

Heritage Designation Brief



“Ashley”

252 Parkhill Road West

Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee

August, 2015

Heritage Designation Status Sheet

Street Address:	252 Parkhill Road West
Roll Number:	050020001000000
PIN Number:	281130044
Short Legal Description:	LOTS 5 & 6, PLAN 53, PETERBOROUGH
Owners' Mailing Address:	252 Parkhill Road West Peterborough, ON K9H 3H5
Owners' Concurrence:	Yes
PACAC Application Review Date:	
On Site Evaluation Date:	May 8, 2013
Evaluation Category:	A
Evaluators:	Erik Hanson/Rebecca Whelan
Heritage Type:	Built Structure
Designation Type:	Ontario Heritage Act – Part IV
Designation Brief Completion Date:	August 27, 2015
PACAC Application Approval Date:	
Designation Brief Completed by:	Kathryn Matheson
Submission Date:	
Objections Noted:	
Comments:	

"The short statement of the reason for the designation, including a description of the heritage attributes along with all other components of the Heritage Designation Brief constitute the "Reasons for the Designation" required under the Ontario Heritage Act. The Heritage Designation Brief is available for viewing in the City Clerk's office during regular business hours."

Short Statement of Reasons for Heritage Designation

Heritage Evaluation Criteria Note

Category A: The properties in this category are individually outstanding and have the broadest heritage significance in the City by virtue of architectural, historical, and environmental criteria along with overall integrity of design and construction. "Category A" properties generally hold provincial and/or national significance.

John Edward Hammond, farmer and local gentleman, was the original owner of 252 Parkhill Road West (originally 252 Smith Street West) and arranged for the house to be built some ten years after his marriage to Harriet Macdonald, a niece of lumber merchant, Mossom Boyd, and sister-in law to noted architect John E. Belcher.

Hammond enjoyed a close relationship with Belcher, who is listed both as a Trustee in the Deed of Trust drawn up prior to Hammond's marriage to Harriet Macdonald, and as the informant on Hammond's death record, dated January 3, 1887.

Built in the Victorian gothic style, 252 Parkhill Road is a grander example of the design employed by Belcher in his construction of 643 Bethune Street during the same period. Given the common design characteristics between the two properties, there is strong evidence that John Belcher designed and constructed the house at 252 Parkhill Road West. The property would have enjoyed a direct sightline of 269 Edinburgh Street (Smithtown Hill House), occupied by the Belchers during this period and previously occupied by Mossom Boyd.



John Hammond named his house "Ashley" after his childhood home in England. His occupancy of the house was cut short due to his death from typhoid in 1887, but his widow Harriet remained at Ashley until at least 1913. She later lived with her son, Dr. Arthur Hammond, at 232 Brock Street known today as "Hammond Hall".



The relationship of the Hammond family with architect John Belcher, and the family's long-standing connection to Peterborough, both contribute to the cultural significance of 252 Parkhill Road West.

Many of the most significant architectural features of the house have been retained, including the steeply pitched gabled roof, lancet windows, and stained glass, making it an excellent representative example of Victorian Gothic architecture in present-day Peterborough.

Original Owner: John Hammond

Date of Construction: c.1885

Architect: unknown

Builder: unknown

Context - Site and Setting:

252 Parkhill Road occupies a prominent site overlooking the city on the edge of the historic northern boundary of Peterborough on what is known as Smith Town Hill. The area is the point of origin of European settlement in what was surveyed as Smith Township in 1818. Settlement spread progressively from this point along the portage that formed Communications Road and is now Chemong Road. The property forms a part of the land annexed from Smith Township in 1872.

Summary of Heritage Attributes to be Designated:

The Reasons for Designation include the following heritage attributes and apply to all elevations and the roof including all facades, entrances, windows, chimneys, and trim, together with construction materials of wood, brick, stone, and glazing, their related building techniques and landscape features:

Exterior Elements:

- Two-storey masonry red clay brick with running bond construction
- Masonry water table
- Steeply pitched gabled roof
- Two projecting two-storey bays including deeply overhanging pediments and half timbering on the western bay
- Cut granite stone foundation

- All windows with wooden sills and surrounds including:
 - Paired lancet windows with double relieving arches and voussoirs
 - Individual lancet windows with voussoirs
 - South-facing tripartite window
 - Dormer windows
 - Stained glass
- Wood soffits and eaves, including paired brackets and wood beads
- Wood bargeboard
- South-facing wooden verandah, including ornate woodwork
- West-facing verandah including all woodwork, wood panelling, decorative wood detailing, glazing, stained glass, central pediment in enclosed glass section, and lattice at the south end
- Main entry vestibule with lancet opening and wooden railing above
- 1-storey bay on east side with decorative wood shingles and wooden railing