

Reasons for Designation

206 Sarah Street_ Charles Thompson House



Legal Description

Survey Foster Block 14 Part Lots 4,5

Description of Property

Charles Thompson built this pre-Confederation Regency cottage in 1857. It is unique in that it has a raised ground floor.

Its cultural heritage value and interest lie in its physical, historical, and contextual value. Physically, it is an excellent example of a unique single-storey Pre-Confederation Regency-style house with a low hip roof. Historically, it was the home of Charles Thompson, inn & livery keeper, bailiff and farmer. Contextually, this property is a significant building that contributes to the Foster Neighbourhood Plan 7

Statement of Cultural Value and Interest

Historical Value

Charles Thompson, built this Pre-Confederation Regency Cottage in 1857. He was born in 1834 in New York. His parents came to Canada and settled in Palermo, Ontario, where his father operated a stagecoach line. Following his father's death, he received

title to his property on 165 Main Street East. In 1864, Charles built the Thompson Hotel Inn, which remains to this day as the La Toscana Ristorante. Charles married Mary Margaret Howell. The couple did not have any children.

In 1863, Charles sold his house at Sarah Street to Peter McKay, who owned it until 1866. Peter and the following owners used the home as rental income over the subsequent number of years. The property was sold several times: David Henderson (1868), Richard Hemstreet (1876), William Alderson (1885), William Armstrong (1888), John Dewar (1890), John Alderson (1890), and Christina Lyon (1906). Christina Lyon sold the property in 1906 to Hannah Elizabeth Bastedo. Miss Bastedo was born in Hamilton in 1850. She was the daughter of Jacob and Hepzibah. Elizabeth was a professional artist who resided in Paris, France, studying and giving lessons. Miss Bastedo was one of Milton's first well-known prominent professional artists.

The year before her death, the property was transferred in 1934 to Janet R. McCready, her sister. Following Janet and her husband William's death, the estate went to their son, Allen Bastedo McCready. Allen sold it later in 1960 to Brenda and John D. Taylor, who resided there with their children, Leanne and Elizabeth. In 1999, this home was transferred to Brenda following her husband's death. Brenda then sold the house to Jodi Lyn Morgan and Joseph Patrick Legace. Three years later, in 2001, Heather Alice McElrea and Kevin Lorne Bunt purchased the property. Robert Jason Martin purchased this home in 2007.

Physical or Design Value

This one-storey Pre-Confederation Regency stone house has a low hip roof, protruding eaves, decorative cornice and roof brackets. It is the only one-storey, stone Regency cottage in downtown Milton. It has a balanced, symmetrical three-bay front faced with stone cut to courses on the North elevation and random field stone on the other sides. The central entrance has straight steps and metal railings. The large six-over-six windows have plain trims, stone lug sills and lintels. The single-leaf, five panel door at the entrance has a six-pane transom over two-pane sidelights with lower panels.

Contextual Value

This property has contextual value as one of the original lots formed by the Foster Survey (Plan No. 7) in 1854. This house was one of the earliest homes built in this subdivision in Milton, which were created even before Milton was incorporated as a town in 1857. The Foster Survey included the Halton County Courthouse and Victoria Park. The house and property help to define, maintain and support the character of the Foster Neighbourhood. It is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to its surroundings. This home is shown on the 1858 Livingston Map of the Town of Milton.

Character Defining Elements/Heritage Attributes

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

- One-storey raised Pre-Confederation Regency style stone house with low hip roof, protruding eaves, decorative cornice and roof brackets
- Balance symmetrical three-bay front faced with course cut stone on the North elevation and random field stone on other sides
- Six over six windows with plain trims, stone lug sills and lintels
- Central entrance with straight steps and metal railings.
- Single-leaf, five panel entrance door with six-pane transom over two-pane sidelights with lower panels.
- A building by Charles Henry Thompson, who played an essential role in Milton's history as an inn & livery keeper, bailiff and farmer and builder of the Thompson House Inn.