

A GIFT of HERITAGE



HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE ^{OF} ST. JOHN'S
NEWFOUNDLAND HISTORIC TRUST

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

The main purpose in preparing this new edition has been to bring all entries up to date, to correct errors, to make use of new research, and to record gains and losses. But the reader should be aware that this book only includes a representative selection of the city's architectural heritage - it is not the capital's heritage register. Unfortunately, some of those which appear in this volume, such as Winterton, have been lost, prompting us now to record, remember and celebrate their important place in Newfoundland's built heritage.

When *A Gift of Heritage* first appeared in 1975, it was produced through the efforts of various members and supporters of the Newfoundland Historic Trust, with special contributions from Jean Ball, Shannie Duff, Beverly Miller, Shane O'Dea, and Paul O'Neill. Corrected by Shane O'Dea and reprinted in 1979, it soon went out of print. In order to promote the awareness of our history and culture at the time of the Cabot 500 celebrations, it was decided to revise and re-issue this volume. The editing of this second edition was undertaken by John FitzGerald, Shane O'Dea and Paul O'Neill.

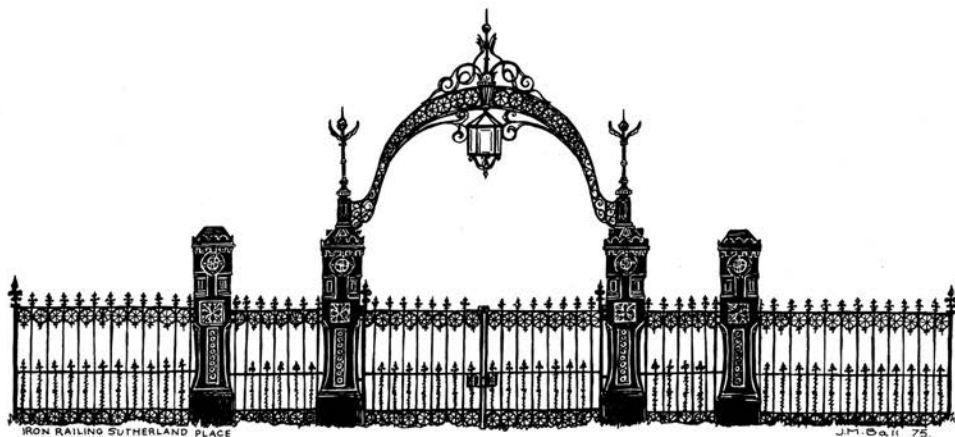
Much indebted to the research of the Canadian Inventory of Historic Buildings, the first edition of *A Gift of Heritage* was published with the assistance of a gift from the Carling Community Arts Foundation. Publication of this second edition was undertaken in partnership with the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador was established in 1984 to stimulate an understanding of and an appreciation for the architectural heritage of the province, and to support and contribute to the preservation and restoration of buildings of architectural or historical significance in the province.



A Gift of Heritage

HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE OF ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND

DRAWINGS BY JEAN M. BALL



Newfoundland Historic Trust Publications Volume 1

A Gift of Heritage, 2nd. Ed.

Drawings by Jean M. Ball

Newfoundland Historic Trust Publications Volume I

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Historic Background to St. John's

by Paul O'Neill

The site of St. John's was probably discovered by the Portuguese navigator Gaspar Corte Real when he explored along the east coast of Newfoundland in 1500 and 1501. The name first appears on a Portuguese map by Reinol in 1519 as Rio de Sam Joham (St. John's River).

On 3 August 1527, John Rut, an English ship's captain in the employ of Cardinal Woolsey, wrote to King Henry VIII from St. John's Harbour that he found there 11 Norman, 1 Breton and two Portuguese ships *all a fishing*. The fact that none of these ships were English shows not so much that country's lack of interest in the port of St. John's as it does a total British failure to comprehend the commercial potential of the Newfoundland fishery until some 40 or 50 years after Cabot's discovery.

In the summer of 1583, four ships, including the flagship *Golden Hinde*, called at St. John's. On a hill overlooking the harbour, Sir Humphrey Gilbert, commander of the expedition and half-brother to Sir Walter Raleigh, ceremonially took possession of the island in the name of Queen Elizabeth, giving England its first overseas possession and founding the British Empire. Britain's title to the whole of the territory was later disputed by

France, and French claims to rights in Newfoundland were not settled until 1904.

We do not know when the first permanent residents established themselves at St. John's. It is believed that fishing crews from England wintered in the harbour from some time in the late 16th century. The first permanent inhabitants known to us are the Oxford family who erected a dwelling somewhere near the present City Hall around 1605. When John Guy arrived from Bristol in 1610, to found the first officially approved colony in what is now Canada, he found that St. John's already had a permanent population and he was forced to settle as far away as Cuper's Cove (now Cupids) in Conception Bay.

There were 62 people living in St. John's in 1613. By 1681 the most affluent citizen was William Sergeant who possessed 4 boats and 20 servants. There were 28 other families. In 1798 the population passed the 3,000 mark but the colonial town had few pretensions to grandeur. By 1805 the number of citizens had reached 5,564. Charles Fox Bennett, the Prime Minister who kept Newfoundland out of confederation with Canada in 1870, recalled that in 1806, when he first arrived from England, *The whole area*

was nearly covered with flakes on which to dry fish.... Water Street was so narrow in places that a cart could barely pass... Duckworth Street was little better than a path running under the flakes... The houses, if they could be called such, were all of a temporary nature.

From the beginning, the inhabitants had to contend with the hostility of the West-of-England fishing merchants who did not want colonists fishing all year as their ships could only fish seasonally. When these gentlemen's petitions to the King failed to stop permanent settlement, their crews were encouraged to violence and persecution of the settlers. Terrible outrages took place. Many in England considered the island as a *great ship moored near the Banks... for the convenience of fishermen*. In 1675 an order was actually given to forcibly remove all settlers living within six miles of the coast. Two pioneer settlers in St. John's, John Downing and Thomas Oxford, fought the order and took ship to England where they eventually succeeded in having the order withdrawn.

In addition to opposition from their own government, the inhabitants who made their homes in St. John's and the outports, suffered from attacks by various pirates, who swooped down upon them from time to time and carried off men and supplies. Later a more serious threat to their lives and possessions came from French invasion. Four times the community of St. John's fell to

the forces of France.

In 1689 a compact fort, known as Fort William, was completed on the site of what is now Hotel Newfoundland at Cavendish Square. Seven years later it was captured by a French force which marched overland from Placentia. The community was put to the torch and the inhabitants made prisoners. The same thing happened again in 1705 and also in 1708. On 26 May 1708, St. Ovide, the French commander who captured and occupied the town of about 300 inhabitants, received word from France that he had been created Knight of St. Louis and Governor of St. John's. However, he was forced to abandon the place and it returned to English rule. It fell once more to French raiders 27 June 1762. Recaptured 20 September of that year by Colonel Amherst in the Battle of Signal Hill, the last major engagement between English and French forces in North America, the British returned and rebuilt the town.

As a result of hostile colonial laws, pirate raids and French invasions, St. John's construction was always of a temporary nature. Only gradually did tilts (houses built of logs and covered with sods) give way to wooden dwellings and later to proper houses. Partly for reasons of defence, the houses of the town were clustered around Fort William. With the growth of a mercantile trade they moved down along the waterfront.

One obstacle to the orderly development of downtown St.

John's along a proper quay, as in English and Irish ports, was the existence of ships' rooms. These were large areas of public land reserved along the shore for those prosecuting the fishery. In 1804 the governor, Sir Erasmus Gower, began the task of investigating titles and encroachments in an effort to bring some order to the expanding town. His action resulted from a proposed act to empower the granting of private property in Newfoundland. Settlement in St. John's was tolerated from the 1780s but not recognized by law until about 1811 when the ships' rooms were finally abolished and the land granted to private and commercial interests. The ships' rooms were soon forgotten and by the time of the Great Fire in 1817, Water Street had become an area of shops, warehouses, fish stores and family homes. That fire wiped out whatever was left of colonial St. John's. At the time there were over 10,000 inhabitants. A large number of new immigrants had arrived from Ireland shortly after 1805, doubling the population within ten years. The Irish were eventually to become so numerous that the accent of the townspeople changed from English to Irish. To this day many St. John's citizens have a distinct Irish lilt to their speech.

In 1811 the local merchants wrote to the Crown, *We beg leave to state to your Royal Highness that the town of St. John's, with the exception of one house, is built of wood; that the principal street is, in one place not more than six feet wide, that all our*

streets are narrow, unpaved and unlighted. That year Governor Duckworth attempted to improve the situation by decreeing that houses and shops along Water Street were to be 2 stories high with 20 inch brick or stone walls between them.

Another disastrous fire in 1819 resulted in "An Act to Regulate the Rebuilding of the town of St. John's and for the Indemnifying of persons giving up ground for that purpose." Water Street was widened to a minimum of 50 feet and Duckworth Street to 40 feet. While the law proclaimed that stone buildings must be erected in the waterfront area, this was not done and the wooden structures which sprang up in Georgian St. John's fed the flames of the Great Fire of 1846 which wiped out the whole of the town from Springdale Street in the west to Signal Hill in the east. Except for a few scattered private houses on what was then the outskirts of the community, few buildings of any substance survived this fire, Government House being one of the exceptions.

Even after the destruction of 1846, the rebuilding that took place did not follow the regulations. The authorities envisioned a substantial town of brick and stone with a number of cross streets designed as fire breaks. The cross streets, (now the waterfront coves and the many short lanes leading to Duckworth Street) were constructed as ordered but the stone buildings were confined to Water Street and a few of these cross streets. Much of Duckworth

Street was rebuilt in wood, preparing the way for another fiery holocaust.

The Victorian city which arose from the ashes of 1846 was not unlike Wexford or Waterford in Ireland, or many other towns in the British isles. It consisted of block-long rows of attached two or three storey saddle-roof houses. Less than fifty years later, St. John's again was reduced to rubble in the Great Fire of 1892. This fire left 10,000 people homeless and destroyed two-thirds of the city.

Several notable examples of Victorian buildings in St. John's escaped the '92 fire including the Colonial Building, the Catholic Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Devon Row and the two blocks of shops on both sides of Water Street immediately west of Beck's

Cove. Everything east of Beck's Cove was lost in the fire with the exception of the Union Bank on Duckworth Street. The Anglican Cathedral, the Bank of British North America and the Benevolent Irish Society hall were gutted and rebuilt inside their shells.

The community of today is a thriving city with a metropolitan area population that is nearing 200,000 people. It is rapidly spreading over the surrounding hills. Much of the old town has been burned, destroyed, or lost through neglect. This book is an attempt to make us aware of a gift of heritage that goes back several centuries in the hope that what remains will somehow be preserved for the pleasure and enrichment of present and future generations.

The Architectural Development of St. John's

by Shane O'Dea

The architecture of St. John's, from the sixteenth to the middle of the nineteenth century was determined by its occupation, by its history and by its cultural background. Although permanently inhabited as early as the beginning of the seventeenth century, and seasonally occupied for a century prior to that, St. John's has few, if any, surviving buildings from any

century before the last.

But then this is not surprising as the situation the early inhabitants had to face was hardly that under which architecture might flourish — the climate was inhospitable, the English government was indifferent, the French were continually threatening attack, the source of livelihood was seasonal.

Nevertheless, people of wealth did *winter over* and probably built substantial houses. However, their families did not stay to maintain these houses, did not stay to develop the country. As a consequence those houses that were built did not survive because they became merely buildings and ceased to be places that represented the interests and aspirations of a particular family.

With such inauspicious beginnings it is not surprising that little, if anything, remains to indicate the level of St. John's architecture before 1800. In 1813 the government gave permission for the general occupancy of land, stabilizing the existing practise of squatting. A newspaper, the *Royal Gazette*, had begun in 1807, the threat of invasion was on the wane, craftsmen were establishing themselves in the community. These factors confirmed the growth and stability of the town and with such stability came the desire for premises and residences reflective of the quality of their occupants.

These houses were probably quite unpretentious in both design and decoration. Many of the merchants lived above their premises downtown, in fairly crowded situations, so that attempts at display on their part would have been limited to the functional—directed at attracting the customer through the shop window. The craftsmen and the labourers lived in rented tenements or in houses of their own making. These would probably have been as limited in their architectural decoration and form as those of the merchants.

The hip or cottage roof was still common throughout this period but seems to have disappeared soon after the 1816 fire. It was replaced by the gable or saddle roof—although this form was also common in previous centuries. The internal arrangement of the rooms—the layout—depended on the size of the house or the size in combination with its situation on a particular lot. There does not seem to have been a fixed place for the main entrance—whether in the centre or to one side of the house. If one is to judge by those detached houses built on a reasonable plot of ground, then a centered entrance, as well as a centre hall plan, was preferred if the situation permitted.

House sizes varied but the two and a half storey was the most common. The upper, or half storey, would generally have dormer windows let into the front slope of the roof providing additional chamber or storage space. By the middle of the nineteenth century the settle fireplace (the large open fireplace in which people could sit) had virtually disappeared in St. John's. Its replacement was the smaller coal-burning grate with a crane above on which to suspend the trammel, the adjustable hook for holding the pots over the fire. This fireplace served both for heating and cooking. As stoves became more commonplace such fireplaces were made smaller by the use of cast-iron Gothic fire surrounds, and the fireplaces became merely heating devices. The cooking stove was of two types—the one standing out from the fireplace and connected to the chimney by means of pipes, and the range set

into the chimney opening.

The most marked developments in architecture at mid-century were in churches and government buildings. In the case of these structures there was a desire on the part of the institutions to produce what was reflective of their taste and their political programs. The Anglican Cathedral is an excellent manifestation of the architectural ideas that were so important to the Tractarian movement in the Church of England. The Roman Catholic Cathedral (now the Basilica) asserts, through its early and eccentric application of the Romanesque Revival style, that church's connections with Rome. The Colonial Building, with its echoes of classical Greece and Rome, suggests the ancestry and the durability of the democratic approach to government.

Similar suggestions were made in domestic architecture. Though few examples now survive unaltered, there were many houses with medieval or Gothic features in the town and the surrounding countryside. These features (bargeboards, crockets, finials and the like) required care and maintenance, so, while they were attractive indulgences of the time, few remain. It was not until the last quarter of the nineteenth century that there was any great change in the architecture of domestic buildings. Responsibility for this change is assigned to the firm of J. and J.T. Southcott whose buildings include those on Park Place, Rennie's Mill Road. With their concave-curved mansard roofs, bonnet-top dormer windows, bay windows and double parlours,

they are a variant of the Second Empire style. The style, adopted by the merchants about 1885, became general in St. John's after the 1892 fire when rows of such houses were built all over the city.

The vernacular house with a saddle roof continued to be built right up until and even after the Great Fire of 1892, but their number steadily diminished to be replaced by what is colloquially called the *biscuit-box*. This form has most of the features of the Second Empire Style with the exception of the mansard roof. It was the product of an improved roofing technology which permitted the use of flatter roofs covered with tar paper.

These styles were succeeded by that named for Queen Anne, one which involved the use of decorative shingling, massive projecting bay windows and cross-gabbling. This became the merchant style from about 1904 until the outbreak of the First World War in 1914. For the first time there was a notable difference between the houses of the rich and of those who were not. Throughout the nineteenth century all classes lived in houses that were basically the same style, the only difference being size and, to a limited degree, decoration. The change that took place at the end of the nineteenth century is indicative not only of technological development as in the case of the ordinary householder, but of a considerable increase in wealth and its display, as in the case of the rich. The latter explains the grandiose manner of many of the St. John's Queen Anne houses.

ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS



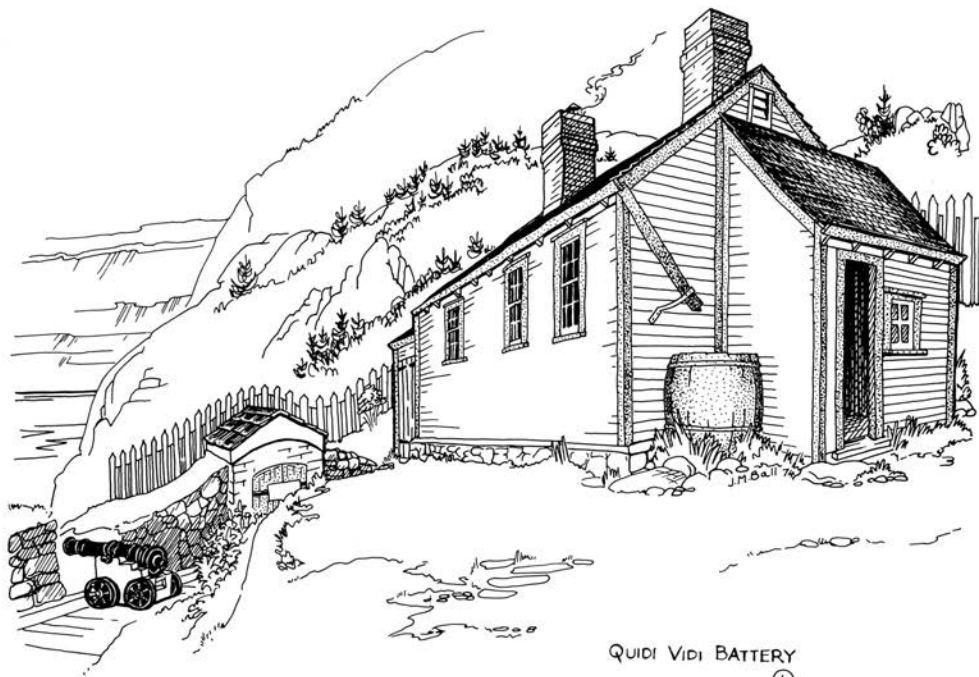
QUIDI VIDI BATTERY

The first guns to guard the narrow gut at Quidi Vidi were erected in 1762. France and Britain had been at war in Europe, India and North America since 1756. Newfoundland, with its proximity to the Grand Banks and entrance to the St. Lawrence, was one of the strategic colonial prizes. Consequently, in 1762 the French, under Comte D'Haussonville, erected a temporary two-gun battery on the site over Quidi Vidi to guard against invasion of St. John's from that direction. At the end of the war the fort fell into British hands, the harbour was mined, and the battery itself abandoned.

When the war broke out between Britain and her colonies to the south in the 1770s, cannons were again placed on the site to guard against possible invasion from the United States. When danger from this quarter passed with the end of the American Revolution in 1781, the fort

was again abandoned. Guns were later erected on the site in 1791 during the Napoleonic Wars and again after war with the United States broke out in 1812. It was maintained as a fortification until the mid-nineteenth century.

The present battery was reconstructed in 1967 from archaeological excavations as a joint Canada Centennial project of the 56th Squadron Royal Canadian Engineers and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. The small building on the site contains two open fireplaces, which often provide a warm welcome for the visitor on a cold day. Artifacts, which were excavated from the site, are displayed in the building to help give a picture of the life of the soldier who stood guard at this lonely windswept outpost.



QUIDI VIDI BATTERY

(L)

MALLARD COTTAGE

Although Quidi Vidi has been settled since the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century, nothing is thought to remain of the early structures. Most of the older buildings that now survive date from the first half of the nineteenth century. Among these, Mallard Cottage, a small storey-and-a-half wooden dwelling with a hip roof, is the best preserved. The range of houses beside the community's Christ Church are probably of equal age, but all have been altered considerably.

Mallard Cottage remains essentially unchanged since it was first built. The chimney has been made smaller above the roof line, but the open fireplaces are still visible

in the kitchen and parlour. The ground floor consists of two rooms on either side of a small entry. Behind this section is a linhay containing a kitchen and store rooms. The second floor is in the roof and consists of three small bedrooms joined by a narrow corridor. These rooms are lit by foot-lights, windows set at floor level below the eaves. Like most vernacular houses, it has not been possible to assign a specific date for the building of Mallard Cottage, but family history combined with structural and cartographic evidence make it possible to date its construction to some time between 1820 and 1840.

Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Heritage Structure





MALLARD COTTAGE
②

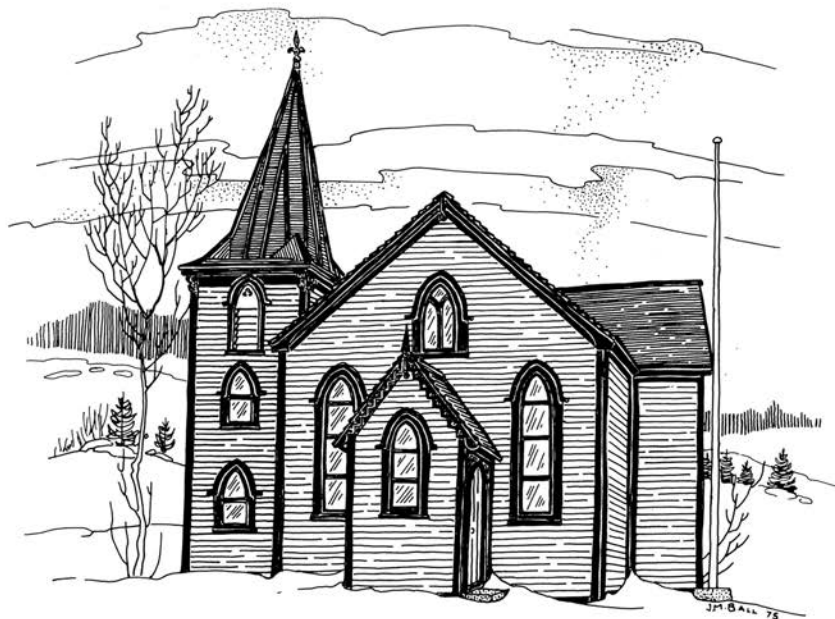
CHRIST CHURCH, QUIDI VIDI

In 1834 an interdenominational group composed of Anglicans, Methodists, and Congregationalists set out to build a chapel for their joint use. The original deed stipulated that should the joint effort be unsuccessful, the building would become the property of the Anglicans. Dissent appeared early. During the construction of the building, the Methodists objected to their funds being used to provide the customary tot of rum for the workmen. Within a few years the interdenominational effort was abandoned and the place fell into ruin.

It was once believed that the old church, dilapidated after only eight years, may have been incorporated into the new structure, but that now seems unlikely. The original design by James Purcell, the architect and builder, was cruciform, but has been modified by a series

of additions. It was opened on 9 November 1842 as a chapel of ease for St. Thomas's Anglican Church. The present tower and bell were added around 1890. In 1930, New York film producer Varik Frissell used the interior of this church for the final scene of his historic film, *The Viking*, the first sound feature made in present-day Canada.

By 1966 modern transportation made the use of this chapel unnecessary and the Anglican Synod decided to demolish the building. The Newfoundland Historic Trust was formed to save the little church. The exterior was restored and the interior was renovated. Since 1971, Christ Church has had several uses, and is now a private residence.



CHRIST CHURCH

③

J.P. Ball 75

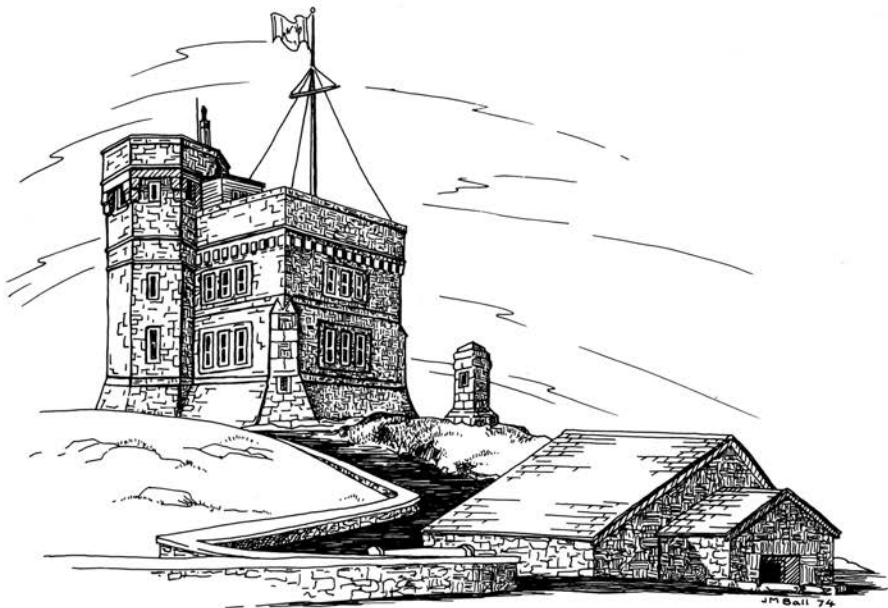
CABOT TOWER

Designed by the architect William Howe Greene, and based on a proposal of Bishop Howley's, the tower was originally intended to be a much larger structure. Howley had envisioned a castle with battlemented towers at four corners and a larger tower in the centre surmounted by a statue of Cabot holding aloft a great light. As with many visions in that Cabot year, as with the most recent one, the reality of costs reduced the design to a single tower whose battlements were replaced by a plain parapet and whose turret is the lone acknowledgement of the more grandiose scheme. Yet, so trimmed, it is less a medieval pastiche and more a functional form. As such, it has become one of Newfoundland's national symbols.

In 1897 the cornerstone of Cabot Tower was laid by Bishop Howley. The tower was erected for a dual purpose, imperial and national: to *Serve as a Perpetual Memorial of the 60th year of the glorious Reign of Victoria, Queen and Empress and in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of Newfoundland by John Cabot*. The general contractor for the project was

the firm of Henry J. Thomas. The stonework was executed by Samuel Garrett, a master mason. The official opening of the tower took place on 20 June 1900.

Cabot Tower replaced a former signal tower on the site. In fact, it was this practical function which financed its construction. As early as 1702 reference is made to the sending of signals from Signal Hill. The most famous signal was received, not in the tower, but in a small room of an old hospital nearby on 12 December 1901. Fighting gale force winds, Guglielmo Marconi managed to fly a kite at a height of some 400 feet, and on 12 and 13 December, this aerial repeatedly picked up a predetermined signal, the letter "S", transmitted in Morse Code from Poldhu, Cornwall, England, a distance of nearly 2000 miles. From 1949 until 1958 the Canadian Department of Transport maintained a visual marine signal in the tower. Today the building houses exhibits on the history of communications. The CBC Trans-Canada Stereo Network was inaugurated here in 1975.



CABOT TOWER

(4)

MS. B. 1. 74.

CONNORS' FARM

This building, dating from the middle of the nineteenth century, was once one of the distinguishing features of Signal Hill. Nestled into the hillside and looking north over Quidi Vidi Lake, it was in form and situation a landmark. With its central chimney and its "linhay" (an addition to the rear of a structure whose roof slope follows or deviates slightly from that of the principal roof) it would have been a common house form

in nineteenth century St. John's. While this form is often associated with the Irish, it was by no means only used by them.

It was, at one point, the Christian Brothers Farm, an adjunct of the farm at Mount Cashel. Abandoned in 1974, it was taken over by the provincial government. It soon became a target for vandals and was burnt down in 1979.



CONNOR'S FARM
⑤

JAMES ANDERSON HOUSE

The James Anderson House, 42-44 Powers Court, off Signal Hill Road, is the oldest surviving building in St. John's and is a good example of a house form that characterized the town during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Its actual date of construction has not been determined, but its first owner, James Anderson, a sometime sergeant in the militia, was granted permission to build in October 1804. It is reasonable to assume the house was built sometime shortly after that date. Anderson acquired the land from Dr. Jonathan Ogden, one of the island's early chief justices.

The location of the James Anderson House between Fort William and the various military sites on Signal Hill, partially determined its early use as a military billet. Its occupants at that time (c. 1815) were apparently officers of the garrison who stabled their horses on the ground floor of the eastern end of the structure. In 1860 the house was sold to Henry Tillman and, soon after, to the Power

family from whom it passed to more recent owners, which have included William Finlay and the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation. Once it ceased to be used as a military billet it is likely that it took on its present character as a two family dwelling.

An unusual feature of the building, apart from its age, is the fact that most of its internal fabric is the same as it was when the house was first built. In the kitchen is the large open fireplace with coal grate and crane for cooking. In the rooms above are fireplaces with what appears to be their original mantels. An interesting staircase climbs from the ground floor to the attic in the western end of the house and the entire attic seems to be unchanged—doors, latches, floor, walls and even paint appear to be original. The eastern end of the house was found to be an addition (possibly the officers' stable) to the original structure and was removed when the building was restored in 1977-1978.

Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Heritage Structure





JAMES ANDERSON HOUSE

SAMUEL GARRETT HOUSES

These stone houses on Temperance Street, were built by Samuel Garrett, the master mason who worked on Cabot Tower, for his four daughters. Garrett himself lived in a slate-walled house which he built at 2 Duckworth Street, directly above his daughters' houses.

As late as the mid-1980s, they were still occupied by his grandchildren and their families. Indications are that the construction of the houses took place over a period of years employing stone not needed in the construction of Cabot Tower. According to family history, Garrett built the houses at the same time he was working on the Tower

(1897-1900) using his stone masons on Temperance Street when the weather was too poor for them to work on Signal Hill.

The houses are notable in St. John's because they are built of stone. They are four storeys at the rear with kitchens on the rear ground floor. At the front the houses are two storeys with mansard roofs and dormer windows. The decorative work around the doors and windows is of finely-detailed pressed-brick. Many years ago an old tunnel of unknown purpose was discovered near the houses.



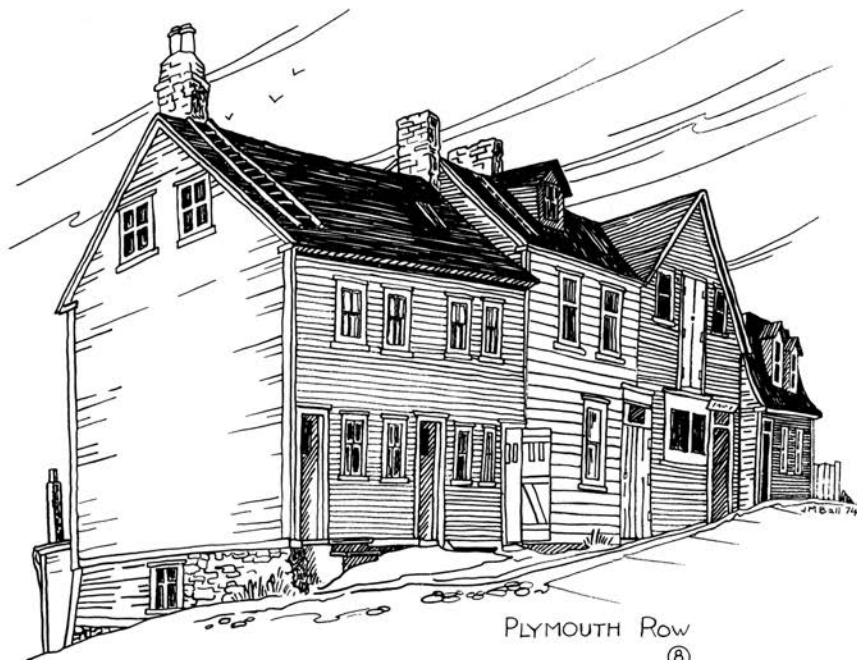
SAMUEL GARRETT HOUSES

PLYMOUTH ROW, HOYLESTOWN

The southeast corner of St. John's in which these buildings are located was known from earliest days as Maggoty Cove. The name was later changed to Hoylestown. Settlement in the area dates from the seventeenth century when Fort William afforded protection to the dwellings clustered below it. The name "Hoylestown" originated from the firm of Newman Hoyles and Company, which owned a plantation in the area at the turn of the nineteenth century. Members of the Hoyles family were active in the political life of nineteenth-century Newfoundland. Hugh Hoyles served as Prime Minister and Attorney-General. In 1865 he was the first native-born Newfoundlander to become Chief Justice

of Newfoundland, and in 1869, the first native-born Newfoundlander to be knighted.

Although the architecture of this small range of wooden structures on Plymouth Row was similar to that of many buildings constructed elsewhere in St. John's in the mid-nineteenth century, the massing of the buildings and the variation of the roof-lines distinguished these properties. Most of the area between Plymouth Row and Duckworth Street was destroyed by the fire of 1892 and these buildings are thought to have been built immediately after the fire. These houses were taken down by the City of St. John's in the 1980s, possibly in response to the construction of the new Hotel Newfoundland nearby.



PLYMOUTH Row

⑧

DEVON ROW

Devon Row originally consisted of five brick houses built sometime between 1880 and 1889. The westernmost was demolished after confederation to make a small parking lot. These Second-Empire Style houses have bay windows, mansard roofs and dormer windows, and entrances which, due to the climate of St. John's, has the practical feature of gabled hoods. On the ground floor, french doors open out from sitting and dining rooms to iron balconies which overlook St. John's Harbour.

Devon Row was built for Hannah Martin, who from the mid-nineteenth century onwards owned and operated a chinaware shop on Water Street. In 1899, Samuel Owens Steele married Hannah Martin's niece, Sarah Blanche Harris, who had come from England to live with the Martins. Steele bought the chinaware business from Hannah Martin and it was carried on as S.O. Steele and

Sons until the late 1980s. Devon Row was inherited by James H. Martin's two nephews, William and Frank Martin, who had a business on Water Street, Martin's Hardware Store, which merged with the Royal Stores in 1916 to become Martin-Royal Hardware Stores. The two nephews returned to England around 1920.

Famous occupants of Devon Row have included the historian the Rev. Moses Harvey, who helped save the house from the 1892 fire; the journalist, broadcaster and politician Joseph Roberts Smallwood, who lived in Devon Row during the confederation debates of the late 1940s; and Mrs. J.B. Mitchell, one of Newfoundland's early suffragettes, and founder of the Newfoundland SPCA.

Between 1975 and 1977, Dr. David Gough acquired and restored the surviving houses of Devon Row.



DEVON ROW

⑨

DEVON PLACE

In 1843 when William P. Thomas, a St. John's merchant, bought the land between Forest and King's Bridge Roads on which these houses are located, it was known as Bollard's Meadow. The double dwelling appears on Joseph Noad's map of 1849 and the index lists the house fronting on Forest Road as occupied by the Hon. William Thomas (a member of Newfoundland's Executive Council), while the one at the rear was occupied by his brother, Henry Thomas. Both houses were built in the Neo-Classical style, and must have been the most magnificent in St. John's when they were first constructed.

In 1872, the St. John's merchant James Murray bought both houses from the Thomas estate. At the time of that transaction, the Hon. Nicholas Stabb was a tenant in the northern house which Murray himself occupied, while the St. John's merchant Charles Bowring was a tenant in the Forest Road house. In 1877 Murray sold the properties to Robert J. Pinsent who became a judge of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland in 1879. At this time, the name Devon Place came into use. In 1887 Pinsent

sold Bowring the half of the house which Bowring had previously rented, and it remained in the Bowring family until 1916 when Sir Edgar Bowring sold it to Harry Duff Reid. Reid became president of the Reid Newfoundland Railway Company in 1918, and lived in Devon Place until 1927.

Pinsent kept his half of the house only until 1884, when it was sold to the Hon. Robert Thorburn, who became Prime Minister of Newfoundland in 1885. Sir Ambrose Shea, later Governor of the Bahamas, was a tenant. Thorburn sold the property to Bowring in 1906. In 1916, Sir Edgar Bowring signed over the northern house for \$1.00 to John Shannon Munn. Munn died within a few years and in 1920 the house was sold to the wife of the Hon. Sir. John Crosbie.

In 1895, the interior of the Forest Road house was redesigned by the architect W.H. Greene for the Bowrings in a very fine eighteenth century-revival manner. In the late twentieth century, it has undergone a meticulous restoration by Dr. Charles Hutton.

Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Heritage Structure





DEVON PLACE

THE COMMISSARIAT

The Commissariat, King's Bridge Road, served the dual function of residence and working quarters for the Assistant Commissary General—a civilian working with the military and responsible for the army pay and for general supplies and contracting. The site chosen was in the major military area of the town with Fort William to the east and the residence of the commanding officer of the Royal Engineers to the north.

When the Commissariat was finished in 1819, it was probably one of the finest residences in the island. It is presumed to have been modelled on a nearby house belonging to Thomas Forth Winter (Assistant Commissary General 1808-1816) which had originally been used as a Commissariat. The structure was designed by Lieutenant Vicars of the Engineers and constructed under the supervision of his commanding officer. It is a large house

of two and a half storeys over a cellar, with a hip roof and a centre hall plan. The ground floor contains the offices and kitchen; the second floor contains a drawing room, a dining room, and two bedrooms; the third floor, four bedrooms. The attic in the roof was left unfinished.

The structure was occupied by the military until their withdrawal from Newfoundland in 1870, at which point the building passed to the Newfoundland government. The government leased it to the Church of England in 1872 for use as a rectory for St. Thomas's Church. In 1969 the Anglican Church abandoned the building and sold it to the Newfoundland government which, in conjunction with the Government of Canada, began its restoration. The Commissariat is furnished as it was in the period 1820 to 1830.



COMMISSARIAT
②

SUTHERLAND PLACE

King's Bridge Road was first opened in the early nineteenth century during the reign of King George III. It connected Fort William with Portugal Cove, Torbay, and other nearby outposts.

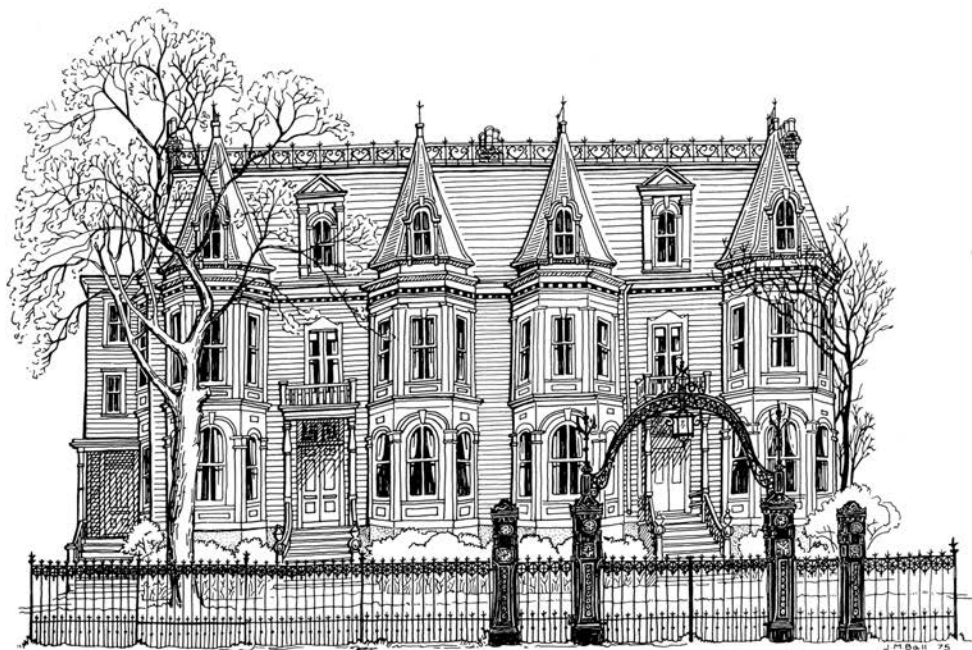
In the last two decades of the nineteenth century through until the early years of the twentieth century, a number of large private residences were constructed along both sides of the road. Of these, one of the earliest and largest was a double frame dwelling in the Renaissance revival style built by William Pitts on land purchased from the Church of England Diocesan Synod.

In 1883, Pitts began building the double house for himself and his son, the Hon. James S. Pitts, but the father died in 1884 before it was completed. Another son, Arthur, an accountant, was expected to, but never did, come out from England and to occupy his father's house. James Pitts had a distinguished record of public service.

He was appointed to the Legislative Council in 1883 and served as a Minister without Portfolio in four governments from 1888 to 1909.

James lived in the north side of the house and rented the south side. From 1884 to 1918 his tenants were the Outerbridge family. Sir Leonard Outerbridge, the second Lieutenant-Governor of Newfoundland after confederation, watched the Great Fire of 1892 from a bedroom window on the top floor. Another Lieutenant-Governor of Newfoundland, the Hon. Gordon A. Winter, lived in the south house as a boy.

In 1924 the house was purchased by Sir Edgar Hickman and was later turned into apartments. The property is enhanced by one of the finest examples of cast iron railing in the city, a type of railing which seems to be rapidly disappearing.



SUTHERLAND PLACE

WINTERTON

Built on the old road to Portugal Cove, now called Winter Avenue, Winterton was one of the oldest houses in St. John's. It is likely to have been built for James Winter's son, George, soon after he came to Newfoundland in 1809 as Deputy Ordnance Storekeeper. A map of 1816 shows a fairly large structure built on the site which may be presumed to have been at least part of the house.

George Winter lived in the house until his death in 1859 at which time it was taken over by his son, Dr. John Winter. Dr. Winter practised medicine in Greenspond and later in Trinity, the district for which he became MHA in 1855. He was appointed to the Legislative Council in 1865 and died in 1891. He was one of a family of eleven, few of whom stayed in Newfoundland. Those that did distinguished themselves and among his descendants can be found a Prime Minister, a Judge of the Supreme Court and a Lieutenant-Governor. The house was, until its

destruction by fire in 1996, the residence of the Hon. Robert S. Furlong, Chief Justice of Newfoundland (1959-1979), whose father, Martin W. Furlong, acquired the property at the beginning of the twentieth century. Martin Furlong was a noted Newfoundland lawyer, and was instrumental in successfully arguing Newfoundland's case in the Labrador Boundary Dispute, decided by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in 1927.

A large semi-detached house with three rear wings, Winterton bore more than a passing resemblance to Devon Place in facade arrangement and plan form. Evidence exposed by the fire suggests that it was built over the earlier (post 1809) house, which appears to have comprised the eastern end of the structure. It may be that it was modified in 1855, when John Winter came to St. John's as an MHA, to accommodate the housing needs of both father and son.



WINTERTON
⑬

PATRICK KOUGH STONE COTTAGE

The Kough Stone Cottage at the foot of Kenna's Hill has several connections with the building crafts of Newfoundland. It was the residence of Patrick Kough, a noted builder from Wexford, Ireland, and later of the Conways, a family of plasterers. Stone was seldom used for building except in the lower town where a series of fires in 1816-17 resulted in the introduction of regulations requiring masonry construction. There were three houses built by Irish stonemasons on the outskirts of St. John's, and of these only Kough's remains.

The present roof—a gambrel roof—is not the original. The original gabled roof was raised to provide more headroom and space in the third storey. At one time the back slope of the Kough Cottage extended to just above the ground but it was raised to provide additional room for the Conway Family which numbered twenty-two. It is also possible that the original house did not have an extension at the rear and was entered through the western gable on the ground floor. The present entrance is reached by a set of steps to the second floor. This entrance replaced an earlier one immediately below

the steps on the ground floor. Water seepage forced abandonment of the first floor, and the main staircase which led from there to the upper floor was removed. At the same time, the original kitchen, situated on this floor, was replaced by one on the next floor. When the house was converted for use as a restaurant in the mid-1980s, a glazed addition was made to the front which has unfortunately masked the facade of the building.

The land on which the cottage was built was acquired by Kough from John Brine, who owned the whole east side of Kenna's Hill, as well as part of Pitt's Farm, which is now Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Kough played a prominent role in Newfoundland social, commercial, and political life. A member of the Benevolent Irish Society and the Roman Catholic Chapel Committee, he occupied the post of Government Carpenter. He was elected to the first House of Assembly in 1832. It is presumed that Kough built the house himself during 1834; by then he would have completed work at Government House and the Harbour Grace Courthouse.



PATRICK KOUGH STONE COTTAGE

RETREAT COTTAGE

Retreat Cottage is presumed to have been built for Edward Mortimer Archibald by Alexander Norris in or before 1834. Fifty years earlier the land was granted to Captain Thomas Pitts of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment who in 1803 leased and in 1820 sold the property to John Brine, from whom Archibald acquired it.

The house is a two-and-a-half storey structure with an unusually heavy timber frame, brick nogging on the ground floor and a centre-hall plan. Originally a "salt box", the house was first altered around 1847 by the extension of the dining room and drawing room into the side porches. More radical alterations were made in the 1870s when the rear roof was raised and a mansard and several rooms were added to the back of the house. Both

the interior and exterior of the house have survived remarkably intact since that time.

Archibald (who was Attorney-General in 1846) rented the house to Christopher Ayre, the governor's secretary, who lived there until his wife's death in 1837. In 1847 Archibald sold it to the Hon. William Thomas, who leased it to a number of people, including Edward Dalton Shea, who was proprietor of *The Newfoundlander* and, afterwards, President of the Legislative Council.

The first owner-occupant was the Hon. John Hayward, a judge, who acquired the property in 1868. He made some alterations to the house and began the garden which was developed by the Steins (who owned the property from 1895 to 1918). The property then passed to the Hutton Family which held it until 1970.

Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Heritage Structure





RETREAT COTTAGE

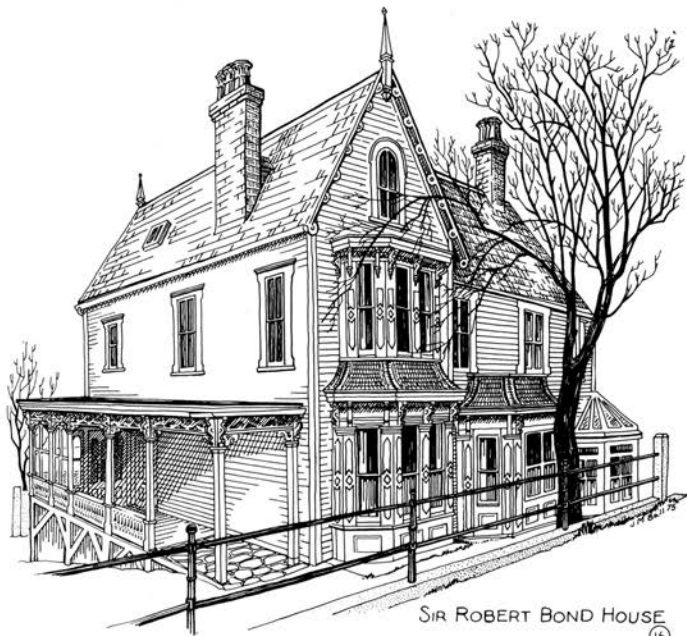
ROBERT BOND HOUSE

Robert Bond was elected to the House of Assembly in 1882 and his rise in Newfoundland politics was swift. In 1890 he was responsible for negotiating the Blaine-Bond Treaty which would have settled the question of reciprocal trade with the United States as well as the problem of American fishing rights in Newfoundland waters. However, the British government, because of Canadian objections, refused to ratify the treaty. After the catastrophic bank crash of 1894, Bond negotiated an emergency loan in London, pledging his own money as a guarantee, and saving Newfoundland from economic collapse. In 1900 he became head of the Liberal Party and Prime Minister when his party swept to power on the

strength of its opposition to the railway contract of 1898. Re-elected in 1904, he served as Prime Minister until 1908, after which he retired to his estate at Whitbourne.

The house at 2 Circular Road was built for Bond between 1883 and 1886, probably by the Southcotts. The Bond House employs elements of the Gothic Revival style so popular during the Victorian period.

Bond sold the house in 1900, the year he became Prime Minister, and established himself at his estate in Whitbourne. While in St. John's for sessions of the House of Assembly, he stayed at the Balsam Hotel on Barnes Road.



SIR ROBERT BOND HOUSE

ST. THOMAS' GARRISON CHURCH

The oldest surviving church building in St. John's is St. Thomas', which has been in continuous use since it was first opened in 1836.

Plans to build St. Thomas' were first mooted in 1827 when the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel recommended the building of a second Church of England for the town. The support of the governor, Sir Thomas Cochrane, was enlisted on condition that seating be reserved for church-going members of the garrison. Through the offices of the governor, a gift of land was secured from the British government.

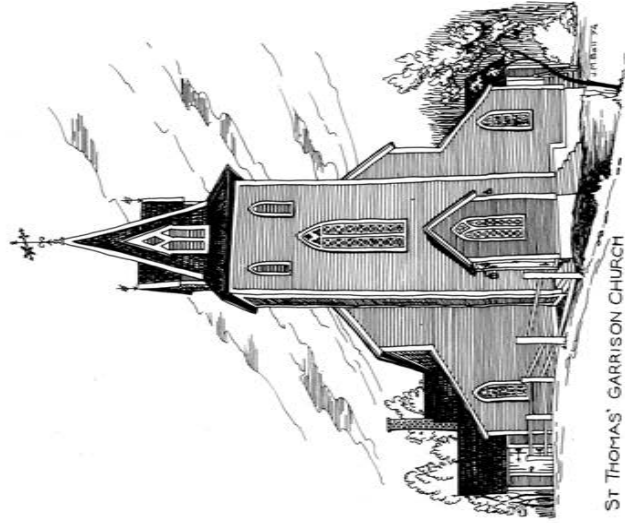
In 1833, Archdeacon Edward Wix went to England to raise money. He returned with promises of support sufficient to *erect a church sixty-two feet long and thirty-six feet wide, with galleries capable of holding seven hundred persons*. The architect was Patrick Kough, and the church was officially opened in September 1836.

The inaugural sermon was preached by the Rev. Charles Blackman of Port de Grave. The building was not completed and consecrated until after the arrival of Bishop Spencer in 1840. The cost of the completed building was £1,500.

The Great Gale of September 1846 moved the church six inches on its foundations and, in 1852, wings were erected on the north and south sides to stabilize the building. In 1871 the military garrison was withdrawn from St. John's. By 1874 additional seating was found necessary and major renovations were undertaken, largely through the exertions of Canon Wood. During 1882 and 1883 the chancel was lengthened and a vestry and organ chamber were added. Finally in 1903 the east end was enlarged to increase seating to accommodate a congregation of 1300.

Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Heritage Structure





ST THOMAS' GARRISON CHURCH

MUSGRAVE TERRACE

This terrace on the south side of Gower Street, west of Wood Street, is a form of row house which was occasionally found in the old city of St. John's. In this form the houses in the centre are framed by the end buildings, which often vary architecturally from the middle structures. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth century many of the finest houses in St. John's were terraces. In addition to Musgrave Terrace on Gower Street, other examples of turn of the century terrace housing in St. John's include Bee-Orchis Terrace on Queen's Road, and City Terrace, situated above the west end of Duckworth Street, east of Bates Hill.

The houses of Musgrave Terrace were built

immediately after the 1892 fire. The small opening in the centre of the block which gives access to the gardens at the rear makes the houses easy to identify on the early maps. The insurance map of 1880 shows a group of buildings with this opening on the same site before the fire, indicating that houses of roughly these dimensions occupied this site in the latter half of that century. Sir Ambrose Shea, a publisher of *The Newfoundlander*, lived at Musgrave Terrace before the Great Fire of 1892.

The simple porticos and rounded windows of this terrace suggest an interest in classical building styles, and are unusual in post-1892 St. John's. These buildings were restored in the 1980s.



MUSGRAVE TERRACE

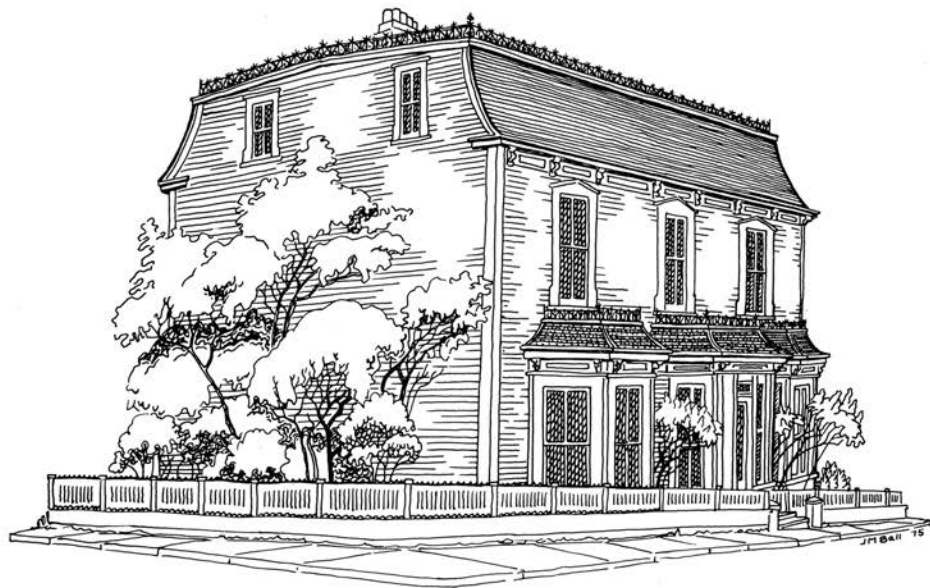
RENDELL-SHEA HOUSE

In the eighteenth century, an illiterate Englishman named Stripling came from Devon to Newfoundland where he established himself in a tavern which quickly became a favourite gathering place of the military élite. Stripling used his influence with those in high places and was able to lay claim to a large tract of land in St. John's, covering most of the east side of, what is today, Cochrane Street. In 1878, George Thomas Rendell, a 51 year old merchant from Ringmore, Devon, who had settled in Newfoundland, leased the lot on the east corner of Cochrane Street and Military Road from the Stripling estate. Within a year work was begun on the house. It is said to have been the first fashionable house in St. John's to have a ground floor kitchen. Most Victorian houses had their kitchens in the basement.

The Rendell house survived the Great Fire of 1892. When the fire forced its way up Cochrane Street, it was feared that if this house caught fire there would be no way of preventing the spread of the flames through the trees across Military Road to Government House. Under the

direction of the Roman Catholic bishop, Michael Francis Howley, the smaller home of Mrs. Kelligrew, just south of the Rendell house and already on fire, was hauled down by a group of men with ropes. This action not only saved the present structure but was credited with probably saving Government House, St. Thomas's Church and Rectory, as well as several other buildings on Military Road east of Cochrane Street.

In 1905 Rendell finally purchased the land from the Stripling estate for the sum of £350. He died in 1909 and the property passed to his wife, Elizabeth. Their daughter, Margaret, was the first native-born Newfoundlander to become a nurse. Born in 1863, she graduated from Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore in 1897. In 1900 she married George Shea, who was Mayor of St. John's from 1902 to 1906 and the son of Edward Dalton Shea. In 1935 she conveyed it to her son Captain Ambrose Shea, who lived there until 1972. For eight years Captain Shea was Private Secretary at Government House.



RENDELL - SHEA HOUSE

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

In 1825, Sir Thomas Cochrane arrived in Newfoundland with a set of plans based on those of Admiralty House in Plymouth, England, for a governor's residence in keeping with his concept of the dignity of his office. He presented the plans to the Royal Engineers for an estimate of the cost. They were considered too expensive by Lord Bathurst, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, but Sir Thomas pleaded, not without justification, that *in a climate where so large a portion of time must be passed indoors, the indulgence of rooms a little larger than might be requisite in a temperate climate may be admissible in a building intended to be permanent and durable.*

Lord Bathurst acceded to the request and passed the original estimate of £8,778 for a building measuring 74 feet long by 57 feet wide. Construction began in 1827 under the supervision of Lieutenant Commander Lewis of the Royal Engineers. Sir Thomas constantly interfered with the construction and was responsible for so many changes to the original plans that Lewis returned to England in despair.

Government House was completed in 1831 at a cost of more than three times its original estimate. This expenditure

so disturbed reformers in Parliament, that a Court of Inquiry was established to discover the reasons for the overexpenditure. It was found that the original plan had been greatly altered by Cochrane to erect a much larger and more imposing structure than originally approved.

The building is of a severe design, composed of a centre block and two side wings, two storeys high with a twelve-foot basement storey. Some fifty masons and carpenters were brought to Newfoundland from Scotland to do the work because the wages exacted by Newfoundland labourers were too high. The rough red sandstone used in construction was quarried from behind Waldegrave's Battery on Signal Hill, while the quoins, jambs, sills, and chimney shafts were of Portland stone.

The ceilings in the principal staterooms were decorated by a Polish prisoner, a fresco painter named Alexander Pindikowski, who had been jailed in 1880 for trying to pass forged cheques. The government put him to work painting frescoes in the Old Court House, Government House, and the Colonial Building. For this work, his sentence was remitted by one month.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE

WEST LODGE, GOVERNMENT HOUSE

The West Lodge on the grounds of Government House at Bannerman Road is a good example of the style of cottage architecture that was popularized by the books of J.C. Loudon in England and A.J. Downing in America. Their books included numerous designs for buildings that were admirably suited for use as gate lodges, estate houses, and country residences.

It was intended that a picturesque effect should be created—hence, the tendency to use details such as bargeboards and diamond-shaped window panes.

The building was erected c.1877-80 by the Department of Public Works to house the family of one of the attendants at Government House. Its duplicate can be found on the grounds of Sunnyside, on Circular Road.



WEST LODGE

(21)

COLONIAL BUILDING

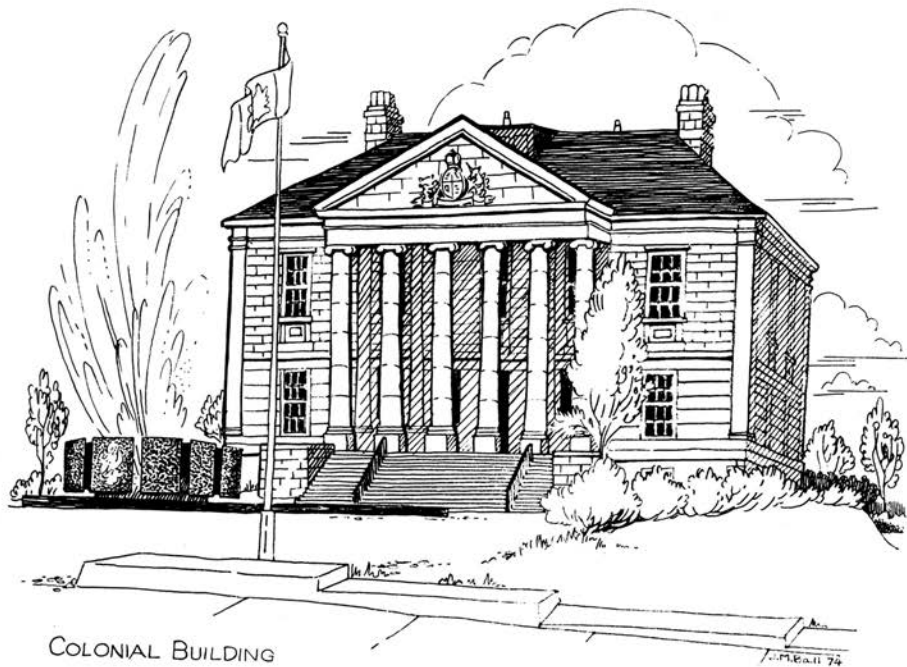
The Colonial Building served as the seat of the House of Assembly and Legislative Council of Newfoundland from 1850 to 1855; as the home of the Parliament of Newfoundland from 1855 until 1933; as offices for the Commission of Government from 1934 to 1949; and then as the home of the House of Assembly of Newfoundland from 1949 until it moved to new quarters in the Confederation Building in 1960. It is Newfoundland's most important public building.

Representative government was granted to Newfoundland in 1832. Because St. John's lacked a suitable public building in which the House of Assembly could meet, the first session of the House was held in January 1833 in a tavern and lodging house owned by Mrs. Mary Travers, located at the corner of King's Road and Duckworth Street. In 1836 the Assembly passed a resolution seeking land upon which to erect a Colonial Building, but the Newfoundland Legislature met for another fourteen years in a variety of temporary quarters before a new Colonial Building became a reality.

Plans for the building were prepared by James Purcell who had been brought out from Cork, Ireland to supervise the construction of the Roman Catholic Cathedral. The builder was Patrick Kough, who by 1845 was a member of the

executive of the Benevolent Irish Society, and party to the decision of the Society's trustees to loan £1,734 of its funds to the government to erect the building. The cornerstone was laid on 24 May 1847 by Governor Sir John Gaspard LeMarchant and was officially opened on 28 January 1850. Designed in the neo-classical style, it was originally faced with cut limestone from Cork. Its facade consists of six finely proportioned Ionic columns, surmounted by a pediment containing the Royal Arms. In 1880, the Polish prisoner Alexander Pindikowski frescoed the ceilings of the Assembly and Council chambers.

The Colonial Building witnessed the most important and exciting events in the country's history, and was the scene of several major riots. On 2 December 1933 the Parliament of Newfoundland met there for the last time under Responsible Government. It was the site of the National Convention which met there from 1946 to 1948 in order to recommend to the British government forms of government on which Newfoundlanders would vote in a referendum. The Convention's proceedings in the old House of Assembly chamber launched the campaigns of the advocates and opponents of confederation with Canada, which continued through two referenda and culminated with the signing of terms of union in Ottawa in December 1948.



COLONIAL BUILDING

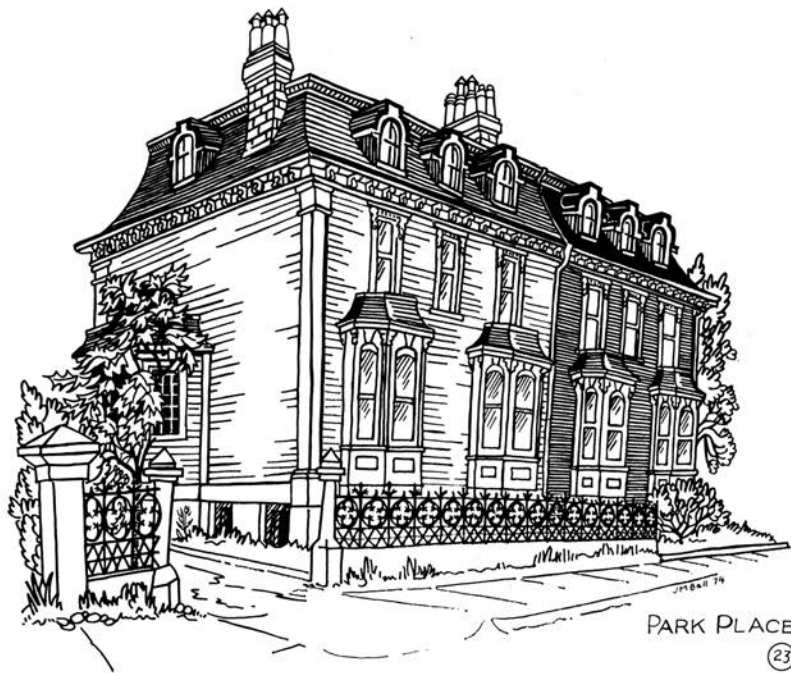
PARK PLACE

The houses at 2,3,4, and 5 Park Place on Rennie's Mill Road form the best group of Second Empire style houses in St. John's. The style was introduced to the city by John Thomas Southcott after he returned from England in 1876. It was spread throughout Newfoundland by the work of the family building firm, J. and J.T. Southcott. The firm had been started by his uncle and his father who had come to Newfoundland from Exeter following the fire of 1846.

The Park Place houses, and others on adjoining lots on Monkstown Road, were built sometime after 1878 when the Southcotts acquired the land; most likely in 1881 at a time when the Newfoundland economy was growing. The concave-curved mansard roof with hooded dormer

windows, the decorative cornices under the eaves and the bay windows on the first floor, are characteristic of the Second Empire Style as it appears in St. John's.

All four houses of Park Place appear on the insurance map of January 1888. The centre building in the grouping exhibits a Newfoundland characteristic of the Second Empire style. An attempt is made to present a homogeneous streetscape by arranging entryways on the sides instead of on the facade of the building. Both halves of the building are houses built on the centre-hall plan, but the axis of each of these runs parallel to the street. The effect is to convey the impression that a multiple dwelling is one large single dwelling.



PARK PLACE

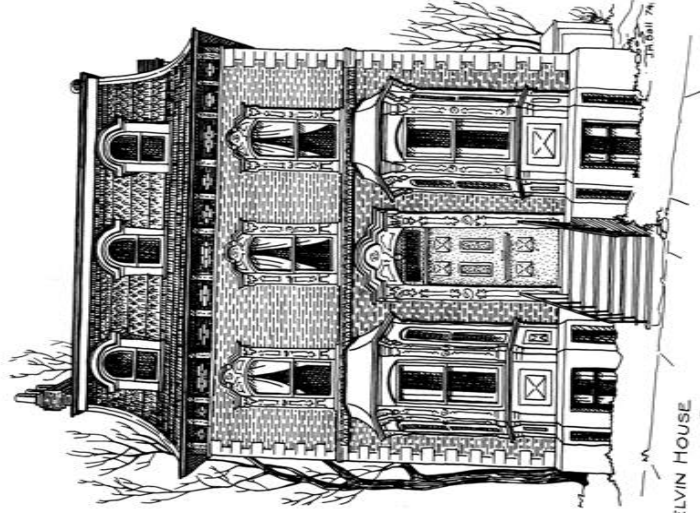
(23)

KELVIN HOUSE

This superb brick example of the Second Empire style was built in 1885 by John Score for Alexander Marshall, a St. John's merchant. Unquestionably the most elaborate and most modern house in the city for many years, it cost \$20,000 to build. The *Evening Telegram* described it as *a magnificent residence... a monument to success in business, and an ornament to the neighbourhood, and a most convincing proof of the mechanical skill of our native workmen*. With the elaborate detailing of the window surrounds, the patterned roof slate, the modern hot-water radiation heating system (which served both the house and the glass conservatory)

and the mahogany window sashes fitted with plate glass, the house clearly deserved the newspaper's praise.

Marshall was a dry goods merchant who had been in partnership with the Ayres and who later formed the firm of Marshall and Rodger. The Water Street building in which they conducted their business, the Marshall Building, was also built of red brick and featured pressed brick friezes. It was designed by W.H. Greene, whose business partner, John A. Pearson of Toronto, is said to have married Marshall's daughter Agnes in 1895. The Marshall Building was demolished for road widening in 1996.



KELVIN HOUSE

WINTERHOLME

Winterholme is the grandest Queen Anne style house, and the largest and most opulent mansion in Newfoundland. It was begun in 1904 to the designs of Newfoundland architect, William F. Butler, and built by the contracting firm of M. and E. Kennedy. It was built for Sir Marmaduke Winter at the climax of a period when the increasing prosperity of Newfoundland's merchant families found its expression in domestic architecture.

Descended from the Winter family (who built Winterton on Winter Ave), Sir Marmaduke's father was the customs officer at Lamaline. Marmaduke and his brother Thomas moved to St. John's sometime during the 1830s, and founded the firm of T. and M. Winter Limited. Another brother, Sir James Spearman Winter, served in various political roles as an MHA, Speaker of the House, Attorney General, and Prime Minister of Newfoundland. His grandson, the Hon. Gordon A. Winter, was Lieutenant-Governor of Newfoundland from 1974 to 1981.

Winterholme has the massive proportions characteristic of the Queen Anne style of architecture. It exhibits double bay windows in the facade, the decorative shingling, and a turret, all associated with the style. A magnificent leaded glass front door, and curved glass windows are also featured in the building. Inside, the elaborate plaster decorations and hand-carved woodwork were made in England and shipped to Newfoundland in pieces for installation at the site.

Sir Marmaduke Winter died in 1936 and his widow occupied the house until 1939 when it was leased to the Canadian Army for use as offices and an officers' mess during World War II, on condition that it be left in its original state on termination of the lease. After the war, Sir Marmaduke's son used the house as a private residence until 1960 when it was sold and converted into seven apartments. Now a bed and breakfast, it is still well-preserved and the original plaster and woodwork are essentially intact.

Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Heritage Structure





WINTERHOLME

(25)

SUNNYSIDE

Sunnyside with its lodge, stables and garden at 70 Circular Road is one of the best preserved nineteenth century settings in Newfoundland. It was originally the property of the Allen estate recalled today in the nearby name, Allandale Road. The main house was built in about 1845 for John O'Mara who came from Waterford, Ireland, to establish himself as a chemist in St. John's. O'Mara married an Allen. James Murray acquired the property in 1872 and was responsible for creating the house and grounds as they are at present.

The house itself is a one-and-a-half storey building with a saddle roof. Murray added a section to the original structure, which followed the main lines of the house. Many of the internal features, notably the kitchen, bathroom and their fittings, date from the end of the nineteenth century. The drawing room was furnished by the Murrays when they acquired the house in 1872 and the room has remained essentially unchanged since that time.

The Lodge at the east end of the Sunnyside estate, is virtually a double of the West Lodge of Government House and is of some architectural interest. It is a very good example of a gate lodge with its decorative trim and latticed windows. Its exterior walls are covered with clapboard to imitate stonework. The Lodge, like the stable, was built in the 1870s.

James Murray came to Newfoundland from Scotland in 1839 as a 29 year-old miller and baker. He leased a mill on the banks of the Rennie's River from its builders, the Rennie brothers. Murray married Elizabeth Stacey and they were the parents of James Murray (1843-1900), the owner of Sunnyside, who entered the fish business at St. John's in the 1880s, and became the MHA for Burgeo and LaPoile in 1889. The Great Fire of 1892 and the bank crash of 1894 led to his firm's insolvency. James and his wife, Jennie Ritchie, were the parents of A.H. Murray (see the Murray Premises).



SUNNYSIDE

PRESENTATION CONVENT SCHOOL

In 1833 four sisters of the religious order of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, from the convent at Galway, Ireland, arrived in St. John's at the invitation of Bishop Michael Anthony Fleming, to begin the education of Roman Catholic girls. They were the first order of English-speaking religious women to be introduced into Newfoundland, and the third such order in North America.

After a decade in temporary quarters, the first convent was built at the top of Long's Hill in 1844. It was destroyed two years later in the Great Fire of 1846. The cornerstone of the present convent, located on the east side of the Basilica-Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, was laid in 1850 by Dr. John T. Mullock, the Roman Catholic Bishop of St. John's.

Construction of the convent and school began at the same time. The school was completed in July of 1853, and the convent was completed later that year. While the convent was being completed, the sisters used the school as a temporary residence for part of the spring and summer, sheltering under a canvas roof made of ships' sails.

While the architect of the buildings is not known it may have been Schmidt (architect-presumptive of the Cathedral), or J.J. McCarthy (architect of St. Patrick's). Several features of the school echo those of the Cathedral: the rusticated quoin-stones, the string courses, the arched windows, and the hip roof. Patrick Kough superintended the work on both buildings while James Purcell was the builder for the convent.



PRESENTATION CONVENT SCHOOL

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

The history of the Roman Catholic Cathedral of St. John the Baptist is inseparable from the story of Bishop Michael Anthony Fleming, an ascetic Irish Franciscan priest. He determined to build a temple, *at once beautiful and spacious, suitable to the worship of the most high God* to replace what he described as *the meanest house of worship in the city*: the small wooden chapel on Henry Street built by Bishop O'Donel in 1796.

In 1834 Fleming petitioned for ten acres of land on "the Barrens" above St. John's, a traditional St. John's-Irish gathering place. He planned to build a cathedral, a convent, schools, and a residence for priests. The political activities of Fleming and his supporters mostly from Waterford, Ireland, had alienated an influential faction in the Catholic congregation, a group mainly of Wexford heritage, among them Patrick Kough. Against Fleming and his plans they secured the support of Governor Henry Prescott, and of his superiors in the British Colonial Office. It took the determined bishop four years and almost 20,000 miles of Atlantic travel before he acquired his grant on 7 April 1838.

Having obtained a design from the Tipperary architect, John Jones, the bishop, with an awareness of the problems of construction in the Newfoundland climate, proceeded north to

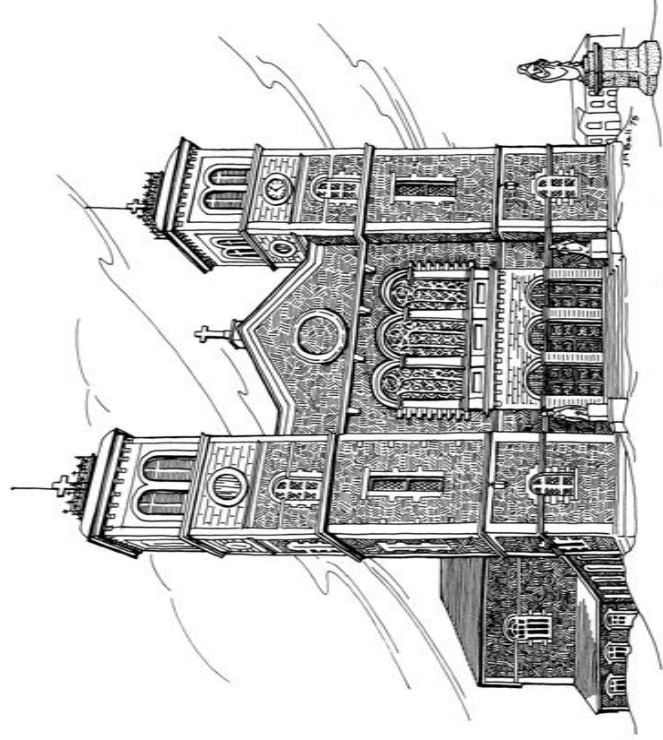
Altona on the Elbe. There he appears to have had new plans drawn up by the Danish Government architect, a Mr. C. Schmidt who, having studied architecture in Rome, was familiar with the style Fleming wished to use.

Fleming took an active part in the construction, helping quarry stone at Kelly's Island, often standing in freezing salt water up to his waist to load it on the boats. It was carried to St. John's free of charge by Protestants as well as Catholics. The cathedral's construction was the largest building project undertaken in nineteenth century Newfoundland and, at the time, the largest ecclesiastical structure in North America. James Purcell supervised the work and carved the columns and Corinthian capitals surrounding the windows in the facade from Dublin granite, while the interior plaster-work of the walls and cornices was done by the Conway family. The Basilica-Cathedral houses a number of sculptures by the renowned Irish artists John Hogan and John Edward Carew.

In 1850 Bishop Fleming celebrated the first mass in the cathedral and died soon after and was buried in the crypt beneath the high altar. Completed in 1855, it was consecrated by Fleming's successor, Bishop Mullock, in the presence of Archbishop John Hughes of New York. On its centenary, the cathedral was elevated to the rank of Minor Basilica.

Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Heritage Structure





BASILICA of ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

ST. PATRICK'S HALL

The Benevolent Irish Society was formally inaugurated at the London Tavern in St. John's in February 1806. The original members adopted as their motto, *He that gives to the poor lends to the Lord*. At the outset their single objective was to provide money and food to the deserving poor. Membership was limited to *Natives of Ireland, sons of Irish parents, (and) descendants of any present or future members*. Most of the first executive were Protestants, although the Society was strictly non-denominational. This non-denominational character was zealously guarded until the second quarter of the century when Protestant membership seems to have waned due to the overwhelming growth in the numbers of Irish Catholics in St. John's.

In 1827 a concern with the plight of orphans and the general lack of educational facilities led the Society to establish the Orphan Asylum, which was completed

directly in front of the present B.I.S. meeting rooms, known as St. Patrick's Hall. While it never housed an orphan, the asylum housed the Society's school until the completion of the present structure in 1880. The new school boasted four large airy classrooms, each known as "a school", capable of accommodating 400 male students. Catholic girls attended the schools of the Presentation and Mercy sisters.

The Great Fire of 1892 completely gutted the building, but the outer walls were left intact and St. Patrick's Hall was rebuilt inside the shell in almost exactly the same manner. The red brick O'Donel Memorial Wing to the east of St. Patrick's Hall was erected between 1905 and 1906 as part of the Society's centenary celebrations. It commemorates Newfoundland's first Roman Catholic Bishop, the Irish Franciscan priest James Louis O'Donel, a founder of the society.

Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Heritage Structure





ST PATRICK'S HALL

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

The Cathedral Parish, established at St. John's by the Bishop of London, is the oldest English-speaking parish of the Anglican Church in what is now Canada. It is somewhat difficult to determine how many churches there were in St. John's, but there may have been as many as six predecessors to the Cathedral, of which the first was built sometime about or before 1696.

When a Protestant bishopric was established in 1839, Dr. Aubrey Spencer began the first attempts to raise funds to build a proper cathedral. In 1842 Spencer had plans prepared locally by James Purcell, who was superintending the construction of the Roman Catholic Cathedral. The estimated cost of Purcell's cathedral was £7,000. In May 1843, 1,800 tons of limestone were shipped from Cork, Ireland, and Bishop Spencer laid the cornerstone in August as one of his final acts as Bishop of Newfoundland.

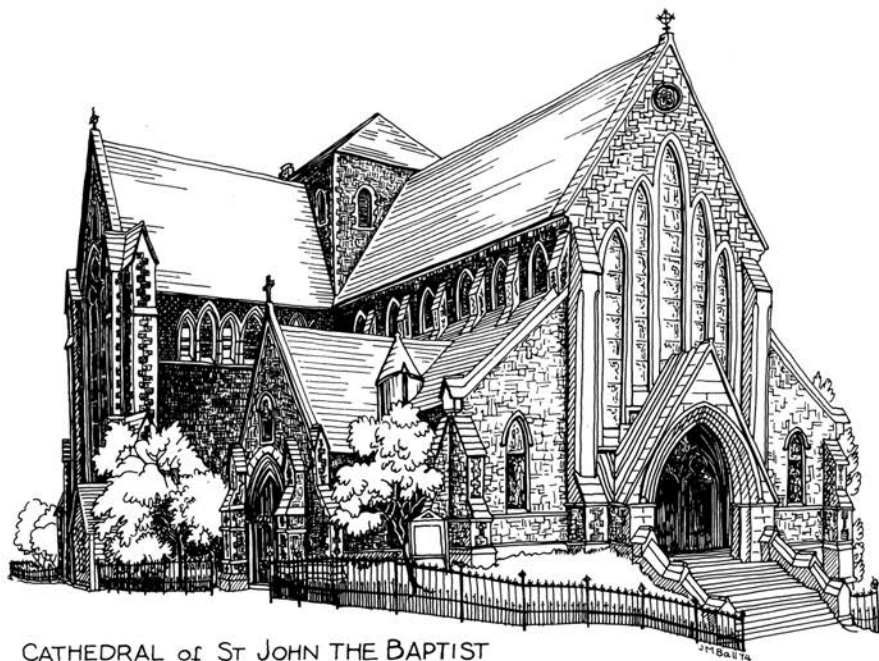
In 1846 a disastrous fire razed a large section of the old town and the Church of England. The stone for the cathedral was rendered unusable by the intense heat.

After the fire, Bishop Edward Feild, who succeeded Spencer, returned to England to raise money for fire-sufferers and for a new cathedral. On his visit he met Sir George Gilbert Scott, a leading proponent of the Gothic Revival in England, and engaged him to design a cathedral. It would be one of the finest Gothic Revival churches in North America.

Work on the nave was completed in 1850. Construction on the rest of the cathedral did not begin again until 1880. By 1885 the work was complete, with the exception of the chancel. The Great Fire of 1892 devastated the structure, and left the newly-completed cathedral a hollow, burnt-out shell. Within a few years the church was rebuilt using the original outer walls. It was rededicated in 1905. Reconstruction and continuous restoration has been carried on ever since. In 1972 the ceiling of the Lady Chapel, to the north of the high altar, was vaulted with stone. Much work remains to be done on the roof of the choir as well as the exterior.

Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Heritage Structure





CATHEDRAL of ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

This building on Duckworth Street, known as the Savings Bank, was built in 1849 to house the Bank of British North America, Newfoundland's first commercial bank. The bank began in 1837 and occupied a premises on Water Street. When the Great Fire of 1846 destroyed these quarters it temporarily occupied another building until the present structure was completed.

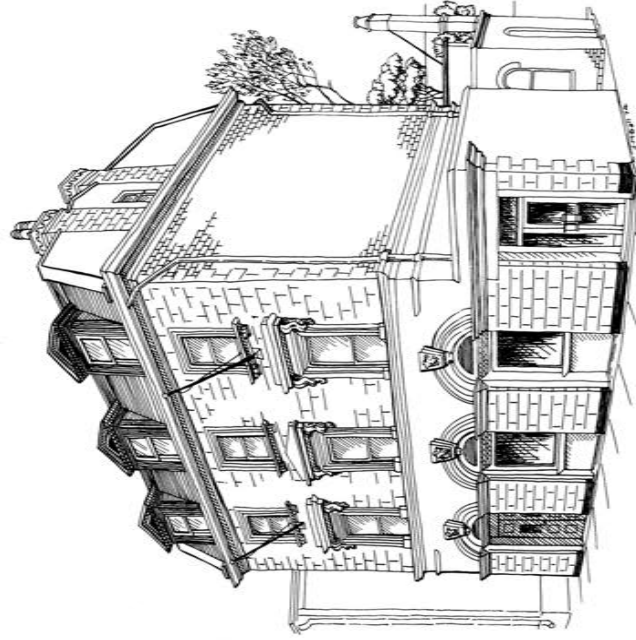
The architect of the building is presumed to be David Stirling of Halifax. Originally a three-storey building with a hip roof and arched chimneys, the building was altered in about 1885 to provide an apartment for the bank's manager, a Mr. Henry. At that time another storey, with a mansard roof, was added. It was inside the shell of this four storey building, burnt in the Great Fire of 1892, that the new interior was constructed. The exterior of the building is essentially Italianate with arches over its ground floor openings and lion masks on the keystones of those arches. There are bracketed consoles over the second floor windows. As befits a bank, the interior is decorated with considerable care to detail and contains a number of interesting features, including high ceilings, a rare cantilevered spiral stone staircase at the west end of the structure, and an elaborately

panelled dining room. There are also two stained glass windows; one of these in the west wall.

The Bank of British North America was forced out of business by other banking interests in 1857-1858 and the building was taken over by the Commercial Bank. In the Newfoundland Bank Crash of 1894, the Commercial Bank fell, but a trace of its presence remains in the monogrammed windows in the east wall of the main bank chamber. After the crash the Bank of Montreal acquired the property and used the upper three stories as a residence for their manager until the Second World War. The interior, notably the superb wood work in the residence, was designed by William Howe Greene. The ground floor was used by the Newfoundland Savings Bank from 1894 until 1962 when that bank ceased operations. Since then, it has been a branch of the Bank of Montreal; it has been owned by the City of St. John's; and in 1994 the Cabot Institute completed the restoration of the building. It was re-named the Anna Templeton Centre for Graphic Arts, and became the College's Duckworth Street Campus, a place where many of the artistic and decorative skills used in the embellishment of the building might be taught.

Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Heritage Structure





BANK of BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

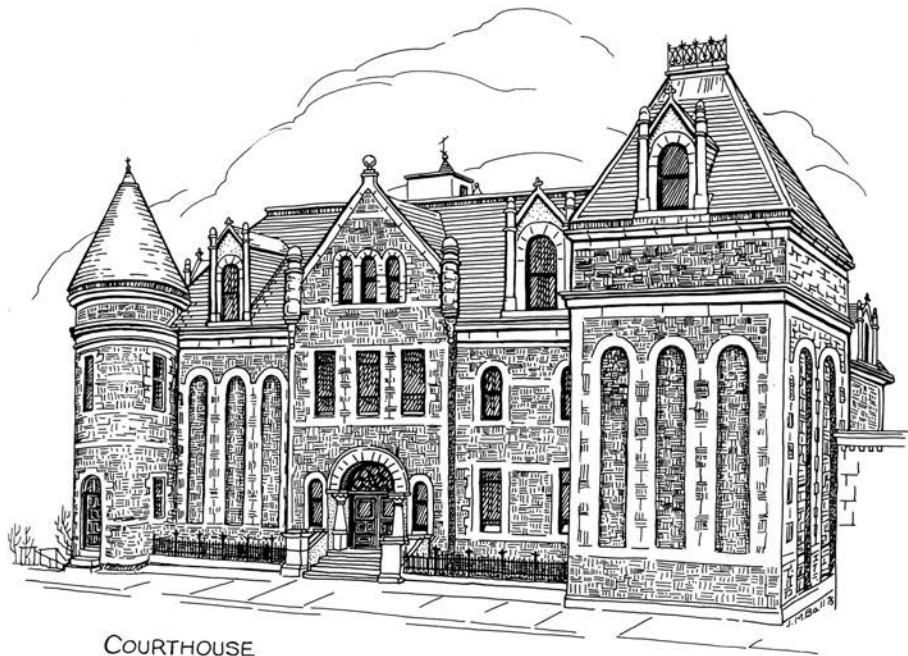
THE COURTHOUSE

The present Courthouse of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland is built on the site of an earlier building erected after the 1846 fire and destroyed in the fire of 1892. Known as Market House Hill, the area was a centre for open air auctions and the sale of produce in the town. The earlier building, called the Market House, was smaller and much simpler than the present Richardsonian Romanesque structure. The original courthouse and jail, built about 1730, was situated on Duckworth Street just east of the present courthouse steps. This is probably the fourth courthouse built in the town.

The Courthouse was designed by W.T. Whiteway, a Newfoundland born architect who had a very successful practice in British Columbia. It was constructed between 1900 and 1904 by the Halifax firm of Brookfield and Company. The cornerstone was laid by the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall (later King George V and Queen

Mary) during their visit to Newfoundland in 1901. Stone was provided for the building by the St. John's contractor W.G. Ellis, from Petites Quarries, while the interior woodwork was executed by the Horwood Lumber Company of St. John's. The Courthouse features a clock and bell in the south-east tower. While the building now serves only the interests of justice, it was originally also used by the Prime Minister, the Colonial Secretary and the Cabinet.

Despite these alterations in function, the structure has suffered few alterations in form. A few changes have been made in the interior, notably in the Executive Cabinet Rooms which now serve as courtrooms. The 1929 earthquake which struck Newfoundland caused some damage to the clock tower, but this was repaired. The exterior of the Courthouse was restored in the late 1980s.



COURTHOUSE

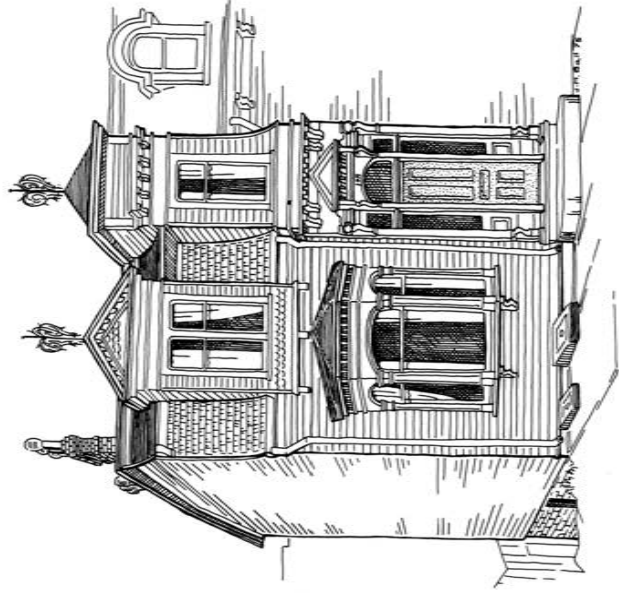
JULIA BAIRD HOUSE

This house at 27 Henry Street was built on land which had been part of the old Bulley estate. Samuel Bulley founded the firm of Job Brothers in St. John's in 1730. In 1893 the property was deeded to the Hon. Moses Monroe in trust for Julia Baird, his sister, and the house was probably built by him shortly thereafter. It is, for St. John's, a remarkably exuberant example of Victorian architecture. However it is likely that there were other similar houses whose architectural exuberance was a maintenance nightmare and which, consequently, disappeared.

A monument to Moses Monroe, a noted local

philanthropist, stands in Victoria Park on Water Street west. The fifteen foot high stone goblet is mounted on a pedestal, ornamented by two metal lions' heads. It was erected by the voluntary contributions of all classes in the island as a token of the respect and esteem in which Monroe was held.

Monroe was born at Moira, Country Down, Ireland, and came to Newfoundland in 1861. He was a member of the Legislative Council from 1886 until his death on 19 May 1895, two years after the house was built for his sister. She also died within a few years and the house passed into other hands.



JULIA BAIRD HOUSE

MOUNT ST. FRANCIS MONASTERY

In 1827 the Benevolent Irish Society opened the Orphan Asylum School on Queen's Road. Although it was non-denominational, few, if any, Protestant children seem to have attended classes there. The school flourished until St. John's burned in the fire of 1846, after which an out-migration of Irish Catholics from St. John's to Boston began to occur. At this point, the school began to fall into decline.

In 1848, in the hope of improving the curriculum, the discipline at the school, and its appeal to male students as an institution from which a superior education could be had, Bishop Fleming placed the school under the direction of four Franciscan Brothers. This was not a success. By 1852, one brother had returned to Ireland, and the school passed from their control. By the 1860s, general

attendance began again to decline; it became difficult to obtain teachers, and the Benevolent Irish Society started a campaign to have the Irish Christian Brothers take over its operations. In 1876 three Christian Brothers from Ireland arrived in St. John's and began teaching in the school. Attendance immediately rose to capacity and the impetus for building St. Patrick's Hall quickened.

Soon after the Brothers arrived, Bishop Thomas Power began to plan the construct of a residence for the brothers on Merrymeeting Road. The brothers used the design of one of their monasteries in Wexford, and the cornerstone was laid in September 1877. The structure remains much the same as when it was built. Until the late 1990s this first monastery of the Irish Christian Brothers in Newfoundland remained in use as a residence.



MOUNT ST FRANCIS

MURRAY PREMISES

These merchant premises in Beck's Cove comprise a group of buildings of various dates and belonged to a number of merchant firms. The stone building facing on Beck's Cove is presumed to be the oldest and is thought to date from the reconstruction which followed the 1846 fire. In 1849 the eastern section of the premises was part of a large block of buildings owned by Joseph A. Wood and leased to Richard O'Dwyer. At one time the stone building served as both shop and house.

In 1847 O'Dwyer built himself a substantial commercial block of shops and dwellings on the southwest corner of Water Street and Beck's Cove. Part of the O'Dwyer Block was torn down to make way for a Bank of Nova Scotia, but much of it still remains west of the bank. Ironically, this section has been restored, and

outlived the bank.

In 1908, the firm of A.H. Murray was incorporated. The following year he was joined by his brother David. In 1910, having acquired premises in Beck's Cove, the brothers entered the salt fish trade and built up an extensive business.

These buildings, including the waterfront premises, comprise the largest and only surviving group of mid-19th to mid-20th century merchants' premises on the edge of St. John's harbour. They make up an important and representative segment of mid-nineteenth century St. John's. Now a national historic site, the Murray Premises have been converted for use as offices, shops, and exhibit space as part of the downtown Heritage Conservation area.



MURRAY PREMISES BECK'S COVE

YELLOWBELLY CORNER

These structures on the north side of Water Street, immediately west of the Beck's Cove fire break, are, with those opposite, the finest surviving early group of brick and stone residential/retail premises in St. John's. Constructed immediately after the 1846 fire, they probably replaced similar structures erected after the fire of 1817. Several of the shops are thought to have been rebuilt in 1847 inside the gutted stone shells. This reconstruction is especially noticeable at the rear of the westernmost building. The group resembles one sketched by the artist William Henry Gosse, at King's Beach in 1841, and is characteristic of commercial buildings found in towns throughout the British Isles until the middle of the nineteenth century.

These three-and-one-half storey, saddle roof buildings served as both shops on the ground floor and dwellings above for the merchants of their day. Over the shop the owner had quarters as large and as comfortable as any that might have built away from the lower town. At the beginning of the nineteenth century, Water Street, then known as the Lower Path, was a highly flammable warren of fish flakes, wooden stores with barrels and

puncheons filled with fish oils. Fires along several areas of the waterfront during 1816, 1817, and 1819 drove insurance companies and the government to insist that greater precautions be taken. As a consequence there was much building in stone and brick in the period following. The Great Fire of 1846 saw the imposition of building regulations requiring that buildings on both sides of Water Street be built of masonry construction.

Yellowbelly Corner may have derived its name from the nickname given the Irish merchants and shopkeepers from Wexford who occupied the premises in the middle of the nineteenth century. From Yellowbelly Corner down to the high-water mark in Kent's Cove (on the old finger-piers of the harbour, just east of Beck's Cove) was one of a number of neighbourhoods where the Irish-born citizens of St. John's, often from various other Irish county factions, such as the "Wheybellies" from Waterford, the "Doones" from Kilkenny, the "Clear-Airs" from Tipperary, and the Cork "Dadyeens", lived, met, socialized, transacted business, and engaged in the time-honoured Irish "divarsion", as the historian Judge Prowse called it, of faction-fighting.



YELLOW BELLY CORNER BUILDINGS

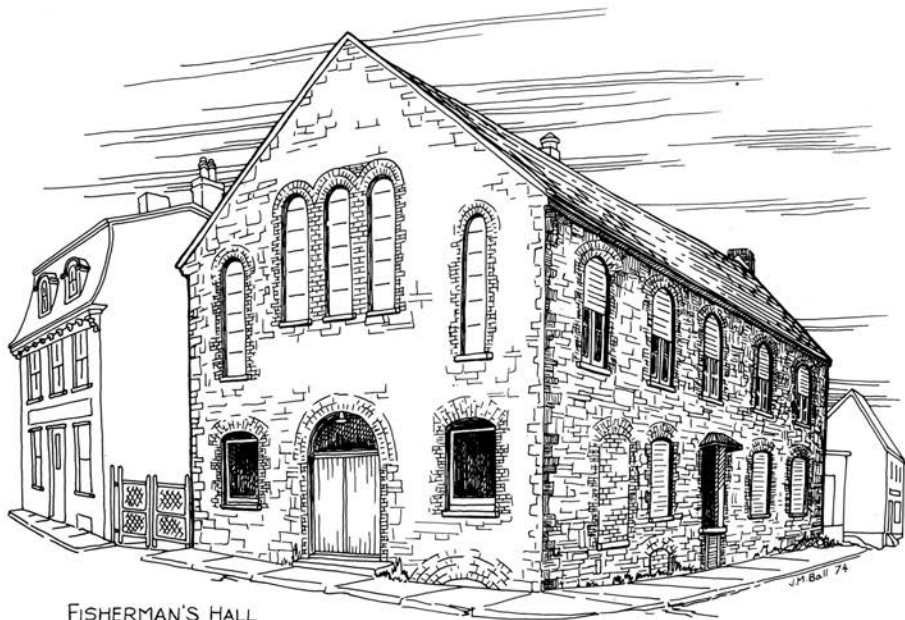
FISHERMEN'S HALL

This two-storey building of square-cut local stone, with its slate-covered saddle roof, was built originally as a hall and exhibition centre for fisheries and agricultural produce. Near this site, formerly known as "Lady's Ship Room", began the fire of 1846 which burned St. John's. The foundation stone of Fishermen's Hall was laid on 23 May 1861. It was officially opened on 28 October of the same year.

In its first colourful decade, the Hall played host to a visiting trapeze artist named Trenear, to D.C. LaRue's War Show, to a Grand Bazaar in aid of the construction of St. Patrick's Church, and to the founding meeting of the Star of the Sea Society. On 20 September 1867 the theatre company of Wilson and Clark opened their second

St. John's season in the Hall with the play *How to Rule A Wife*. Fishermen's Hall lays claim to the distinction of being the oldest surviving theatre in St. John's.

On 16 December 1872, ownership of Fishermen's Hall was transferred to the Roman Catholic Bishop, Thomas Power, who dedicated the building as St. Peter's Church. For the next ten years, while St. Patrick's Church awaited completion, the upstairs portion served as a chapel for Roman Catholics who lived in the west end of the city. The ground floor was used as a school by the Sisters of Mercy and it continued to operate until near the turn of the twentieth century. From 1903 until 1967 the building was used as a warehouse and as offices by the firm of Frank McNamara Limited.



FISHERMAN'S HALL

ANDREWS' RANGE

In 1846, the crossroads formed by Job Street, Hutchings Street, Bambrick Street, New Gower Street, and Hamilton Avenue (then known as Pokeham Path) was the western extremity of the town of St. John's. The fire of 1846 did not reach this area. Neither did the fire of 1892. It is probable that these buildings on the north side of New Gower Street antedated the 1846 fire by some years and were among the oldest shops in the city. This area once contained several good groupings of ordinary craftsmen's houses occupied by coopers and others allied with the fish trade.

Of these neighbourhoods, the most important in terms of architecture and streetscape was that known as Andrews' Range. A set of buildings owned by the Newman family, Andrews' Range got its name from its last tenant, the grocer Al Andrews, a sometime city councillor. Other notable residents of the same era

included the Power family, which owned a well-known neighbourhood candy shop, and Fred J. Wadden and Sons, a tobacconist. Andrews' Range was younger than its counterparts on the opposite side of the street. Its value as streetscape was in the way the range made use of the undulation of the road and even the gradient of the hill to create a gentle succession of eaves and roof lines not generally found elsewhere in the city. The stepped roof-line can be seen elsewhere in the city, for example, on Carter's Hill, but there it is much more abrupt due to the great slope of that hill.

Andrews' Range was the last surviving range of its kind in the city. By the late summer of 1975 all of the shops and houses in the range were abandoned and vandals hastened the work of the destruction by seriously damaging the dilapidated range in a series of fires. It was torn down in September of that year.



ANDREW'S RANGE

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GEORGE STREET UNITED CHURCH

The presence of the Methodist faith as an organized religious denomination in St. John's dates back to the early nineteenth century. The first small chapel was built in 1815 on Prescott Street, then known as McCarthy's Lane. Unfortunately, it burned to the ground less than six weeks after it opened. Work on a replacement was begun almost immediately on a site which is presently occupied by Gower Street United Church. This building served until 1857 when it was moved across the street to make room for the building of a more modern and larger church on the same site.

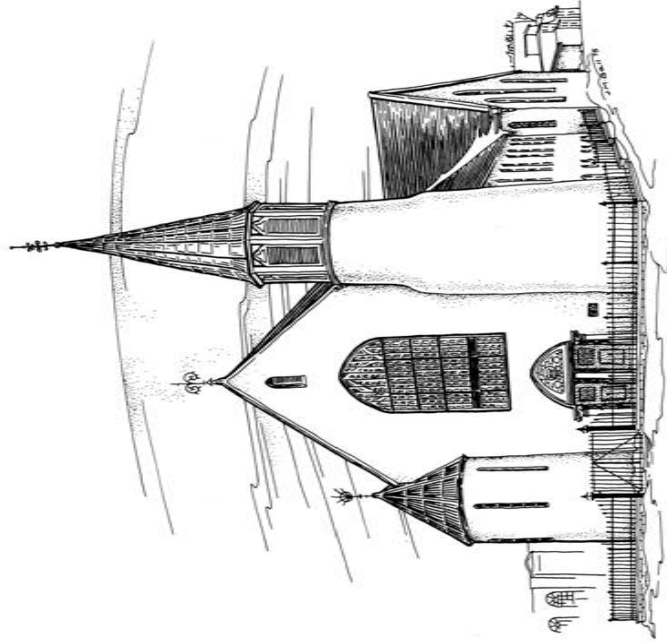
George Street Church was built in 1873 in response to the pressures of a rapidly increasing Methodist congregation in the west end of St. John's. The Great Fire of 1892 reduced its sister churches to ashes, so George Street is now the oldest surviving Methodist church in St. John's.

The design is a simplified Gothic Revival. An 1872 resolution stated that *rough Newfoundland stone* should be

used in its construction and that its roof be of Newfoundland slate. In addition, one of the builders, William Campbell, was a native Newfoundlander and the builder, a Mr. Atwill, though a native of Devon, had resided in the island for twenty years. Unfortunately, Atwill died in an accident on the site in 1873.

The stone used in George Street Church was a gift of the Hon. Stephen Rendell, a prominent St. John's merchant, the MHA for Trinity, and later member of the Legislative Council. Rendell laid the corner stone. The church was opened and dedicated on 4 December 1873. The finished structure measures 84 feet by 50 feet, and had a seating capacity of 500. Inside, beautifully executed woodwork adorns the church.

In 1935 the Methodist Church of Newfoundland joined with the Congregationalists and some Presbyterian congregations to form the United Church of Canada. George Street Methodist Church became George Street United Church.



GEORGE STREET CHURCH

NEWMAN BUILDING

The simple Georgian style building which stands at the corner of Water and Springdale Streets has been linked for well over a hundred years with the import and export of the famous Newman's port wine. The Newman Building was home to one of the oldest England-Newfoundland merchant firms which engaged, from this site, in trade with the world. Newman Company records reveal that as early as the year 1600 the Newmans were regularly importing train oil from Newfoundland to Dartmouth, England.

In the autumn of 1679, a vessel from Portugal laden with port wine and sailing for London was sighted by French privateers. In the attempt to outrun the pursuers, the vessel was driven off course, damaged by storms, and subsequently put into St. John's for the winter. In the spring when the ship arrived back in London it was found that the cool dampness of the winter in St. John's, and the voyages out and back had added very pleasant new dimensions to the wine. Until the late 1990s, the Newmans sent their port to Newfoundland for aging. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the firm had merchants' premises and wharves in significant sections of the St. John's waterfront.

Newman premises on this site survived the fire of 1846. Plans for the present building were drawn up in 1847, and it became the residence of the company agent, Mr. Morry. It was later the home of Lewis Tessier, a partner with his brother in the large merchant firm of Tessiers. In the latter half of the nineteenth century the building served as offices for various factors, including Baine, Johnston and Company, the Newman's agents. In the 1890s the premises were rented to the People's Club, and subsequently served as a "Bond Store" outlet for the Board of Liquor Control, as headquarters for the Newfoundland and Labrador Press Club, and in the late twentieth century, as home to the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council, and the Museum Association of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The wine vault warehouse directly behind the Newman Building is one of the oldest buildings in the west end of the city. It was in these stone and brick vaults that the port wine was matured. The vaults themselves were designated a Registered Heritage Structure by the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador in 1997.



NEWMAN HOUSE

MARTIN McNAMARA HOUSE

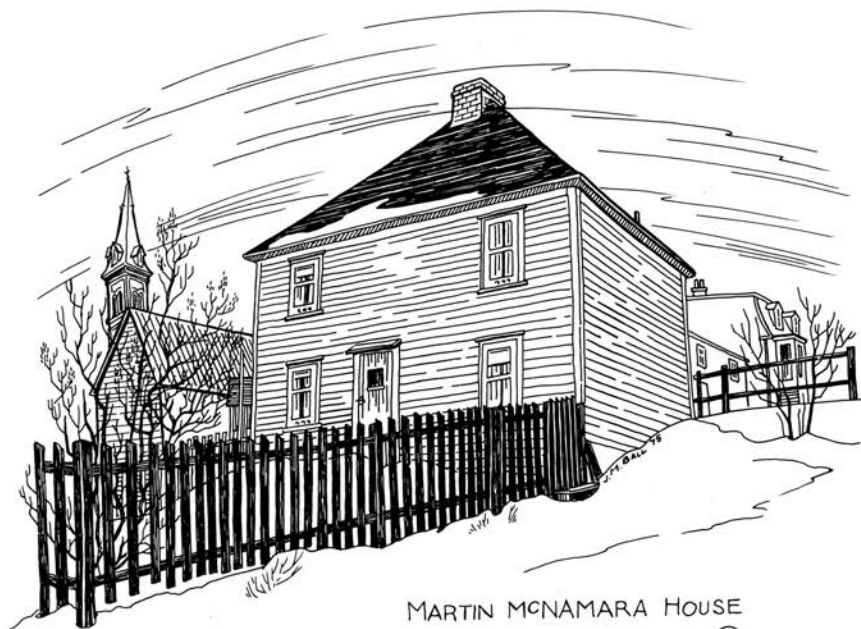
The house at 15 Plank Road was constructed on Brine's Farm which was part of a crown land grant to James Brine. The structure appears on Noad's map of 1849. Martin McNamara, a fisherman, bought the property from the Brine estate in 1857. The most interesting architectural feature of the house is the central chimney, which was a distinguishing feature of St. John's architecture as early as the 1700s.

In the nineteenth century this neighbourhood of St. John's was known as "Riverhead", as it sat beside the place where the head of the Waterford River met St.

John's Harbour. It was heavily populated by Irish immigrants, many of whom were either directly involved in the fishery or who plied trades, such as coopering, which were closely related to it. Restored in the 1990s, the Martin McNamara House, with its central chimney and very steep hip roof, reflects the architectural forms of an earlier period. It is an exceptionally well-preserved example of the simple wooden homes which would have been built in the area from the last years of the eighteenth century.

Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Heritage Structure





MARTIN MCNAMARA HOUSE

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

As the Roman Catholic Cathedral was the vision of Bishop Fleming, so was St. Patrick's the vision of his successor, Bishop Mullock, but St. Patrick's took much longer to complete. Purchasing land in 1852 and plans in 1853, he built a temporary wooden church in 1860 below the present church on the site of the deanery. Even though the church itself took time to build, Mullock built schools for boys and girls and, likely, a parish house in 1856. A new push began in 1864 with a haul of stone during the winter and the laying of the cornerstone in June. But Mullock's illness (which culminated in his death in 1869) and a series of poor fisheries brought activity to a halt for a decade. Under Bishop Power work began again in 1874 and on 28 August 1881 the church was dedicated. At that point the church was complete with the exception of the tower and spire which were erected in 1912.

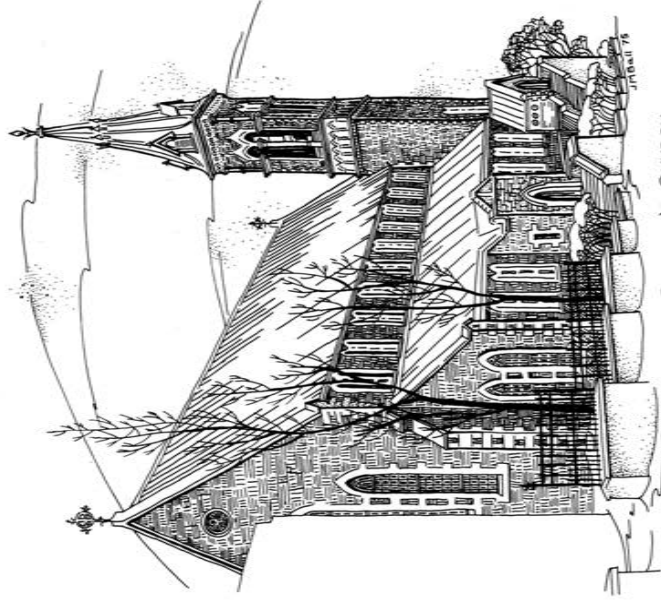
St. Patrick's was designed by the important Irish architect, J.J. McCarthy, and is the finest example of the influence of A.W.N. Pugin, whose work and writings had a significant impact on the development of the Gothic Revival in England. McCarthy was his Irish pupil and

partner. St. Patrick's is a sister building to McCarthy's St. Mary's Cathedral in Killarney, Ireland. Built in the early Gothic style favoured by Pugin, it has massive circular pillars down the nave, details which, with the simple lancet windows, the treatment of the stonework and the tower, bear more than a passing resemblance to McCarthy's St. Mary's Cathedral in Killarney, Ireland. The magnificent tower and spire, which do so much to make this church the defining feature of the West End, were not built until 1912. The high altar was of Carrara marble and the choir loft windows are memorials to Bishop Mullock.

Unfortunately, in the 1990's, the interior of St. Patrick's was the object of infelicitous renovation which did not respect the integrity of the church's architecture, furnishings, or history. A magnificent triptych, painted by Newfoundland artist Reginald Sheppard, was removed from behind the high altar. The altar rails were removed, the high altar was taken down and the table relocated within the church. Fortunately restoration of the spire, carried out in 1997, respected the importance of that element.

Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Heritage Structure





ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

RAILWAY STATION

The first railroad station in St. John's (1881) was set up in an old barracks at Fort William in the east end of the city. With the signing of the contract between the Reid Newfoundland Company and the Newfoundland government in 1898, provision was made for a new terminus. Work was begun on the new station in 1899 on a site in the west end of town, known as the municipal basin, at Riverhead. The building was designed by W.H. Massey, the company's chief engineer, and opened in 1903.

Although some of the windows have been changed, the original form of the station remains undiminished. It is built in the Second Empire style — somewhat out of date at the time of its construction. Yet its composition — a large central pavillion with two flanking pavilions under mansard roofs — makes it one of the city's more

impressive buildings.

The spirit of the railway age is reflected in the statue, *Industry*, which has always stood before the building. Erected after the turn of the century, it is the work of Reid's stonemason, Charlie Henderson, and is a tribute to his co-workers. For many years the statue, sculpted from one of the Anglican Cathedral gateposts which survived fire of 1892, was part of a drinking trough for horses. The model for the statue was the Henderson's housekeeper, Fanny Quinlan (later Mrs. John Gushue) of Whitbourne.

Although the era of the steam railway, and indeed of passenger traffic by rail, has passed in Newfoundland, the old Railway Station enables residents and visitors alike to grasp the essence of an earlier time.



RAILWAY STATION

RICHMOND HILL

One of the first of the large, impressive residences built in the west end for the merchant families of St. John's, Richmond Hill remains today one of the finest nineteenth century houses in the city.

The house, located at the foot of Shaw Street, is situated on land near the Crossroads in Riverhead purchased in 1848 by the Hon. Kenneth McLea, a St. John's merchant. A large portion of the city had been burnt in the Great Fire of 1846 and a number of men engaged in the building trades came out from England to help in the reconstruction. Among them was the Scottish builder-architect, Gilbert Browning, who was engaged by Kenneth McLea to design and build Richmond Hill. The Hon. Kenneth McLea was a candidate for St. John's West

in the election of 1861, and his candidature resulted in an election riot in which three people were shot to death on Water Street. He died a year later. Subsequently his business went bankrupt and the family sold the property.

Thirty years after Browning designed and built the house, he purchased Richmond Hill as his own family residence. After being involved with the rebuilding of the city after the 1846 fire, Browning settled in Newfoundland and became a prominent businessman. His most successful venture was a biscuit factory near the Crossroads, which afterwards was carried on under the name of Browning-Harvey. Gilbert Browning died on a business trip to Glasgow in 1882, but the house remained in the hands of the Browning family until 1930.



RICHMOND HILL

MOUNT SCIO FARM

A small cottage was built on the site of Mount Scio Farm shortly after 1837, when the land was granted to Thomas Ambrose. About 1841 the property was sold to the celebrated Dr. Edward Kielley. It changed hands several times between the 1850s and 1880s. One of the owners was the father of Sir Edgar Bowring and it was on the farm that Sir Edgar was born. In 1887 Elizabeth Viola Carter bought the cottage and land from Walter Baine Grieve. It has been in the hands of the Carter family ever since.

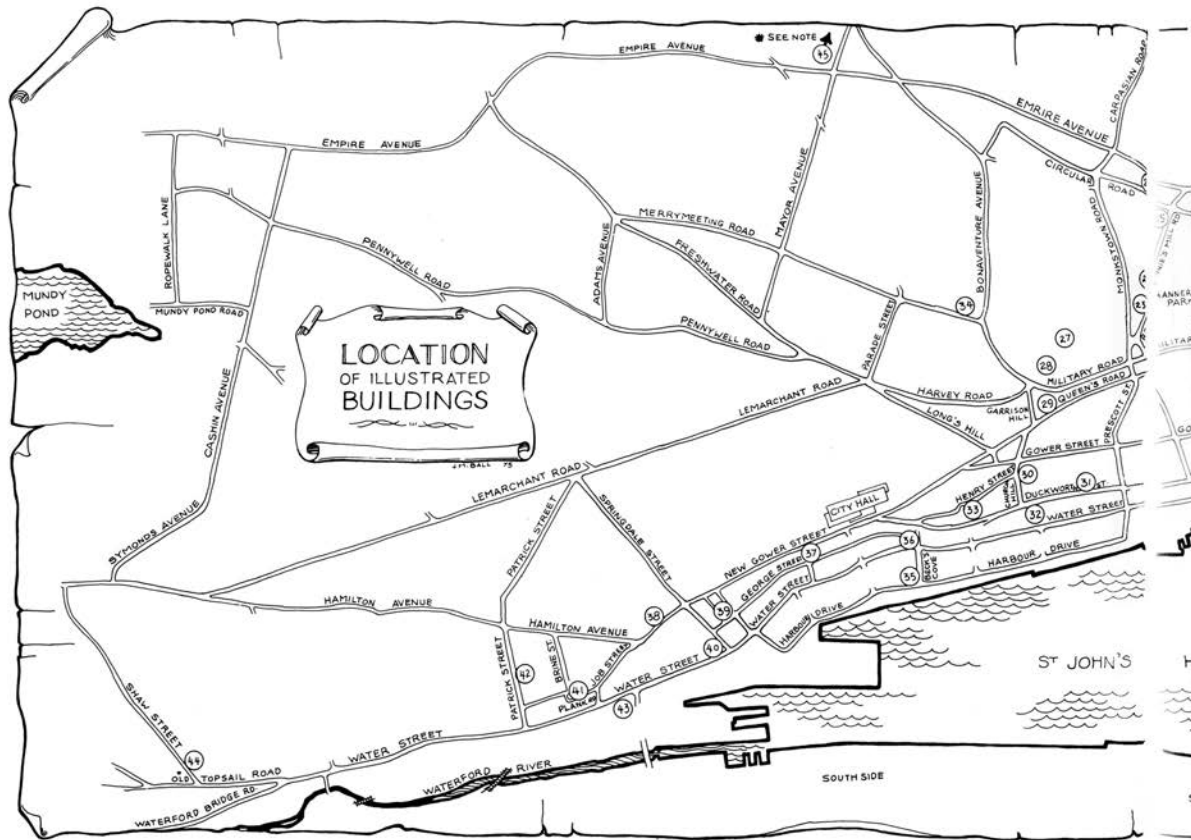
Although the cottage has been renovated several times, the foundations, chimneys, windows, and interior folding doors from the original structure remain as part of the present building. It is also interesting to note that the

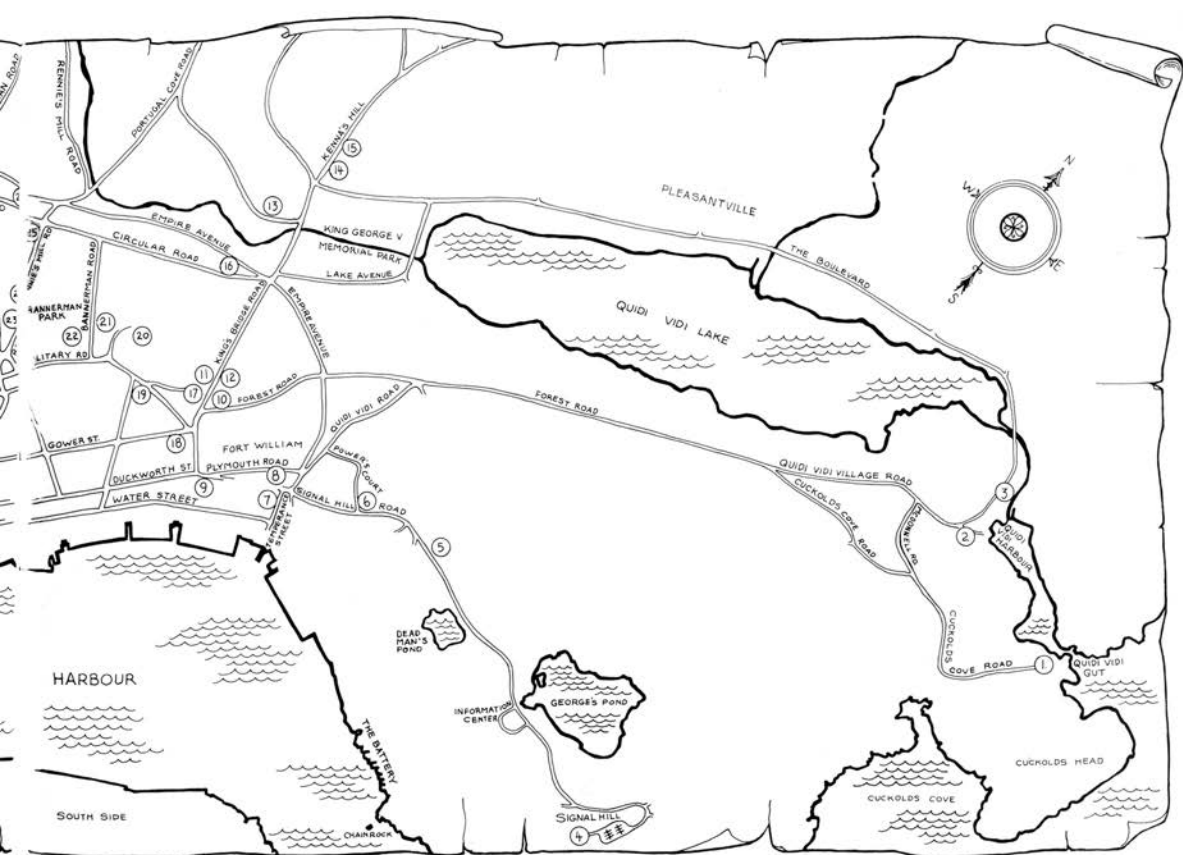
house faces east, indicating that, originally, access to it was from an old road connecting the communities of St. Phillips and Middle Cove. Mount Scio Road was a later construction. The land surrounding the property is presently a savory farm, the produce of which is sold all over the world.

Architecturally, Mount Scio Cottage is typical of the many houses that were built, likely as summer residences, on the outskirts of the town about the middle of the nineteenth century. The medieval or Gothic details of the exterior were part of the architectural vocabulary of many of the local builder-architects of whom one, James T. Southcott, may well have designed Mount Scio.



MOUNT SCIO FARM







WEATHER VANE
ST. THOMAS CHURCH

1918
1915