

Fundy National Park, New Brunswick
Superintendent's Residence

HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT

The Superintendent's Residence, Fundy National Park, New Brunswick was built in 1948-49 to designs by H.S. Brenan. The custodian is Parks Canada. See FHBRO Building Report 90-240.

Reasons for Designation

The Superintendent's Residence was designated Recognized for its design, craftsmanship and environmental significance.

The rustic vernacular English Cottage style used for the overall design theme of Fundy National Park was popular for both American and Canadian park architecture during the first half of the 20th century. Stone facing was chosen for the park buildings to project a rustic character and for its permanence.

The development of Fundy National Park was intended to revive the local economy of the Alma Parish area, and to fulfill the broader Parks objective of preserving an area geographically representative of Canada's natural heritage. The house, situated on the sea side of the road leading from Alma to Point Wolf, sits on the edge of the central parkland which was landscaped by park engineers in conjunction with landscape architect Stanley Thompson in 1949-1950. The house was carefully oriented such that the major views were of the sea.

Character Defining Elements

The heritage character of this property is defined by its picturesque exterior design and craftsmanship, its interior plan and detailing, and its relatively unchanged site.

The Superintendent's residence is a modest, gable roofed, storey-and-a-half structure with asymmetrical massing, rubblestone facing, vertical wooden siding in the upper gables, decorative braces and trim under the gables, windows with multi-pane upper sash, cedar shingle roof, and sandstone window and door trim. The stone facing is randomly laid with hammer dressed joints. The building's exterior design and decorative elements, and the muted earth-tones of its finishes, should be retained. Repair work should be carried out with attention to the quality of the original materials and in keeping with the overall character of the English Cottage style.

At the interior, the original centre hall plan, the coved ceilings and maple floors in the major ground floor rooms, the pine paneling in the front vestibule, the spruce wainscoting in the rear vestibule, and the brick fireplace with moulded pine mantel in

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the living room, contribute to the rustic domestic character and should be retained. Modifications required for the ongoing usefulness of the building should be designed to have minimal impact on historic fabric.

The original landscape design, the building's orientation toward the sea and the open character of its site should be preserved.

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