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Notice of Intention to Designate a Property under the Ontario Heritage Act - 46211 Sparta Line (Hiram Burley Smith House)

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Central Elgin intends to designate the following property as a property of cultural heritage value or interest pursuant to section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18:
House and Accessory Building (containing bake oven, smoke house, privies) located on property known municipally as **46211 Sparta Line** and legally described as **Part of Lot 21, Concession 3, Geographic Township of Yarmouth, Municipality of Central Elgin.**

The Smith House is an excellent specimen of the Georgian type. The house was constructed between 1863 and 1865. The House is a three bay dwelling with a centre hall and balanced rooms on either side. The proposed designation includes an accessory building housing a brick bake oven, smoke house and tile drained privies.

A copy of the statement of cultural heritage value or interest is available in the Municipal Office at the Elgin County Administration Building, 450 Sunset Drive, 1st Floor, North Wing, daily, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or on the municipal website, www.centralelgin.org.

Any person may, not later than **Friday, May 1st, 2015**, serve on the Clerk of the Municipality of Central Elgin a **notice of objection** setting out the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. When a notice of objection has been served, the Council shall refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing and report.

DATED at the Municipality of Central Elgin this 1st day of April, 2015.

Donald N. Leitch
Chief Administrative Officer & Clerk, Municipality of Central Elgin



The Hiram Burley Smith (Martyn) House

Architectural Qualities

The H. B. Smith (Martyn) house was constructed beginning in 1863 and completed in 1865. The house is a three bay Georgian style building with a centre hall and balanced rooms on either side. It features a centre door with three paned sidelights and a five paned Roman arched transom light above.

The walls are three layers of strawberry hand made brick thick with a 6 layer pattern, 5 layers with the sides facing outward and one with the ends facing outward. The windows are 6 over 6 paned with Roman arches above in brick. The details are of the Regency period with the original door recessed. A second layer with the exact same pattern of side lights and transom were added in 1948 flush with the front wall of the house to help insulate it.

The main house is a rectangular building measuring 15.5 m deep and 16 m wide with a 10 m deep by 8 m wide extension built off the back. The extension is also made from three layers of brick. The 6 over 6 paned windows in the extension have flat lintels with brick inlaid vertically above. There is a projecting entrance at the front of the main building that is centred and measures 4 m wide by 1.5 m deep. There is also a basement entry way projecting from the rear of the main house on the eastern end that is made of the same brick in the same pattern. It measures 2.5 m deep and 2 m wide. It has a single vertical wood door. Between the basement entry and the extension is a greenhouse added in the 1950s. The building is two storey with a full fieldstone walled basement under the main section and a stone walled crawl space under the extension. The main house is 7.7 m high to the roof line and the extension is 6.5 m high but is also a full two stories just with lower ceilings.

It features a hip roof line with a pediment above the centre bay and projecting eaves and moulded fascia and soffit. The eaves project 1 m out all the way around the main house and .75 m around the extension. There is a molded cornice below the eaves. The three remaining chimneys are contained within the walls and are balanced. The two other chimney spaces are still within the walls but no longer project above the roof. They chimneys are made of the same brick.

The windows still have mainly original wavy glass and the names of the original builder, his son, his granddaughter and grandson's wife are carved into the glass panes of the upper south west window of the main house. They were carved with diamond wedding rings. The original shutters are still on the front windows.

There is a front stoop that was added in 1948. The door itself is a four-panelled wooden one original to the house and over 10 cm thick.

The Smith house is an excellent specimen of the Georgian type. Very few alterations to the exterior have been made. The original side porch on the east side of the extension was removed in the 1950s and a screened in porch added in the 1970s on the west side of the extension. The original wood shed and carriage house are attached to the rear of the extension but were covered with aluminium siding in the 1960s.

To the west of the house is an accessory building that housed the brick bake oven, smoke house and tile drained privies. This building is a rectangle measuring 10 m by 4.5 m and is made of the same bricks in the same pattern as the main house. The walls are two layers of brick thick and was originally fully lath and plastered within. It has three windows that have flat lintels. It features a simple low gabled roof. The two main doors are dutch doors that have separate upper and lower sections. They were replaced in the 1990s with replicas of the originals. The two doors on the male and female privies are original and are plain doors made of vertical boards. There is one reconstructed chimney with an arched cover that connects to the bake oven which is still fully functional. The building is included in the designation due to its unique functions.

Registry Office Material and Historical Significance

The property on which the H.B. Smith house sits was originally deeded by the Crown to the Honourable James Baby. Baby sold the property to the Mills family via his agent Jonathan Doan, who then sold it to Hiram Burley Smith in 1859. Hiram was married to James Mills' daughter Sarah who died prior to her father. The property was left to her two sisters Drucilla Harvey and Hannah Moore who sold it to Hiram. The house was built by Hiram and his second wife Mary Ann Spurr [REDACTED]. Hiram left it to his son Edgar A. Smith. Edgar's son, Edward A. Smith purchased it from his father's estate in 1948. [REDACTED] purchased it from Edward in 1972. Hiram was a prominent citizen of Sparta and ran the tailor shop and yard goods store, which is also a designated building. An earlier home of Hiram was built beside the store and still stands.

Legal Description

46211 Sparta Line

Concession 3, Lot 21

Municipality of Central Elgin (Yarmouth Township)

Note: Proposed designation of entire exterior of the brick building, including the extension at the rear and the accessory building to the west of the main house.. It does not include the wood shed and carriage house as the exterior has been altered or the added greenhouse and screened in porch.

