

**Address:** 57 James Street



**Legal Description:** Part Lot 429, Plan 20

**Designation By-law:** 72-92

**By-Law Designation Date** June 8, 1992:

**Date of Construction:** 1870

**Architectural Style:** Regency Cottage

**Architectural Description:** one storey yellow brick with quoins at the corners and around the entrance; hip roof with centre gable; first storey; rectangular window on left side with twelve over twelve panes; the entrance porch projects slightly from the rest of the house the door case is quite heavy with three windows in the transom separated by carved wooden brackets; there is a single pane sidelight on each side of the door; below each side light is a wooden panel; the peak in the roof above the door is supported by brackets under the slopes of the roof and under the lower edge of the peak; a trefoil window is in the peak; another twelve pane over twelve pane window is on the right side; both windows have brick labels over them. The right side of the house has a wooden frieze and brackets under the eaves; there are two twelve over twelve rectangular paned windows and a smaller window in between these two windows. Below each window at the side and the front are slightly inset brick panels.

The house was built by lawyer, John Idington, who later became a Supreme Court Justice. In 1952 meetings to establish the Stratford Shakespearean Festival occurred in this house then owned by the Bells, who were the first couple to jointly receive the Order of Canada.