



c.1982 Built Heritage Inventory

155 York Street/125 Empire Street

This house on the corner of York and Empire was demolished in 1985 to make way for condominium developments.

This was an extremely rare Greek Revival house, due to its very late date, being built c. 1902 by Howard Hebb, a mechanic and carpenter, and his wife Eleanor May.

Key in defining the Greek Revival theme were the returning eaves, the street-facing gable roof, as well as the lovely Ionic columns that held up the veranda – it is rare to find construction where accurate columns, so essential to Greek architecture, were done in an authentic style. Another element that's slightly out of touch with its construction era are the dentils underneath the cornice of the veranda roof; these only returned to popularity a decade or two later with the Arts and Crafts movement.

More in keeping with its estimated date, the veranda had finely curved balusters, and there was ornamental shingle work defining the peak of the gable. Additionally, slight Queen Anne Revival elements are visible, particularly the pedimented dormer protruding from the eaves on the left hand side, and the belt course running along the attic level, separating the ornamental shingles from the regular siding and making the peak appear like a pediment as well.

Though built by the Hebbs, the house was owned by the Gaetz family for nearly 50 years, with William A., widow Lottie, and son Reginald H. owning in successively from 1922 until 1971.

From the *155 York Street* and *125 Empire Street* Built Heritage Files