## THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MISSISSIPPI MILLS

## HERITAGE COMMITTEE AGENDA

## Wednesday, November 27, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m.

## Municipal Office, 3131 Old Perth Road, Almonte

## A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

## **B. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

-	PPROVAL OF MINUTES ptember 25, 2019	Pages 1 - 2
	ELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS Ian MacLean – to discuss the former communities in the Mississippi Mills signage project	
2.	Gary Lamers and Julie Odin, The Old Mill Manor – to discuss a possible heritage designation and insurance rat	es
3.	Lita Edwards and Ron Whitehorne – balcony extension at the Victoria Woollen Mill	Pages 3 - 6
<b>E. Ni</b> 1.	EW BUSINESS Heritage Settlement signs and locations to be approved by Council: Bolger's Corners, Cedar Hill, Huntersville, Indian Hill, Leckie's Corners, McCreary's, Snedden Station and Rosebank	
2.	Draft report compiled by Sarah More 5 Bridge Street (formerly K's Flower Gallery)	Pages 7 - 10
	FO/CORRESPONDENCE Doors Open Ontario 2020	Pages 11 - 12
<b>G. B</b> 1.	USINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES The amended Keepsakes building report prepared by Sarah More for review	Pages 13 - 30
Н. А	NNOUNCEMENTS	

## Next meeting: Wednesday, January 22, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.

I. ADJOURNMENT

## THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MISSISSIPPI MILLS HERITAGE COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Wednesday, September 25, 2019 @ 5:00 P.M. Municipal Office, Council Chambers

- PRESENT: Michael Rikley-Lancaster, Chair Councillor Jan Maydan David Thomson Judith Marsh Sandra Moore Janet Carlile Sarah More
- ABSENT: Stephen Brathwaite, with regrets
- STAFF: Niki Dwyer, Director of Planning Roxanne Sweeney, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

- A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA Moved by David Thomson Seconded by Councillor Jan Maydan THAT the Agenda dated September 25, 2019 be accepted as presented. CARRIED
- **B. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST** None were declared.
- C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES Moved by Judith Marsh Seconded by David Thomson THAT the Minutes dated August 16, 2019 be accepted as presented. CARRIED

# D. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS Gail Barr attended to discuss different exterior renovation options for her building at 5 Bridge Street. No recommendation was made at this time.

## E. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. The Keepsakes building report prepared by Sarah More was reviewed. The report will be amended and brought forward at the October 23, 2019 Heritage Committee meeting.
- 2. Proposed Provincial Policy Statement 2019 The Heritage Committee had no comments or concerns.

## F. INFO/CORRESPONDENCE

## G. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- 1. Council Resolution 77 Little Bridge Street Received for information
- 2. Council Resolution R. Tait McKenzie plaque Received for information

## H. ANNOUNCEMENT

Next meeting: October 23. 2019

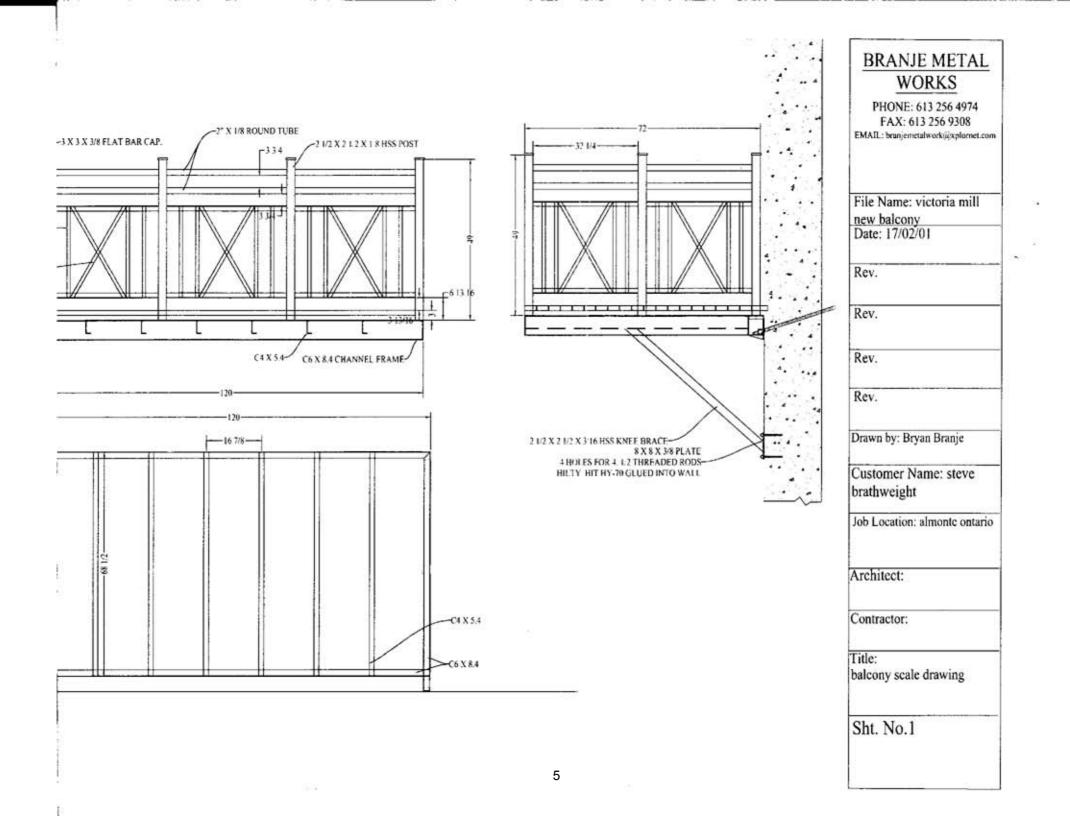
I. ADJOURNMENT Moved by David Thomson THAT there being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

CARRIED

Roxanne Sweeney, Recording Secretary







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## K's FLOWER GALLERY (formerly), 5 Bridge Street, Almonte

Compiled by Sarah More for the Mississippi Mills Heritage Committee, October 2019

Present Owner: Gail Barr

Present Occupant: Unknown

Present Use: Apartments

Statement of Significance:

Not designated as a place of significance.

Part 1: Historical Information

Physical History

## 1. Original and Subsequent Owners:

The entirety of the Riddell Section, lot 1, plan 6262, of the Town of Almonte was sold in 1865 by William Riddell & wife to James Barrie for \$250.00.(1) Subsequently, a number of people owned parts of the waterfront lot. In 1903, the two-storey brick building was "owned by Mr. J. Drynan, and occupied by Mr. P. Downey as a confectionery and dwelling."(2) A 1920 photograph indicates a storefront on the first floor.(3) "It was turned into apartments by Robert (Bob) France, who lived there in the late 1970s, while working as the Almonte Town Clerk."(4) In 1977, it was co-owned by Delmar "Dem" & Kathleen "Kay" Millar, who ran K's Flower Gallery there until 1992. It currently is used as apartments owned by Gail Barr.

- 2. Date of Erection: Between 1865-1903
- 3. Architect: Unknown
- 4. Alterations and Additions:
- A 1903 fire at the corner of Bridge & Water Streets left the block in ruins.(2)

## 5. Historical Events and Persons connected with the Structure:

A part of the lot was first contested in 1868 by heirs of Almonte's Founding Father, Daniel Shipman (1791-1853). The will was finally administered by Bennett Rosamond & Company in 1872.(1)

## Part II: Architectural Information:

## A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character:

This is a commercial example of a —— building.

2. Condition: Poor?

## B. Description of Exterior (On Bridge Street facing the Old Town Hall)

- 1. Overall Dimensions: Two-storey
- 2. Foundation: The foundation is likely of local grey stone
- 3. Wall Construction, Finish and Colour: Burgundy brick with burgundy siding on the lower front façade and white siding on the upper front facade.
- 4. Structural System and Framing: Unknown
- 5. Porches: A multi-level wooden deck was permitted in 2015.
- 6. Chimney: There are no visible chimneys.

7. Openings

A) Doors and doorways:

Two beige-coloured doors with white trim stand, side by side, on the front facade. On the right, a half-window is framed above the door. On the left, the door contains two panes of glass above and below each other. At least, one door is located on the first floor in the back.

B) Windows:

A tri-paned bay window on the front lower left hand side containing reflective glass.

A half window on the front lower right hand side containing reflective glass and burgundy shutters.

Four identical double-hung windows containing stone lintels and dark brown shutters.

- (Right-hand side facing the Mississippi River): four identical double-hung windows with stone lintels and white trim are found on the first floor. Similarly, three identical double-hung windows with stone lintels and white trim are found on the second floor. The left-hand side, facing the Old Town Hall, appears to share a wall with the Canadian Café.
- 8. Roof Shape, covering: Possibly a metal sloping roof similar to the Canadian Café.

## **D. Site:**

A) General Setting and Orientation: The building is situated at the corner of Water and Bridge Streets, facing west.

B) Outbuildings: Two large, healthy trees cover a dock and patio set. There is a small private parking lot bounded by a white picket fence.

## Sources of Information:

- 1. Lanark County Land Records Office, Almonte, Ontario.
- 2. <u>https://lindaseccaspina.wordpress.com/2016/10/04/the-almonte-fire-bridge-and-water-street-1903/</u>
- 3. almonte.com
- 4. Conversation with John Kerry of Kerry's Funeral Home, Almonte resident since 1954. (Sep 2019)



Images: Courtesy of <u>almonte.com</u>. Below: Fire Scene From Front Bridge (1903)

Below: Bridge Street Near Front Bridge Old Boys Reunion 1920



Images: Courtesy of Google Maps (May 2016)







Registration for Doors Open Ontario 2020 is now open

## The Ontario Heritage Trust would like to invite you to join dozens of other communities as part of Doors Open Ontario 2020!

In 2019, Doors Open Ontario activated nearly 1,000 sites in 37 communities across the province, generating tourism, spending and social activity in communities that have participated. Now is the chance for your community to join the fun!

Doors Open Ontario has been a program of the Ontario Heritage Trust since 2002, working with counties, towns and cities to take Ontarians behind the scenes of stunning heritage places that tell unique and interesting local stories. These places and stories make up the shared history and heritage of Ontario.

If you're not sold on sharing your community with a wider audience, here are three excellent reasons to open your doors next year.

- You know there's a story to be discovered (or rediscovered) behind every door in your community, and the Ontario Heritage Trust wants to help you share those stories. Opening the doors of places in communities helps foster a sense of civic pride for residents and helps many people feel a sense of place in their communities.
- Doors Open Ontario attracts media interest, generating approximately 1,300 online and print news stories in 2019 - that's over 150 million impressions. Not only will the stories and special places in your community be highlighted to your residents, they'll be proudly on display for visitors across Ontario to see the treasures in your hometown.
- 3. Finally, **Doors Open Ontario is a significant driver of economic activity across Ontario**. In the last 18 seasons, visitors to Doors Open Ontario events have spent just over an estimated \$130 million dollars at businesses in

communities provincewide. Doors Open Ontario helps circulate money within communities, and draw in tourist dollars from afar. With roughly 30 per cent of visitors to Doors Open Ontario events coming from other communities, that's an economic boost that can't be ignored.

And on top of all this, organizers are able to get support for programming and media from the Ontario Heritage Trust with our provincewide network of contacts and 18 years of Doors Open experience. For a registration fee of \$1,695 (HST included), you can activate your community, give it profile across Ontario and increase your tourism dollars.

If Doors Open Ontario sounds like a fit for your community, **please check out our Doors Open Ontario website for more information**. Then, if you're ready to make the commitment, complete our <u>online form</u> by December 20, 2019 to register your event. After completing the online form, please arrange a registration payment of \$1,695 by cheque, made out to the Ontario Heritage Trust at the following address:

Ontario Heritage Trust 10 Adelaide Street East Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3

And if you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact David Leonard, the Ontario Heritage Trust's Community Programs Officer, directly at <u>david.leonard@heritagetrust.on.ca</u> or 416-314-3586.

## We hope to hear from you soon and see behind the doors of your community again next year!

## **KEEPSAKES, 102 Mill Street, Almonte**

Compiled by Sarah More for the Mississippi Mills Heritage Committee, September 2019

Special thanks to Brian Gallagher & Sandra Davey

Present Owner: 2570155 Ontario Inc. 4 Gleeson Way Ottawa, ON K2J 5A2 Purchased: May 11, 2017

Present Occupant: Cashmere & Rose Flower Shop

Present Use: Floral & Gift Shop

## Statement of Significance:

This two-and-a-half-storey stone building is one of the oldest commercial buildings in Almonte. It is one of the few remaining examples of commercial stone architecture in the town. The building has been used continuously as a retail establishment since construction. It was established in conjunction with the development of Almonte's first major industrial base, the woollen mills. It has served the town of Almonte throughout its' growth and has, therefore, been involved significantly in the daily life of the town.

## Part 1: Historical Information

A Physical History

## 1. Original and Subsequent Owners:

The property itself was owned by a number of people before George Wilson bought it in 1861 for \$700.00. He had a store and residence built about 1868 by William Scrimgeour. Wilson sold this to Robert Brown and Peter McArthur in 1870 for \$8000.00. They operated a general goods store; Brown residing in Montreal. In 1881, James Robertson bought the building for \$10,000. Upon his death in 1908, the store was willed to his son, Fred, who continued as a merchant until 1928. At this point, William Pimlett bought the store and operated until 1960. In 1960, he sold the store to R.J. France for \$33,000. He sold to Arthur Baker in 1972 for \$55,000. In 1984, Arthur P. Baker sold to 592178 Ontario Inc.. In 1987, 592178 Ontario Inc. sold to Brian Gallagher. In 1998, Brian Gallagher mortgaged to Irene Kennedy. In 2012, MJ Assets purchased it. In 2017, 2570155 Ontario Inc. purchased it following an asking price of \$975,000. (1)

## 2. Date of Erection:

Between 1863-1870, possibly 1868 according to secondary sources,(2) although records show that Daniel Shipman carried out certain negotiations regarding the existing site in 1856.(3)

3. Architect: William Scrimgeour (1816-1899)

February 17, 1899, Almonte Gazette, page 8:

Deceased came to Carleton Place about forty years ago, and was contractor for the building of the railway bridge there. Two years later he came to Almonte, and lived here twenty years or more. He built many of the buildings that are to the fore yet, among others St. John's church, Mr. James Robertson's store, St. Paul's rectory, the Rosebank woolen mill, Young's hotel at Sand Point, and many others...(4)

## 4. Alterations and Additions:

Prior to 1986, the last renovation was more than 80 years earlier due to a serious fire.

The sagging back porch was an addition because the two-storey portion of the building at the rear was also an addition. Prior to the addition of the two-storey rear portion, a door was available for carriages presumably bringing produce to the grocery store.

In 1986, dormers were added when Gallagher & Davey redid the roof.

In 2004, new lintels and sills were added.

The present Keepsakes store was once divided into two storefronts so it had the numbers 100 and 102 Mill Street. The present Tea & Cake tea room at 98 Mill Street, which was once an alleyway, gives it three addresses.(5)

## 5. Historical Events and Persons connected with the Structure:

An article titled, *North American Life Assurance Company*, which appeared in *The Saturday Globe (later the Globe and Mail, Toronto)*, September 24, 1892 stated, "...JAMES ROBERTSON. This gentleman owns the large stone store on the corner of Mill and Bridge Streets, and it is one of the best business sites in town. The business carried on by Mr. Robertson is a general one, and the amount of produce handled by him places him among the leading produce dealers in Eastern Ontario. In his retail trade, he makes a specialty of fine dry goods and carries a large and well-selected stock, imported from Scotland, France, Germany, England. Mr. Robertson has been doing business here so long and is so well known now that his extensive business connection is his best advertise-ment."(6)

Part II: Architectural Information:

## A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character:

- This is a commercial example of an Italianate building. The building is done in the socalled "Almonte" style, its dark grey stone quoins contrasting with the lighter grey stone of the walls. One should note the distinctive design of the lintel, which ascends above earlier, more prevalent, plain rectangular ones
- 2. Condition: Good

## **B. Description of Exterior**

1. Overall Dimensions:

The front section of the building is three stories original, three bays wide, 5 bays long.

Two stories 3 bays long.(7)

2. Foundation:

The foundation is of local stone from the quarry of the late Clarence Williams of Carp, Ontario.

3. Wall Construction, Finish and Colour:

The 29-inch thick walls are made of light grey rubble limestone finished with darker ashlar stone corners (quoins).<sup>(3,5)</sup>

4. Structural System and Framing:

The walls are of the masonry load-bearing type.

5. Porches:

There is a porch located on the second story at the rear.

6. Chimney:

There are two chimneys of stone, located at the north and south side of the structure. These were repointed and capped under Gallagher & Davey.

The roof structure is of sheet steel finished at each end with heavy stone corbelling terminating with a single stone chimney at each apex.<sup>(3)</sup>

7. Openings

The total absence of opening on the Bridge Street facade, and the presence of several on the Mill Street side, makes the latter the unmistakable front. Windows and doors proportionally large glass area here draw the spectator in at visually and also physically; the base stone wall (east facade) is reminiscent of a fortress barrier - stone plinths accentuate its length. The shaping of display windows enhance direct movement from the sidewalk into the shop. This treatment also provides a greater visual message of welcome as the door is made visible to other parts of the street.

A) Doors and doorways: There is a sortie door in the gable facade. It is of plain wood with a window and is probably of modern origin. There is also a plain panel door located on the northeast side. At the rear is a large double wooden door which may once have been used for carriages.

B) Windows: The windows in the three storey section are rectangular, 4 pane, double hung, with stone voussars.

The window openings remain unchanged, however, the original windows were wood double sash with exterior hinged louver shutters.<sup>(3)</sup>

8. Roof

Shape, covering: The three storey section has a high gabled roof. The roof is flat on the two storey portion. Both roof sections are sheathed in metal.

The roof structure is of sheet steel finished at each end with heavy stone corbelling terminating with a single stone chimney at each apex.<sup>(3)</sup>

## C. Description of Interior:

Brian Gallagher: There was a serious fire there late in the 1800's or early 1900's and many of the beams in the basement show burn marks.

In 1986, there were ten apartments.(8)

In 2005, the exterior apartments included a kitchen, den/dining area, main bath, and living room, plus stairs, that all contain the same limestone walls as the exterior. (see images)

In 2017, the building comprised of two ground floor retail bays and seven apartment units. Six of which are one bedroom. One is two bedrooms.<sup>(7)</sup>

## D. Site:

- A) General Setting and Orientation: The building is situated at the corner of Mill and Bridge Streets, facing north. It is intrinsically involved with the scale and rhythm of Mill Street.
- B) Outbuildings: none

## Sources of Information:

- 1. North Lanark Registry Office, Almonte, Ontario
- 2. Almonte Faces and Places 1880-1980, Corporation of the Town of Almonte, c1980.
- 3. Almonte Gazette, August 29, 1984, page 11:

https://mvtm.ca/gazette2017/display-pdf?ref=1984-08-29-11

4. Almonte Gazette, February 17, 1899, page 8:

https://mvtm.ca/gazette2017/display-pdf?ref=1899-02-17-08

5. Undated article by Lois Tuffin found in heritage file courtesy of Roxanne Sweeney.

(see images)

- 6. *The Saturday Globe*, (Toronto), September 24, 1892, Mr. J. Townsend, Photographer, pp. 1-4. (see images)
- 7. Advertisement by Dave McGahan, of CLV Realty, February 2017:

http://www.clvrealty.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/98-102-Mill-Street-Almonte.pdf

8. April 2, 1986, Almonte Gazette, page 3 (see images)

### Images

September 24, 1892, *The Saturday Globe* (Toronto), page 3 Courtesy of Librarian Marla Weiner, Ottawa Public Library

North American Life Assurance Company: D. SHAW JAMES ROBERTSON THE ... The Globe (1844-1936); Sep 24, 1892; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Globe and Mail pg. 3

## North American Life Assurance Company.

The thoughtful student of reform and grees will have noticed the great i ide made in the accumulation of with, especially by the middle classes, ring the past decade. The eridences this are to be found in the fact that day there are more people living on eir own properties than ever before, at they are able to procure and en-

which at the close of 1891 aggregated \$261,645,627: but perhaps a better idea of the magnitude of the transactions which the life companies carry on with their policy-holders can be had when we mention that the accumulations held for payment of policies as they become claims amounted to \$43,062,674, each of the 160,000 policy-hold-rs being con tributors in larger or smaller propor-



## JAMES ROBERTSON.

the gentleman owns large This stone Mill store en nd Bridge of the corner and it Mill and Bridge streets, and it is one of the best business sites in the town. The business carried on by Mr. Robertson is a general one, and the amount of produce handled by him places bun among the leading produce dealers in Eastern Ontario. In his retail trade he makes a specialty of fine dry gools, and carries a large and well selected stock, imported direct from the manufac-turers in Scotland. England. France and Germany. Mr. Robertson has been do-ing business here so long and is so well and streets, ing business here so long and is so well known now that his extensive business connection is his best advertisement.

Donnie Edmonds hangs on as he gives his brother Joey a hand.

# Acrobatics on the scaffolding

#### By Joe McNeill, Gazette staff

Armed with a hammer and chisel, local stone mason Joe Edmonds and his crew have been attacking one of the more historic and prominent structures in Almonte, the former Baker's Jewellery store building, in attempts to restore it.

With acrobatic skill, the men are giving this 118-year-old downtown building a new lease on life.

And the original quarry that supplied the stone for the structure when it was first built is once again being tapped for the renovations.

The building, on the corner of Mill and Bridge streets, is owned by Brian Gallagher and Sandra Davey who bought the place in hopes of restoring it to its original form.

Now designated as a Heritage building, it was built in 1868 by a Mr Brown and Mr MacArthur (first names unknown) who used it as a dry goods store.

The light gray limestone and darker gray quoins were cut from a quarry now owned by Clarence Williams on RR 2, Carp.

"We thought we'd have to go to Utah (United States) to get the original stone," said Mr Gallagher. "But I was talking to Des Vaughan who said the stone came from around here. I guess we lucked out."

Joe Edmonds, a local mason, is responsible for the stone work being done now to the exterior.

He said it took two men two days to cut out enough rock from the quarry to make four corner stones.

It took Mr Edmonds another week to shape those four stones in order that they match with the existing rocks in place.

Mr Edmonds said only three more

stones need to be replaced, and so they are concentrating on taking the mortar between the stones on the front of the building and replacing it with new cement.

They must also take the cap stones (those at the top of the structure) off and put brass pins in to keep the stones from falling.

"Once the weather gets warmer we shouldn't be there for more than 10 days," said Mr Edmonds.

But the work doesn't stop there.

Mr Gallagher said the entire outside renovations, including the building of a new roof and the restoration of the store front to its original form, should take five years.

Another three years will be required, according to Mr Gallagher's plans, to complete the inside changes.

"We bought the building in August of last year knowing a lot of work had to be done," said Mr Gallagher.

"It's surprising how much work is needed because the last major repairs done to the exterior were over 80 years ago."

A Heritage grant is helping to pay for some of the cost of the exterior, but any interior work is being paid for by Sandra Davey and Brian Gallagher.

There are 10 apartments in the structure the two owners hope to revamp.

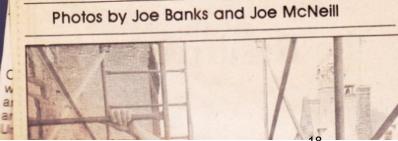
"We have lots of ideas," said Mr Gallagher, "but money is holding us back.

"We have the store to run at the same time so we must be careful."

Mrs Davey said she enjoys doing the work "most of the time."

"We like antiques and I guess this is the biggest one you can get."

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The scaffolding not only provided work from but a bird's eye view of



# Keepsakes expands into former bakeshop next door

#### By Lois Tuffin Assistant editor

If customers noticed any dust in the Keepsakes gift shop last week, they can blame the construction crew next door.

Joe Edmonds and Rae Fortington cut a doorway between the gift shop and the former bakery so Keepsakes can expand this fall.

"It will give us more breathing space," Keepsakes co-owner Suzanne Charlebois said. The addition will add 72 square metres to the 180 square metres she already has.

Charlebois plans to open the new section in September as a Christmas store and eventually as a tea room for up to 10 people. She also plans to add Crabtree and Evelyn products, linens and some overflow from the store's other half.

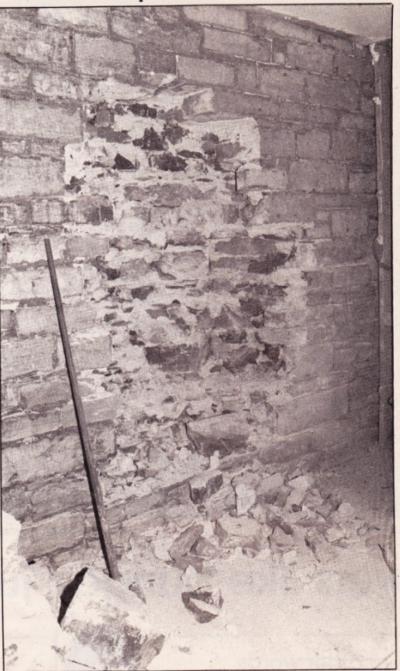
"I hope it will create enough interest so people will shop in town that much more," Charlebois said. "I hope it will also bring more people in and create some traffic."

Charlebois took over the store Sept. 1, 1995.

The Robertson family built this stone landmark at the corner of Mill and Bridge Streets in the 1860s, said current co-owner Brian Gallagher. Since then, businesses have sold groceries, dry goods, flowers and jewelry off its shelves.

The adjacent storefront has served as a garage, pet shop, beauty salon and a roof-top greenhouse, he added. It opened as a bakery in 1985 and went through five owners before closing in February.

ing in February. The present Keepsakes store was once divided into two storefronts so it has the numbers 100 and 102 Mill Street, he said. Now adding the former bakery (98 Mill St.) gives it three addresses. Edmonds and Fortington cut the new archway through 74 centimetres of stone. Now workers have to level the floors and finish

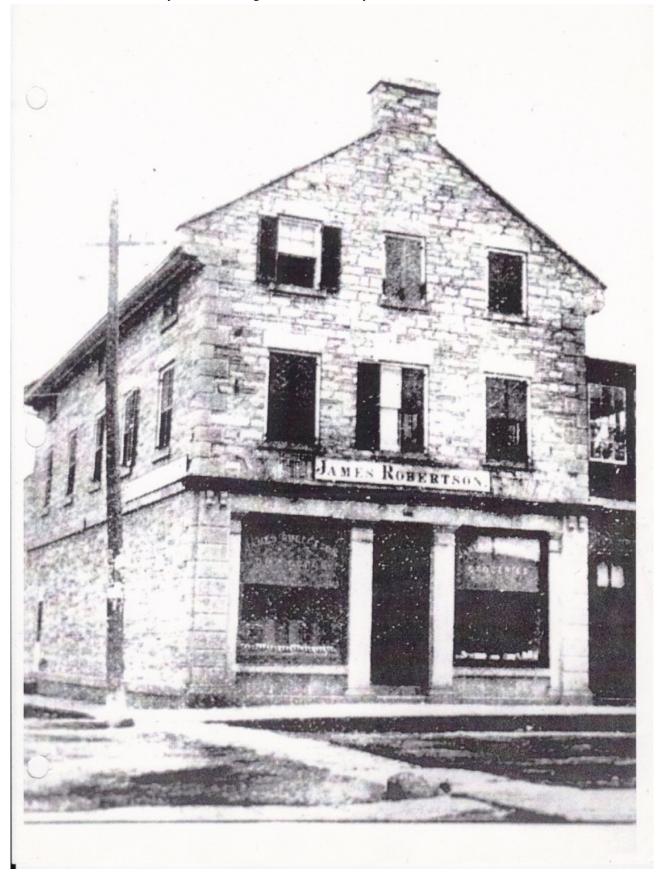


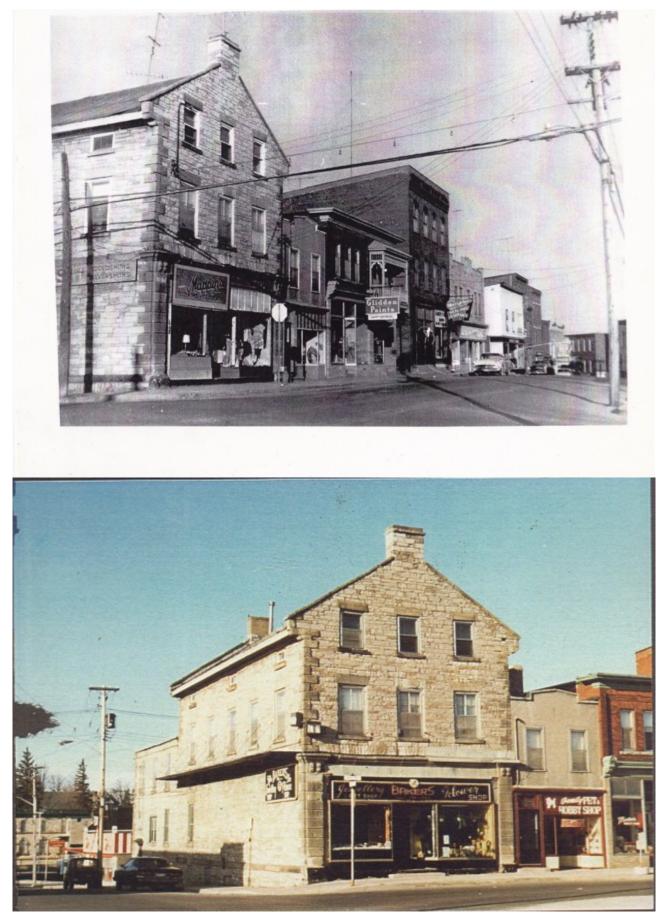
Workers had put a large dent in the 29-inch thick wall by last Thursday afternoon. This will eventually be a stone archway in the gift shop. Photo by Lois Tuffin

the walls to prepare the new part of the store for its next tenant.

The planned tea room will require a galley kitchen and a washroom.

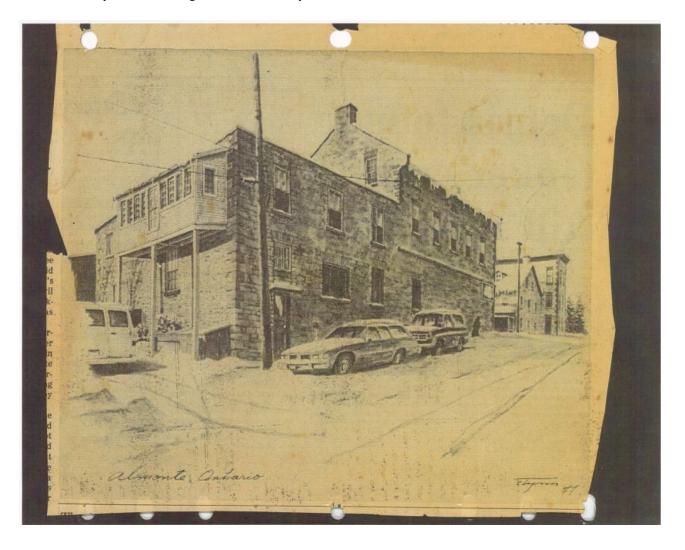
The back part of the old bakery will eventually become part of the back apartment, Gallagher said.





Between 1972-1984, courtesy of Brian Gallagher & Sandra Davey 21

## 1977?, Courtesy of Brian Gallagher & Sandra Davey







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