Heritage Designation Application for 5812-14/ 166 North St, Halifax By: Friends of the Halifax Common



Houses at 164-168 North Street, looking to corner of Robie/Kempt, c. 1900 (from album of Arthur F. Pelton, courtesy of Nat Smith); the left half of the double (164) has been demolished

Photo 164-168 North Street¹ Halifax Griffin article March 2020²

Reason for Submission:

The Friends of the Halifax Common are submitting this 3rd party registration request to highlight a unique example of Halifax architecture and its connection to Nova Scotia's first African Nova Scotian Doctor, Dr. Clement Ligoure. The building also exemplifies the effort made during the Halifax Explosion to treat the injured in the city. 5812/14 North Street¹ is a rare example of the lost history of Halifax which this city is working diligently to ensure the past remains hidden.

Not all tributes to mothers need to fade in a shower of petals on dining room tables after Mother's Day. One particular house in Halifax is more than just another house destined for the dust heap of developers and it is a tribute to motherhood and to history, worthy of preservation.

5812 North Street housed the Amanda Private Hospital, is named in honour of Dr. Clement Ligoure's mother, Amanda M. Crooke. During the weeks of horror and confusion that followed the December 1917 Halifax Explosion, Dr. Ligoure, the first doctor of African descent in Nova Scotia, treated up to 180 wounded patients daily at the private hospital. Local playwright and art historian, Mr. David Wood reminded the public in a CBC interview, 'Ligoure's heroism has largely been overlooked." Mr. Wood's play, *Extraordinary Acts* centres on experiences in the Black community during the explosion that includes the story of Dr. Ligoure.

As is documented in this application Dr. Ligoure was a person of many significant firsts in Nova Scotia and Canada — the first Black medical doctor to practise in Nova Scotia, editor of the first Nova Scotian Black newspaper and co-founder of the No. 2 Construction Battalion, Canada's first military unit made up of primarily Black personnel.²

As such a future destruction of this house by local developers should be of concern to all of us. Moving this story from neglect to erasure does not align with the commitments indicated in "Count Us In: Nova Scotia's Action Plan in Response to the International Decade for People of African Descent." Recognition is the first UN pillar of this document - made to measure for 5812 North Street. The province supports the recognition and celebration of the 'important contributions of people of African descent, while also recognizing the long-standing prejudices and unfair treatment they have endured for generations."

In 2021 Doctors Nova Scotia awarded Dr. Robert Strang, Chief Medical Officer of Health for the province with the inaugural Dr. Clement Ligoure Award, recognizing his exemplary service during a medical crisis.⁵ Fame and recognition are due to Dr. Strange, no doubt about it. However, he has received an award in the name of a compassionate and courageous doctor who was denied hospital privileges. Is it not fitting to have the history of this house receive designation as a heritage property and be preserved as part of our city's reparations for systemic racism?

Receiving the award in the name of a neglected hero of compassion who surpassed the racist restrictions and constrictions of his time, demands a reciprocal honour. This is an opportunity for every Nova Scotian to get behind a practical 'teachable moment' with a tangible action.

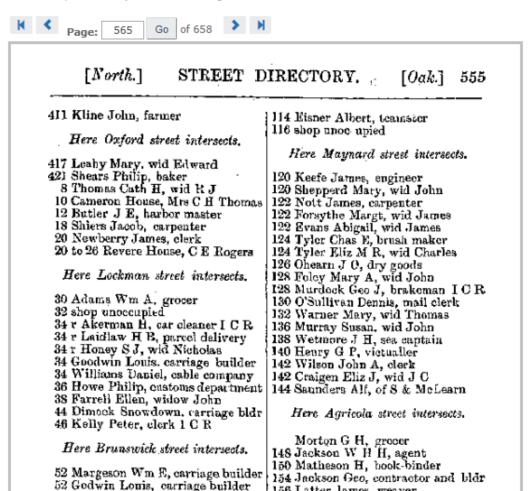
The lines between accepting what can't be changed and what can be changed may seem blurred when money and politics come into play. But it is a fact that we cannot honour, learn and teach the children of tomorrow about history when we accept the willful destruction of that history.

Age:

5812/14 Robie Street was built circa 1894 according to reviewing the McAlpine's City Directory and insurance maps below.

Page: 565 : McAlpine's Halifax City Directory for 1894-95

Directory: McAlpine's Halifax City Directory for 1894-95. Containing an Alphabetical Directory, Street Directory. Directory of Dartmouth. With an Advertisers and Subscribers Business Directory of Halifax and Dartmouth, And an Appendix Giving Valuable Information. -- Halifax: D. McAlpine's Sons, [1894?]. -- 645 p. -- Printed by Nova Scotia Printing Co.



5812/14 North Street

Here North Maitland street ends.

58 & 581 Margeson R H, car'ge bldr 60 Hudd E J, inspector C P R 60 Glencross James, stoemaker

54 Smith Wm E. shipwright

62 Smith B B, vio injet

54 McCarthy Daniel, boilermaker 56 Parsons Wm, hackman

66 Robertson Robert, boiler maker 68 Rosborough Jas, builder 70 Carroll Daniel, inland rev depart

Here Robie street ends.

164 Stevens F W, of Wallace & Styns

166 Wallace H L, of Wallce & Stevens 168 Hartlen Heber, victualler

156 Latter James, weaver

156 Day Wm, machinist 156 McKinlay Wm, laborer 156 Young Wm, carpenter

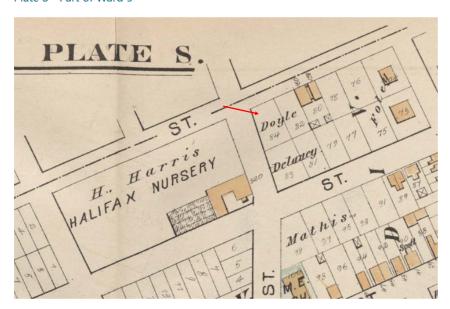
162 Roome R N. clerk

158 Hubley Benjamin, muson 158 Richards W G, carpen'er 160 Tanner Caleb, carpenter

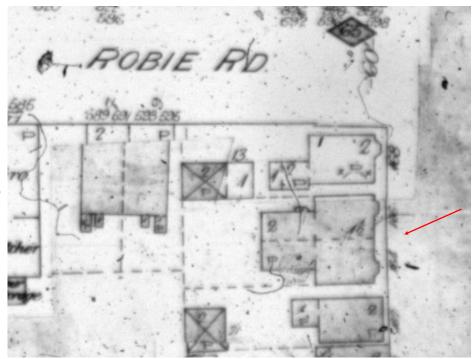
Record of Property Maps 1878-present⁶

Hopkins' City Atlas of Halifax, 1878

Plate S - Part of Ward 5

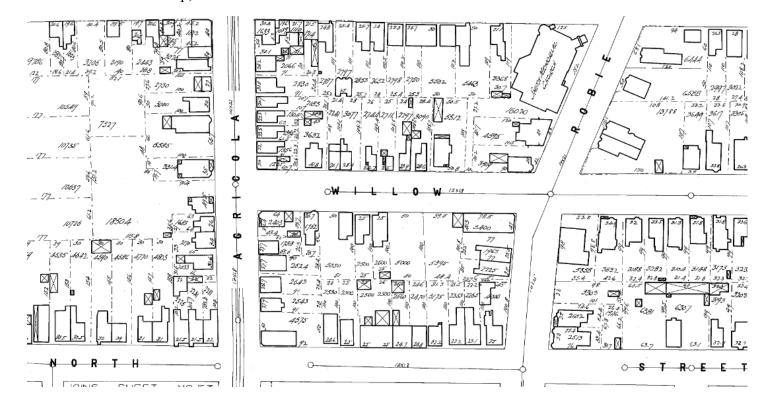


1895 rev 1911 Insurance Map, sheet 387



1895 rev 1911 Insurance Map

1918 Tax Assessment Map, sheet 498



Historical Relationship and Representative of an Era:

5812/14 North Street has many deep relationships to its past owners and occupants of the house.²

"The history of the house at 166 North Street begins with Heber and Isabella Hartlen, who had the houses erected on the south side of North Street between Robie and Agricola. As of 1894, Heber appears as a victualler at 116 Barrington, with his home at "166 North CNR Robie". This is the first year reporting his residence on this block. The following year, he appears at 168 North. As the early photograph (c. 1900) reproduced here is part of the Arthur F. Pelton album, the houses may have been designed and built by Rhodes, Curry & Company, Amherst, NS, or used material supplied by them. They opened a branch of their construction and building materials company at 300-302 Robie Street circa 1895. A. F. Pelton. the Halifax manager, lived at 28 Kempt Road (now Robie Street), around the corner from these houses. Subsequent owners included Garnet A. Little, real estate broker, 1921-1926; Reverend Thomas J. Buchanan, parish priest 1926-1944; Cyril C. O'Brien, school teacher, 1944-1947; Vincent T. O'Brien, police inspector, 1947-1990. It was in the 1957 directory that the house became two units. The occupants in 1896 were:

- 168 North (corner of Robie): Heber Hartlen, victualler (at 116 Barrington Street)
- 166 North: Fred W. Stevens of Wallace & Stevens
- 164 North: Harris L. Wallace of Wallace & Stevens, grocers and feed store (at 143 Agricola, corner of North Street) F.W. Stevens remained at 166 Robie until 1898. In 1899, the home was rented by The Rev. Welcome E. Bates of Tabernacle Baptist Church. The following year, it was purchased by commission merchant, John W. Dewolf, who sold it to Ligoure in 1917. In 1921, Dr Ligoure returned the property to Mary R. Dewolf, widow."²

As described with the following account by retired Nova Scotia Provincial Archivist Garry Shutlak the most intriguing and forgotten occupant was Dr. Ligoure:²

"Clement Courtney Ligoure (1886-1922) was the physician in attendance at the death of my grandmother, Flossie M. MacCrae and my unnamed uncle, of childbirth and influenza in 1918. Dr Ligoure was born in San Ferdinand, Trinidad, the son of Clement François Ligoure, a functionary of the Supreme Court of Trinidad and Tobago. The son came to Canada for a degree in Medicine at Oueen's University, Kingston, enrolling in 1907 and graduating in 1916. In 1917, he became managing editor and later the publisher of the Atlantic Advocate, the only black magazine in Canada. Both the magazine and his surgery were originally in the Keith Building, later the Green Lantern Building, at 1585 Barrington Street. Beginning in the winter of 1916, Dr Ligoure raised over \$2000 for the No. 2 Construction Battalion. He intended to join the Battalion as their medical officer, but this did not happen. In May of 1917, Dr Ligoure purchased the house at No. 166 (now 5812-5814) North Street for \$3600 and fitted it out as the Amanda Private Hospital. The house could accommodate 15 patients; the wards were bright and attractive. The renovation was carried out by contractor, Clarence C. Rice. At the time of the Explosion in December 1917, Dr Ligoure was "the only doctor in the Cotton Factory and Willowark district" and his office quickly filled with the injured. This is recorded in a graphic personal account he related to Dr Archibald MacMechan, preserved by the Halifax Disaster Record Office. Ligoure agreed to purchase the property at 166 North St. from John DeWolf [who called himself a Broker and dealt with more than 30 properties between 1917 and 1922] in March of 1917, their agreement was registered in 1920. Bk 508 pg. 219. This not a deed and there's no description of the property. By the end of February 1921 Dr. Ligoure agreed to release all claims on that property, described as on the southeast side of North, close to the corner of North and Robie, in an agreement with Mary DeWolf [who was likely John's wife], Book 536 pg. 778. The agreement includes a description of the property, but Ligoure never owned it."²

Dr. Ligoure found himself overwhelmed and exhausted from treating the endless victims of the explosion yet he soldiered onward.

"Like other local doctors, he found himself working night and day from the 7th to the 9th of December, with only the help of his housekeeper, Miss Bessie Waith, and his boarder, Henry ('Harry') P. Nicholas, a Canadian Government Railway Pullman porter. During the day, Ligoure treated the injured at the house, where seven people spent the first night in his office on blankets, and at night he did outside calls. Injured people who had been turned away from other hospitals came to him. "On Sunday December 9th in the blizzard which turned to rain, about 1 a.m. Dr Ligoure went to Willow Park on emergency case. The horse was up to his knees in the drifts. ... Returned to his office at 3 a.m. A man and a woman were waiting for him, arguing as to whom he should accompany ... He attended to both cases, arriving home utterly exhausted at 6.15 a.m."

Relief aid began to arrive in Halifax within days of the explosion occurring:

"Following the arrival of outside help from other Nova Scotia and Maritimes communities, Boston, Montreal and beyond, the Medical Relief Board designated the Amanda Hospital as No. 4 Dressing Station and Dr Ligoure was soon assisted by eight nurses, two orderlies, and another doctor, Captain Parker. They treated "upwards of 180 people" per day and continued until December 28.

Dr. Ligoure was a key medical figure in the wake of the Halifax Explosion.

Dr. Ligoure's hospital was one of 10 local hospitals providing medical aid in the immediate aftermath of the Explosion,² before numerous temporary facilities were put in place. As of January 1918, Dr Ligoure was still treating⁵¹ cases "scattered over Hungry Hill, the Lady Hammond Road, Willow Park, etc." 1 for which he was not charging, but by then also "had the use of a motor furnished by Medical Relief".²

No. 2 Construction Battalion, Establishment and Recruitment:

Dr. Ligoure was instrumental in co-founding and recruiting blacks for the all-Black No. 2 Construction Battalion, Canada's first and only segregated military unity; ~300 of the 600 members were from Nova Scotia. Originally blacks such as Dr. Ligoure had not been permitted to enlist. When the Battalion was finally formed, the Black men were assigned to construction work duties such as cutting and milling labour, building and digging trenches. Racist attitudes led to the belief that Blacks were not viewed as being good combat soldiers and kept Blacks from being able to be officers. Dr. Ligoure's intention to become the unit's medical officer was denied by the Canadian defence department which told him he had failed his medical exam by one point.

"On 5 July 1916, the Department of Defence and Militia authorized the formation of No. 2 Construction Battalion. It was the largest Black unit in Canadian history...... But, there were many obstacles: Black soldiers and communities faced racism both at home and overseas, despite their commitment to the war effort. These rejections were unacceptable to the leaders of Black communities across Canada. They wrote to Militia Headquarters and the governor-general to request that Black Canadians be allowed to enlist. They also questioned why they were being rejected. At the same time, senior Militia officials across Canada were also questioning Militia Headquarters in Ottawa, asking how Black men could be allowed to enlist. They too faced pressure from Black leaders as well as the refusal of many white men to serve with Black soldiers." ¹⁰



This image from the fall of 1916 shows members of the No. 2 Construction Battalion, Canada's first military unit made up primarily of Black personnel. (Nova Scotia Archives via CBC¹¹)

Canada's federal government will formally apologize to the No. 2 Construction Battalion on July 9, 2022 in Truro. "The apology is important for us historically to look at what happened in the past and to say publicly to all Canadians, including the descendants of the No. 2 Construction Battalion, that the discrimination they faced was unacceptable," said Anita Anand, Canada's Minister of Defence, who will deliver the apology.

Publisher Atlantic Advocate, Nova Scotia's First Black Newspaper:

Dr. Ligoure also took over as the editor and publisher of the Atlantic Advocate, Nova Scotia's first Black newspaper for his friend, W. A. DeCosta, who left to serve in the No 2 Battalion. The newspaper was published for five years beginning in 1915.

"The Atlantic Advocate was Nova Scotia's first African Canadian newsmagazine. Its publishers, Wilfred A. DeCosta, Miriam A. DeCosta and Dr. Clement Courtenay Ligoure, incorporated as The Atlantic Advocate Association Ltd. on 8 June 1916. Only four issues have survived — the first, for April 1915 (held by Nova Scotia Archives) and three others, namely January, April and May 1917 (held by Vaughan Memorial Library, Acadia University, Wolfville, NS). The magazine covered a range of topics — historical, religious, economic, political, military, literary, social and local. Community notes appeared from across Nova Scotia, including Amherst, Digby, Halifax, Hammonds Plains, Liverpool, Shelburne, Westville, Weymouth and Wolfville, as well as from New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario."

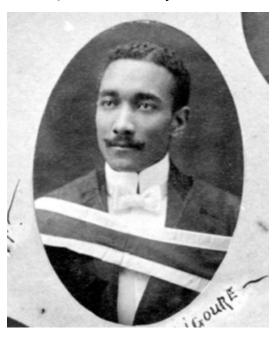
Dr. Ligoure died tragically young:

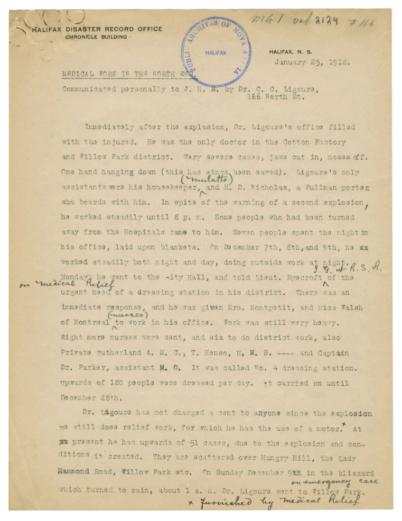
Dr. Ligoure died in Halifax on 23 May 1922, at age 32, five years after the explosion but he is not listed in Nova Scotia Historical Vital Statistics and no one has found his obituary in the Halifax newspapers of the day. He is listed in the Index to Declaration of Intent for Naturalization, New York County [USA], 1907-1924.⁷ This declaration was given sometime after 28 February 1921.² His selfless humanitarianism is to this day largely unknown. This is most likely because of his race but also the nature of the Halifax Explosion's official history.

Recent accounts reveal details on responsible authorities' efforts to construct a story that was palpable to residents and did not reveal their failure to keep the population safe from such a disaster and the under-reporting of the Explosion's effects on the Black and Mi'maq communities.

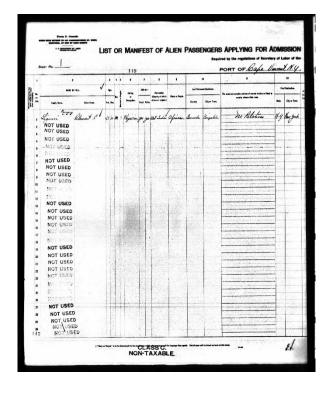
David Woods, a Halifax-based author, playwriter and researcher has increased awareness about Dr. Ligoure with his play Extraordinary Acts which tells the stories of the heroic and little celebrated lives of five little known Black community leaders.⁴

Dr. Clement C. Ligoure, graduate Queen's University Medical School, Kingston, Ontario, 1916²





Border Crossing Record of Manifest of Alien Passenger Applying for Admission¹³



Emergency Hospital N E Gottingen	no
Halifax Infirmary 382 Barrington Hazelwood Sanitarium South cor Robie	Но
THE AMANDA (Private).	Но
Under management C Court-	Ho
enay Ligoure (M D C M) 166 North Phone Lorne 191	Но
	110
Hurley-Crest (Maternity) 20 Bayers Road	Ho
Infectious Diseases N E Gottingen	Но
Mader Dr A Ivan (private) 15 Co-	220

THE MEDICAL REGISTER FOR 1923, COLONIAL LIST

Name.	Address.	Date of Registration.	Qualifications.
Lee, Harry Herbert,	Wollongong, N.S. Wales	1901, Sept. 18	M.B., Ch.M. 1901, U. Sydney
Lee, John Robert,	49, Harley street, London, w.1	1917, Nov. 20	M.B. 1897, B.S. 1898, M.D. 1908, U. Melb.; F.R.C.S. Edin., 1906
Lee, John Scott	Lanka Dispensary, Ipoh, $Perak$, F.M.S.	1919, July 26	L.M.S. Singapore M. Sch. 1910
Leech, Vernon Mayne	57, Home street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada	1919, Jan. 31	M.C.P. & S. Man., 1917; M.D. U. Man. 1917
Leembruggen, Henry Ulrich	Judicial Medical Officer, Colombo, Ceylon	1915, June 8	L.M.S. Ceylon M. Coll., 1899; L.R.C.P Edin., 1905
Leggett, William Grant	510, Sterling Bank building, Winnipeg, Man., Canada	1917, Mar. 26	M.C.P. & S. Ont., 1910; M.B. U. Toronto 1909; M.C.P. & S. Sask., 1912
Legris, Louis Joseph Agapit	Louiseville, P.Q., Canada	1920, Sept. 23	M.C.P. & S. Man., 1915; M.D. U. Man. 1915
Lehman, Ethan Joseph Magil	Box 361, North Bay, Ont., Can- ada	1921, Aug. 12	M.C.P. & S. Ont., 1921; M.B. U. Toronto 1921
Leitch, Douglas Burrows, M.C.	11147, 71 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada	1918, April 15	M.C.P. & S. Ont., 1913; M.B. U. Toronto 1913
Lemon, Robert Dillon .	Repatriation Hospital, Caulfield, Melbourne, Australia	1914, Sept. 18	M.B., B.S. 1910, U. Melb.
Lendon, Guy Austin	25, Harrington gardens, London, s.w.7	1920, May 7	M.B., B.S. 1917, U. Adelaide
Leonard, Samuel Cecil	Bright, Ont., Canada	1920, July 30	M.C.P. & S. Ont., 1918; M.B. U. Toronto 1918
Le Riche, Oscar Lester, Alexander Reginald	26, St. Catherine West, Montreal c/o King, King & Co., Bombay	1917, Dec. 18 1922, Jan. 30	M.D. Laval U., 1916 M.B., B.S. 1916, U. Bombay
Levick, Claude	Ernest street, Hunters hill,	1921, Mar. 29	M.B., Ch.M. 1920, U. Sydney
Blaxland Lewers, Hugh Bunnett.	Sydney, N.S.W. c/o Bank of N.S. Wales, 29, Threadneedle street, London,	1921, Sept. 24	M.B., B.S. 1913, U. Melb.
Ley, Albert George	E.C.2 354, Danforth avenue, Toronto	1921, April 12	M.C.P. & S. Ont., 1915; M.B. U. Toronto 1915
Liat, Lee Ee	26/6, Orchard road, Singapore, S.S.	1919, April 8	L.M.S. Singapore M. Sch., 1918
Lightstone, Herbert,	4, Hyde Park terrace, London, w.2	1910, June 9	M.D., C.M. 1910, McGill U.
D.S.O., M.C. Ligoure, Clement Courtenay	166, North street, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada	1919, Mar. 27	L.M.S. N. Scotia, P.M. Bd., 1916
Lim, Chong Eang	Union Medical College, Peking, China	1919, Nov. 22	M.B., B.S. 1916, U. Hong-Kong
Lim, Chwee Leong	104, Prangin road, Penang,	1919, Jan. 21	L.M.S. Singapore M. Sch., 1913
Lindsay, Arlof Robert .	Straits Settlements 78½, James street, St.Catherine's, Ontario, Canada	1919, Jan. 27	M.C.P. & S. Ont., 1916; M.B. U. Toronto 1916
Lippiatt, Havelock	c/o Holt & Co., 3, Whitehall	1919, Nov. 27	M.D., C.M. 1904, McGill U.
Thomas Little, George Meldrum	place, London, s.w.1 Veteran, Alta., Canada	1921, June 16	M.C.P. & S. Man., 1921; M.D. U. Man.
Little, Oliver John Samuel	Woodbridge, Ontario, Canada	1919, Jan. 25	1921 M.C.P. & S. Ont., 1915; M.B. U. Toronto 1914
Little, Walter Watson	c/o Dalgety & Co., 45, Bishops-	1920, June 28	M.B., Ch.B. 1919, U. N. Zealand
Littlejohn, Euan Ironside	gate, London, E.C.2 Ivanhoe, Victoria, Australia	1919, Mar. 20	M.B., B.S. 1916, U. Melb.
Livesey, Ernest Millington	Feilding, N.Z	1905, Dec. 11	M.B., Ch.B. 1903, U. N. Zealand; M.R.C.S Eng., 1911, L.R.C.P. Lond., 1912
Livingston, Frederick Johnson	53, College street, Toronto	1917, Oct. 20	M.C.P. & S. Ont., 1913; M.B. U. Toronto 1913
Lloyd, Charles Humphrey, M.C.	Inglewood, Queensland	1915, June 8	M.B., Ch.M. 1914, U. Sydney
Lochead, Daniel Cameron	Gull Lake, Saskatchewan	1919, June 19	M.C.P. & S. Sask. 1913
Locke, Arthur Claude	Queen's University, Kingston,	1921, July 26	M.C.P. & S. Ont., 1921; M.D., C.M. 1921 Q.U. Ont.
Locke, Ernest Ewen	Ont., Canada 5, East 51st street, New York City, U.S.A.	1919, Sept. 11	M.D., C.M. 1907, McGill U.

The land according to the 1878 Hopkins Atlas of Halifax was owned by Sir Charles Hastings Doyle who was a soldier and colonial administrator:

"b. 10 April 1804 in London, England, the eldest son of Lieutenant-General Sir Charles William Doyle and Sophia Cramer Coghill; d. unmarried on 19 March 1883 in London. Charles Hastings Doyle, like his father, attended the Royal Military College at Sandhurst, England, before entering the army as an ensign on 23 Dec. 1819. Doyle's rise through the ranks was gradual; on 16 June 1825 he purchased his captaincy, and while holding this rank through the 1830s he served as an aide-de-camp at Quebec. By 1841 he had been promoted to major. Doyle, who had served in both the East and the West Indies, purchased his lieutenant-colonelcy in 1846 and by 1854 had become a full colonel. From 1846 to 1856 he was on the staff of the quartermaster general and served in the Crimean campaign where at Varna he was invalided. For the next four and one-half years he was inspector general of militia in Ireland. Finally on 15 Sept. 1860 Doyle was appointed major-general and a year later was posted to the North American command." ¹⁶

Sir Doyle's time in Nova Scotia was spent in intense work for him.

"Archbishop Connolly's assessment of Doyle seems fair: "I know of no public man in England or in this country who under every phase of difficulty between two great contending parties, could have exhibited more unbending principle, more energy, more tact, or more honorable forbearance; no one man who could have blended stern principle and sound policy so happily together." From his arrival in 1861 Doyle had been a man "on the spot," compelled to deal with the *Trent* affair, the *Chesapeake*, the Fenians, and the anti-confederate movement: "I no sooner get rid of one difficulty here than up starts another." Yet meeting these challenges provided Doyle with his political education, and forced him to develop a style and character all his own which in time became his most valuable asset. Not one of the incompetent imperial figures who had characterized the early 19th century of "Wellington's Generals," Doyle was qualified to perform both the military and the political tasks demanded of him. Had it not been for his attempt "to steer . . . by the pole-star of impartiality" and his firm, yet just, handling of a hostile provincial government, it is unlikely that Nova Scotians would have accepted the fact of confederation as soon or as gracefully as they did.

Doyle left Nova Scotia in May 1873 and spent his remaining years in England in relative peace and tranquillity. In 1869 he had been appointed KCMG and promoted lieutenant-general. From April 1874 to May 1877, he commanded the southern district at Portsmouth, England, and in the latter year was promoted general and placed on the retired list. He died suddenly of heart disease in London in 1883."¹⁶

Architecture:

Significance of Architect/Builder:

"The history of the house at 166 North Street begins with Heber and Isabella Hartlen, who had the houses erected on the south side of North Street between Robie and Agricola. As of 1894, Heber appears as a victualler at 116 Barrington, with his home at "166 North CNR Robie". This is the first year reporting his residence on this block."²

Architectural Merit:

Construction type or building technology

Wood frame construction most likely balloon frame construction. The building is a beautiful example of an upper-class home of the Victorian North end Halifax.

Style

The architectural style of 5812/14 North Street is dominantly Queen Anne Revival

A number of architectural styles are associated with the reign of the British monarchy, but few compare to the impressive nature of the Queen Anne style that swept through America at the turn of the 19th Century. With their fanciful fairy-tale design and decorative detailing, these homes, most of which were constructed between 1880 to 1910, have an undeniably regal air. In communities across the nation, stunning examples of the Queen Anne architectural movement can still be found, and they're just as stately and desirable today as when they were built.

The Queen Anne architectural style changed significantly when it was introduced to the United States at the 1876 Central Exhibition in Philadelphia. American architects, including H.H. Richardson, a prominent New England architect, sought to combine elaborate elements from the Jacobean era (associated with the reign of King James VI of Scotland in the 16th Century), with the castle-looking towers and turrets of the Elizabethan era (named for Queen Elizabeth I of England during the same period). The impressive combination became known as "Revival Queen Anne." Gone was the bilateral symmetry and severity that defined the British original, and the opulent new style began trending across the nation. ¹⁷

Key element characteristics of the Queen Anne Revival style are:

- "Two- or three-storied homes have multiple and complex roof designs.
- Turrets and towers give the large houses a medieval look.
- <u>Large wraparound covered porches</u> are supported by elaborate columns. Some Queen Annes even featured second- and third-story <u>porches</u>.
- "Gingerbread" architectural elements, such as elaborate trim and embellishments. They can have hand-carved latticework on the undersides of roof eaves and ornate wood balusters and spindle work on porches.
- Gaily painted exteriors are found in multiple colors as part of Queen Anne decor.
- Asymmetrical design, such as an offset entrance combined with a large turret located on a front corner of the house, is almost always present.
- <u>Bay windows</u> are included.
- Picket <u>fences</u> border the front yard that are painted in colors to match the houses. Front yard flower gardens were also popular with this style.
- One or more fireplaces are often centered in the home or near the kitchen area.
- Floor plans rarely feature a central hallway, opting instead for rooms that open into adjoining rooms. You might have to walk through the living room and then through the dining room to reach the kitchen."¹⁷

Architectural Integrity:

5812/14 north Street retains many signature elements of the building. However, the structure was originally a mirror image property. The other half of the building was demolished to build the now abutting Bell telephone building.

"The three houses (164-168 North) are modified Queen Ann designs and substantial in size. Nos. 164 and 166 were built as a mirror-image double, with tiered two-storey bays capped by turret roofs and substantial doorway moulding, with panel doors, sidelights, transom windows, fluted pilasters, and a shared dentil cornice at the eave, with dormers overhead."

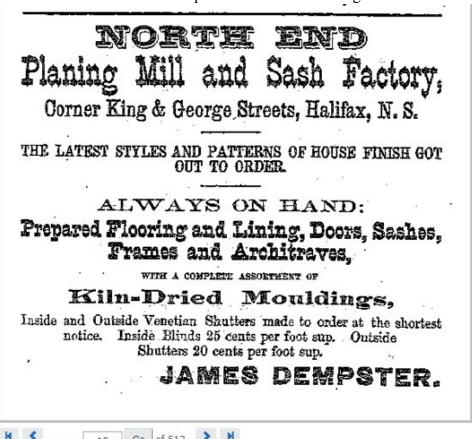
Relationship to Surrounding Area:

The 5812/14 North Street reflects the late Victorian/ early Edwardian era streetscape of North Street. It adds great architectural and heritage value to the Woodill Division district of North Street and Robie Street.

The district had several factories including John Davison's Lumber & Shingle Depot (SE corner Robie/Garrick (now Charles Street); James Dempster North End Planing Mill (King Street / the former Garrick Lane and George Street / now Davison Street) and the J.M. DeWolf Carriage Factory (Robie and West Streets). Dempster's Mill manufactured doors, sashes, frames, shutters, moulding, lining and flooring for construction of houses throughout the city and in the Woodill Division using poor Irish labourers. 19

Labourers for the construction of the Nova Scotian Cotton Manufacturing Company in 1882 at Robie Street and Kempt Rd by building contractor Samuel M. Brookfield. Later factory workers would have lived throughout this district until the cotton mill was destroyed in the Halifax Explosion.²⁰

Advertisement for James Dempster's North End Planing Mill and Sash Factory (1878)²¹





CURRENT PHOTOS:²²

5812-14 North Street is the green house on the left (front/ north view) photo:



5812 North Street (west/south view)



5812 North Street (back/south view)



5812 North Street (side/east view)



References

- 1. McAlpine Publishing. McAlpine's Halifax City Directory. Halifax: McAlpine's Publishing from 1894-1895, pg. 565 http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/canadiandirectories/001075-100.01-e.php
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