THE PINES 266 BURNHAM STREET

LOCATION - The lands and buildings, known municipally as 266 Burnham Street, Peterborough, Ontario, and being on the northeast corner of Burnham and James Streets.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION - ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the City of Peterborough, in the County of Peterborough and Province of Ontario, and being composed of the whole of Lots Numbers ONE and TWO north of James Street and east of Burnham Street according to Registered plan ONE "A" for the said City of Peterborough SAVE AND EXCEPT thereout the northerly thirty-five feet from front to rear of said Lot number TWO and SUBJECT TO a right-of-way in common with the owners of the lots abutting thereon through, over, upon and along that part of said Lots Numbers ONE and TWO, more particularly described as follows:

COMMENCING at a point in the southern boundary of Lot Number ONE and easterly one hundred and twenty-two feet from the south west angle thereof;

THENCE northerly at right angles to the said southern boundary of said Lot Number ONE to a point distant southerly from the northern limit of said Lot Number TWO, thirty five feet;

THENCE westerly and parallel to the northern limit of said Lot Number TWO, twelve feet; THENCE southerly along a line parallel to the eastern boundary of the herein described right-ofway to the southern limit of Lot Number ONE;

THENCE easterly twelve feet along the southern limit of Lot Number ONE to the place of beginning. (Number 144259, Sept.23, 1964)

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1876-1877

OWNER: Mrs. Martha Ann Kidd

SIGNIFICANCE - The Pines" is a good example of the Victorian Tuscan Villa style of architecture as it developed in this area. The setting of wide lawns and the verandah which still encircles three sides of the house are features rare in our city. The original owner, Harry Cassady Rogers, was Postmaster and a leading figure in the military life of Peterborough for many years. He was also the first president of the Peterborough Historical Society.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND - The acre of land on which "The Pines" was built was originally the property of the Hon. Zacheus Burnham, Harry C. Roger's father in-law. Although others may have held title to the property after 1856, H.C. Rogers became the owner in 1863, but it was not until 1876-77 that he built his house. He called it "The Pines" because the property was covered with virgin white pines of which one still remains. The house was built in the local version of the Tuscan Villa style of Victorian Italianate architecture, which prevailed in Peterborough in the 1870's. It remained the home of the Harry Rogers family until 1903. In the intervening years before the present owner acquired the property in 1964 it was owned by William F. Nelson, Frederick J.A. Hall (Deputy Sheriff), Peter A. Ferguson, Louis Yeotes and William Tinker. The north thirty-five feet of the property was sold for a building lot in 1914. The house remains much as it was when erected over a hundred years ago. The only exterior changes are the heavy posts which replaced the slim posts which held up the encircling verandah and the removal of the window shutters and the belvedere railing on the roof.

Lieut. Col. Harry Cassady Rogers was born in 1839 at Grafton, Ontario the second son of James C. Rogers (1804-1874) and Maria, the 3rd daughter of the Hon. Zacheus Burnham. He received his education in Toronto and then came to Peterborough to work in the store of his uncle, Robert David Rogers. Later he formed a partnership with H.T. Strickland, first in a dry good store and later in lumber business. In 1871 he was appointed Postmaster of Peterborough and held that position until he resigned in 1909. He was connected with military matters, in several arms of the service.

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In 1855 he enlisted in the Peterborough Rifle Company and went to the front as Lieut. during Fenian Raid troubles. When the 57th Battalion was organized the Rifle Company became Number ONE Company and Capt. H.C. Rogers was in command. In 1872 he retired from infantry command and raised "C" Troop of Cavalry, taking command as Captain. In 1877 he received the rank of Lieut. Col. In 1895, on Col. Bonton's retirement; Lieut. Col. Rogers took command of the Dragoons until his retirement in 1899. He was actively involved with many local societies, particularly with the Horticultural Society and the Historical Society, of which he was the first president. He was also an early president of the Ontario Historical Society. After his retirement the family moved to Victoria, B.C.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION FOR DESIGNATION BY-LAW - The structure is 2 storeys in height, of solid white brick construction, with a rubble stone foundation and a partial basement. The style is based on the local version of a Tuscan Villa as expressed by the Victorian Italianate architecture of the period. The house is basically square in plan but has a two storey projection the depth of the verandah to the left of the centre front entrance. The verandah extends from this projection across the front of the house and around the south side and back to the rear entrance. The verandah's original wide segmental wood arches, brackets and simple capitols remain; but the slender chamfered posts have been replaced by heavy bulbous posts on brick piers.

On the first floor a plinth encircles the building except when broken by window and door openings. The centre entrance is very elaborate. The two leaf door, flanked by side and transom lights, is set into an opening segmental in shape at the top and finished with a brick label head surround. Wood trim, carved to resemble twisted rope, and small brackets also decorate the entrance. To the left of this entrance, at the front of the two storey projection, is a one storey rectangular bay which contains four double hung sash lights and two string courses. To the right of the front entrance is a floor length double hung sash window the top of which is segmental in shape with a brick label head surround. Originally the long lower sash could be raised to give a door height access from the house to the verandah. On the south side is another of these floor length windows and a bay with a two leaf door and double hung side light windows. On the rear, or east side the simple centre door is now hidden by an attached garage. To its right is a door with a transom at the end of the verandah which terminates at the garage. At the left side is a window. Two windows break the wall surface on the north side. All these windows have segmental tops, label head surrounds and double hung sashes. A string course around the building terminates the first storey.

The second storey has three windows on each of the west, south and north sides. On the rear or east side the centre is dominated by a large, beautiful Romanesque style round top window with decorative etched and coloured glass panes. There is one narrow window to its right. With the exception of the Romanesque window all second storey windows have segmental shaped tops with brick label head surrounds tied together by a string course. All the windows, including those on the first storey, have lug sills with small brackets.

The low truncated hip roof is broken by four chimneys. One has a single stack and three have double stacks. Three dormers, gable in shape, each with a round top double hung sash window, are set into the rear or east roof between two of the double stack chimneys. The roof on the north side is broken by a gable with a round top double hung sash window. The fact that the dormers and gable occur only on the rear and north sides, gives the structure the appearance of a two storey house from the street sides.

Brief prepared by Martha Ann Kidd