

Reasons for Designation

15 Court Street South_ Thomas Weir House



Legal Description

Survey Teetzel Block 13 Pt Lots 10,11

Description of Property

The Thomas Weir house, at 15 Court Street South in the Town of Milton, is a unique two-storey Edwardian Classicism Style single detached brick house built around 1912.

Statement of Cultural Value and Interest

Historical Value

Historically, Mathias Teetzel registered this lot, along with others, in 1851. Mathias and Charles Teetzel owned lots 11 and 13 until 1852-53. The lot changed ownership several times before the current home was built.

John Laidlaw purchased Lot 11, and John Elliott purchased Lot 13. John Laidlaw owned Lot 11 until 1865, when he sold it to Finlay McCallum. John Spedding purchased Lot 11 from McCallum in 1872. The Speddings held ownership until 1890, when the property was

sold to William Hume. In 1900, Mr. Hume sold both lots (11 and 13) to Thomas E. Weir, a blacksmith who built the current house. Thomas and his wife, E. Laura, lived in this home until Thomas died in 1933.

The Weir estate sold the home in May 1934 to George Ranklin Thompson and his wife, Kathleen (Kaye) M. Drennan. George was a farmer, First World War soldier, life member of the St. Clair Masonic Lodge, superintendent of the Children's Aid Society, Public School Board, Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Milton Welfare Committee and a municipal politician, finishing as Mayor in 1952-53. George and his wife are interred in St. Stephen's Anglican Cemetery, Hornby, Ontario.

In 1939, the property was purchased by Cuthbert Foster and Mabel Laurena Lush. Mr. Lush was a well-known farmer in the Clarkson area fruit district.

Their daughter, Margaret Irene, and her husband, Vern H. Barnes, inherited the home until 1974, when it was transferred to Mary Irene Barnes and subsequently purchased by Atila Randy, who furnished the interior with twelve-inch-high baseboards, maple floors and two stained glass windows.

Physical or Design Value

this rectangular two-storey brick house was constructed in the Edwardian Classical style. This style was popular in Ontario at the beginning of the 20th Century. It marked the new modern times brought about by the new Century and new monarchs. Its simple, balanced design represents a reaction to the decorative excess of the late Victorian era. Edwardian Classical houses like this house are typically constructed of smooth red brick.

The box-like massing is two storeys in height, with hipped roofs. It is adorned with hip dormers on three sides. The exterior lacks ornament except for a deep-off, centred front porch. The porch is supported by smooth columns on brick piers. The decorative brackets in the porch and the front porch railing were added after 2009. Above the columns, an entablature supports the lean-to roof. Under the soffits of the roof, a similar plain frieze board echoes this detail.

A small front window lighted the stairway and became a popular feature of houses in the early 20th Century. The squared projecting bay windows, wide eaves and use of stone for the window sills and lintels give this house a grand feel. This house was likely constructed from brick produced in Milton.

The house has 12-inch-high baseboards, original maple floors, two stained-glass windows, and a pocket door in the living room. These are not the subjects of this designation.

Contextual Value

Mathias Teetzel registered this lot, along with others, in 1851. He had purchased 44 acres in the southeast quadrant of the Milton town site from Henry Huffman Jr. for £750. He

subdivided the land into lots, and by 1857, all had been sold. This plan became known as the Teetzel survey. Lots 11 and 13 show ownership held by both Mathias and Charles Teetzel until 1852-53, when they were sold. This house contributes to the heritage character of the Teetzel Survey neighbourhood. 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:

- Box-like massing of the two-storey Edwardian Classicism Style brick house
- Low-sloped hip roof with three hip dormers and brick chimney
- Non-symmetrical plan and façade
- Running bond exterior brickwork. Brick likely produced in Milton
- One over one window, two with stained glass inserts.
- Off-centre porch with plain columns, entablature on brick piers
- Single Leaf wood panel front door with decorative transom and stained glass insert
- Contextually contributes to the heritage character of the Teetzel neighbourhood (Block 13 Pt Lots 10,11) in 1857.