

## **91 Mill Street\_ Ellen Halcro House**



### **Legal Description**

Plan 6, Blk 3 Lot 27 John Martin Survey

### **Description of Property**

This one-and-a-half-storey clapboard house was built in 1877 by Ellen Halcro. It was the home of George Bousfield who was the land developer of the Mountain View Park subdivision in Milton. This property's contextual, historical and architectural significance is deeply rooted in its contribution to Mill Street neighbourhood heritage character.

### **Statement of Cultural Value and Interest**

#### **Historical Value**

The original lot was owned by the Nixon family in 1855. The property was sold to Ellen Halcro in 1877 when she built the house. Ellen was born in the northern part of Trafalgar in 1840. Her father, William Downs, emigrated from Ireland in the 1820s. Her mother, Millicent Downs, was born in Upper Canada in 1808. Ellen married Peter Halcro on November 20, 1872. Peter Halcro emigrated from Scotland and settled in Milton as a young tailor. Within a few years, he entered a partnership with William Bews, also a tailor at 224 Main St.,

After Ellen Halcro the property was owned by: Thomas Michie (1888); George Bousfield (1897); Ella and John Brandon (1906). George Bousfield was the land developer of the Mountain View Park subdivision in Milton. In 1913, he and his son Wray Bousfield registered Plan of Subdivision 154 -Mountain View Survey, part of "Old Milton." Bousfield sold the subject property to the Young family in 1909, who in turn sold it to John Lawrence Hardy in 1947. The property was passed on to Jack and Jean Hardy in 1954. It was sold to Gayle Pearce in 2003, who added the East wing of the house at a construction cost of \$200,000. They received a Heritage Award from the Town of Milton in 2010 for their efforts. The current owners are Richard and Susan Hooper. They remodelled the new two-car garage in 2019.

## **Physical or Design Value**

Physically, the historic cottage-style part of the house to the west of the property was clad with a four-inch clapboard. It has a medium gable roof, extended eaves, plain verges, and fascia. Subsequently, a kitchen with a lean-to roof was added to the rear. The single-leaf front door has a stained glass insert and a segmented arch transom. Windows are two over two with semi-arch trim and shutters. The single-flue brick chimney is still intact and located toward the center of the rear elevation of the historic house.

Malcolm Brekkie and Gayle Pearce completed the east wing of the existing house in 2010. The design of this addition sympathetically matches the historic style of the original house. The medium gable roof has projecting metal eaves, plain fascia, soffit, and frieze. A new double French door with arch transom accents the east wing addition.

## **Contextual Value**

Contextually, this early cottage style house served as the home of Ellen Halcro. It is also the house of George Edward Bousfield, the land developer of the Mountain View Park neighbourhood, a significant area in the history of Milton's development. The house contributes to the neighbourhood character of Mill Street. It is one of the earliest houses built in the Park Lots, John Martin Survey Plan #6, established in 1856.

## **Character Defining Elements/Heritage Attributes**

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

- The original massing of the one-and-a-half-storey clapboard house with projecting eaves, plain fascia and medium gable roof.
- Two over two windows with shutters, semi-arch trim and wooden lug sills
- Double leaf French door with arch transom
- Single-leaf wooden door with stained glass inserts and segmented arch transom
- Single flue brick chimney
- Historical home of George Bousfield, who was the developer of the Mountain View Subdivision
- The context of the historic home in preserving the heritage character of Mill Street