

## 2 THIRD STREET

### 1.0 History

The Grimsby Beach area forms a large part of Grimsby's historical roots. The entertainment and religious ceremonies, which drew people by the thousands throughout Ontario and the United States, was a cause to Grimsby's lakefront homes being known as 'Millionaire's Row'. Successful people spent their summers in these cottages near the beach as a recreational retreat.

In 1846 the area began as a Methodist Camp Meeting Ground and in 1878 the Boy's Tabernacle was built and established in the area. Every August 2nd, Emancipation Day, hundreds of Negroes all over the United States and Canada would come to Grimsby Park to celebrate the abolition of slavery.

Grimsby Park turned into Grimsby Beach in 1913 and grew to be one of the most popular tourist spots in Ontario. There was an abundance of fun and entertainment available for all ages: rides; 2 roller rinks; dancing; a casino; musician s; tennis; lawn bowling; shuffleboard; local amateur theatre; booth games; a hotel; shops; bonfires; swimming; fishing; moonlight cruises; day-long picnics; and annual picnics for companies.

By 1949, the Grimsby Red Cross established a water safety program and swimming lessons in Lake Ontario. Swimming in the lake continued until 1962 when it was declared polluted.

The exact date of construction of 2 Third Street is difficult to establish. It is thought that the house was built in approximately the late 1870's. A photo from the book 'Greetings from Grimsby Park' shows 2 Third Street as it looked many years ago. A copy is attached as Appendix 'A'.

A former owner of 2 Third Street (John W. Allan of 245 Main Street East, Grimsby) claims that he found an old sign in the attic advertising for 'J.H. Ford Photography'. We can only speculate that John Ford used to live in this very same house. He was an expert photographer who, through his clear photo taking, has provided us with a view to our past.

### 2.0 Landscaping

The property located at 2 Third Street is landscaped with mature chestnut, maple and evergreen trees with other shrubbery surroundings. The house sits on a corner facing Bell Park, as can be seen by Figure 1, with the house centered in the distance. Formerly, the Bell was in front of 2 Third Street. Since then, it has been moved to the middle ground of Bell Park. On the property is a natural spring which was most likely used by the residents of Grimsby Park in the late 1800's.



FIGURE 1

### 3.0 Architecture

We are uncertain as to who built the house, although it is a typical example of the old gingerbread cottages with board and batten siding using the balloon-framing technique.

#### 4.0 West Facade (front)

The first floor has 2 two over two double-hung windows, a one over one storm door with the front door having 4 moulded panels. The trim over the heads of the first and second floor doors are that of entablature. There is a two tiered open wooden verandah with plain supports, vertical board enclosing both storeys, with ornate woodwork over the head of the second floor roof. The second floor has two doors leading out to another open wooden verandah.



FIGURE 2



FIGURE 3

## 5.0 South Facade

The south side has a small 2 over 2 second floor window within a secondary gable end and on the first floor is one two over one and three six over one double hung sash windows. This south

This south side formerly had a porch with a doorway on the second floor under the gable. (Appendix A)



FIGURE 4

## 6.0 East Facade

There is a doorway which has 2 storm doors with the top half screened and the rest ornate woodwork. The second storey has one 2 over 2 double hung sash window. The first storey has two 6 over 1 double hung sash windows side by side to the left of the doorway. There are also two small 2 over 2 windows side by side to the right of the doorway with storm windows•



1.0 North Facade

The windows on the north facade all have screen coverings, while the first storey has two six over one double hung sash and 2 two over two double hung **sash**. The second storey has 2 two over two double hung sash windows.

## 6.0 General

The roof has a centre gable on the south side. The verges, eaves and windows are plain. The structure was constructed on footings. The sides are board and batten made by balloon framing.

The front and back entrance of the house have a number '2' fixed to the side, which would lead us to believe that both doorways were regularly used in the past. This house formerly had 10 doors. Many of these accesses have been boarded or converted to windows.



FIGURE 7

FIGURE 7





*One of the "gingerbread" cottages that began to appear in 1875. Note the fretwork.*

