



# Ontario's New Government House

Chorley Park, Rosedale, Toronto, The Site of The Lieutenant-Governor's Palatial Residence



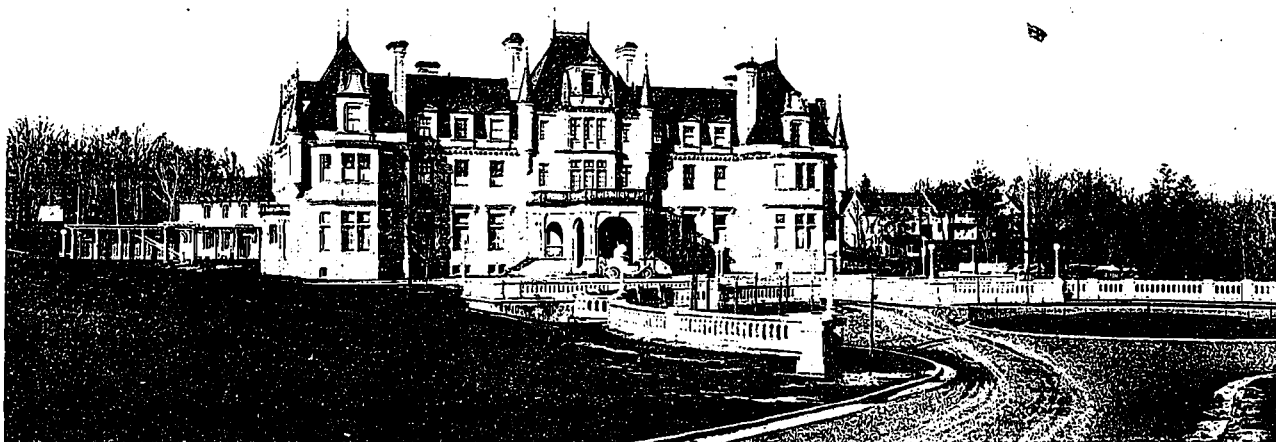
ELMSLEY HOUSE OCCUPIED AS A GOVERNMENT HOUSE (1813-1862).



ONTARIO GOVERNMENT HOUSE (SIMCOE AND KING STREETS, TORONTO, 1867-1912).

**D**ESIGNED after the French chateau style, the new official Government House of Ontario is a splendid example of the architecture of the period of Louis XVI. In it the architect has produced a gem which will stand as a durable monument to his skill. The touch of the master craftsman is everywhere in evidence, from the lodge at the main entrance, over the artistically planned grounds, throughout the harmoniously designed and equipped residence, to the greenhouses and garage on the north side. Every feature betokens an inspired ideal, which from its inception to its creation has been closely and cleverly adhered to. This impression is gained from a visit to the grounds and is intensified by a glimpse at the interior of the residence. The citizens of Ontario have reason to be proud of the official home they have created for the King's representative.

This is the third Government House Ontario has had during the past hundred years. In the time of Governor Simcoe, who came to York to found the new Capital for the Province of Upper Canada, his home was first a canvas house, once the property of the famous Captain Cook. Later he decided to build a house on the west side of the Don River, two miles from the Bay. Into this building which was called Castle Frank, he moved in January 1794. It was a one-storey, clap-boarded house about thirty by fifty feet with a facade in front consisting of four large columns, the trunks of unbarked pine trees, reaching to the roof. This house contained but two rooms. Later during the regime of Sir Francis Gore who came in 1806 the Governor's residence consisted of a group of low one-storey cottages built of logs. These were burned in 1813.



VIEW FROM CENTRAL COURT—ONTARIO'S NEW GOVERNMENT HOUSE.