



SMITHS FALLS

RISE AT THE FALLS

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest for 21 Market Street North

Description of Property

The property at 21 Market Street North, also known as the “Chalmers Building” and later “The Armoury”, is located in the Town of Smiths Falls at the northeast corner of Market Street North and William Street East. The property contains a two-storey commercial structure. The structure was constructed in 1931 for the Frost & Wood Company.

Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The property has physical/design value as a rare example of a standalone early 20th century warehouse in the downtown area of Smiths Falls, and its subsequent evolution to commercial and industrial uses. It is representative of an early 20th century industrial structure as seen through its two-storey massing, its large window, door, and loading bay openings, and its rusticated concrete block foundation.

The property has historic/associative value through its associations with the Frost & Wood Company. Built in 1931, it was originally called the Chalmers Building and was constructed to support the manufacturing efforts of Frost & Wood. Frost & Wood briefly leased the property to the Clark and Lewis Ford dealership. However, during the Second World War, Frost & Wood began manufacturing for the war effort, returning the Chalmers Building to manufacturing uses. The property was sold in 1950 to the Crown. The Corporals Guard from Kingston then took possession and converted it into an armoury. It was used by the Royal Canadian Dragoon's until 1960 to train local militia to march and handle weaponry.

Heritage Attributes

The following heritage attributes reflect the cultural heritage value or interest of the property:

- Two-storey massing and brick cladding
- Soldier course brick banding
- Brick soldier courses above window, door, and loading bay openings
- Exterior window and door openings including the loading bays
- Date stone reading “CHALMERS BLOCK 1931”
- Rusticated concrete block foundation