



The Corporation of the Town of Milton

Report To: Council

From: Jill Hogan, Commissioner, Development Services

Date: November 13, 2023

Report No: DS-055-23

Subject: Notice of Intention to Designate 337, Oak Street - Alexander Murray House

Recommendation: **THAT Staff Report DS-055-23 entitled: "Notice of Intention to Designate 337, Oak Street - Alexander Murray House be received and;**

THAT Council recognizes the historic house at 337 Oak Street in the Town of Milton as being of heritage significance;

THAT Council designate the property under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18 for the reasons outlined in the Reasons for Designation attached as Appendix 1 to this Report;

AND THAT the Town Clerk provides the Notice of Intention to Designate as outlined in Section 29 (4) of the Ontario Heritage Act;

AND FURTHER THAT once the thirty-day objection period has expired and if there are no objections, a designation by-law is brought forward for Council adoption.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The current owner of the property municipally known as 337, Oak Street, Milton has voluntarily responded to the heritage designation program and desire that their property be designated.
- Staff has evaluated that this historic home is a significant built heritage resource for the Town of Milton and should be designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act to protect this built heritage resource. (See Appendix '1')
- This significant heritage resource fulfils more than two of the evaluation and criteria set out in Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act (R.S.O. 1990), Ontario Regulation 9/06 (See Appendix 2). As such, it is worthy of designation under the provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act.

REPORT

Background

337 Oak Street, built by Alexander Murray in 1856, is a two-story Georgian-style stone cottage with an open porch. Alexander Murray was a merchant in the community. He chose this location for his new house as it was on higher ground above the surrounding land and not at risk from the flooding from Sixteen Mile Creek. This property was nominated in 2009 for a Heritage Award in the renovation category for an urban house.

Discussion

337 Oak Street is an excellent example of a three-bay Ontario Georgian-style stone cottage with a stone foundation and two chimneys. The house has a medium gable roof with projecting eaves, plain fascia soffit and frieze. Window openings are rectangular with stone lintels and lug sills. The one-storey open porch has plain wood piers, open railings with plain trims and straight steps. It has a central single-leaf door with a single light transom and sidelights. Windows are two sash, one over one.

This house is unusual as it has a full second storey but includes very small front-facing windows. These small window openings include cut stone lintels and stone lug sills. The front of this house is constructed in dressed cut stone laid in courses. Less finely cut stone is used on the sides with rubble stones between. This house received a contemporary side addition with new front windows and an entrance door.

A new open veranda occupies both the original structure and the addition. The veranda features plain rectangular posts.

From a historical perspective, Alexander Murray, a merchant, purchased the land from Matthias Teetzel in 1856 when he built the cottage. He owned this house for 14 years. Murray also built a stone house on the corner of Charles Street and Main Street (now demolished), where Milton Council first met in 1857.

This property has contextual value as one of the earliest houses built in the Teetzel Survey, Plan 9 of 1854. This house was one of the first to be built in the early subdivisions that were created even before Milton was incorporated as a Town in 1857. The Teetzel Survey is bounded by Main Street East to the north, Ontario Street to the east, Oak Street to the south and Charles Street to the west. This historic house helps define, maintain and support the historic character of this neighbourhood. Key heritage attributes vital to the preservation of 337, Oak Street are the following character-defining elements/heritage attributes:

Discussion

- Two storey, three bay Ontario Georgian-style stone cottage with a stone foundation and two chimneys.
- The original form, rooflines and massing of the two-storey stone house exterior (except for the addition).
- Medium gable roof with projecting eaves, plain fascia soffit and frieze.
- Rectangular window openings with stone lintels and lug sills.
- One-story open veranda with wood piers, open railings with plain trims and straight steps.
- Define, maintain and support the historic character of Teetzel Survey, Plan 9 neighbourhood of 1854.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the optimal conservation and protection measures for this heritage property is the designation of the property.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Hogan
Commissioner, Development Services

For questions, please contact: Anthony Wong, Senior Policy
Planner

Phone: Ext. 2565



Attachments

- Appendix '1' Reasons for Designation for 337 Oak Street _ Alexander Murray House
- Appendix '2' CHVI Evaluation_337 Oak Street
- Appendix '3' Photographic Record Heritage Attributes _ 337 Oak Street

Approved by CAO
Andrew M. Siltala
Chief Administrative Officer

Recognition of Traditional Lands

The Town of Milton resides on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. We also recognize the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee people. The Town of Milton shares this land and the responsibility for the water, food and resources. We stand as allies with the First Nations as stewards of these lands.