

## Description of Property – Snedden House, 198 Church Street

### Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The cultural heritage value of the Snedden House lies in the building being an excellent example of an Ontario Cottage, its associations with the Snedden family, who were prominent in Lanark County, and its contribution to the character of the surrounding neighbourhood.

The Snedden House was built in 1866 for William Snedden after he and his family left their farm in Ramsay Township to settle in town. The building has design value as an example of the Ontario Cottage, a housing form that became widely known through pattern books and publications like *The Canada Farmer*. Typically, Ontario Cottages are one and a half or two and a half storey three-bay structures with gable or hipped roofs. They remained popular from the 1840s until the late 19th century. True to its type, the Snedden House features a gable roof, is one and a half storeys in height, and has a three-bay façade with a distinctive round-arched window within the gable above the central door. It is constructed of stone set in uneven courses, and its four-over-four sash windows have stone voussoirs and lintels. The house has been conserved by successive owners, ensuring that it continues to be an important part of Almonte's historic fabric.

The Snedden House has historical value because of its associations with the Snedden family. William Snedden, who built it, was the son of David Snedden, who arrived in the area in 1819, settling on Lot 24, Concession, Ramsay Township. Eventually nine Snedden families settled close by. After his arrival in town, William played a role in the community, serving as a Justice of the Peace.

The Snedden House has contextual value because of its location on the corner of Church and Country Streets, a gateway to the residential area that grew up around it in the later decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Key exterior elements that contribute to the heritage value of the Snedden House as an excellent example of an Ontario Cottage include:

- Rough-cut limestone masonry laid in uneven courses;
- Side gable roof with returned eaves, moulded soffit and frieze;
- Two masonry chimneys located at either end of the gable roof;
- Three-bay front façade with centre hall plan;
- Rectangular four-over-four sash windows with stone voussoirs and lintels;

- The narrow round arched, four-over-four windows with a semi-circular decorative fan carving located in the gable end;
- The rectangular transom window with a diamond motif above the front door.

Key contextual attributes that contribute to the cultural heritage value of the Snedden House include:

- The property's location at the corner of Church and Country Streets in a mixed neighbourhood that grew throughout 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings, including another Snedden House next door, built in the Queen Anne Revival style, popular in the 1880s;
- The property's large side yard.

The additions to the rear of the building and the detached garage are not included in this designation. The trim in the gable end (added in 20<sup>th</sup> century) is not included in this designation. The interior of the building is not included in this designation.