ontario
L1N 1H8

Re: Officers' Quarters - Whitby Highland Rifle Company
219 Keith Street, Whitby
Heritage Designation, Part IV
The Ontario Heritage Act

At a meeting held on January 17, 2000, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Whitby passed By-law No. 4533-00, a copy of which is enclosed, being a by-law to designate the Officers's Quarters - Whitby Highland Rifle Company located on property municipally known as 219 Keith Street , Whitby, as a Heritage Structure under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

The Notice of Passing for By-law No. 4533-00 will be advertised in the February 9th, 2000 issue of the Whitby This Week newspaper.

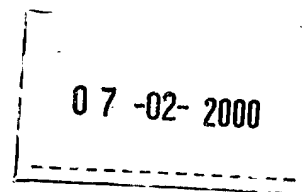
Further information regarding the designation can be obtained by contacting Mr. John Taylor, Secretary of L.A.C.A.C. at 430-4306 extension 2275.

D. Shields

Debbie Shields
Supervisor of Administrative Services

cc: The Ontario Heritage Foundation
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3 ✓

R. B. Short, Director of Planning
J. Taylor, Secretary, LACAC



RC ✓

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF WHITBY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18
AND IN THE MATTER OF
LANDS AND PREMISES AT
219 KEITH STREET, TOWN OF WHITBY
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO**

NOTICE OF PASSING

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Whitby has passed By-law No. 4533-00 to designate the following property as being of historic and architectural value under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18.

**Officers' Quarters
219 Keith Street
Whitby, Ontario**

REASON FOR DESIGNATION OF 219 KEITH STREET, WHITBY

Historical

James Wallace (1814-1882) was born at Kincardine-shire, Scotland, on March 3, 1814, and came to Canada before 1840, settling in Whitby, where he operated a dry goods store at Dundas and Anderson Streets. The house at 219 Keith Street was built as an officers' quarters for the Whitby Highland Rifle Company by its founder, James Wallace. Wallace was a building contractor in 1853 when he received the lucrative contract to build the Ontario County Court House (now the Whitby Centennial Building). His other ventures included publishing the Whitby Watchman from 1859 to 1861, operating a brick yard on Rossland Road at Cochrane Street, operating a soap and candle factory, and sash and door plant. In politics, he was a member of the first Whitby Town Council in 1855 and served as Mayor in 1856.

Architectural

219 Keith Street is a fine example of Victorian Gothic revival style architecture. Almost all of the windows appear to be mid-nineteenth century, including original glass. The east facade of the building has a asymmetrically-placed baywindow, which is a distinctive and unusual feature of the house which adds to the building's picturesque qualities. There is very little visual evidence that anything has changed on the interior. Almost all of the interior wood trim and plaster appear consistent, and mid-nineteenth century.

DATED at the Town of Whitby this 3rd day of February, 2000.

**Donald G. McKay, Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Whitby
575 Rossland Road East
Whitby, Ontario, L1N 2M8
Phone: (905) 430-4315, Ext. 4302**

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF WHITBY

BY-LAW NO. 4533-00

BEING A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE STRUCTURE MUNICIPALLY KNOWN AS 219 KEITH STREET AS BEING OF HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL VALUE AND INTEREST.

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18, as amended, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Whitby considers it desirable to designate the exterior and interior of the property hereinafter described to be of historic and architectural value and interest;

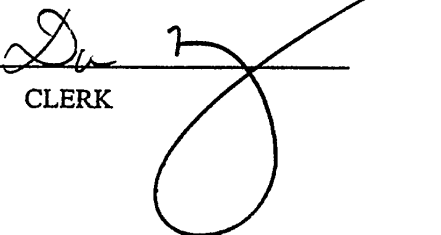
AND WHEREAS, the Council of the said Corporation has caused to be served on the owners of the property municipally known as 219 Keith Street, Whitby, Ontario, and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of its intention to designate the structure at the aforesaid address to be of historic and architectural value and interest and has caused such notice to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the Town of Whitby;

AND WHEREAS, no person has served a notice of objection to the proposed designation on the Clerk of the said Corporation;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Whitby enacts as follows:

1. The structure known as the Officers' Quarters located on the property municipally known as 219 Keith Street, Whitby, Ontario and more particularly described on Schedule "A" attached to and forming part of this by-law is designated as being of historic and architectural value and interest for the reasons set out in Schedule "B", attached hereto.
2. This designation shall not preclude any changes that may be deemed necessary for the efficient use of the structure provided that any changes shall be in keeping with the original and current character of the structure and shall be carried out in consultation with the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee of the Town of Whitby.

BY-LAW READ A FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 17TH DAY OF JANUARY, A.D., 2000.


CLERK


MAYOR

SCHEDULE "A"

TO BY-LAW NO. 4533-00

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Part Lots 6 and 7, east of Centre Street, Block H, Plan H-50047, in the Town of Whitby, in the Regional Municipality of Durham as in D15934.

SCHEDULE "B"
TO
BY-LAW NO. 4533-00

DESIGNATION AND ARCHITECTURAL REPORT FOR THE OFFICERS' QUARTERS

✓

THE INTERIOR FEATURES OF THE OFFICERS' QUARTERS

The house known as "The Officers' Quarters" located at 219 Keith Street in the Town of Whitby, Ontario contains important interior features that are worthy of designation. These interior features are well preserved examples of architectural styles and workmanship prevalent at the time of construction of this house.

The attached list and corresponding photographs should be referred to when considering these features. The interior features worthy of designation include:

1. All wood trim except for the 1970-80 addition which is not to be included. Wood trim includes casings, doors, frames for doors and windows, wainscotting, chair rails, fireplace mantles, window relief panels, sills, mouldings, baseboards and other miscellaneous woodwork.
2. Stair woodwork and balustrades.
3. Wood floors.

Specific mention should be made that any proposed changes to the house must be reviewed by LACAC prior to proceeding.

INTERIOR FEATURES

Descriptions of photographs: (photographs available for review at the Town of Whitby Planning Department)

1. view of front door (faces west)
2. view of arched plaster opening, this separates the foyer from the stairhall
3. view of front door (faces west)
4. view of front door (faces west)
5. view of front hall
6. view of front hall
7. front hall closet door - note panelling in the embrasure of the door frame
8. view of the railing of the main stair, ground floor
9. view of Living room
10. view of Living room
11. view of Living room
12. view of Living room window (faces north)
13. view of Living room bay window (east side) - note panelling in the embrasure of the windows
14. view of Living room bay window (east side) - note panelling in the embrasure of the windows
15. view of Living room bay window (east side) - note panelling in the embrasure of the windows
16. view of Living room bay window (east side) - note panelling in the embrasure of the windows
17. view of double-door entrance to Dining room
18. view of double window (north side)
19. view of single window (west side)
20. view of front hall cupboard
21. view of downstairs bathroom entrance
22. view of downstairs bathroom (window faces south)
23. view of downstairs bathroom (window faces south)
24. view of Family room window (faces east)
25. view of Family room fireplace (faces south)
26. detailed view of typical window fastenings used throughout house
27. sequential view of stairs leading to the upstairs hall
28. sequential view of stairs leading to the upstairs hall
29. sequential view of stairs leading to the upstairs hall (window faces south)
30. sequential view of stairs leading to the upstairs hall
31. view of upstairs hall, bathroom door (left) and attic stairs door (right)
32. view of upstairs hall, main bedroom door
33. view of upstairs hall, second bedroom door

34. view of upstairs hall, end of second floor hall and third bedroom door
35. view of upstairs bathroom double doors
36. view of upstairs bathroom double window (faces west)
37. view of upstairs bathroom single window (faces east)
38. view of main bedroom (north-west corner)
39. view of main bedroom (north-west corner)
40. view of main bedroom (north-west corner)
41. view of second bedroom (north-east corner)
42. view of second bedroom (north-east corner)
43. view of second bedroom (north-east corner)
44. view of third bedroom (south-east corner)
45. view of third bedroom (south-east corner)
46. view of third bedroom (south-east corner)

NOTE: For further reference to these interior features, please be advised that specific photographs are available for review at the Town of Whitby Planning Department.

DESIGNATION REPORT

OFFICERS' QUARTERS, WHITBY HIGHLAND RIFLE COMPANY

LOTS 6 AND 7, RADENHURST'S PLAN

219 KEITH STREET

BUILT, 1856/57

Compiled by Brian Winter, Town of Whitby Archivist

November 17, 1998

OFFICERS' QUARTERS, WHITBY HIGHLAND RIFLE COMPANY

LOTS 6 AND 7, RADENHURST'S PLAN

219 KEITH STREET

BUILT, 1856-57

The house at 219 Keith Street, a fine example of Victorian Gothic architecture, was built as an officer's quarters for the Whitby Highland Rifle Company by its founder, James Wallace. On Nov. 19, 1856, Wallace purchased a half of an acre of land at Keith and Centre Streets from Mary Radenhurst of Toronto. Her husband, John Radenhurst had purchased a block of land bounded by Brock, Burns, Centre and Victoria Streets, on Aug. 8, 1835 and subdivided it into building lots. Wallace purchased lots 6 and 7 for his officers' quarters, and several other lots for military buildings for his Rifle Company, all of which he financed out of his own pocket. The same day he purchased the lots for the officers' quarters, Wallace mortgaged them to Charles Bruce for £1,156 (\$5,780).

James Wallace (1814-1882) was a true entrepreneur. He was born at Kincardineshire, Scotland, on Mar. 3, 1814, and came to Canada before 1840, settling in Whitby, where he operated a dry goods store at Hamer's Corners (Dundas and Anderson Streets). In 1854-55 he built the mansion known as Burr Lodge as his residence. Burr Lodge, is directly west of 219 Keith Street on the west side of Centre Street. It is now divided into apartments. James Wallace was a building contractor in 1853 when he received the lucrative contract to build the Ontario County Court House (now the Whitby Centennial Building). With the money from this contract, he was able to build Burr Lodge. Whitby was booming from 1852 when it was named the County Town of Ontario County, until the economic crash of 1857, when its growth stopped. Wallace speculated heavily in the real estate market at this time and owned a lot of land in Whitby. His other ventures included publishing the Whitby Watchman from 1859 to 1861, operating a brick yard on Rossland Road at Cochrane Street, and operating a soap and candle factory, and sash and door plant. He later had an interest in a clock factory in Whitby. He made and lost considerable sums of money during his years in Whitby.

In 1858, Wallace was Master of the Composite Lodge of Masons in Whitby and made the arrangements for a Masonic corner-stone laying ceremony at the Court House on June 30, 1853. In politics, he was a member of the first Whitby Town Council in 1855 and served as Mayor in 1856. In 1873, when another economic depression hit Canada, Wallace was sent to England as an Emigration Agent for the Canadian Government. In 1880, with Whitby stagnating, he decided to move to Chicago, Illinois where he became involved in railway ventures. He died at Oak Park, near Chicago on July 10, 1882, at the age of 68.

James Wallace is noted particularly for his military career. He was an ensign in the local volunteer militia as early as 1846, and in 1856 he founded the 40-member Whitby Volunteer Highland Rifle Company. In the period of 1856 to 1859 he personally financed the construction of barracks and other buildings for his rifle company, near his home on Centre Street. The Vanstone Terrace, a two-storey set of row houses, at 720-24 Centre Street South, was built as barracks for his soldiers. Another set of one-storey row houses was built as barracks at the south-east corner of Centre and Burns Streets, and demolished in 1980. Several Regency cottages in the vicinity of Burr Lodge were also built by James Wallace for his rifle company. The building stopped a few years after the depression began at the end of 1857. Wallace's Whitby Volunteer Highland Rifle Company formed a guard of honor for the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII) when he visited Whitby in 1860. In 1862, Wallace's Rifle Company joined the Queen's Own Rifles of Toronto. In March 1866, Wallace commanded a unit of Whitby volunteers at Port Colborne when there was danger of raids by the Fenians, an Irish group that wanted to free Ireland from British rule by invading Canada. In June 1866, he returned to take part in the Battle of Ridgeway, when the Fenian invasion occurred and was repulsed. Wallace rose from Captain to Lieut.-Colonel in the regiment. He was second in command when the 34th Battalion (now the Ontario Regiment) was formed in the fall of 1866, and commanded the regiment from 1872 to 1880.

When the officers' quarters were built at 219 Keith Street, a dead cat was buried under the bay window at the east side of the house. It was discovered by Tony Carter when he was making repairs to the window in the 1970s. He removed the cat and buried it in the back yard. According to an old Scottish custom, a mummified cat was interred in a new building as talisman against the devil.

It is not known how long the house remained as an officers' quarters. On the same day he purchased the lots for the building, James Wallace sold the land to Charles Bruce, the man who held the mortgage. Nothing is known of this man. On Oct. 5, 1859, Charles Bruce sold the house to Francis R. Warren. On Jan. 20, 1862, Warren sold the house to Larratt William Smith. Nothing is known of these men.

On Dec. 10, 1867, Smith sold the house to Robert John Wilson (1833-1876), a brilliant lawyer who had a tragic life. A nephew of Ontario County Judge Zaccheus Burnham (1819-1896), Wilson was born at Port Hope, studied law, and opened an office in Oakville, where he married Barbara Chisholm, daughter of a prominent Oakville citizen. He moved to Whitby in 1857 and opened a law practice with William H. Billings. He served as Master of Composite Lodge of the Masons in 1868, the year his wife suddenly died at the age of 28. Her death affected him deeply, and he became so distraught that he was admitted to the lunatic asylum in Toronto, where he died on Feb. 29, 1876, at the age of 42. By a strange coincidence, his wife had also died on Feb. 29, in 1868. When he bought 219 Keith Street, Wilson mortgaged it to Larratt William Smith for \$1,500, but never discharged the mortgage. On April 8, 1871, with Wilson presumably in the asylum, the Court of Chancery gave the house back to Smith. This was four days after the stable and outbuildings were destroyed by fire. In August, 1871, the house was offered for sale.

On May 15, 1872, Smith sold the house to James Holden (1828-1881), a prominent Whitby citizen who acted as a real estate agent. He sold the house to Fanny Knowles on July 13, 1872. Fanny Knowles (1837-1887) married William Hood (1840-1911), a

Whitby Township farmer, who retired to the Town of Whitby. He moved into the house and lived there until he built another frame house at 301 Centre Street South, where he lived until his death on Feb. 10, 1911. On Dec. 9, 1872, Hood sold the house at 219 Keith Street to Arthur O'Leary, but continued to rent it from him until his house on Centre Street was built. Nothing is known of Arthur O' Leary. When he put the house up for sale in September, 1874, it was advertised as having two wells and two cisterns, and a splendid garden laid out and planted with choice fruit trees.

On Nov. 10, 1874, O'Leary sold the house to John Greeley Kelley (1846-1884), another lawyer. Kelley was a graduate of the Whitby Grammar School and a former teacher at the base line school in East Whitby Township (now Oshawa), He studied law with Col. J. E. Farewell (1840-1923) of Whitby and opened a law office in the town. He was a Town Councillor in 1881, but poor health forced him to leave Whitby for Florida in the fall of 1883. He died at Port Orange, Florida, on April 7, 1884, on his 38th birthday. In 1873, Kelley had purchased the brick house at 300 Centre Street South and lived there until he left for Florida in 1883. He rented 219 Keith Street to Robert Hervey Lawder.

Robert Hervey Lawder (1825-1899) was born in Greenock, Scotland. He graduated from Glasgow University at the age of 14 in 1839 and came to Canada where he joined a business with his uncle, James Hervey, possibly in Cobourg. In 1850 he came to Whitby to be a grain dealer and dry goods merchant. He was an expert on the grain trade in North America and was elected an honorary member of the Chicago Stock Exchange in 1880. He was a noted writer on commercial subjects for business publications in Canada and the United States. From 1869 to 1882, when he moved to Toronto, Lawder was Whitby's post master. Robert H. Lawder died at Toronto on Sept. 12, 1899, and is buried at Cobourg.

The house was offered for sale in 1875, but was not sold until January 24, 1878, when John G. Kelley sold it to Samuel Phipps. Nothing is known of this man.

On June 8, 1883, the house was sold back to William Hood, who sold it on Sept. 18 of the same year to James O'Donovan, possibly a son of Michael O'Donovan (1834-1918), a Whitby carriage manufacturer. He took out two mortgages, but never paid them off, so the house reverted back to William Hood. On June 20, 1887, Hood sold the house to Charles King (1837-1915), proprietor of the King Brothers' Tannery. Exactly three months later, King sold it to George V. Martin.

George V. Martin was a Toronto manufacturer who had purchased in the fall of 1887, the O'Donovan Carriage plant on Brock Street South where the Price Chopper Plaza is now. He converted it into a buckle factory for making brass buckles for horse harness, known as the Martin Manufacturing Company. It became the Hatch Manufacturing Company in 1904 and the Whitby Malleable Iron and Brass Co. in 1929. The factory closed in 1964. The buckle factory was one of Whitby's leading industries for 77 years. Martin purchased the house at 219 Keith Street for one of his workers, Charles Barton (? -1932), and sold the house to Barton on March 1, 1888. It was to remain in the Barton family for 86 years.

Charles Barton was born in Walsall, Staffordshire, England, and came to Toronto in 1882, likely to work for George V. Martin. In 1888 he moved to Whitby where he became superintendent of the new buckle factory, a job inherited by his son, Charles Vincent Barton (1877-1952). Barton was a recognized expert in Ontario in the art of "close-plating" of forged metal. A Roman Catholic, he was treasurer of St. John the Evangelist Church in Whitby. All his accounts for the church from 1906 to 1913 were found on nails on the pantry wall in 1974. One of Barton's sons, William Barton, was killed in the First World War in 1917. Charles Barton Sr. died at his home on April 2, 1932, and the house was inherited by two of his unmarried children, Lucy Helen Barton (1887-1971) and Bernard Barton (1890-1978). The other members of the Barton family sold the house to Lucy Helen Barton, on October 1, 1938. On Sept. 24, 1971, the estate of Lucy Barton sold the house to Bernard Barton, who was a polisher at the buckle factory. It was quite common for two or three generations of one family to be workers at the buckle factory.

In 1974, Bernard Barton moved to Fairview Lodge and the house was put up for sale. It was like a time capsule, for little maintenance had been done to it since it was purchased by Charles Barton in 1888. The electricity was primitive, likely dating back to the turn of the century. There were no light switches, only pull-cords. The house was heated by wood stoves. There was only one wall plug in the house. Papers and documents under the carpets and on the pantry wall dated back to 1906, and some of Robert H. Lawder's letters from the 1860s were under the floor boards in the attic.

On Sept. 13, 1974, the house was purchased by James and Sonja Smith, who sold it on Sept. 18, 1975 to John Anthony and Brenda Carter. The Carters spent much money on restoration work which was badly needed, doing most of the work themselves. Tony Carter, an electrical technician for Ontario Hydro at the Pickering Nuclear Plant, installed a gas furnace, hot water heating ducts, new electrical system, and opened up an old fireplace. They reshingled the roof, and were able to move into the house a month and a half after purchasing it. It was Tony Carter who discovered the dead cat when he had to make repairs to the bay window on the east wall. He removed a wooden enclosed porch around the main entrance at the west side of the house because it blocked light from coming in. The porch, added to the house in 1930, was moved into the back yard and used as a tool shed. An addition was built at the south side of the house and in 1977, the bricks were sandblasted. By 1980, much of the initial restoration work was completed. The magnificent doorway on the west wall, with its elliptical fanlight, was featured as the frontispiece picture in a book on old area homes, called "Homesteads," published by Margaret McBurney and Mary Byers in 1979.

The Carters built a porch and kitchen at the south end of the house and made some alterations to a laundry room which would have been added some time when the Bartons had the house. They also put a skylight in the south roof of the attic.



The house at 219 Keith Street is of a unique design for Whitby, especially the formation of its windows. All the original shutters are still with the house although they have not been hung yet. It is the finest and most elaborate of the military buildings constructed by James Wallace and is associated with a number of prominent individuals in Whitby's history.

.....

Brian Winter,
Archivist, Town of Whitby,
November 17, 1998.

ARCHITECTURAL REPORT
OFFICERS' QUARTERS, WHITBY HIGHLAND RIFLE COMPANY
Lots 6 and 7, Radenhurst's Plan
219 Keith Street
Built 1856/57

Prepared for
the Planning Department of the Town of Whitby
575 Rossland Road East
Whitby, Ontario L1N 2M8 by
E.R.A. Architect Inc.

ARCHITECTURAL REPORT
OFFICERS' QUARTERS, WHITBY HIGHLAND RIFLE COMPANY
Lots 6 and 7, Radenhurst's Plan
219 Keith Street
Built 1856/57

The Whitby Highland Rifle Company Properties

The house at 219 Keith Street was built as an Officers' Quarters for the Whitby Highland Rifle Company¹. It is one of a number of buildings constructed by James Wallace, the Company's founder, and is built across the street from Burr Lodge, which was Wallace's home.

Wallace's buildings, including others mentioned in Brian Winter's historical report², should be seen in relation to each other as they collectively illustrate a part of the social and military history of Whitby during the middle of the last century.

Within the context of Wallace's buildings it is evident that Burr Lodge is the principal building, the manor of the estate, and it is built as a solid Georgian house deeply set back from the street. It is a large brick building, with stone trim, high ceilings, massive chimneys and an extensive two storey service wing. In comparison the neighbour to the south of 219 Keith Street is brought close to the street and is a small, simple Regency-style cottage, and was presumably a double cottage originally³. 219 Keith Street is also built in a cottage style, in order not to upstage the Lodge, but with sufficient architectural elaboration to confirm its rank as Officers' Quarters within the community.

It is interesting to note that the quite varied architectural style of the buildings related to social standing, and not to different periods of construction or to the tastes of different owners or builders.

219 Keith Street currently sits on a lot which has about 85 feet frontage on Centre Street and 139 feet on Keith Street, and it relates well to its more recent neighbours⁴. Even though the building is deeply set back from Centre Street and more appropriately related to Keith Street, its entrance suggests the building faces

¹ A 40-person volunteer militia founded in 1856. See Brian Winter's Designation Report (Nov. 17 1998).

² Vanstone Terrace (720-724 Centre Street), s-e corner of Centre and Burns (demolished) and several Regency cottages in the vicinity of Burr Lodge (unidentified). Presumably there were other buildings and outbuildings, not yet identified.

³ This is house directly to the south of the Officers' Quarters on Centre Street, and it apparently was also part of the Rifle Company's holdings. The house was viewed from outside only, but appears to have a symmetrical plan. There is an entry door on the south side of the projecting central bay, and a brick-in entrance visible on the matching north facade.

⁴ It has a much better relationship to the current buildings in the area than Burr Lodge, which now unfortunately faces away from the street.

onto Centre. This confusion of orientation is something which affects many aspects of this house, on both the interior and exterior.

Use of the House

It is not known how long the house may have served as an Officers' Quarters for the volunteer militia⁵. While the house has been in the hands of very few families since 1888 when it was purchased by the Barton family, it's earlier history is quite unclear. There are more than a dozen changes in ownership in just over the thirty years between 1856 and 1888. The longest single contact during that time appears to be the ten years that Larratt William Smith either owned or held mortgages on the property (1862 to 1872)⁶, but unfortunately nothing is known of Smith. It is suggested by this ownership pattern that changes which have occurred to the plan of the house probably occurred very early in the building's history and are presumably related to the change of use, from Officers' Quarters to non-military residence. There were apparently no changes to the house between 1888 and 1974.

The House Exterior

The house is a two storey brick building with attic. It would appear that the north facade facing Keith Street may have been the original front facade of the building. Only the bricks of this facade are laid in an English bond⁷, an expensive and time-consuming bonding usually reserved for the most public faces of buildings. All other sides of the building are laid in a Common bond, suggesting, fairly strongly, that they were not the principal facades.

The north facade has two asymmetrically-placed gables, one larger than the other. This asymmetry is very smoothly executed, particularly in the fretwork of the bargeboards, the proportions of which adjust very subtly to deal with the changes in scale between each gable. The intended character of the house is to be romantically picturesque and to avoid harsh and exact symmetries and proportions.

Under each of the dormers is a Gothic-arched window with a double set of casements. The Gothic arch is executed with a single row of brick stretchers beneath a raised brick hood mould, typical of Gothic Revival detailing. On the lower floor there are two windows which are divided in casements and transoms. Rather than being Gothic Revival, the windowpane divisions on the lower floor suggest what is usually referred to, stylistically, as Regency.

It is apparent that an opening has been bricked-in at the west end of the facade, and less clearly, that the ground floor window under the larger dormer may have

-
- 5 The Whitby Highland Rifle Company joined the Queen's Own Rifles in 1862. The QORs may be an archival resource for more information about the building.
- 6 Brian Winter explains that Smith had sold the house in 1867 but reclaimed it again in 1871.
- 7 In English bond every other brick is laid as a 'header' - exposing only the end of the brick. Common bonds lay headers only at about every sixth course of brick.

been rebuilt⁸. It is unknown why these changes might have occurred or what change in the interior configuration of the building could have required them⁹. Presumably one of the altered openings in this facade was the original front entrance location.

The west facade of the building is entered from the garden and has a finely executed front doorway with a fanlight and sidelights within a very shallow-arched opening. The brickwork is different in the arch from the upper window arches on Keith Street, suggesting that they were not built at the same time. The windows on this facade have their original shutters, and the owners have the shutters for the other windows, including the Gothic arches. It would appear from the shutters which are not yet hung that they were most likely painted in a traditional dark green ('shutter green')¹⁰.

The east facade of the building has a asymmetrically-placed baywindow with window division patterns matching the ground floor windows on the north facade. The baywindow is a distinctive and unusual feature of the house which adds to the building's picturesque qualities.

The roofline of the house is enlivened by the finials at the ends of the sharply pitched gables. The chimney, which would add character to the roofline, has been removed.

The back of the house, the south side, has a one-storey kitchen wing which has been partially clad in siding and has a side porch and further extension added¹¹.

The condition of the exterior brickwork appears fine. It has been sandblasted but not very harshly. There has been some replacement of brick close to grade around the building, but this was difficult to examine given the depth of snow on the grounds. The roof is a modern asphalt.

Almost all of the windows appear to be mid-nineteenth century, including original glass, some of which has been signed by either owners or guests¹². The windows are now protected by exterior single pane units which are not very noticeable, but unfortunately they prohibit any opening of windows. The division bars in the

8 The difficulty in altering openings in an English bond wall relates to the exacting spacing of the brick pattern. When the bricks don't match with the opening size, smaller cuts of brick, called bats or closers, are used. This section of wall shows several overlaid areas of closers.

9 It is most likely that the dining room area contained the entrance and a small vestibule. This would be a poorly functioning plan for a residence, but may have been appropriate for the uses of the Officers' Quarters. By moving the entrance to the side of the house, a dining room was created.

10 Original paint colours can be fairly easily checked with some sand-paper, a magnifying glass and visual examination.

11 The porch and rear addition are quite sympathetic to the character of the house and contribute to it.

12 A fairly common custom during the early part of the nineteenth century amongst adults - not necessarily juvenilia.

windows¹³ have a very thin profile, typical of early and mid-nineteenth century joinery.

The House Interior

The plan of the house is unusual but there is very little visual evidence that anything has changed on the interior. Almost all of the interior wood trim and plaster appear consistent, and mid-nineteenth century. The baseboards are uniformly tall and matching, and only the mantelpieces appear to have been changed¹⁴. The floors have been stripped to their pine plank floorboards. Some of the doors have been altered but most retain early hardware. Most of the walls have been covered in a thick wallpaper which has subsequently been painted¹⁵.

The house is entered from the garden side into a small foyer which is well-lit by the glazing around the panelled entry door.

The foyer is separated from a stairhall by an arched plaster opening. The stairhall is small, with a stained stair in excellent condition. It is in the centre of the house and has borrowed lighting from the foyer.

On entering the stairhall, to your left is the entrance to a beautifully-lit dining room¹⁶, and on the far side of the hall is the entrance to a drawing room (living room). The drawing room is separated from the stairhall by a structural wall which partially conceals the chimney flue and may provide framing for the floor structure¹⁷. The drawing room is very large and runs from the front to the back of the house. It is well-lit by the baywindow on the east wall. The baywindow is set within a panelled opening in the wall, and its trim, hardware and detail matches the other ground windows.

At the back of the stairhall is the entrance to the rear wing. Directly beside the entrance foyer, accessed off of the stairhall, is a small washroom, which family history records as a pantry.

13 Also called muntins or glazing bars.

14 Simple paint sampling in various parts of the house, using a microscope to make sure that all of the layers are identified, would corroborate that the mantelpieces have been changed. There appear to be remarkably few paint changes to the wood trim in the house. Wood graining should be looked for as it was typical for the 1850s and would have been left longer than a more easily replaceable paint layer.

15 Clues to the evolution of the building may be found under this wallpaper in specific locations (i.e.. the Dining Room)

16 This is the room which may have previous contained the entrance to the Quarters. The splice in the baseboard at the appropriate location, and the lack of a fireplace (although not uncommon for dining rooms) are additional clues to this some change in this room.

17 There are niches in this wall, for example beside the fireplace in the drawing room, which may have been an opening in the wall, a bookshelf or cabinet location, or the result of a later modification relating to installed services. The chimney flue has been blocked-off and the fireplace is no longer in use. It has a raised brick hearth which is not original.

The rear wing includes an original single room which was the kitchen, and is now a family room. The fireplace and mantel appear to have been altered but are quite sympathetic to the character of the house. Small additions have been made to the rear of the building, including a kitchen extension, and a laundry addition. It appears from markings on the brickwork on the east side of the rear wing that there have been other earlier additions as well, and it would be common for small frame additions to be connected to the house.

The house does not have a full basement, but there is a basement under the old kitchen. It could be accessed by a trap door with stairs, but is now accessed by an exterior stair. The very low basement, which currently houses the mechanical system for the building, has whitewashed walls and ceiling joists, suggesting that it served as a kitchen store. It had a window on one side, which is now covered by the porch addition.

The upper floor is neatly divided into four fairly equally sized rooms and with the exception of the addition of closets and the conversion of one of the rooms into a bathroom, little else can be seen here. The flue appears to angle rather dramatically within the wall from its location on the lower floor¹⁸.

There is a small, ladderlike attic stair on the second floor between two of the bedrooms. The attic is lit at both ends and has had a small skylight added. There is considerable space which most likely was used for storage. The finishes are currently concealed by drywall.

Structure in most parts of the house is concealed. There are some stove pipe hole locations, particularly within the stairwells which suggests how the house was heated before the fairly recent installation of a central heating system.

Summary and Comments

The Officers' Quarters is a unique house in Whitby and a finely-crafted example of Gothic Revival¹⁹. It is of remarkable condition and quality. The design of the house is architecturally sophisticated and the modifications which have been made have been sensitive and carefully considered²⁰.

18 There is no clear reason why this would be done. Measured drawings of the building may explain that the angle was required for appropriate roof placement, or may suggest that the downstairs fireplace has been moved.

19 The entry door appears in *Homesteads* McBurney and Byers (1978)

20 The changes related to the relocation of the entry which are noted in this report do not diminish the quality of the building, but contribute to the story of its use. There are some alterations which are unfortunate, such as alterations to some interior doors and the exterior sandblasting, but are not excessively detrimental to the house.

Photographs

1. Burr Lodge
2. Burr Lodge, rear wing
3. neighbouring building
4. neighbouring building
5. view from Keith Street
6. view from Keith Street
7. view from Keith Street
8. detail view showing area of previous opening
9. detail view showing area of previous opening
10. detail view showing junction of rear wing and rear wing addition
11. view of side entry
12. view of rear porch
13. detail view of shutters
14. view of living room
15. view of stair hall
16. view of upper stair hall



2.



Officers' Quarters, Whitty Highland Rifle Company
219 Keith Street
January 1999 page 7

3.



4.



Officers' Quarters, Whithy Highland Rifle Company
219 Keith Street
January 1999 page 8

5.



6.

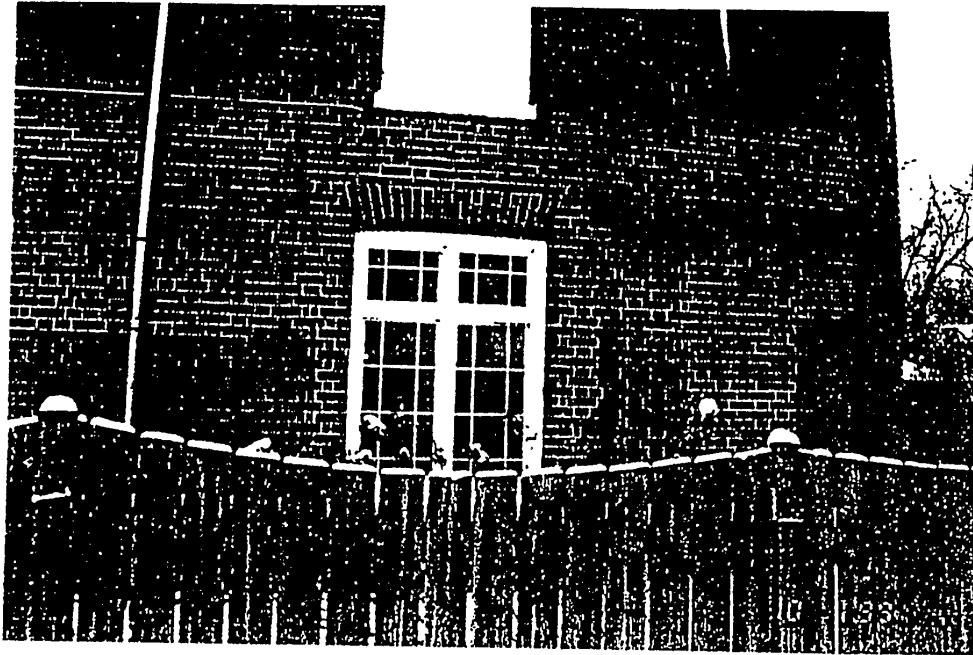


Officers' Quarters, Whitby Highland Rifle Company
219 Keith Street
January 1999 page 9

7.



8.

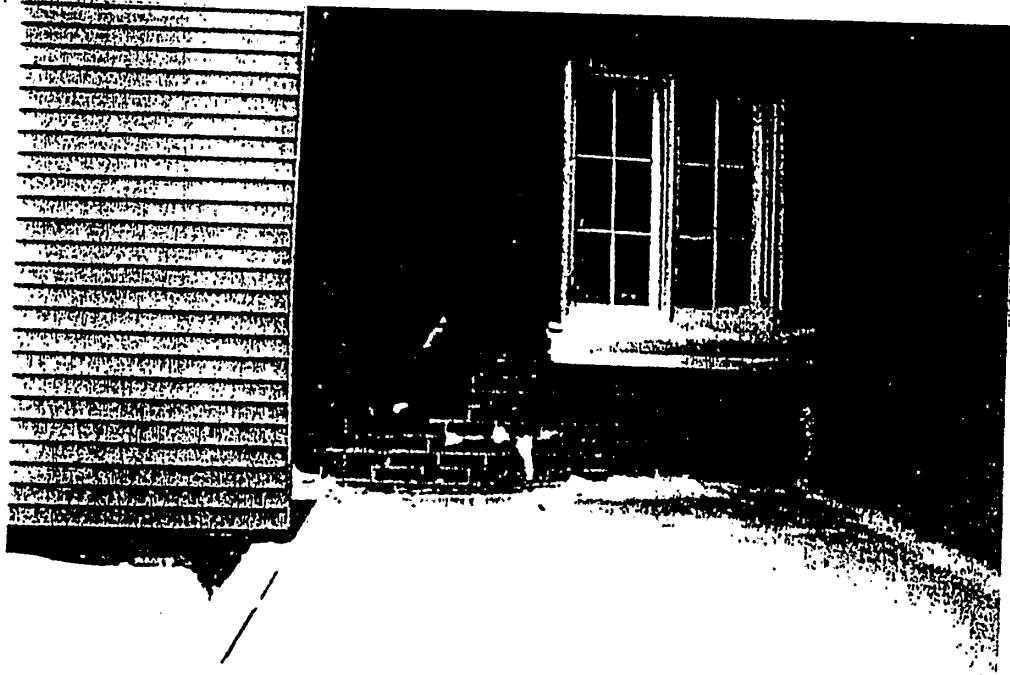


Officers' Quarters, Whittby Highland Rifle Company
219 Keith Street
January 1999 page 10

9.

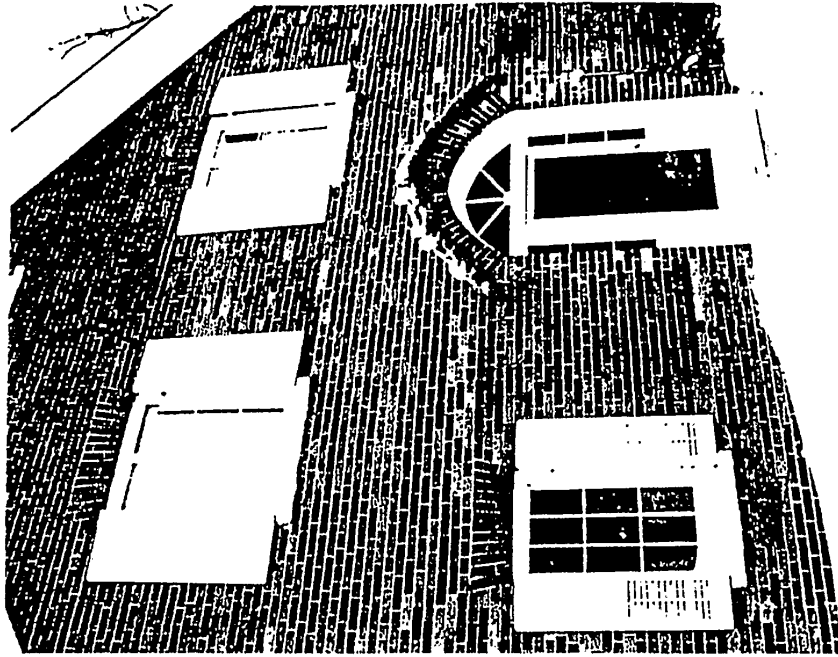


10.

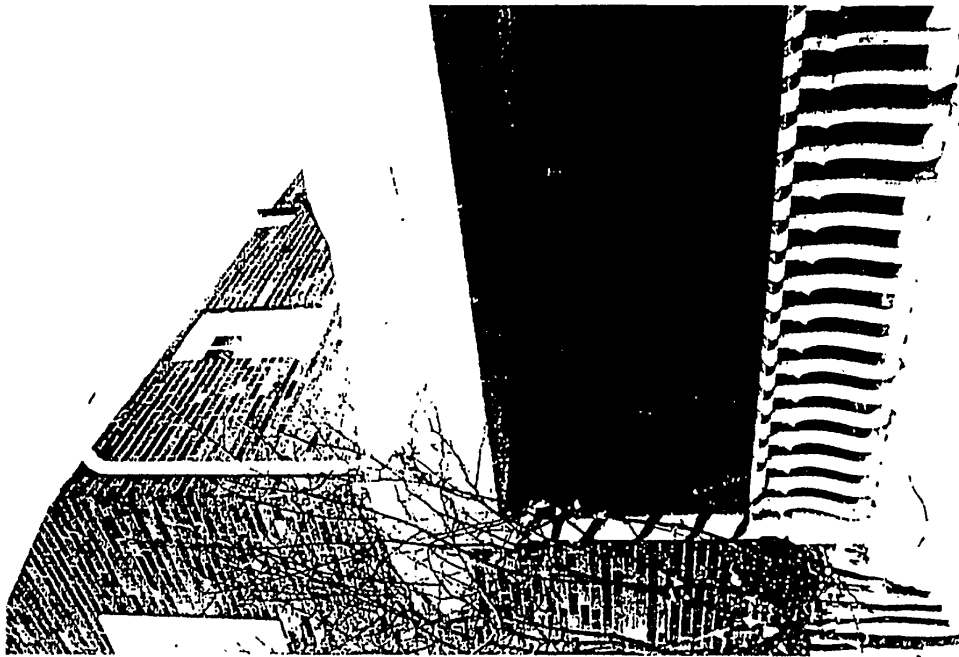


Officers' Quarters, Whitby Highland Rifle Company
219 Keith Street
January 1999 page 11

11.



12.



Officers' Quarters, Whitty Highland Rifle Company
219 Keith Street
January 1999 page 12

15.



14.



Officers' Quarters, Whitby Highland Rifle Company
219 Keith Street
January 1999 page 15

15.



16.



Officers' Quarters, Whithy Highland Rifle Company
219 Keith Street
January 1999 page 14