
FHBRO Number 96-73

Fort Beausejour, New Brunswick

Picnic Shelter: Lodge

Fort Beausejour National Historic Site

The Lodge at Fort Beausejour National Historic Site was constructed in 1927. The structure is used as a picnic shelter. Canadian Heritage is the custodian. See FHBRO Building Report 96-73.

Reasons for Designation

The Lodge was designated Recognized because of its environmental significance and architectural importance as well as for its historical associations.

The building is nestled into the slightly rolling terrain of the open, sweeping horizons of the coastal site. Its cottage-like character and placement with other support facilities create a picturesque grouping adjacent to the ruins of a fort. The Lodge is familiar as part of the complex of buildings used frequently by visitors.

The simple, symmetrical building with its light frame and square timber design has a domestic character. The principal feature is the large, open interior space with the exposed wood roof framing. The natural materials - wood siding, exposed square timber posts, and rubble stone chimney - are appropriate to the setting and continue the simple traditional style characteristic of other support facilities on site.

The construction of the support facility relates to National Parks Branch efforts to evoke a specific rustic image loosely tied to historical antecedents appropriate to the specific sites.

Character Defining Elements

The heritage character of the Lodge resides in its form and proportions, construction details and materials, surviving interior materials and layout, and site relationships.

The Lodge is a simple, rectangular one-storey hip-roofed structure with a massive fieldstone chimney, the whole presenting a simple massing and profile. The elementary, symmetrical facades and the building profile and details reflect a domestic scale and design approach. The footprint, roof profile, and basic form should be maintained.

The modest domestic character of the building is a result of the scale and proportions as well as the predominant use of wood with uncomplicated detailing. The horizontal wood siding installed between posts, the wide window, corner and door trims, wood

fascia and soffit are characteristic features of the design and should be respected. The wood finishes and stone chimney would benefit from an ongoing maintenance program.

The current asphalt shingle roofing constitutes a modern intrusion. Selection of replacement roof material should be based on research to determine the precedent for material and colour.

The sash windows have large panes of glass which are modern in appearance. The glazing of the doors appears to be recent, with large panes and applied muntins. When the windows are being replaced, it would be appropriate that the design of the windows selected should be based on documentation or original photographs. When replacing the door glazing, the construction should be based on historic research.

The open, interior volume is an important functional element and should be maintained. Surviving features and finishes of the original interior (such as the exposed rafters and roof planking, stone fireplace, stone mantle with carved date, wood overmantel, concrete flooring, and board and batten interior wall finishes) should be protected and maintained.

Site access and the footprint of the building have not changed since the building's construction and should be respected. The open, turfgrass site should be maintained.

97.03.26

For further guidance, please refer to the *FHBRO Code of Practice*.
