

ROGERS HOUSE, 161 KING STREET EAST, GANANOQUE
LOT 46, PLAN 86 EAST OF THE GANANOQUE RIVER, TOWN OF GANANOQUE

HERITAGE DESIGNATION BY-LAW NO. 2005-64
HERITAGE ANALYSIS REPORT: REAPPRAISAL, by Edgar Tumak Heritage, 2020



Figure 1: Rogers House, 161 King Street East, viewed from the northeast (E. Tumak, Dec. 2019).



Figure 2: Rogers House, 1902, viewed from the north, with the stair on the right accessing the side entrance to the original medical practice (Gananoque Historical Society Newsletter, special ed., no. 25, Feb. 1996, p.541).

FOREWORD

As part of the heritage designation by-law review for the Rogers House, this more extensive research report has been prepared to augment the supporting historical information of the original by-law. In this manner it was possible to fully respond to the Ont. Reg. 9/06 criteria required by the review, as well as the list of heritage attributes. The original supporting information correctly identified that the property was appropriate for heritage designation, however, there was limited mention of its architectural significance (other than a recording of its existing features), and very limited analysis of its historical context and environmental/contextual significance which are all part of the three main categories under Ont. Reg. 9/06. These have been addressed in the augmented historical analysis which support the Ont. Reg. 9/06 criteria required by the review, as well as the list of heritage attributes.

INTRODUCTION

161 King Street East was built in 1895 for Dr. David H. Rogers in 1895, as a well-to-do, combined residence and medical practice, on the site of part of the former Gananoque Roman Catholic Church. It is a fine example of the Queen Anne Revival style.

HISTORY

Historical Associations

The village lot on which 161 King Street East stands was originally part of the grounds of the first Roman Catholic Church in Gananoque erected in 1846-47. The Church remained on that property until the construction of the current Church on Stone Street South, 1890-91. In 1895 the Roman Catholic Church sold the property to Dr. David H. Rogers. The church building was torn down and within six months Rogers built the substantial combined residential dwelling and medical practise, utilizing some materials from the demolished church. The Rogers family had accumulated substantial property in the area since the mid-19th century. Samuel Rogers, David's father, was the business partner of the successful merchant James Turner, and eventually erected a fine commercial structure in Gananoque at the northeast corner of King and Stone streets (demolished), later the site of the second Post Office (also demolished).

It is not known when Dr. Rogers established his medical practice in Gananoque but home-based practices were the norm for out-patients in the late-19th and early-20th centuries, with house visits for patients who could not visit. Hospitals were often considered only for the poor (as one might only encounter something worse in the non-antiseptic world of the time), or only utilised for very specialised treatments in large urban centres.

The first general hospitals in what became Canada were charitable institutions which originated in the early 17th century in what became Canada and relied on donations from benevolent organizations and

prosperous citizens. The patients paid very little, if anything, and government support was erratic and undependable. In 1867 the Toronto General closed for a year because of lack of funds, and it was partly because of this that the Ontario government passed an Act in the early 1870s to provide for annual grants to the hospital and to other charitable institutions.¹ The Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul established their ministry in Kingston in 1861, with a very significant part of their work associated with health care, and soon were attending to people further afield such as in Gananoque.²

Until the early part of the 20th century, hospitals were generally devoted to the treatment of the poor, who suffered in particular from infectious and nutritional diseases, e.g., influenza, pneumonia, tuberculosis, gastroenteritis, scurvy, and their complications. Because the relationship between public sanitation and personal hygiene and disease was largely unknown, and because of the lack of therapeutic drugs, infectious diseases could easily spread – as well as their complications. Dirty and overcrowded hospitals were often traps for infection, and more prosperous citizens, who could be treated at home, or home-based practices, avoided them.

This situation persisted throughout the early 1900s. Between WWI and WWII, and before the advent of antibiotics or vaccination programs became widespread, infectious-disease mortality rates only began to decrease as a result of public health measures.

As a result of the practicalities of the culture of home-based medical practices, the Rogers House formed part of an enclave for such medical practice in Gananoque in the late-19th to mid-20th centuries, which included quite a number of the doctor practices in the immediate area on Pine Street and Stone Street South. While home-based practices did not always occur, doctor congregation did in other Canadian centres such as Ottawa, where near the Civic Hospital, starting in the 1920s, many doctors congregated, and in the 1960s, by the General and Childrens hospitals where many doctors took up personal residence.

¹ The general section on health care in Canada is taken from the online version of *The Canadian Encyclopedia*, <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/hospital>, accessed February 2020.

² For a history of the parish and Gananoque convent see, Sister Mary Faustina, "The Christian Community of St. John the Evangelist, Gananoque, Ontario, 1846-1976," manuscript paper, Nov. 1976, consulted at the Gananoque Public Library; and <https://www.providence.ca/our-story/history/missions/gananoque/>.



Figure 3: Google Earth view of the downtown core of Gananoque view from the north, showing 161 King Street East with the red marker (Dr. Rogers), Grace United Church to the top right with a blue marker, and 128 (Dr. Davis) and 136 (Dr. Bird) Pine Street to its immediate left/east and 125 Stone Street South (Drs. Bird and Bracken) to its immediate south (<https://earth.google.com/web/@44.32976832,-76.1615137,91.53618415a,243.11517053d,35y,142.74939127h,44.99690425t,0r/data=Ck8aTRJHCiQweDRjY2Q0NTExNDk3ZjBINDE6MHgzYzk2NDgwMjU5NWVky2QZOSf20D4qRkAhladiGVEKU8AqDTE2MSBLaW5nIFNOIEUYASAB> , accessed Feb. 2020).

Earlier medical practices in Gananoque showed a trend to locate in the area such as at 145 and 90 Stone Street South. The first is believed to be that of Dr. Potter who came to Gananoque in 1829 under a signed agreement with Joel Stone and the McDonalds (town founders) to provide medical services to the small settlement. The McDonalds provided the land and Dr. Potter built his office at what is now the back part of the house bordering on the northeast corner of Spruce Alley at 145 Stone Street South. At the time it was quite undeveloped with the only other structure of note nearby being the Blockhouse - a wood military fortification created after the attack and raid on Gananoque during the war of 1812, but which was never subsequently required for combat and later dismantled to re-use the heavy timbers for harbour construction activities. The property was sold after Dr. Potter's death in 1882.³

³ Information about 145 Stone Street South provided by Marcia Macrae, Gananoque, November 2020.

SECTION IV: APPENDIX A.4

Next to own the practice was Dr. Thomas H. Dumble. In 1884 built his residence onto the front of Dr. Potter's office facing Stone Street South thus attaching the office to his house. 145 Stone Street South was built in the fashionable American Stick style of the U.S., an offshoot of the Queen Anne Revival style in Ontario which was popular from 1880-1910.



Figure 4: 145 Stone Street South, Gananoque, viewed from the southwest (E. Tumak, July 2019).

Dr. Dumble died at age 38 and the property was sold to Dr. James McCammon (son of Samuel McCammon, of the extremely elaborate residence at 279 King Street West). Dr. McCammon purchased the house and attached medical office in 1894 and moved his practice there the following year. James McCammon had previously practiced with a Dr. Merrick at an address on King Street. In the purchase he also acquired Dr. Dumble's medical equipment and medical texts. He worked out of 145 Stone Street South for many years, including working with Dr. Charles H. Bird during the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918-19, seeing up to 80 patients a day between them. Dr. McCammon sold the property in 1924 and moved to British Columbia. The next owner was Gordon Ford Petch, Treasurer of Ontario Steel Products, ending the line of doctors at this address. Petch incorporated the doctor's office into the main part of the house.

A very clear example of a purpose-built combined doctor-office and house is believed to be that of Dr. E.L. Atkinson, at 90 Stone Street South (now Trinity House B&B), constructed in 1859.⁴ Dr. Atkinson was also the founder of the St. Lawrence Steel and Wire Company which specialised in making corsets. Corsets were often for fashion and were used mostly by women, but many men used them as well if they wanted to look more trim. However, many people considered them healthy at the time to improve posture. This could explain why Dr. Atkinson was part of a steel and wire company. Corsets used wires

⁴ Town of Gananoque, Heritage Self-Guided Walking Tour, n.d., active 2019.

and thin bits of steel, almost like ribbons for the support required (before this, thin strips from the bones from whales were used). Padded cloth covered the steel and wire, and the corset was generally tied tightly at the back.



Figure 5: 90 Stone Street House, former Atkinson House, Gananoque (E. Tumak, July 2019).

The Atkinson house shows a separation of the house and the doctor office that soon became common in Gananoque, and was common in many other town's and cities. Two other houses in Gananoque are almost identical in form and style: 480 Charles Street South and 295 Stone Street South (the latter is covered with stucco and the front porch has been changed). A side entrance that faced the street was not only popular for doctors, but also lawyers and other professionals like engineers. It provided a separation between the work space and the private house areas, but was accessible between the two so that family and help could easily assist. As a combined residence and professional space, the main entrance was reserved for guests and family as was considered proper at the time. 295 Stone Street South was the second rectory of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and such separation of consultation and household space was equally important.



Figure 6: 295 Stone Street South, Gananoque, viewed from the southwest. The separate side entrance is partially visible on the left (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 7: 480 Charles Street South, viewed from the east (E. Tumak, July 2019).

Another house-based medical practice in Gananoque was almost immediately south of Rogers House at 136-38 Pine Street, built for Dr. Charles Harold Bird in 1897 mentioned above (b. Barrie, Ontario, 1872, son of Lieutenant Shearman Godfrey Bird of the Royal Engineers and Amy Laura Amoi of Chinese origin, d. 1944, m. 1898 Edith Dunn (d. 1933), m. Jean D. Bain 1934 (d. 1984)). Bird's early schooling was in Barrie and then Trinity Medical College in Toronto. He graduated in 1893 at the top of his class winning the Gold Medal in Medicine and was class valedictorian. An older brother was working in a bank in

SECTION IV: APPENDIX A.4

Gananoque – likely the Bank of Toronto, and after interning in Toronto and a brief practice in Dromore, County Grey, Charles established his medical practice in Gananoque in 1896.⁵

Charles was very prominent in civic activities in Gananoque, such as with building the Gananoque Arena on Wellington Street, and later the first curling rink in conjunction with the arena. About 1920, with other investors, cottage lots were purchased on the waterfront and a golf course laid out towards the highway. Later in the 1920s, Bird promoted the pasteurization of milk through Gananoque Dairy (despite considerable opposition which was not unusual at the time) and Gananoque became an early community to have safe milk. Bird served on the Board of Education for many years, was President of the Chamber of Commerce, a Director of Ontario Steel Products Company, Medical Officer for the Steel Co. of Canada Gananoque Plant from the time Stelco first had a shop physician until he died in 1944, instrumental in forming the Thousand Island Motor League (Later the Ontario Motor League), and served as the local District Medical Officer for the Grand Trunk Railway (later the Canadian National Railways). He also owned one of the first cars and snowmobiles in Gananoque.⁶



Figures 8-9: left - Dr. Charles Harold Bird, n.d. (Gananoque Historical Society Newsletter, no. 3, Sept. 1985, p. 21); and below right - Wigborough, 136 Pine Street, ca. 1905, (Gananoque Historical Society Newsletter, no. 3, Sept. 1985, p. 22)..



⁵ C.H. Bird's collection of equipment used in his medical practice is now housed at the Museum of Health Care at Kingston.

⁶ "C.H. Bird, MDCM'," *Gananoque Historical Society Newsletter*, no. 3, Sept. 1985, p. 21-22.



Figure 10: Wigborough, 136 Pine Street viewed from the southeast with 128 Pine Street to the left (E. Tumak, Feb. 2020).



Also to the near immediate south of Rogers House, at 128 Pine Street, was the original residence and practice of Dr. John James Davis built in 1910 (b. Toronto 1875, d. Gananoque 1948, parents Thomas George Davis and Mary Helen Duncan).⁷

Figure 11: Dr. John James Davis, ca. 1937 (A. Lorne Prosser Photo, Gananoque).

⁷ Helen McMillan, "Dr. J.J. Davis," *Gananoque Historical Society Newsletter*, no. 7, Sept. 1987, p. 88-93.



Figure 12: 128 Pine Street, ca. 1911 (Gananoque Historical Society Newsletter, no. 7, Sept. 1987, p. 91).



Figure 13: 128 Pine Street, viewed from the southwest with Grace United Church to the left and 130 Pine Street to the right (E. Tumak, Feb. 2020).

At that time several physicians practiced in the immediate area, Drs. Sinclair, Bird, and Davis, all significant medallists in their respective medical schools at McGill, Toronto and Western. The concentration on Pine Street became known as Pill Avenue. Their phone numbers were conveniently 70, 80 and 90. Some years later Dr. E.J. Bracken arrived from Elgin, Ontario, and he too located in the

SECTION IV: APPENDIX A.4

same block, at the southeast corner of Pine and Stone streets in the same house at 125 Stone Street South where Dr. Davis originally began his practice in Gananoque (Figure 14).



Figure 14: 125 Stone Street South, viewed from the northwest (E. Tumak, Jan. 2020).



Dr. Bracken graduated from Queen's University, ca. 1910-11, and married Jean Bryson in May 1911, they went to Saskatoon shortly thereafter and he practiced there for two years and then went to London, England, to pursue postgraduate work at Great Ormond Street Hospital, and then practiced medicine in Elgin, Ontario, before settling in Gananoque in 1919. During the Second World War he served at RMC in Kingston and after the war in the village of Cannington, north of Toronto near Lake Simcoe. He died in 1962 in the hospital in Lindsay, and is buried at Olivet Cemetery, north of Gananoque, near the village of Seeleys Bay.⁸

Figure 15 - left: Dr. Edwin James Bracken, ca. 1953 (Gananoque Historical Society Newsletter, no. 10, Feb. 1989, p. 169).

⁸ Jean Conner, "Dr. E.J. Bracken," *Gananoque Historical Society Newsletter*, no. 10, Feb. 1989, p. 169-70.

Person/Event

The Rogers family had accumulated substantial property in the area since the mid-19th century. Samuel Rogers, David's father, was the business partner of the successful merchant James Turner who eventually erected a fine commercial structure in Gananoque at the northeast corner of King and Stone streets (demolished), later site of the second Post Office (also demolished).

While less is known about the financial background of the Rogers family, more is known about the Turners which is significant to state. In the mid-19th century James Turner represented the new merchant money among Gananoque's power brokers. A Presbyterian, he had been born in Ireland in 1820 and emigrated to Canada with his father and four brothers in 1833. They were not poor immigrants: Turner sr., purchased a farm for each of his five sons. James moved to Gananoque in 1853 and at first had a store and residence in a single building. As he grew successful he erected another building which included in its upper apartments the Odd Fellows Temple. His firm, besides retailing, sold cordwood to the Grand Trunk Railway for fuel and also was joint owner of a wharf. In his later years, Turner was prosperous enough to be able to turn over his various operations to his son and his two sons-in-law and thereafter spent his time on the village council and on the board of education, posts he held until his death in 1889. For an understanding of local society, it is worth adding that the Turner family was intermarried with another Irish Protestant family, George Taylor, who later became a partner, and still later became president of the Ontario Wheel Company. He was MP for South Leeds from 1882-1911 and for 24 years was chief whip of the Tory party, and later a Senator.⁹

ARCHITECTURE

Design

Rogers House is an asymmetrical design composed of red brick, that is primarily a two-storey structure with a complex roof profile that extends to 2.5 storeys at the attic level. Limestone is used for window sills, lintels, and foundation capping, while sandstone is used for the remainder of the foundation. Wood is used for the painted the porch, windows, eaves, and roof detailing and underlying construction.

The east front of the façade is dominated by a two-storey bay window filled with rectilinear windows topped by coloured glass transoms on the ground level. Coloured glass transoms also top the front entrance and west front window. The windows of the east bay are horizontally divided by decorative terra cotta panels. At the attic level, is a Palladian style window under a tall gable. The base of this slightly flared gable is supported by two wish-bone brackets.

⁹ Donald H. Akenson, *The Irish in Ontario: a Study in Rural History* (McGill–Queen's University Press, 1984 and 1999), p. 299.



Figure 16 - left: Two-storey bay window topped by a Palladian window under a gable with shingle surround (E. Tumak, March 2020).

To the east of the gable is a central, single-aperture, entrance bay, covered by a small gable. The second-level window of this central bay, is in keeping with the windows of the west third of the front elevation. These windows are united by heavy, round-headed voussoirs and keystones, as well as stringcourses at the arch spring and apex levels, and decorative terra cotta panels of the same palette as the brick directly below the eaves. Heavy dentils support the eaves of the roof, while terra cotta shingles laid in a lozenge pattern cover the front facing gables. The roof of the front porch is fronted by a classical pediment and supported by clusters of Doric colonnettes at the corners. Running boards along the east of the front façade which track around to the east elevation, ghosting in the brick, drawings from 1993, early photographs, and a broad rectangular window that occupies the lower level of west third of the front façade, show that until relatively recently this porch motif was part of a longer original

verandah of pairs and trios of Doric colonnettes (Figures 1, 16-21).



Figure 17: Showing the lower level of the front window bay with the scroll pattern of the terra cotta panels between the ground and second levels (E. Tumak, Jan. 2020).



Figure 18: Detail of the second level windows at the west side of the front, highlighting the voussoirs and the terra cotta panels above (E. Tumak, Jan. 2020).

SECTION IV: APPENDIX A.4

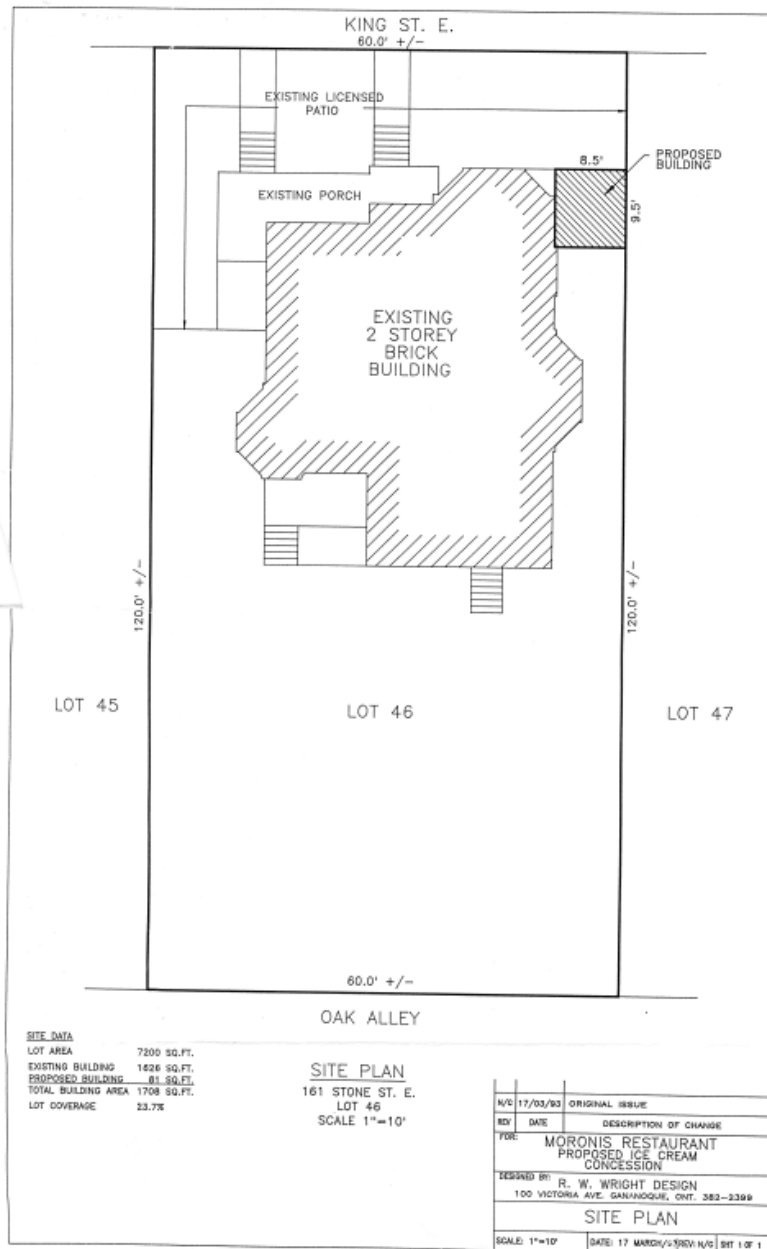
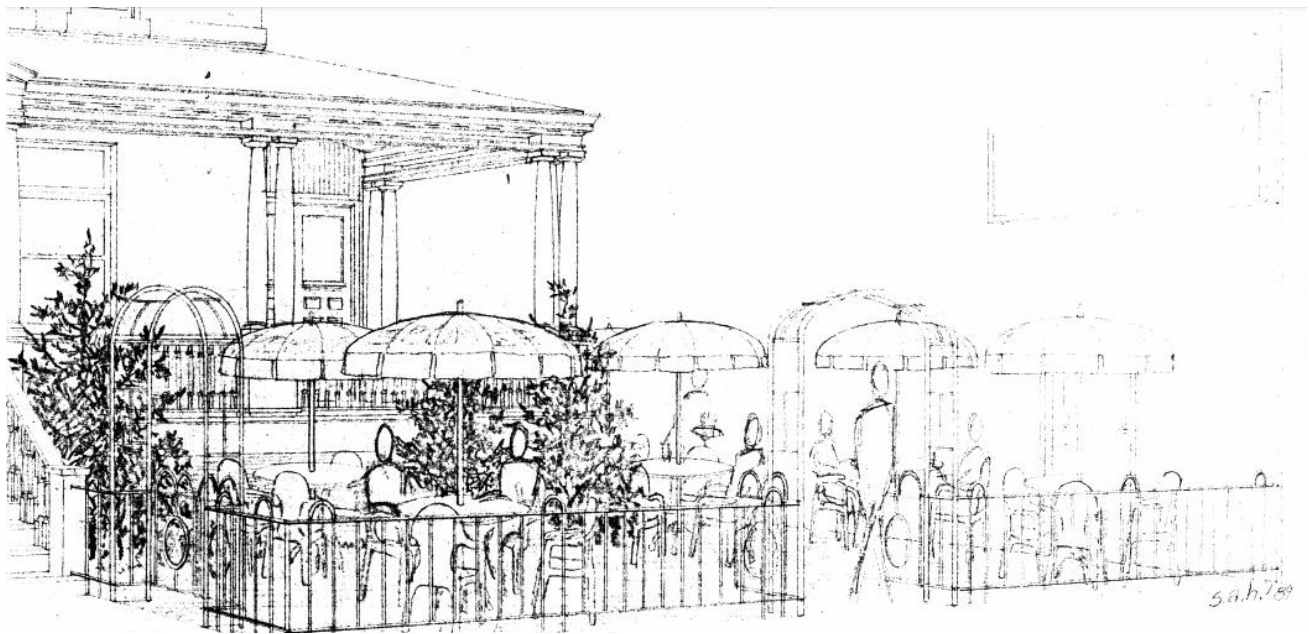


Figure 19: Site plan for 161 King Street East, showing the footprint of the front porch formerly extending across the full front (R.W. Wright Design, March 1993, contained in Notice of Site Plan Agreement, no. 241396, Schedule B, plan dated 3 June 1993).



Figures 20-21: above – presentation drawing for 161 King Street East, showing the front porch formerly extending across the full front (R.W. Wright Design, March 1993, contained in Notice of Site Plan Agreement, no. 241396, Schedule B, plan dated 3 June 1993); left – west elevation showing the side two-storey window bay (E. Tumak, Jan. 2020).

In contrast to many residences in close urban locations, Rogers House features notable features on its side elevations, specifically the side entrance for its former medical practice on the west elevation, as well as double-storey bays towards the rear of both side elevations. The side door entrance close to the front, as also seen with the Bird, Davis and Bracken residences (as opposed to a more perfunctory side entrance of a purely domestic residence) was a common provision for professionals such as doctors and lawyers so that their family and/or domestic staff (of then extended households) could assist with meeting patients clients and taking care of household matters. Bay windows also provide extra light particularly at a time when, at the time of the construction of the Rogers House, daylight was the

best source of interior illumination. As a combined residential and professional space, the primacy of the placement of the main entrance shows it was reserved for guests and family according to the propriety of the time.

Style

The Rogers House is a very good example of the Queen Anne Revival style. The style is a complex and variable aesthetic, with many stylistic qualities or directions, of which the Rogers House favours the classical.¹⁰ Due to the expense of this style, in form and materials, it was an excellent expression for the proud upper urban middle class, particularly of the professional elite, with examples constructed by successful Gananoque residents at the end of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

The Queen Anne Revival style (ca. 1880-1910 in Ontario) features a panoply of decorative elements and varied forms manipulated into an imaginative and at times witty visual display. This style has less to do with the reign of Queen Anne of England (1702-14) than with the 'Shavian Manorial style' developed during the second half of the 19th century by the English architect Richard Shaw. Shaw's unique adaptation of medieval asymmetrical and rambling Elizabethan country houses, combined with classical elements of the English Renaissance derived from houses of the early 18th century, including the reign of Queen Anne, became an inspiration to many architects on both sides of the Atlantic of the English speaking world. Shaw created an aesthetic that could include half-timbering, tiles, stone and brick walls with steep cathedral-like roof shapes and tall decorated chimneys, highly decorated surfaces, enhanced with a selective application of classical features, and an assortment of randomly spaced windows. It is a mixture of elements from these two origins, medievalism and early 18th century classicism, that architects interpreted and reorganized with considerable liberty and imagination into what today we know as the Queen Anne Revival style.

Typical of the Queen Anne Revival style is an irregular outline or silhouette, consisting of towers, broad gables or pediments, projecting two-storey bays, and multi-sloped roofs. These forms were often expressed with a variety of materials of different textures and shapes. The profiles and slopes of the materials may change from gable to gable: e.g., hexagonal shingles on one and fish scale on the other. Floriated and geometric motifs in terra cotta or stone decorative panels, belt courses, gables and window heads or lintels. Classically derived elements, such as the Palladian window form, swan's neck pediment and mouldings of garlands or swags may highlight selected areas, and at other times Gothic or Medieval forms appear. Several open covered areas including verandas, balconies and porches under gables or eaves may be found on one house. Wood supporting members may be large and appear oversized, while trim is often intricate, complex and even delicate in comparison. Roofs have almost as many shapes as they do slopes: e.g., gable, hip and conical may cover one house. Tall multiple chimneys are often top-heavy, their sides embellished with terra-cotta panels or patterned brickwork. Iron

¹⁰ John Blumenson, *Ontario Architecture: A Guide to Styles and Building Terms, 1784 to the present*, (Toronto: Fitzhenry and Whiteside, 1990), p. 102-15; Leslie Maitland, Jacqueline Hucker and Shannon Ricketts, *A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles* (Peterborough: Broadview Press, 1992), p. 98-99; and Harold Kalman, *A History of Canadian Architecture*, vol. 2 (Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1994), p. 612-16.

cresting, finials and railings, highlight the ridges and peaks of the roofs. Windows and doors vary in size and shape, often with a transom above of coloured glass. Round or oval windows may accentuate a tower, stair hall, or even a chimney.

Notable components of the Queen Anne Revival style of the Rogers House include:

- the paired or single semi-circular arched fenestration with prominent voussoirs and keystones;
- the Palladian window of the front attic gable window, surrounded by shingles that contrast with the brick that comprises the predominance of the structure's exterior;
- the classical pediment of the residual porch, of the former larger porch that previously partially wrapped the northwest corner until ca. 1993 (as demonstrated by strapping boards and ghosting in the brick, as well as earlier architectural drawings), and its support of pairs and trios of Doric colonnettes;
- the double height bay windows on the front (north side), as well as the side elevations on the west and east sides;
- the decorated verge boards
- the complex roof profile including, a variety of gables, eave brackets, and elaborate, tall chimney stacks
- terracotta panels above the ground level of the front bay window and above the windows of the second level

The Queen Anne Revival style is well represented in Gananoque. Already noted are 128 and 136 Pine Street (Figures 6-7 and 10-11). 136 Pine Street is more akin to the English Shavian Manorial tradition (i.e., with more pronounced Tudor as opposed to classical influences) and is one of the finest examples of the Queen Anne Revival style in Gananoque and the region. It is specifically noted by published architectural historian J. Blumenson for its asymmetrical massing, brick and shingle exterior, broad hip roof, and cross gables united by a prominently located hexagonal front tower with one side transformed into a massive chimney with multiple stacks. Also present are casement windows with mullions and transoms that are in keeping with the emulated medieval building traditions which can be part of the Queen Anne Revival style tradition.¹¹ The house was built by Mitchell and Wilson Ltd., Gananoque's preeminent construction firm, and designed by Dr. Charles Bird's brother Eustace Godfrey Bird (1870-1950), who was also born in Barrie, and accredited by the Royal Institute of British Architects, England, in 1894.¹² The house was named Wigborough, after the family home in England.¹³ Eustace had a very distinguished architectural career in Canada and the U.S., mostly based in Toronto and New York City, associated with the nationally significant U.S. firm Carrere and Hastings. To the benefit of Gananoque,

¹¹ John Blumenson, *Ontario Architecture: A Guide to Styles and Building Terms, 1784 to the present*, (Toronto: Fitzhenry and Whiteside, 1990), p. 106, fig., 12-6.

¹² *Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Canada, 1800-1950*, q.v. Eustace Godfrey Bird, <http://www.dictionaryofarchitectsincanada.org/node/1668>, accessed Feb. 2020. E.G. Bird apprenticed under nationally significant architects in Toronto and London, England, and practiced in Canada from 1895-99 as Smith & Bird Architects, Toronto; 1906-16 Carrere & Hastings & Eustace Bird Architects, Toronto; and 1916-39 Eustace Bird Architect, Toronto. From 1899-1906 he worked in the New York office of the U.S. nationally significant firm of Carrere & Hastings and headed up their Toronto office from 1906-16.

¹³ "C.H. Bird, MDCM," *Gananoque Historical Society Newsletter*, no. 3, Sept. 1985, p. 21-22.

and likely because of his brothers, he designed the former Bank of Toronto at the southwest corner of King and Stone streets in 1909 in Gananoque. It is the only example of Beaux Arts style in Gananoque, a style that only the most elite patrons could afford, such as the Carnegie Library Foundation (indeed, it looks like a form of Carnegie Library built across North America), or a Federal Government building (Figure 22).



Figure 22: Former Bank of Toronto, 136 King Street East, of 1909, viewed from the northeast (E. Tumak, July 2019).

128 Pine Street of 1910 is a late example of the Queen Anne Revival style, transitioning into the more formal, less playful Edwardian Classicism, but there is still a multiplicity of bays, roof angles, porches, and window and gable treatments (Figures 10-11). The construction contract was let to Mitchell and Wilson, with plans by Benjamin Dillon, an architect with a general practice primarily based in Renfrew and Brockville but who also did work in Lansdowne, Seeley's Bay and as far west as Napanee.¹⁴

95 King Street West, the original Skinner Residence (current Sleepy Hollow B&B), built in 1905 (Pt. IV exterior and part interior designation, by-law 2008-24), is an exuberant example of the Queen Anne Revival style with qualities of the Colonial Revival style, which was the favoured aesthetic of its architect F.T. Lent. The builder was Mitchell and Wilson. F.J. Skinner (1867-1933) wanted to assert his rising

¹⁴ *Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Canada, 1800-1950*, q.v. Benjamin Dillon, <http://www.dictionaryofarchitectsincanada.org/node/1668>, accessed Feb. 2020.

position in the community as a manufacturer and later as Provincial politician and chose a very complex palette of materials.¹⁵



Figure 23: Skinner House, 95 King Street West, Gananoque, front (north/King Street elevation), viewed from the northeast (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 24: 95 King Street West, archival image, viewed from the northeast, mid-20th century when it served as Currie Manor guesthouse (Don and Marion Matthews collection).

198 South Street (at the northwest corner of William Street), with an exterior of brick, wood and shingle (currently painted non-historic bright polychromatic colours), is another Queen Anne Revival style gem

¹⁵ Edgar Tumak, "Heritage Designation Report, 95 King Street West, Gananoque," 2008.

in Gananoque with an American Shingle style influence, including the classical detailing of the porch with its expansive round corner porch and corner tower at the southeast. Further in keeping with the Queen Anne Revival style are the multiplicity of window styles and panes, columns, profusion of balusters, varied gables and roof shapes and tall chimneys.



Figure 25: 198 South Street, viewed from the southeast (E. Tumak, March 2020).

ENVIRONMENT

Compatibility with Heritage Environs

At present Rogers House is one of only three structures on King Street East that in the core commercial area, indicate former single-family development east of the Gananoque River to William Street. Physically this is acknowledged not only by the setback from the sidewalk, but because of the presence of sideyards. The other examples are 37 King Street (Anthony's Restaurant), and Town Hall in its parkland setting (30 King Street East). This is not a non-compatibility matter, rather the Rogers House is a key feature in defining the evolutionary quality of the central area of the high street of Gananoque, i.e., showing that residential structures were once part of the streetscape, as was the case with many (if not most) Ontario towns in the 19th century.

Otherwise the predominant built feature in the area is traditional commercial high street development of late 19th and early 20th century architecture characterized by revival styles set close to the sidewalk with little or no side spaces.



Figure 26: 161 King Street East, shown with neighbouring properties (E. Tumak, March 2020).



Figure 27: 37 King Street East, Anthony's Restaurant, viewed from the north (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 28: 49 King Street East, left, view of the south side of King Street East near 161 King Street East (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 29: 66 King Street East, view of the north side of King Street East near 161 King Street East (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 30: 75 King Street East viewed from the northwest (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 31: 79-81 King Street East, viewed from the northwest (E. Tumak, July 2019).

SECTION IV: APPENDIX A.4



Figure 32: 84 King Street East, viewed from the south (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 33: 79-87 King Street East (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 34: 98 King Street East, ca. 1885, refurbished 2003-04 after serious fire damage, former Cheever's House and Provincial Hotel (designated Pt. IV, by-law 2005-63), viewed from the southeast (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 35: 118 King Street East, viewed from the southwest (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 36: 126 King Street East, 1897, viewed from the southwest (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 37: 130 King Street East, viewed from the south (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 38: 146 King Street East, viewed from the south (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 39: 170 King Street East, viewed from the south (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 40: 176 King Street East, viewed from the south (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 41: 180 King Street East, viewed from the south (E. Tumak, July 2019).



Figure 42: 198 King Street East, viewed from the southeast (E. Tumak, July 2019).

Community Context / Landmark Status

As a distinctive setback, and architecturally distinguished structure on the traditional main retail street, the Rogers House is an eye-catching, landmark vis-à-vis the surrounding commercial structures situated in a more traditional pattern for a retail high street of the late-19th and early 20th centuries. Its current retail use of local crafts supports its local attraction.