

Old Town Hall

267 Edmund Street

Part Lots 15, 16, 17, Plan 276, Section B

By-law 14-78



This limestone building was constructed as the Carleton Place Town Hall in 1872. After considerable controversy between north and south riverside residents, this site on the north side of the river was chosen by a ratepayers' vote.

Built by stonemason William Willoughby, the first floor contained a lock-up, council chambers and a caretaker's apartment. The upper floor was used as a public hall.

The town hall was converted into a public school in 1879. The council chambers moved to new quarters, but the lock-up remained in use and stories are handed down of lawbreakers being dragged through the classroom into the jail at the back of the building! Initially known as the Town Hall School, and later as Victoria Public School, it served schoolchildren for over ninety years, closing in 1969. It presently houses the Carleton Place and Beckwith Heritage Museum.