

CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ALMONTE

BY-LAW #26-1994

BEING a By-law to designate the premises known municipally as 3 Rosamond Street East, as being of architectural and historical value and interest.

WHEREAS the Ontario Heritage Foundation Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18 authorizes the Council of a Municipality to enact By-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon to be of architectural value or interest; and

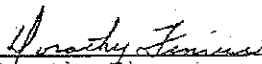
WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Almonte has caused to be served on the owner of the building situated on Concession 9, east part lot 16, plan 6262, Lot 69 Carleton Street part 3 on RP26R2385, Town of Almonte and upon The Ontario Heritage Foundation notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and have caused such notice of intention to so designate, to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the Municipality, once a week for three consecutive weeks; and

WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the Municipality;

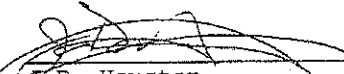
THEREFORE, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Almonte enacts as follows:

1. There is designated as being of architectural and historical value and interest, the real property known municipally as 3 Rosamond Street East, Town of Almonte.
2. The municipal Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described, in the proper Land Registry Office.
3. The Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a copy of this By-law be served upon the owner of the property and The Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause the passing of this By-law to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the Municipality, once a week for three consecutive weeks.
4. That Schedule "A" hereto attached shall form part of this By-law.

READ a first, second and third time and finally passed this 8th. day of November, 1994.



Dorothy Finner
Mayor



G.D. Houston
Clerk-Treasurer

SCHEDULE "A"

TO BY-LAW#26-1994

Long Statement Showing Descriptive Information on Reasons For Designation

Designation Title: Rosamond Mill #1 Office and Warehouse

Location: Conc. 9, Pt. 116; ref. pl. 26R2385
3 Rosamond Street, Almonte

Present Owner and Occupant: Mississippi Valley Textile Museum (MVTM) Inc.

Present Use: Museum and related activity centre.

Statement of Significance: (see Short Statement)

Brief History of Company:

The land where the complex is situated, known as Coleman Island, was purchased from the Smith Coleman property by James Rosamond and his son Bennett Rosamond as early as 1857. Bennett, and his brother William, began construction of the main mill and some auxiliary buildings, in 1866, which became the Rosamond Woollen Company. The Warehouse, built circa 1872 and the adjoining office, built circa 1904, formed part of the mill complex.

The mill employed 200 men, women and children in 1866 when it began operation, more people than all other mills in Almonte combined. The complex became known as a "model mill" and, by 1892, had attained the status of the largest mill of its kind in North America. Bennett Rosamond became president of the Canadian Manufacturers Association and served as a member of Parliament for Lanark North in 1892.

Architectural Information

The warehouse, 130' long and 45' wide, is two stories high. Its walls are constructed of rubble stone. It contains no basement. The roof, with an asphalt membrane covering, is of low pitch (1:10) with overhanging eaves, supported by simple brackets which are extensions of the roof rafters. There is no roof trim.

The south wall is virtually blank with four bays at the west end of the wall, one a receiving door, one an entrance door, and two windows of different size. Openings are flat, with no outside trim. Structural heads are stone voussoirs.

The receiving door opens inward and is of wood construction. It contains a flat transom with three lights. The sill is concrete, likely added later. The entrance door, a typical workers entrance, appears to have been originally a window. It contains a wood frame and a milled stone sill. The top portion of this bay has been blocked in with wood and a small hood attached at a later date. The hood is of low pitch with cedar shingles.

The larger of the two windows on the south-facing wall contains two panes of different size, single hung. It sits on a stone lug sill, milled top and bottom and rough faced.

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The smaller of the two windows is of similar construction.

The east end wall contains one bay, a shipping and receiving door. All original sashes are in place. Doors seem to be originals.

The north wall contains 12 bays on each floor, the windows of which are simple 16 over 16 light, double hung sashes. Sills are of plain milled stone. The lower bay opening closest to the east wall is covered with land fill. The second bay from the south end, is lower than the rest and seems to have been part of the original construction to, to be used as an employees entrance as well as for shipping and receiving.

The office, added circa 1904, is two storied, squared rubble stone structure and shares a party wall and connecting passageways to the warehouse. It is 26' (3 bays) wide by 44' (4 bays) deep. The roof is flat, with boxed cornice and frieze of polished, decorated red stone.

In the first floor openings, all windows and doors, have segmental arches with radiating voussoirs and keystones done in contrasting dressed and polished red sandstone. The window and door surrounds and sills are quoined with the same material. The windows on the first floor are one-over-one, double hung sash with transom. The transoms of two windows on the south facing wall and the first window on the west facing wall are decorated in stained glass done in an "art nouveau" floral design. Indications and historic record show that the remaining first floor windows contained the same stained glass transoms. These are missing and wood panels have been substituted.

The main entrance, a glazed oak, three panelled door in the south facing wall, contains a similar stained glass transom with "The Rosamond Woolen Co." emblazoned across it. The rear entrance door is similar to the front entrance except there does not appear to have been a decorated transom. Instead, the transom contains three lights.

The second story windows are four-over-four, double sash, containing no transoms. The second window on the west-facing side, has been blocked in with stone in order to accommodate an inside wall/closet arrangement and appears to be part of the original construction.

The inside of the office section is also designated. The lower floor, with plastered walls, is richly decorated in wood panelling and trim, inlaid floor, built-in cabinetry, built-in safe, panelled wainscot, picture rail and a pressed metal ceiling. The upstairs is plainly decorated with plastered walls and ceiling, beaded wainscoting, four panelled doors with beaded trim, and simple built-in shelving.

Although the designation of the office and warehouse is now separate from the designation of the main mill complex, it still relates dramatically to the total mill setting and should always be treated with heritage respect to the overall historic ambience of the total area.

Prepared from historic record, site visits and photographs, by Cliff Bennett, Researcher, Almonte/Ramsay LACAC.