

Georgian



WILLIAM B. CAWTHORNE HOUSE
circa 1852

Date Designated: July 9, 1990 to By-Law No. 57/90, SCHEDULE B-1

Lot Description: SMITH ESTATE PLAN PT LOT 461

— ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION —

This is a Victorian interpretation of Georgian style. This frame dwelling, clad in clapboard, stands two and a half storeys tall with steeply pitched gable roof (minus eaves returns). The facade is three bays wide with side lighted front door and panelled door case placed centrally. Over the front door is a small pediment marked with quatrefoil trim. Windows adopt narrow Victorian proportions and are adorned with Victorian style bracketed trim. Glazing adopts a curious four-over-four pattern. Only one of the chimneys (on the Pine Street elevation) appears to be original.

— HISTORICAL ABSTRACT —

William B. Cawthorne was a prominent watchmaker and jeweller whose specialties included clocks, jewels and musical instruments. He was born in England in 1820 and established a jewellery store on Walton Street in Port Hope in the late 1840's.

In 1850, there was a devastating fire that destroyed all of the buildings from the Brogden Block (**62-68 Walton Street**) to Cavan Street. Mr. Cawthorne's jewellery store was located at Walton and Cavan Streets across from Porter's Foundry (**later the Porter Block, 99-105 Walton Street**). In newspapers of the day, he thanked the townspeople who helped him rescue his stock from the "devouring element".

He seems to have recovered financially for in 1851, he purchased lot 461 of the Smith Estate at the corner of Augusta and Pine Street and constructed this prominent house. He later sold the property in 1868 and moved to Madison, Wisconsin.

In 1871, physician John Forest Dewar purchased the house. Dr. Dewar was originally from Edinburgh, Scotland and came to Port Hope in the late 1850's. Prior to purchase of this house, he established a medical practice in his residence at the "head" of Walton Street. The house at Augusta and Pine remained in the Dewar family into the 1890's.

ARCHITECTURAL DETAIL



Typical features of the Georgian style are wood clapboard construction, central door with sidelights and/or transom, and symmetrical facade usually three or five bays.

HISTORICAL NEWSPAPER ADS

Wm. Brainwell Cawthorne,
CLOCK WATCHMAKER,
 &c.
 John Street (Nearly Opposite Thompson's Hotel),
PORT HOPE

RESPECTFULLY informs his Friends and the Public in this, and neighboring Townships, that he has commenced business in the above line, and hopes by strict attention to all orders conferred upon him, to merit a share of public patronage and support.

W. B. C. will have on hand a choice selection of English Watches, Clocks Jewellery &c., to gother with an assortment of American Clocks and a general stock too numerous to mention.

Port Hope, April 27th 1847.

FIRE! FIRE! FIRE!

WM. B. CAWTHORNE

DEALER in Clocks, Watches, Jewelry, &c., Opposite Porter's Foundry, Walton Street, takes the earliest opportunity, of returning his sincere thanks to his friends who so nobly rescued his Goods from the devouring element, on Friday morning last.

Likewise, to those who have, or may favor him with their custom, he will endeavor to merit a continuance of the same by giving satisfaction to all.

A speedy settlement by all persons indebted to him will be a great accommodation.

Port Hope, July 5, 1850.

New York Arrivals!

RECEIVED at the close of Navigation, an Extensive assortment of Toys, Useful and Fancy Articles,

**CLOCKS, WATCHES,
 Jewellery, Accordeons, &c. &c.**

Which will be sold very cheap for Cash in order to make room for his Spring Stock, The above is well worthy the attention of intending purchasers as they were selected by the Subscriber on terms for Cash and will be sold without Reserve.

V. B. Great attention paid to Watch & Clock repairing.

Accordeons tuned.

W. B. CAWTHORNE,

Port Hope, Jan. 15, 1850