

## PAUL FAMILY LIME KILN

Location: Mount Blow Farms, R.R.# 3, Almonte, Ontario.  
Present owners: Jim, Frank, and Norman Paul  
Present occupant: None  
Present use: None

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building in question is a lime kiln, used from 1866 to 1908 to burn white limestone in order to derive from it a powder. This powder was used to make mortar. This kiln is one of the few remaining lime kilns in the area. In the days it was used, its lime provided mortar for many important local buildings, including the No. 1 Mill, the Wylie House, Daniel Shipman's, Dr. Mostyn's, and the Rosamond, Teskey and Greig houses.

### PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

#### A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners:

The lime kiln is located on the property of the Paul family who have been there since 1821. Norman Paul's father and grandfather operated this kiln.

2. Date of erection: 1866

3. Architect: Perhaps the Pauls themselves.

4. Alterations and additions:

A wooden roof which extended over the front of this structure is no longer extant. It was supported by wooden pillars about 6 meters from the facade of the structure. In 1904 (approximately) the inside of the kiln was lined with bricks.

#### B. Historical Events or Persons Connected with the Structure:

1. The lime kiln in its heyday was a focus of attention. While the district was being built up, builders and contractors travelled from Merrickville, Almonte, Carleton Place, Carp and other places to the lime kiln for their lime. In the detailed account books from 1866 on which Norman Paul has and which show the sales made and to whom and the price, prominent names such as Rosamond, Teskey, Greig, Daniel Shipman occur. The No. 1 Mill, the Appleton Mills and the Doctor's House in Almonte are all held together by the lime from this kiln.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

## A. General Statement:

## 1. Architectural character:

This lime kiln is built into the side of a large rock. The kiln itself is barrel-shaped, with a small iron door at the bottom, approximately one meter in height and the doorway about 50 centimeters in depth. The entranceway is lined with brick. The facade of the kiln is stone, built of coarse cut stone, turning slightly on the right and having a right-angled wall on the left. The top of the kiln is open, as the fire was burned in the centre. A voussoir over the doorway provides support. A wooden beam above that further supported the structure but is decaying.

## 2. Condition:

Poor. The stone needs masonry work; the bricks need repointing. Inside the entrance, the bricks are falling from the wall and the top edge of the kiln, exposed to the elements, is deteriorating. The aforementioned roof should be replaced. The beam above the door is a primary concern.

## B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: the facade is approximately six meters wide and five meters high. Inside, the kiln itself is 2.5 meters in diameter and 5 meters high.

2. Foundation: None

3. Wall construction, finish and colour:

The facade is constructed of local grey limestone while the brick inside (which was placed over a stone wall in 1904 to prevent decay) is made of local brick, probably from Carleton Place. There are marking letters on the border but they are not legible. The brick has become dusty and faded. There is some mold and mildew on it so that the brick is light in colour, slightly off-colour.

4. Structural system and framing:

The original kiln was built of stone but, as noted previously, was rejuvenated with brick lining in 1904.

5. Porches: A roof which constituted a porch, as protection, has been demolished. Its dimensions were as wide as <sup>with facade,</sup> 10' deep.

6. Chimneys: None. The kiln itself is built like a barrel-shaped chimney.

7. Openings:

a. Doors and doorways: There is one small doorway on the face of the kiln. It is approximately 2.5 meters in height and is iron with an iron hinge. The roof is open.

b. Windows and shutters: None

- 8. Roof:
  - a. Shape, covering: There is no roof on the kiln, but the suggestion is that a roof would help protect the interior of the kiln.
  
- 6. DESCRIPTION OF INTERIOR:
  - Not pertinent.
  
- D. SITE:
  - a. General setting and orientation:
    - Built into a hill.
  
  - b. Outbuildings: None

Report prepared by Angela Dunn, Summer, 1983.