

Ottawa, Ontario
Rideau Hall Complex
Cricket Pavilion (Clubhouse)

HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT

A cricket pavilion at Rideau Hall was originally erected in the 1870s adjacent to the playing field laid out when the site became the vice-regal estate. The present building would appear to date from the turn-of-the-century and is on the same general site as the earlier pavilion located near the fence along Mackay Street. Historical evidence suggests this building was designed and built by the Ottawa Cricket Club. The building continues to be owned by the club. The building continues to serve as a cricket pavilion. See FHBRO Building Report 86-24 (3a).

Reason for Designation

The pavilion was designated Recognized because of its unchanged historical relationship with the distinguished landscape at Rideau Hall; because of its relationship with the present character of this area of the site containing the playing field; and because of its very good functional design within the context of this type of delightful and attractive structure, normally associated with an almost disappeared aspect of Canadian cultural heritage.

The cricket pavilion is suggestive of the Queen Anne Revival style of recreational building's popular from the 1880s until the Great War. It is sheathed with vertical board and batten, with an inset verandah flanked on the north by an octagonal corner tower and on the south by an extended gable with decorative millwork incorporating the initials of the Ottawa Cricket Club.

Character Defining Elements

The heritage character of the cricket pavilion is determined by its surviving exterior materials and form, by its continuous function as a clubhouse, and by its physical relationship with the historic playing field at Canada's vice-regal estate.

Elements of the building's exterior which define its character include the limited use of ornate millwork, the two-storey tower, the sheltered verandah, and the prominent siting between the west fence and the cricket field.

The heritage character of the building would be well served if it were to continue as a cricket clubhouse, supporting this richness of cultural heritage in both the past and the ethnic mosaic of today.

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