

Real Estate and Classified Marketplace



Can heat the house

Built 120 years ago

Log home a local landmark

It was the winter of 1858—120 years ago—that Samuel De Burgh Frazer began chopping down four foot thick white pine trees for the walls of his home which was to be the "tallest and the hand-somest log house in the whole of Tiny and Tay townships."

Today that house, a landmark in its own right, stands atop the hill overlooking Little Lake Park on King Street. The house itself hasn't changed much for its 120 years of braving the heat of Midland summers and the cold of the winters. In fact, Frazer's axe marks can still be seen on the big beams across the ceiling.

When Frazer built the house it was to be modern—meaning that it would be two stories high and have logs that were squared off instead of rounded. His tools consisted of a broad axe for chopping trees, an adze to square the beams, and his hands and muscles.

The white pines that Frazer cut down had to be

42 feet long and 18 inches square in order to be adequate as walls. They are morticed at the corners and the spaces in between are filled in with chips of wood. A mortar of lime which was made in the district and mixed with sand was used along with the wood chips.

The floor boards are two feet across and two inches thick. They were smoothed by a wood working machine driven by horses. The floors were also made of pine and was left by Frazer in its natural shade.

Eight hundred panes of glass had to be shipped from Toronto for the windows. The roof shingles were shaved by hand and put in place with mortar.

The door and window frames were secured by huge pegs hacked out of wood by Frazer. The pegs are as thick as a man's forearm.

The walls of the house were panelled in pine. The mantels, the stairway rails and the window sills were all hand carved.

The house has two fireplaces, which the present owner Mrs. P. Petticrew claims can heat the entire house. These were made by Frazer of stone from the area. The original stone has crumbled, but the owners before the Pet-

ticrew's had the fireplaces carefully restored.

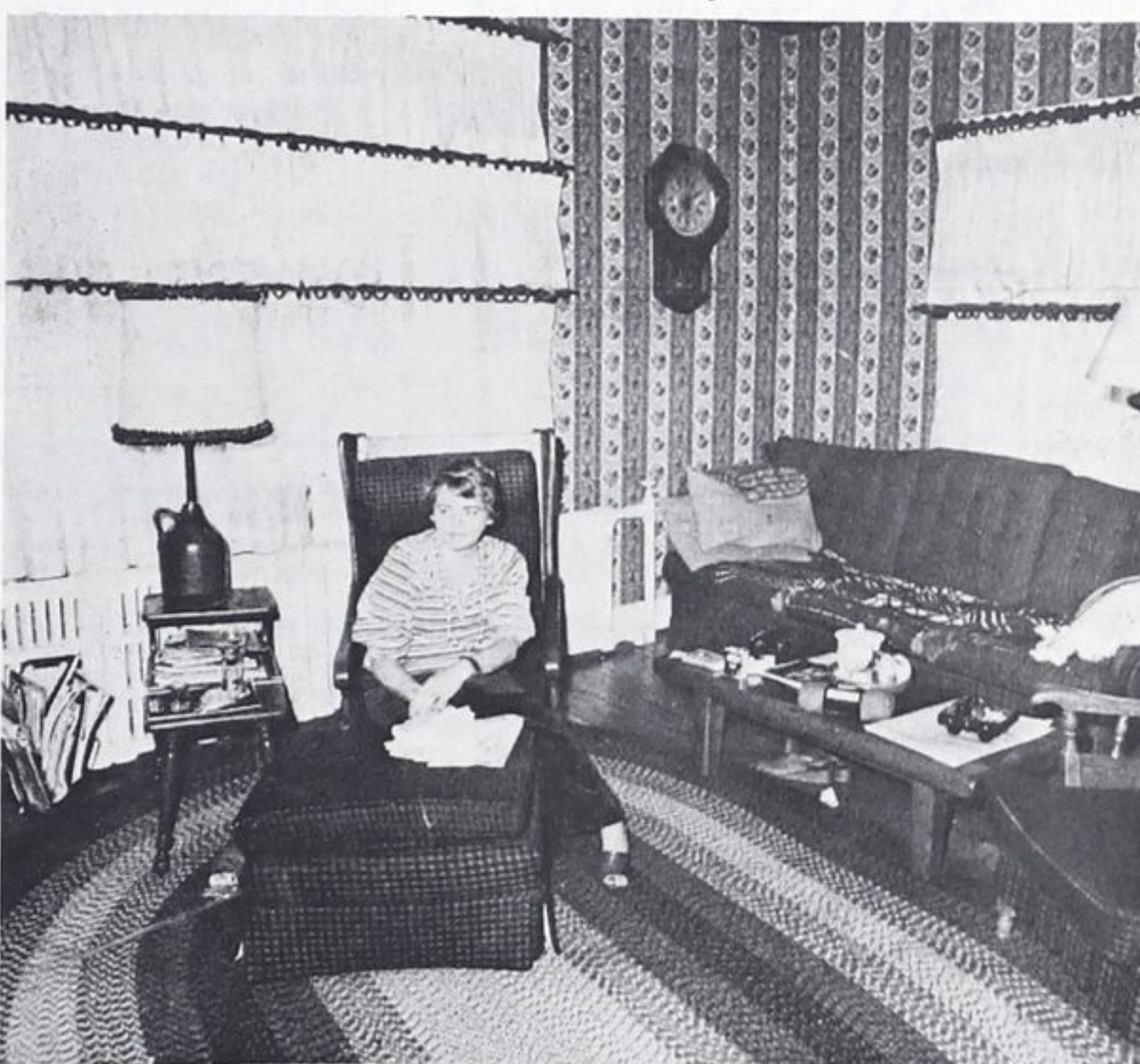
According to the Collingwood Times, the house was finished in 1858 on June 17. It was to be the home of Frazer and his new bride Amelia Jeffrey. Although there are no records to substantiate it, many

historians feel that Frazer probably built much of the original furniture in the house and had the rest specially made.

The house is still a showplace. The owners over the past thirty years have made a great effort to preserve the work that Frazer did so many years ago.



Cozy corner



Sitting room



Beamed ceilings



White pine walls

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HOME OF THE WEEK

Five bedroom luxury

Plan Number: 77-2509
The long sloping roofline, mixed vertical and diagonal siding and heavy shake roof give this one-and-one-half storey, five bedroom, full basement contemporary design the rustic appearance of a mountain chalet.

The wide, weather-sheltered entrance opens into a small foyer, which leads to the right into the large living / dining room combination. The living room has a lofty sloping, beamed ceiling and a brick-faced fireplace, re-inforcing the lodge or chalet mood of the home. The large dining room separates from the kitchen via pocket door and has access to the full width rear deck via sliding glass doors.

A well-planned U-shaped kitchen separates the dining room from the nook and family room combination, providing a good separation between formal dining and casual family meals. The large family room has a second brick-faced fireplace and access to the rear deck via sliding glass doors.

A large utility room and downstairs two piece vanity bath are easily accessible to all downstairs areas. The utility room has laundry tub, washer, dryer and storage closet. Its access from the double garage enables it to be used as a mud room.

Upstairs are five bedrooms distributed around the central bath and linen storage. Four of the bedrooms have access to a rear balcony via sliding glass doors. The master bedroom has a walk-in closet behind a pocket door and a three piece ensuite with shower.

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