

14 Victoria Street_ John Maxted House



Legal Description

Plan 18, Blk A Lot 5 and Part Lots 6, 7 Park Lots, John Martin Survey

Description of Property

John Maxted, a man of many talents, built this one-and-a-half-storey brick house in 1896. His role as Mayor of Milton in 1928 was just one of his many accomplishments. As a builder, he left an indelible mark on the town, constructing several major downtown stores, Knox Church, the Post Office, the Canadian Pacific Railway Station, and many other houses..

Statement of Cultural Value and Interest

Historical Value

This property was registered to John Martin in 1857. John, the eldest son of Sarah and Jasper Martin, founders of Milton, took over the family gristmill and sawmill business. He was a land developer and municipal politician, serving on the board of the Mechanics' Institute and building the Market House at 251 Main St. He is buried at the Pioneer Cemetery on Bronte Street North.

After John's death, the property changed hands multiple times, including Charles O'Neil (1857), Thomas Claffy (1856), Finlay McCallum (1868), Catherine Anne Downie (1881), and Elizabeth Maxted (1896). John Maxted, a builder and bricklayer, constructed the home for his family in 1896. He also built significant structures in Milton, served as a Sunday School Superintendent, and became Mayor in 1928. John and Elizabeth had a daughter, Margaret, who was the first female treasurer of a county in Ontario.

In 1913, after Elizabeth's death, John sold the house to Eliza Ann and Thomas C. Dale, who rented it to Dr. George Syer, the founding chief physician of the present hospital. The Dales sold the property to Jessie and Fred Varley in 1946.

The house was sold in 1969 to Hilda Elizabeth and Everett C. (Jim) Mountain. Jim worked as a milk truck driver and was a volunteer fireman, while Hilda was active in the community. In 1971, Christina Marie and Robert E. Dyck bought the property; they lived there for two years before selling it to Isabella Cunningham and Dewart Leslie Downs in 1973.

The property was purchased by Galogero and Giuseppina Crisci in 1992, who used it for rental income. Bonnie Baird bought the house in 1994, raising her two children there and cherishing its features. In 2007, Bonnie sold it to Lorraine M. Dennis and André Gagné, who renovated the home to restore its historical identity.

Physical or Design Value

Physically, this one-and-a-half-storey Craftsman/Arts and Crafts style house is made of red bricks from Milton. Its cross-gable roof features a mix of brick and stucco in a Tudor Revival style, with a front porch showcasing squared brick piers. The home contains small front stained-glass windows and one-over-one windows with plain trim and stone lug sills.

Contextual Value

Contextually, this house is an early example of the Arts and Crafts style and served as the home of John Maxted. The house contributes to the neighbourhood character of Victoria Street. It is one of the earliest houses built in the Park Lots, John Martin Survey Plan #18, 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 brick house with a cross-gable roof and rubble wall foundation.
- The Tudor-like stucco and brick framing of the facade's gable end.
- Double-sash windows with stained glass in the upper sash and stone lug sills at the porch.
- Single-sash-stained glass transoms, molded trim, and stone lug sills at the porch.
- A pair of six-over-one windows with plain trim, stone lug sills, and arch brick pilasters and headers at the front gable.
- One-over-one windows with plain trim and stone lug sills on the east and west elevations.
- A pair of one-over-one windows with arch brick headers, plain trim, and stone lug sills at the rear elevation.
- Four panels single leaf wooden door with upper stain glass insert
- An open front porch with brick piers and timber railings.