About Us

- Heritage Mississauga is the only city-wide independent not-for-profit charity dedicated to researching, recording and communicating Mississauga’s diverse heritage. Our research and programs are a reflection of that heritage.

- We are respected by the community and recognized as experts in the field of research, writing and program delivery; we have been in existence for over 50 years.

- Heritage Mississauga strives to create a sustainable heritage resource which contributes to the cultural vibrancy of our local community and which will be available to all peoples.

History

A delightful testimony to life in the early days of settlement, “The Grange” tells its story through the number of memorable personalities who have lived here over the years. “The Grange” was built for Sir John Beverley Robinson, the first Chief Justice of Canada West, sometime between 1828 and 1833 for the dual purpose of being a government office and a rural retreat from his rigorous professional schedule. The Ontario Regency style of architecture and the high quality craftsmanship reflect the status of its original owner.

Sir John Beverley Robinson 1828 – 1832

Dr. Beaumont Wilson Bowen Dixie 1843 – 1846

Olive and Henry Adamson 1911 – 1973

“The Grange” was sold numerous times throughout the latter half of the 19th Century, being owned in the 1870s by Colonel Charles Mitchell, son-in-law of General Peter Adamson. Later, the Very Reverend Dean Henry Geoffroy of St. James Cathedral in Toronto lived here. Weymouth S. further and his wife the renowned artist Charlotte Schreiber, owned the cottage at the turn of the century. The property then passed to Arthur Adamson, grandson of Dr. Joseph Adamson, in 1910.

The Cadillac Fairview Corporation, who acquired the surrounding property in the 1970s, deeded “The Grange” to the City of Mississauga in 1978, its preservation ensured by the efforts of the local historical society and city councilors. “The Grange” now stands restored to its full beauty, and designated by the Ontario Heritage Trust as a significant historical and architectural landmark. Today “The Grange” is home to the offices of Heritage Mississauga.
The house has been painted in period colours which date from the 1840s. We have chosen to use lighter pastels inside, however the colour palette of the day was mainly comprised of bolder shades like the teal on the outside of the house.

Debbie Hatch Discovery Centre & Gallery
This lovely yellow room is currently used as an art gallery and meeting space but would previously have been the formal parlour, a place where the public was received and business conducted, especially during the time of the first owner and later as a surgery for Doctor Beaumont Dixie. The last family to live in the house, the Adamson’s used the room as a traditional formal parlour and also hosted two family funerals.

Heritage Resource Centre
The turquoise-coloured room is the heart of our organization today. It is the home of most of our reference library. It also provides a great working space for students and members of the public who wish to conduct their own research.

The Grounds
The modern basement was added in 1979 when the house was moved off its foundations for about six months; the basement features a modern kitchen, bathrooms, and our Lower Meeting Hall which is used as a board room, an art gallery, and can be rented as a meeting hall for community groups.

Summer Kitchen
Today the summer kitchen is the main entrance of our office. The original summer kitchen was likely added by Doctor Dixie in the 1840s to extend the square footage of the building and also to provide a practical space for cooking that would ensure that the main house remained cool in summer. The original summer kitchen was removed in 1979 and the present “summer kitchen” room was built on the original footprint of 19th century addition.

Overview & Front Hall
Start your tour at the original front door of the building, the Grange, also known as the Robinson-Adamson House, is a Regency Cottage built in a classic Ontario vernacular regency style between 1828 and 1833.

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