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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Penetanguishene intends to designate 21 Peel Street as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under section 29, Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990.

Location

Lot 38 E/S Peel Street, Plan 36, Town of Penetanguishene

RECEIVED
2025/03/17
(YYYY/MM/DD)
Ontario Heritage Trust

Owner



Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

21 Peel Street is a representative example of a modest interpretation of the Italianate architectural style. While lacking some of the elaborate decoration associated with Italianate architecture, the two-storey rectangular plan building maintains the form and massing associated with the style. 21 Peel Street has a hip roof with a symmetrical façade and is constructed of red brick masonry with a prominent frontispiece containing the façade entrance. The brick masonry, which rests on a random ashlar stone foundation, features protruding brick courses along the corners of the building and frontispiece, above the foundation and along the top of each storey. In the absence of quoins and dichromatic brick typically seen in Italianate buildings, this brick detail accentuates the edges and massing of the structure.

21 Peel Street is associated with Dr. B.T. Gahan, who constructed the house, and George Robinson, a hotel manager who occupied it with his family between 1902 and 1951. Dr. Beresford T. Gahan was a local physician who was born in India in 1844. He moved from Toronto to Penetanguishene where he worked as a doctor and constructed the house at 21 Peel Street in 1882 as a private residence for himself and his family. Dr. Gahan sold the property to a druggist in 1896 and moved to British Columbia. 21 Peel Street was purchased by hotel manager George Robinson in 1902. George Robinson managed The Penetanguishene Summer Hotel, a well-appointed inn constructed in 1889 to cater to Georgian Bay's summer tourist industry of the late 19th century. The hotel burned down in 1917, and George Robinson became a merchant and tailor. George Robinson was civically minded and served on the Penetanguishene Town Council in 1905 and again in 1915-1916. George Robinson lived in the house at 21 Peel Street until his death in 1948, and his wife Mary and daughter Margaret continued to occupy the property until 1951.

21 Peel Street is important in supporting and maintaining the late 19th/early 20th century character of the historic Town of Penetanguishene. 21 Peel Street is located within a residential block developed in the 19th century. While many residences along Peel Street have been modified, 21 Peel Street's materials, scale, massing and architectural detailing

maintain, contribute and support the legibility and character of Penetanguishene as a historic village.

Description of Heritage Attributes

21 Peel Street is a representative example of the Italianate style. The property contains the following heritage attributes that reflects this value:

- Two-storey Italianate building
- Rectangular plan
- Hip roof
- Red brick masonry with projecting courses at corners, above foundation and along top of each storey
- Stone foundation
- Projecting frontispiece containing the façade entrance
- Segmentally arched window openings composed of brick laid in header bond

21 Peel Street is associated with Dr. B.T. Gahan, who constructed the house, and George Robinson, a hotel manager who occupied it with his family between 1902 and 1951. The property contains the following heritage attributes that reflect this value:

- Two-storey Italianate house
- Location of Peel Street

21 Peel Street is important in supporting and maintaining the late 19th/early 20th century character of the historic Town of Penetanguishene. The property contains the following heritage attributes that reflect this value:

- Two-storey Italianate building
- Location on Peel Street
- Mortared stone retaining wall with concrete cap

Right to Object

Any person, whether representing an organization or private interest(s), may object to the proposed designation. Notice of objection must be received within thirty (30) days of this notice (April 16, 2025) and must set out the reasons for the objection and be supported by relevant facts. Objections may be served to the Clerk in writing by mail or by email using the contact information below.

The Corporation of the Town of Penetanguishene
10 Robert Street West
P.O. Box 5009
Penetanguishene, ON L9M 2G2
Attn: Kelly Cole, Director of Legislative Services/Municipal Clerk
By email: kcole@penetanguishene.ca

Additional Information

Further information on this matter can be obtained at connectpenetanguishene.ca/heritage-designation or by contacting Owen Taylor, Planner at 705-549-7453 ext. 251 or otaylor@penetanguishene.ca.

Dated at the Town of Penetanguishene March 17, 2025.