Reasons for Designation

93 Victoria Street_ David Watson Campbell House



Legal Description

John Martin Survey Part Lot 11, Plan 17

Description of Property

The David Watson Campbell house, at 93 Victoria Street in the Town of Milton, is a unique two-storey Victorian-Era single detached white clapboard house built around 1877. The property received a Heritage award in 2008 for restoring the front porch.

Statement of Cultural Value and Interest

93 Victoria Street is a two-storey Victorian-era residence built in 1877 for David Watson Campbell and his wife, Louise White. It is a white clapboard home with green painted aspects, which highlight the house's architectural features.

The land was first granted to George Brown from John Martin in 1855. George sold the property to William Laidlaw in 1872, who later sold it to David Watson Campbell and his wife Louise in 1874. The property remained with the Campbell family until 1951. The current owner, Ivan and Judy Hunter, bought the property in 1971. Its cultural heritage value lies in its physical, historical and contextual value. Physically, it is an excellent example of a Victorian-era clapboard house with Italianate influence. Historically, it is the house of David Watson Campbell, who served as Milton's Councillor, Reeve and Mayor in 1880. Contextually, this property is one of the earliest houses built in the John Martin Survey Plan 17 for this significant part of Old Milton.

Historical Value

This residence was built in 1877 for David Watson Campbell and his wife, Louise. He came to Milton about 1866 and worked as a law clerk of Wm. Laidlaw Q.C. When William moved his office to Hamilton several years later, D.W. opened an office as a conveyancer. D.W. married Louise White, daughter of John White, M.P. He was active in Milton's affairs, serving as Councilor(1878, 1891-1895), Reeve(1881)and Mayor (1880). He was appointed treasurer of Halton County in 1881 and served until his death. In 1882. he joined William Panton Jr. in a partnership publishing the Canadian Champion until his death of in 1896. Mr. Campbell died at home in dramatic circumstances. Dr. Howitt of Guelph, with local doctors Peter Stuart, David Robertson and R.K. Anderson in attendance, operated on him for appendicitis on April 1, 1896. It was one of the earlier operations of that type. He died the day following and was buried in Evergreen Cemetery in the White family plot.

Physical or Design Value

This house is a unique example of a Victorian-Era clapboard house with Italianate influence. Its asymmetric composition is capped with a mansard roof, an octagonal turret on the west elevation and an off-center hip roof on the front. Fancy roof brackets and trims are incorporated into the wide eaves surrounding the mansard roof. The four-panel single-leaf entrance door has two of its upper panels glazed. It is surrounded by triangular pediment trims on the exterior. The windows have decorated triangular pediment, louvered shutters and wooden lug sills. The house is well-maintained and has excellent curb appeal along Victoria Street. The interior of the building boasts ornate ceilings, an arch corbel, wide baseboard and a hardwood floor. However, the interior elements will not be the subject of this heritage designation.

Contextual Value

This property has contextual value as one of the earliest houses built in John Martin Survey (Part of Lot 11, Plan No.17) in 1855. This was one of the very early subdivisions in Milton that was created even before Milton was incorporated as a Town in 1857. The Martin Survey included houses North of Mill Street, East of Bronte Street North, west of Martin Street and south of Mill Pond. This house helps define, maintain, and support the heritage character of this neighbourhood.

Character Defining Elements/Heritage Attributes

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

- Massing of the two-storey Victorian-era clapboard house with asymmetrical composition and three stone chimneys
- Unique Mansard roof with an octagonal turret.
- Wide overhanging eaves with decorated roof brackets and trims
- Octagonal Turret on west elevation with decorated Roof Brackets, Bay Windows, and Louvered Shutters
- Wrap around front porch with decorative columns and plain balustrade
- Four panels front door with two upper glazed inserts and fancy pediment trims
- Two over two windows with triangular pediment, louvered shutters and wooden lug sills
- Historical value as the home of David Watson Campbell, past Councilor, Reeve and Mayor of Milton in 1880.
- Contextual value as one of the earliest houses built in the John Martin Survey (Part Lot 11, Plan No.17) in 1855.