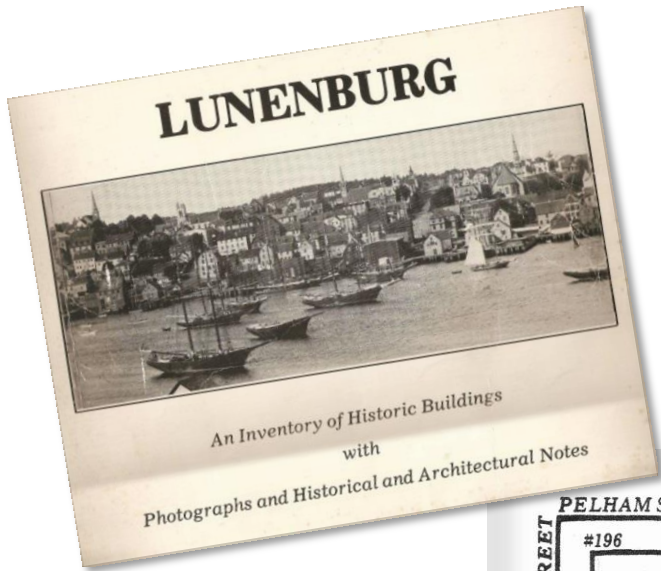


# 196 Pelham Street

## Historic & Architectural Notes

From *Lunenburg: An Inventory of Historic Buildings*



PELHAM STREET		KEMPT STREET	
#196	1886-90	#202	1888-90
<p>In the early 1880's, this 2 block long strip of land between Pelham and Montague Streets, which lay outside of the original Old Town layout, was owned by H.M. Moyle. After his death, the so-called "Moyle Estate" was subdivided and the portion which fronted on this part of Pelham Street, (known then as the "road to Garden Lots") was purchased by C. Albert Smith, a local building contractor (see also #86 Prince). Smith subsequently sold off the lots and was probably involved in the construction of some of the houses that were built. In 1886, this corner lot was sold to Capt. James Young for \$526 and by 1890, this house had been built (see 1890 BEV). By 1900, the property was worth \$1,575 and sold in that year to Thomas Walters, a blacksmith who ran a shop just below this lot at #2 Kempt Street. The house has remained in the Walters family since then and continues its link with the Walters' blacksmith shop which is now run by Vernon Walters, Thomas' grandson. The house itself is similar to several others on this part of Pelham St. Double, 5-sided projecting bays adorn the main facade facing the street, extending upward through the eaves of the gable roof, and culminating in large extended dormers with bell cast, pagoda-like roofs. The main windows are tall, narrow, and round-headed, divided by thick mullions and are characteristic of other houses of this type and era. While the overall design of the house is so strong and forceful that it cannot be disguised, some of the smaller architectural details and subtle textures of the original design have been obscured by the use of vinyl siding.</p> <p>Thomas Walters and Son, Marine and General Blacksmiths, is the only blacksmith shop still operating in Lunenburg and has been a family business since 1893. In that year Thomas Walters acquired this corner lot from James Hirtle (who had earlier acquired a portion of the old Moyle Estate, along Montague Street) and built this 1½ storey shop. In 1902, he bought an additional lot, to the east, and added the single storey extension. The small lean-to additions were added by 1924. The building is a straightforward, functional structure that well represents the "industrial architecture" of turn of the century Lunenburg. Large 8 over 8 windows facing Montague Street illuminate the workshop area; wide barn doors open directly onto Kempt Street; and a large 9 pane display window provides visual access to the blacksmith's products. A door set into the gable end gives access to the 2nd floor storage area, and a louvred cupola provides attic ventilation and an escape route for the heat from the forge. The older section of the building sits on a stone foundation, the newer on concrete. The shingled wall surface is attractively maintained in grey, and corner boards, window trim, etc. are in contrasting barn red. The shop specializes in "shipsmithing", providing fittings for fishing boats and sailing craft of all types, and is of note in having made the fittings for the Bounty and the Bluenose II, both built at the Smith and Rhuland yards.</p>	<p>Richard Heckman, a mariner, bought this lot from C. Albert Smith in 1888 and had this house built (see 1890 BEV). Similar to several others in this area (see #196, #172, and #178 Pelham) it has been kept in excellent architectural condition. All original ornamental features on the projecting bays have been retained including scrollwork over windows and door, bracketed cornices and eaves, and ornamental panels beneath each window. Original corner boards and bracketed eaves returns are still in place and, like all other features of the house, are accented by a green and white paint scheme. Like all other houses of this type, the front door opens onto a wide hall and stairwell and 3 rooms on the main floor. There are 4 rooms upstairs, and 2 in the downslope basement level.</p>	<p>C. Albert Smith sold this lot to Samuel Knickle in 1887 and this house was built by 1890 (see 1890 BEV). It is substantially intact architecturally (except for the removal of one of the dormers on the main facade), and is an interesting combination of mansard roof, central projecting dormer, and bay windows. The dormer is particularly notable. It has a steep gabled roof and extends out from the peak of the main roof to just beyond the lower eaves line. The gable end is defined by small eaves returns and contains an ornamental trefoil design. Projecting from the front face of the dormer is a small bay window with bracketed cornice and scroll-work lintels. At street level are two projecting bays, one of which contains the doorway which has a graceful semi-circular transom window over it. The cornice line of the bays is linked in with the bottom of the projecting dormer and is bracketed in the same style as the eaves and corner boards of the house. Another house similar to this one is #203 Townsend</p>	
#2 Kempt	1893-1902	#229	1922