
FHBRO Number 96-73

Fort Beausejour, New Brunswick

Picnic Shelter: Pavilion

Fort Beausejour National Historic Site

The Pavilion at Fort Beausejour National Historic Site, was brought to the fort in the 1920s. It was designed as an open bandstand and later enclosed. It now serves as a picnic facility. Canadian Heritage is the custodian. See FHBRO Building Report 96-73.

Reasons for Designation

The Pavilion was designated Recognized because of its environmental significance and architectural importance as well as 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 Pavilion is familiar as part of the complex of buildings used frequently by visitors.

The simple, octagonal building has a basic profile and a large, open interior space which reflects its function. The natural textured materials - wood siding and trims - are appropriate to the setting and reinforce the simple traditional style characteristic of other support facilities on site.

The support facility and its materials and finishes relate to National Parks Branch efforts to evoke a traditional image loosely tied to historical antecedents appropriate to the specific site.

Character Defining Elements

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

The octagonal one-storey hipped-roofed structure presents an interesting massing and profile. The simple, symmetrical facades have a strong horizontal expression because of the continuous siding below the sill and ribbons of windows above which encircle the structure. The bandstand function would have required a sheltered, raised, highly visible area and this original use determined the form and profile of the building. The octagonal footprint, roof profile, and geometric massing should be maintained.

The modest domestic character of the building is a result of the use of simple materials and details. The horizontal wood siding, the wide window and door trims, and wood

fascia and soffit are characteristic features of the design and should be respected. The exterior materials would benefit from a 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 multi-paned wood sash windows appear sympathetic to the traditional design and should be maintained

The large interior volume with a sloped ceiling rising to a central flat octagonal area has a geometric character. The open volume should be maintained. Surviving features and finishes of the original interior (such as the narrow boarded ceiling finish and the wall post and beams with intermediate wall panelling and the wood strip flooring) 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. The ramp materials and detailing are poorly scaled and their more modern appearance detracts from the traditional domestic character. When the ramp requires reconstruction, materials and detailing which reflect the character of the building should be considered.

97.03.04

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