

## **HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT**

### **Officers' Quarters**

Fort Anne National Historic Park  
Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia

The Officers' Quarters was built in 1797-1798 by the British military as barracks for officers and soldiers. It served that purpose until the withdrawal of the garrison in 1854. In 1917, Fort Anne was established as a Dominion Park and the building used as a museum. In 1934-35 major renovations were undertaken by the Dominion Parks Branch of the Department of the Interior. Environment Canada is the custodial department. See FHBRO Building Report 88-56.

### **Reason for Designation**

The Officers' Quarters building was designated Classified because it is an important and early example of the commemoration of historic events in Canada and it illustrates federal conservation policy and philosophy in the 1930s period.

The architecture of the building is an eclectic blend of military, maritime, and residential colonial-revival architecture and the craftsmanship is of high quality.

The site retains its character substantially unchanged since the 1930s despite minor changes and intrusions.

### **Character Defining Elements**

The heritage character of the Officer's Quarters is defined by the exterior elevations, its regularized plan, all extant original fabric and details, and the fire proof structure and other features of the 1930s' intervention.

The military authenticity of the building (fabric, design, and environment) has been substantially eroded due to several major interventions since the property became a Dominion Park. Considering the scale of these past interventions and its important associations with the early commemoration and conservation movement in Canada, attempts to recover this military character would be inappropriate. The fire-proof construction, regularization of the plan, colonial-revival porches, painted weatherboarding and false chimneys are particularly important features related to the philosophy of conservation and the role of visual aesthetics in conservation in the 1930s. These aspects of the building should be carefully maintained.

The grounds are an integral part of the building's character. Future site development should respect present visual relationships and historic precedent.

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

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