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FHBRO Number 89-07

Carillon, Quebec

**Toll Collector's House**

Carillon Canal

The Toll Collector's House was built between 1842 and 1843 from plans prepared by an officer of the Royal Engineers. Designed as an Ordnance store and office, this building served as a residence for canal employees between 1887 and 1969. In 1972, the building was transferred from the Department of Transport to Parks Canada. Since 1986, the building has housed offices. Despite its various uses, the Toll Collector's House is still associated with the operation of the Carillon Canal. See FHBRO Building Report 89-07.

**Reasons for Designation**

The Toll Collector's House was designated Recognized for its historical association with local development, its sober architectural design and its environmental significance.

The Toll Collector's House represents one of the rare surviving structures that attests to the military and commercial role of the Carillon Canal, which was built between 1829 and 1833. The Toll Collector's House and the Superintendent's House are currently among the only reminders of the original purpose of the military canals of the Ottawa River. Together, the Toll Collector's House and the Superintendent's House are the key elements of the site's current heritage character.

**Character Defining Elements**

The heritage character resides in the simple stone structure topped by a Mansard roof, the proportions, the rhythm of solids and voids, the casement windows and the dormer windows located on the lower slope of the Mansard roof.

The exterior walls are of squared stone masonry, terminating in quoins. This construction method must be preserved.

The successful combination of a low structure, fairly wide gable walls and a double-pitched roof result in a building of a very good aesthetic quality. The balanced distribution of openings on the two facades as well as on the southeastern gable wall must be respected. The now-demolished kitchen extension was previously attached to the northwestern gable wall. If it should become necessary to build an addition to meet functional requirements, the design of this addition could be based on the shape and plan of the demolished extension.

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The two external chimneys as well as the rather crude treatment of the verandah detract from the heritage character of the building. The building nevertheless evokes a family home which could be restored to a very high aesthetic level through a few minor interventions that are in keeping with the spirit of the building.

The rural character of the immediate surroundings must be preserved.

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