

11668 First Line_ George Calvert House



Legal Description

Concession 1, Part Lot 20, Nassagaweya

Description of Property

George Calvert built this one-storey Regency-style stone house in 1846 for his wife, Mary Calvert, nee McCater Black. It is one of the few remaining original stone settlement houses in Nassagaweya and continues to remind us of the settlement history of this historic Township.

Statement of Cultural Value and Interest

Historical Value

Thomas Bull received the Easterly half of the property from the Crown on July 1, 1825. It was sold to George Calvert (born 1778) on May 31, 1839, who then sold it to John Gilles in 1841. John sold it back to Mary Calvert, who built the house with the help of George in 1846. Mary Calvert, nee McCarter Black, was the third of four wives of George. George Calvert was born 1778 and died in 1857. He enlisted in the 5th Regiment Gore Militia (Sep 11, 1826) and the 2nd Regiment Gore Militia Roll (1828-1829). The "Regiment Gore Militia" refers to a historical militia unit from the Gore District in Upper Canada (now part of Ontario, Canada). The Regiment was primarily active during the 1830s, most notably during the Upper Canada Rebellion of 1837, where they were called upon to suppress rebellions in the region.

George died in 1857 and Mary sold the property to John McLean in 1858. John, a pioneering farmer, was nicknamed 'Sugar Johnny' because he owned a large sugar bush. He was born in Scotland in 1815. His wife, Rhoda, was born in New Brunswick in 1824. John and Rhoda also lived at Puslinch in Wellington County for a while before leaving for Manitoba. John sold the property to Duncan Morrison in 1862, whose name appeared in the 1877 Halton Atlas. Duncan sold the

property to Hugh Evelegh in 1889. Other owners were Daniel Jones (1890), Burdge Butts (1914), Robert Marshall family (1918), and Donald McKersie (1947). Donald or Don ran a large farm, and his wife Jean taught piano lessons in the surrounding area of Moffat and Puslinch.

In 1947, Wilson Jacob and Leona Mae Snyder bought the property from the McKersies. Wilson Snyder worked the afternoon shift at the Ford plant in Oakville and farmed in the morning. When he retired, he sold the farm and moved to Ethel in northern Huron County. Subsequent owners were John Huempfer (1973), Nicholas and Louise Kot (1975), and Robert and Mona Stupart (1987). The present owners are Thomas and Jessie Herdes.

Physical or Design Value

Physically, this Regency-style stone house has a medium hip roof, protruding eaves and a plain soffit. The west elevation has a balanced, three-bay front faced with stone cut to courses and random parged course fieldstone on the other elevations. The central entrance has four stone steps and a landing with steel railings. The single-leaf, six-panel front door has moulded trims, pediment surrounds, side lite and multi-pane transoms. The one-over-one windows have plain trims, stone lug sills and lintels. An inscription on the date stone above the front door reads " G.M.C 1846 B.J.F."

Contextual Value

Contextually, this house is one of the few remaining original stone settlement houses in Nassageweya and continues to remind us of the settlement history of this historic Township.

Character Defining Elements/Heritage Attributes

Key attributes that reflect the cultural heritage value of the property include:

- One-storey Regency Style stone farmhouse with low hip roof, protruding eaves and plain fascia.
- Regular course cut stone at west elevation and random course parged fieldstone at side elevations.
- Single-flue stone chimney
- One-over-one windows with shutters, plain mouldings, stone lintels and lug sills
- Six panels front door with moulded trims, pediment surrounds, side lite and multi-pane transoms
- Dated stone " GMC 1846 BJF"