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Notice of Intention to Designate a Heritage Property

The Town of Saugeen Shores intends to designate 117 Huron Street South, Southampton, further described as TP PT Lots 20 and 21 W Huron, as a Heritage Property under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Description

The property, on the west side of Huron Street South between Morpeth Street and Chantry View Drive in Southampton, contains a two-storey Colonial Revival residence clad in stucco and wood. Built in 1897, the residence retains its original two-storey rectangular form, hip roof, symmetrical arrangement, and placement of its front door and windows on the Georgian-style façade. Porches added in later years have been rebuilt or extensively renovated. The residence is important as the home of William and Eliza Knowles and their family, recognized as the founders and early developers of Southampton's tourism industry in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Design and Physical Value

The residence is an example of the Colonial Revival Style constructed in 1897. Its design includes features of early and late Georgian style in its rectangular form on two storeys, the symmetry of windows and door on the façade, and the hip roof.

Historical and Associative Value

Built by William Knowles as a residence for his family in 1897, the home has value for its association with William and his wife, Eliza Knowles, and their children, for their contributions to the economic development of the tourism industry in Southampton. Situated immediately adjacent to the original site of the Knowles-built Park Hotel (built in 1888 and demolished in 1991), 117 Huron Street South served in later years as living quarters for employees working at the Knowles-developed summer resort which included not only a hotel, but eleven rental cottages, and a dance pavilion.

Contextual Value

Situated within an area that has become known as "The Knowles Block," the residence is the first built, the largest, and the most substantial of the seven Knowles family-built houses that survive today. The home also contributes to the surrounding context of notable historic properties, including 97 Huron Street South (provincially designated) and several properties that have been added to the Saugeen Shores Heritage Register or acknowledged with a Saugeen Shores heritage property plaque. The home's contribution to the historical context includes its relationships to The Park Hotel (demolished) and the former Grand Trunk Railway Station (now a private residence).

Heritage Attributes

Design and Physical Value:

1. The siting of the building on the property.
2. The rectangular form of the building on two storeys.
3. The symmetrical arrangement of the front door and windows on the façade.
4. The front door and entrance walkway, facing Huron St S.
5. The hip style roof design.

Exclusions

The following modern additions and renovations are excluded from protection under heritage designation:

1. The carport (south elevation), the front bay window and verandah, the north addition and the west sun porch.
2. Window frames and glass.
3. Interior.
4. Wood and stucco cladding.

Further information respecting this notice of intention to designate the property is available by contacting the Clerk.

A notice of objection to this Notice of Intention to designate the property may be served on the Clerk within 30 days after the date of publication of the Notice of Intention.

The Clerk may be reached at Town of Saugeen Shores, 600 Tomlinson Drive, P.O. Box 820, Port Elgin, Ontario, N0H 2C0, by email at clerk@saugeenshores.ca, or by phone at 519-832-2008 ext. 104.

Dawn Mittelholtz, Clerk

Dated August 7, 2024