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THE TOWNSHIP OF PUSLINCH NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE 56 Queen St, Puslinch

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Puslinch intends to designate at 56 Queen St, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under section 29, Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18. as authorized by Township of Puslinch Council through Resolution No. 2024-336.

Description of the Property

The subject property is described as being Plan 135 Part Lot 6, municipally known as at 56 Queen St, Puslinch.



Design Value:

Log cabins and log house residences were the predominant residential architecture in Puslinch Township from the earliest European settlement until the latter part of the nineteenth century. Their design illustrates the function of environment, technology and community effort on architecture in the settlement period. Despite their ubiquitousness in the mid-1800s, very few of these architectural forms have survived. This property stands as one of the earliest log houses in the Township, and is a rare example of a substantial one-and-a-half storey side-gabled log house built in the early 1830s. The residence is constructed of extremely large square-hewn pine logs laid horizontally with dovetailed corners. This horizontal log construction was initially chinked with moss or plaster. Entrance and window fenestrations were cut into the log walls after they were assembled. The original fenestrations on the front facade have been altered: an early entrance door fenestration was changed into a window and the current front door fenestration was a former window. When constructed, the building had at least two main rooms on the first floor which accounts for the original offset entrance. Otherwise, original window fenestration on the first and second storeys is intact on the front and side facades. Dormers have been added in recent years to the second floor, as has a full elevation addition at the rear. The exposed logs on the south side of the house are intact but now obscured with board siding added in 2023 to manage log deterioration.

Historical/ Associative Value:

The property was originally constructed in the 1830s or early 1840s by John Calfass on his 100 acres of Lot 6 PLAN 135. German immigrants, John Calfass and his family along with the Morlock and Winer families, formed the three settling families in the Morriston area. This property is one of the earliest extant residences in the Township.

In 1854, Calfass built a stone house for his family south of the log house and sold the property to another German immigrant, John (Johann) Stein. Stein operated his cooperage business from the basement at the rear of the house. The back opening of the house also led to a cultivated orchard. His wife Elizabeth was known as a respected healer.

Following John Stein's passing in 1894, his wife and their daughter Mary relocated to Victoria St. in Morriston, engaging in a house exchange with George Finkbeiner. After Elizabeth's demise in 1903, the Finkbeiner family purchased the property.

All three owners of the property, Calfass, Stein, and Finkbeiner, played integral roles in establishing the German Evangelical Church, which still exists today.

Contextual Value:

The property holds significant importance in defining the character of the area due to its direct association with the early settlement in the Morriston area. It forms an essential part of the streetscape that distinctly represents this early settlement, featuring neighboring residences such as the Morlock's, Schlegel, Calfass cottage and Leitch/Wurtz houses. Moreover, the property's proximity to the German Evangelical church (which was initially a log building adjacent to the residence) serves as a testament

to its historical connection with the surrounding community. Its size and frontage on Queen Street have made it a landmark in Morriston and the Township of Puslinch.

Description of Heritage Attributes

The following are to be considered as heritage attributes to be protected by a heritage designation by-law for 56 Queen St.

John Calfass/Stein House:

- Height, scale, and massing of original one-and-a-half storey property
- Logs and other original material used in the construction
- Log wall construction with dovetailed corners
- Extant original fenestrations

Notice of Objection

Any person may send a notice of objection to this proposed designation, before 4:00 p.m. on November 16, 2024. This notice must be sent by registered mail or delivered to the Clerk of the Township of Puslinch, and must set out the reason for the objection and all relevant facts. If a notice of objection is received, the Council of the Township of Puslinch shall consider the objection and make a decision whether or not to withdraw the notice of intention to designate the property within 90 days after the end of the 30-day objection period. If Council decides not to withdraw its intention to designate, a heritage designation bylaw must be passed within 120 days after the date of publication of the notice of intention to designate. Council must publish a notice of passing of the designation bylaw which is followed by a 30-day appeal period when appeals of the bylaw may be given to the Ontario Land Tribunal for a hearing and decision.

Dated October 17, 2024

Justine Brotherston,
Municipal Clerk
Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34, Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0

CC: Property Owner
Ontario Heritage Trust

Received
OCT 21 2024
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