

A- Architecture - Cobourg
(03-17)
P91

HERI



THINGS OF THE PAST: Workers have begun the task of dismantling the Lydia Pinkham building for Whitehall, right, continues.

Tearing down

BY VALERIE MACDONALD
STAFF WRITER

Two buildings with a wealth of local history are in the process of being demolished.

The roof of the Lydia Pinkham building on Cobourg's University Avenue, immediately west of Thomas Pontiac Buick GMC Ltd. and the interior of St. Michael's Rectory at Division and Havelock streets are being taken apart, much to the chagrin of local historical conservationist Doug Sifton.

in 1874, Mr. Sifton says, and within two years it became a "model" school where people were trained to become teachers.

Later it became home to the famous Lydia Pinkham's Pink Pills for Pale People and, after that, a plumbing supply depot.

It was recently purchased to expand the car dealership next door.

LACAC made a pitch to Cobourg council, asking it to refrain from issuing a demolition permit, to no avail.

The building's structural

Council to give it the land, located on County Road 2 immediately north of Northumberland Mall, or allow the group to purchase it, in order to relocate the frame structure originally built by the Burnham family.

The owner of Whitehall has agreed to give the building to the conservation group for \$1 (at the same time saving about \$25,000 in demolition costs) so he can proceed with a fast-food outlet, adding to the commercial strip development in that area.

TAGE



PHOTOS BY TED AMSDEN

m building on University Avenue in Cobourg, left, while the struggle to find a new home

our heritage

tions meeting held yesterday following county council, Mr. Sifton said the group was submitting an application to the Millennium Fund by Saturday as part of its fund-raising efforts to move and restore Whitehall.

A piece of property about 15,000 square feet is required and Mr. Sifton says 100 feet of frontage on Burnham Street either nearest Highway 401, north of the Golden Plough or farther south near the drainage pond would suit the project.

The sites are part of about a three-acre parcel owned by

the county.

The conservation proposal is to turn Whitehall into a multi-use building such as a tourism centre, library or museum.

"It will become a landmark over a period of time," Mr. Sifton assured the committee.

The cost of the prime land is still to be determined and on Nov. 18 the committee is to make a recommendation to county council regarding how much involvement it should have in the project.

Some of those options include holding a mortgage

on the property or establishing a county museum at the location.

"If we are successful," says Mr. Sifton, "we expect to restore and landscape it in five years and have a private foundation operating it."

"This is a vital part of our heritage," agreed labour relations committee chairman George McCleary.

At the same time, he noted that the county's western municipalities would benefit from it more than those in the east who would likely not want to give away prime county-owned land.

Members of Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee were among the local citizens who attempted to save the century-old rectory, part of a trio of buildings at that location owned by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough. A see-saw court battle resulted in the demolition permit being upheld and, consequently, the building being torn down.

The Lydia Pinkham building began as a public school

integrity was considered beyond repair.

With these two demolition projects under way, Mr. Sifton, LACAC members and the newly formed local chapter of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario are steaming ahead to save Whitehall. It's considered the oldest residence in Cobourg, after the land it sits on was annexed a year and a half ago.

The group has asked Northumberland County



PHOTO BY TED AMSDEN

DO I HAVE A BID? Cobourg jail is expected to go on the block in early December.

Cobourg jail on auction block

BY VALERIE MACDONALD
STAFF WRITER

Part of the local area's heritage is expected to go on the auction block in early December.

Northumberland County — which owns the jail located north of the harbour in Cobourg's downtown — will sell the edifice through Gordon Auctioneers & Realty Inc.

County councillors passed the necessary bylaw at Wednesday's meeting.

"The jail auction target date is the first week of December," county project manager Judy Collar said.

The county expects to pay upwards of \$8,000 for up-

sion fee. This is paid by the highest bidder.

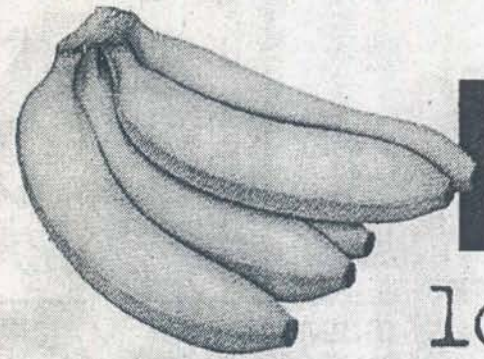
The auctioneer will provide a 20-per-cent co-brokerage fee for co-operating real estate agents "if they register the buyer according to the rules set out by the auctioneer," states the bylaw.

The property is considered to be a key piece in the overall development of the lands surrounding Cobourg's harbour, linking it with the downtown core.

It has become surplus since the province closed the jail earlier this year as part of its plan to build "superjails" throughout the province.

Prisoners were moved to the Peterborough Jail and now local police departments

At a county labour rela- a three-acre parcel
4-Architecture - Cobourg (03-17)



10

hydroponic
tomatoes

9

beans
no name
selected varieties
in tomato sauce,
398 ml



3

bananas
from the tropics
no. 1

OR LESS



.55
/kg.

2