

## **Bell House**

**233 Bridge Street**

**Part Lot 131, Plan 276, Section B**

**By-law 35-81**



This home was built in the late 1830's for Robert Bell, son of the Reverend William Bell, the first Presbyterian minister of the Perth district in 1817. Robert was one of the most influential public figures in Carleton Place during its first generation of growth. He was a merchant, mill owner, magistrate, postmaster and district council warden. He was also a member of the legislative assembly of Canada for Lanark and Renfrew counties from 1848 to 1863.

This two-story house is of rough dressed Beckwith limestone, quarried locally. Window types include mansard dormers with segmental windows on the second level of the main portion and shed dormers with flat rectangular windows on the kitchen wing. The elliptical fanlight and sidelights are typical of the period. An enclosed porch with ornamental low gable contains a front door as well as doors on each side, originally leading to verandahs along the front of the house.

The house is believed to have been constructed in two sections at different times as evident by the two-foot-thick foundation between sections, the visible line in the stonework, and the lower level of the rear kitchen.