Figure 1 Oak Street view

Legal Description

Lot 13, Block 10 Teetzel Survey Plan 9, Town of Milton, and Regional Municipality of Halton.

Description of Property

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.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value and Interest

The subject property, 337 Oak, was built circa 1856. Its cultural heritage value lies in its architectural and design significance as a representative example of

Ontario Style Stone Cottage. It also has contextual significance as it contributes to the historic neighbourhood of the Teetzel Survey, Plan 9 of 1854

Design Value or Physical Value

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. Windows openings are rectangular with stone lintels and lug sills. The one-story 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 with sidelights. Windows are two slash, one over. The doors and windows are not original.

The balanced plain form of this house is characteristic of the popular Georgian architecture. Most houses of this style include either a half or full second storey. Half-storeys included accommodation within the roof space and were popular as they were taxed lower than two-storey houses. 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. Using the most expensive materials on the prominent facades of a building was a common practice. This house received a contemporary side addition with new front windows and an entrance door.

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

Historical Value

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 & Main Street (now demolished), where Milton Council first met in 1857.

Contextual Value

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 this subdivision that was 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.

Character Defining Elements/Heritage Attributes

Key heritage attributes vital to the preservation of 337 Oak Street are the following character-defining elements/heritage attributes:

- 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.