

HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT

FHBRO Number 97-3 5

DFRP Number 08625

Recognized Federal Heritage Building

OTTAWA, Ontario

Carpentry Shop, Building #98

Central Experimental Farm (CEF)

Building #98 was constructed in 1889-90 as an implement and harness shed for the newly established Central Experimental Farm (CEF). The plans were prepared by the Federal Department of Public Works. The building was moved to its present location within the CEF and set on a new concrete slab floor, around 1929. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada is the custodian. The west wing of the building is used as a carpenter's shop while the east wing is used by the grounds crew. The structure is a Level 1 cultural resource located within the core of the Central Experimental Farm National Historic Site.

Reasons for Designation

Building #98 has been designated "Recognized" because of its historical, architectural and environmental significance:

Historical Significance

Building #98 is closely associated with two nationally significant themes: the Department of Agriculture's role in promoting agricultural reform in the 19th century and the CEF's distinctive cultural landscape. Relocated from its original site near the Main Barn, it demonstrates the conscious decision by the Department of Agriculture to create a distinctive architectural theme among the early farm buildings. Its conversion from a implement and harness shed to a carpentry shop also illustrates the changing role of the CEF from a model farm to a research institution.

Architectural Significance

Building #98 is a utilitarian, but appealing, structure designed to conform to the Shingle style used in the design of residence, barns and outbuildings on the CEF in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It features board and batten siding, shingled side walls on the second storey, prominent gables, multi-lite casement windows and a broad, hipped, shingled roof. It has been well maintained.

Standard heavy timber construction methods, such as mortice and tenon joinery, were employed in the building of the structure and the materials were carefully chosen. A large number of windows were provided on the ground floor in keeping with its function as a workshop.

Environmental Significance

Since c 1929, Building #98 has been located about 200 metres west of the main dairy barn within a grouping of research and farm support buildings.

Character-defining elements

The heritage character of Building #98 resides in the following character-defining elements:

- The high ceilings, large windows, loading door and large open space of Building #98 which reflect its original function as a workshop and storage area for farm implements.
- Its board and batten siding, shingled walls, prominent gables, multi-lite casement windows and a broad, hipped, shingled roof which tie it to the Shingle Style as interpreted in the design of CEF buildings in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

All maintenance and repair work, as well as future interventions, should aim to respect these character-defining elements.

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