

# Old spaces, great places: A look at old Saint John

EMILY HAWS Telegraph-Journal

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75 Orange St.  
Photo: Submitted

*Each weekend, the Telegraph-Journal will feature a historic property from the Saint John area with photos and historical information about the space. This week, the feature takes a different twist. This historic property is on the market.*

Address: 75 Orange St.

Name: Edward Mooney Property

About: The property is part of a brick three-unit Italianate residential complex. According to the planning and development department of the City of Saint Johns, the property is designated a Local Historic Place for its architecture and for its association with its former occupants.

The home was built in the 1880s as a part of the great rebuild decade after the Great Fire of 1877. The three homes in the building are collectively known as the Edward Mooney Property, after its first owner.

Edward Mooney, his father Bernard, and his two brothers constructed the building and owned it for about 40 years, although Edward Mooney never lived there. Their company, B. Mooney & Sons was one of the biggest building companies in Saint John at the time.

Peter Buckland, who is one of the owners now, said there has been approximately 10 owners since it was built. He said he loves the house and the neighbourhood, but that it was time to downsize. He has lived in the house since 2009.

"We put in quite a large island with a granite top and installed a six burner gas cook top," he said. "We had to figure out the venting, so we installed a vent but it had to be suspended ... what we did was with the help from an architect ... he designed this beautiful floating bulkhead using cherry wood."

"That bulkhead that is suspended from the ceiling is quite large, but it is suspended from the ceiling using aircraft wire, so it's not coming down," said Buckland.

The home is also one of the only homes in the area with a useable Captains Watch, a small sitting area above the third floor. Many of them in the area have deteriorated over the years and had been sealed off, but Buckland said previous owners had taken care of it.

"This goes back to the days when the business men who had ships at sea would watch for their ships to come in, or perhaps the wife of the sea captain would be able to watch for her husband's ship to come into port," he said.

The Captains Watch is heated, and Buckland said he had turned it into a sitting space with a telephone. Buckland said the home has many multipurpose elements to it, such as the second bedroom can be used as an office or entertainment space. The large dining room is also great for entertaining guests, and there is also a one car garage and a backyard.

If you have an entrepreneurial mind, there is a large one bedroom furnished unit on the first floor and a cozy studio apartment in the basement, and each with their own entrances and laundry.

The home's price is \$489,000, and is listed with Bob McVicar.

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Beautiful, One of Saint John's hidden gems. Some people just don't realize how nice some of these old homes are in Saint John. Imagine the ambiance in that back yard. Wow!

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I'm trying to imagine how much this beautiful building would be in Toronto.....Fabulous

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