



An agency of the Government of Ontario



Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

This document was retrieved from the Ontario Heritage Act Register, which is accessible through the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust at **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.

Ce document est tiré du registre aux fins de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, accessible à partir du site Web de la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien sur **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.



Justin Teakle, Community Planner (Heritage)
Town of Collingwood
97 Hurontario St. P.O. Box 157
Collingwood, ON L9Y 3Z5
Tel: (705)445-1290 ext. 3270
Email: jteakle@collingwood.ca

November 17, 2022

Erin Semande, Provincial Heritage Registrar
Ontario Heritage Trust
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, ON
M5C 1J3

RECEIVED
2022/11/17
(YYYY/MM/DD)
Ontario Heritage Trust

Dear Ms. Semande,

The Town of Collingwood Council passed Resolution No. RES-293-2022 on July 25, 2022 to proceed with a Notice of Intention to Designate 310 Seventh Street, Collingwood under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

The property at 310 Seventh Street is owned by Heritage Community Church.

Enclosed, please find the statement of cultural heritage value or interest and a description of the heritage attributes of the property.

Notice of objection to the notice of intention to designate must be filed within 30 days of November 17, 2022 being the date of the publication of the notice of intention to designate in the Collingwood Connection newspaper. Objections should be directed to the Clerk, Town of Collingwood, P.O. Box 157, 97 Hurontario Street, Collingwood, Ontario L9Y 3Z5. The Last date for objection is December 17, 2022.

We will advise you of the passing of the designation by-law as prescribed in the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Justin Teakle, MCIP RPP
Community Planner (Heritage)

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest of the Property:

The historical or associative value or interest of this property is found in its direct association from 1870 with settlers of African descent who began arriving in the Collingwood area possibly as early as the 1840s. Some were Loyalists settlers, some were second or third generation residents of Canada, others were fugitives escaping from bondage in the United States who travelled the Underground Railway to its northernmost terminus at Owen Sound in Grey County. They formed a congregation of the British Methodist Episcopal Church and raised the funds to purchase a quarter acre lot in 1870 and construct a succession of three church buildings on this site in c.1872, c.1898-1905, and 1976/2018. This property yields information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture, being the traditional place of worship and a centre of socio-cultural education and support for generations of people of African descent in Collingwood. In the words of a long-term congregation member: "Gatherings for Black folk gave them recognition, self esteem and courage to face racial taunts and rejection. The survival of the Collingwood church is a visible Statement that People of African descent met all the challenges faced in Collingwood of discrimination from local citizens, within our settlement, on the street, to officials in public sectors, and survived."

From a design or physical value or interest perspective, the 1976/2018 church building is an example of a contemporary place of worship in a small urban community in Ontario. It is representative of the economic ability and socio-cultural values expressed in built form by persons of African descent and Methodist faith in Collingwood.

Contextually, since its purchase in 1870 this property has been a centre of worship in the part of Collingwood historically populated by persons of African descent. It is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to its surroundings as the only location in Collingwood of the British Methodist Episcopal Church and from 1994 Heritage Community Church. The site as a place of worship and centre of Black cultural activity is a landmark.

Description of the Heritage Attributes of the Property:

The cultural heritage value or interest of this property is in the existence of a building used as a place of worship and centre of cultural activity by Collingwood community members of African descent. This cultural heritage value is currently embodied in the exterior of the 1976/2018 church building as the heritage attribute.