

## Reasons for Designation

### **121 Thomas Street\_ John Maxted House**



#### **Legal Description**

CON 2 Trafalgar Township PT LOT 13

#### **Description of Property**

John Dean Maxted built this semi-detached house in 1913. John was a builder and a politician in Milton for over thirty years.

Its cultural heritage value and interest lie in its physical, historical and contextual value. Physically, it is a representative red brick two-storey Edwardian Classical style house with a medium hip roof. Historically, it was the home of John Maxted, Mayor of Milton, in 1928, and her daughter Margaret Maxted, who was the first woman in Ontario to hold the office of treasurer when she was appointed Halton County treasurer in 1937. This property has contextual value as it is within the matured neighbourhood overlay in the Downtown Character Area.

#### **Statement of Cultural Value and Interest**

The semi-detached house, built by John Dean Maxted in 1913, holds significant cultural heritage value. John was a builder and a politician in Milton for over thirty years. Its physical and historical uniqueness is evident in its representation of the Edwardian Classical style, with a medium hip roof and red brick exterior. Historically, it was the residence of John Maxted, Mayor of Milton, in 1928, and his daughter Margaret Maxted, the first woman in Ontario to hold the office of treasurer. The property's contextual value is further enhanced by its contribution to the heritage character of the matured neighbourhood of Downtown Milton.

#### **Historical Value**

The historical value of this property is deeply rooted in its past. John married Elizabeth Coulson in 1885. Elizabeth and John had two children, Margaret and Thomas. The family moved to Thomas Street in 1913 following the completion of their house. They resided on the north side of the home (121 Thomas) and rented out the south side (123 Thomas). John was a bricklayer and builder and built the old Post Office on the northeast corner of Main and Martin Streets, several downtown stores, 115, 121 and 123 Thomas Street. John was active in local politics and was elected several times to the Milton Council. He was elected Mayor in 1928. He died in 1971 at the age of 102.

Elizabeth and John's daughter, Margaret, worked in the Crown Attorney's office as a clerk-stenographer and part-time in the Halton County Treasurer's office. Miss Maxted was the first woman in Ontario to hold the office of treasurer when she was appointed Halton County treasurer in 1937. She died in 1986.

This half of the property was sold in 1954 to John Cannon and Olive Cannon. Edyth and Ken Clement purchased the south side of the home. Olive and John raised their two children, Barry and Jill, here. Olive was a homemaker while John was the local milkman delivering milk in Milton, initially by horse-drawn wagon and then by truck. He was also a volunteer firefighter with the Milton Fire Department.

Since then, this property has been sold to several owners: H. Edward Freeman Speck and Marlene Rae Speck (1967), Susan Jeannette and David Isadore Recoskie (1972), Daphne Louise Smale (1976), Carol M. and Arnold L. Hunwicks (1977, Lois and Warren McLeod (1979), Shirley Mae Roberts (1982) and Deborah Ann Carrick and Zachary Marks (1994). The current owner, Cheryl Hayles, purchased the property in 2001. She was born in Jamaica and immigrated to Montreal, Quebec, in 1979. She moved to Milton to teach at W. I. Dick Public School in 1990.

### **Physical or Design Value**

The two-storey Edwardian Classical-style house with smooth red brick and a concrete foundation is in good condition. It has a medium hip roof with a single-flue brick chimney, protruding eaves and plain fascia. The roof is adorned with front and rear gable pediment dormers, projecting eaves, plain fascia, soffit and frieze. The front open porch has Doric piers on brick pedestals, moulded upper trims and closed railings. The front elevation windows are six over six windows with stone lintels, wooden sashes, stone lug sills, and some with shutters. Meanwhile, the side and rear elevations feature flat windows with stone lintels, wooden sashes, and stone lug sills. The main entrance door is a single leaf with four panels, a stone lintel and inner wood trim.

### **Contextual Value**

This property has contextual value as it contributes to the heritage character of this neighbourhood in Downtown Milton, further emphasizing its importance and the need for its preservation.

### **Character Defining Elements/Heritage Attributes**

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

- Massing of the two-storey Edwardian Classical-style house with smooth red brick and a concrete foundation
- Medium hip roof with a single flue brick chimney, protruding eaves and plain fascia
- Front and rear gable pediment dormers, projecting eaves, plain fascia, soffit and frieze.
- Front open porch with Doric piers on brick pedestals, moulded upper trims, closed railings
- Six over-one windows with stone lintels, wooden sashes, stone lug sills, some with shutters
- Flat windows with stone lintels, wooden sashes, stone lug sills
- Single leaf four panels entrance door with a stone lintel and inner wood trim
- The historic home of John Maxted, builder, Councillor and Mayor of Milton, in 1928
- Context of the house in the matured neighbourhood of Downtown Milton character area.