

Dawson City, Yukon  
**St. Andrew's Manse**  
Government Reserve

## **HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT**

The Manse was built in 1901 under the direction of Rev. Dr. Andrew S. Grant, a prominent figure in Dawson's and the Yukon's early development, to designs by W.P. Skillings. The building was acquired by Parks Canada in 1977. It was restored and rehabilitated in 1982-83 and is currently used as staff housing. The Environment Canada Parks Service is the custodian. See FHBRO Building Report 88-12.

### **Reason for Designation**

The Manse was designated Recognized because of its historical associations and its architecture.

The construction of St. Andrew's Manse and Church is associated with the development of Dawson as a territorial capital through the social and religious services to the community that they housed. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and Manse are among the best examples of structures that illustrate Dawson's rapid metamorphosis from a boisterous mining camp in the 1897-98 to a boomtown of 1898-99 into a prosperous and respectable community by 1901.

Architecturally, St. Andrew's Manse draws its stylistic inspiration from two sources: the Second Empire style and the Classical Revival style. Excellent workmanship is evident in the solid balloon frame construction and in the woodwork details.

### **Character Defining Elements**

The heritage value of St. Andrew's Manse resides in its exterior massing, its material and craftsmanship, its interior layout and details, and in its relationship to St. Andrew's Church.

The exterior of the Manse has very high integrity of form, fabric and detail. The influence of the Second Empire style is evident in the volume of the building, the mansard roof, the projecting dormers, bay window, porch, and side extension. Classical Revival details are the simple dormer forms, the smooth planes of the clapboard walls, the pediment-like gable of the front porch, detail molding (in the porch and bay window cornices), and balustrade rails which top the bay window and side extension. The exterior of the building should be preserved in its entirety. Adherence to a regular preventive maintenance program would contribute to the longevity of the building materials and its fabric.

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**St. Andrew's Manse** (Continued)

Only slightly altered during rehabilitation, the original interior of the Manse is complete in plan and detail. Any future renovations should respect the general layout and volume of the interior. The interior woodworked details contribute to the aesthetic quality of the interior. These should be carefully maintained and protected.

The grounds of the religious precinct should be landscaped to reinforce the original relationship of the Manse to the Church.

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