

# 15 VICTORIA STREET SOUTH

*Ontario Cottage - Regency*



GREENAWAY COTTAGE  
*circa 1870*

*Date Designated: August 21, 2000 to By-Law No. 42/2000, SCHEDULE B-1*

*Lot Description: RIDOUT PLAN 1 PT LOT 2*

## — ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION —

The house is constructed of brick (triple) and the brickwork is Flemish pattern in the front and common (header bond) in all remaining sides plus the summer kitchen. Originally it had two Regency (French) doors flanking the front door, however they have been removed and replaced with two vinyl clad casement windows. All other windows are the original six-over-six, except the summer kitchen, which has two-over-two windows. Originally the house had three, possibly four chimneys, but they have been dismantled. It now has one protruding brick chimney on the southwest corner. The foundation is original limestone. This house was very well built with two main beams running east and west supporting the floor joists.

Originally the interior of the house was a four room, central hallway design. It has been reduced to three rooms, excluding the summer kitchen. A wall dividing the two south side rooms has been removed to make one large room. The doorway entering the front south side room has been covered with drywall and the ceiling has been lowered. The two front rooms would have had doors facing the front of the house. Floors are red pine covered with hard wood. Baseboards are eleven inches high and window trim is seven and a half inches in width. Under the original six-over-six windows there is a recessed wood panel. Doors are a four-panel design. Ceiling height is eleven and a half feet, except in the altered room in which the ceiling height is approximately ten feet high.

## HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

Lot 2 of the Ridout Plan was land acquired by Toronto banker, Thomas Gibbs Ridout in 1832. Ridout (1792-1861) was the son of Thomas Ridout, the Surveyor General of Upper Canada. He was a cashier at the bank of Upper Canada from 1822 to 1861. The Ridout Subdivision was Lot 8 in the First and Broken Front Concession of the Hope Township survey. His land holdings extended from Victoria Street on the west, to Jocelyn Street in the north, to east of Julia Street in the east. This land was Clergy Reserve, transferred to King's College in 1828 then registered to Thomas Gibbs Ridout in 1832. He transferred the lot to the Bank of Upper Canada and bought it back in 1844. Subdivision of the property and sale of the lots began in 1847. As this area of Port Hope developed, it was commonly referred to as "Englishtown".

The Wall and Forrest Map of Port Hope of 1853 shows lot 2 held by Thomas Ridout. In 1865, Matilda A. Ridout, widow of Thomas G. Ridout sold an acre of land to William Greenaway (1819-1882), a gentleman born in Cornwall England in 1819.

On the Bird's Eye View of Port Hope of 1874, a series of small cottages is visible on the map on Victoria Street north of Sullivan Street. The neighbouring house (*17 Victoria Street*) was built by Samuel Coombe circa 1860. The exact date of construction of this house is not known but possibly circa 1870. William Greenaway provides his address in business directories as Victoria Street by 1880. William Greenaway died in 1882 and left all of his assets and property to his wife Ann and daughter, Mary Ann Mason. In 1883, Mary Ann married Captain William T. Clarke. Mary Ann and William Clarke sold the east half of the lot to Henry Hopkin, and the west half, which included the house, was sold to James A. Stinson in 1888. In 1914, James Stinson purchased the east half of the lot later selling the house and whole lot to Frank and Rose Best in 1920.

## ARCHITECTURAL DETAIL



*An archival photo provides a view of the house with its chimneys intact, French doors and original porch trim.*