



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**.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GRIMSBY

BY-LAW NO. 25-63

A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 88 MAIN STREET EAST AS A FEATURE OF HISTORICAL, ARCHITECTURAL, AND/OR CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

Whereas pursuant to Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, the Council of a municipality is authorized to enact by-laws to designate a real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

And whereas the municipal council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby has cause to be served on the owners of the lands and premises at:

88 MAIN STREET EAST
Grimsby, ON

and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, notice of intention to designate the property at 88 Main Street East and a statement of the reasons for the proposed designation, and further, has caused said notice of intention to be published in a newspaper with general circulation in the municipality;

And whereas the reasons for designation and extent to which the designation applies are set out in schedule "B" attached hereto and form part of the By-law.

Now therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby enacts as follows:

1. That the following real property, more particularly described in schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this By-law is hereby designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest:

88 MAIN STREET EAST
Town of Grimsby
The Regional Municipality of Niagara

2. That the Town solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" attached hereto at the Land Registry Office.

Read a first time, considered, and passed this 3rd day of November 2025.


J.A. Jordan, Mayor


K. Viccica, Deputy Clerk

Schedule 'A' to By-law 25-63

In the Town of Grimsby in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, property description as follows:

PT LT 5, Township Plan 73, as in RO542823 ; GRIMSBY

Schedule 'B' to By-law 25-63

Statement of Significance and Description of Extent of the Features to which the Designation Applies

The house at 88 Main Street East has direct associations with significant individuals, activities, and organizations. This Edwardian dwelling was built for James W. Unwin, a farmer and merchant whose diaries provide valuable insights into life in Grimsby at the turn of the 20th century. The property is also linked to his wife, Henrietta A.F. Unwin, a lifelong resident who remained actively involved in St. Andrew's Church from the 1880s until her death in 1958. Later, the house was home to Lilian M. Fookes, a British Home Child and nurse, who lived in and eventually owned the property for 61 years.

The 1996 designation of the Immigration of Home Children as a National Historic Event demonstrates the importance of Home Child history to Canadian communities, with 88 Main Street East serving as a surviving tangible link to this important part of Canada's immigration history. The property also serves as a rare representation of a Home Child eventually owning the home where they had once been indentured.

88 Main Street East provides insight into both Grimsby's agricultural success and the British Home Children movement. The house illustrates the development of prosperous fruit farming operations along Main Street East in the early 20th century, as well as the early influence of Edwardian residential architecture in the area.

The Unwin House is a character-defining feature of the Main Street East corridor, serving as a surviving example of 19th- and 20th-century residential architecture linked to the area's historic fruit farming landscape. Contrasting to the typical brick farmhouses that line the corridor, this wood-frame dwelling is a unique example of an alternative architectural style within the Main Street East corridor. Its scale, mass, and form contribute to the character of the area, with its setback from the street reinforcing the cohesive streetscape of 19th- and 20th-century residential style structures.

88 Main Street East is historically and functionally linked to its surroundings, serving as a tangible connection to the fruit farming history of Main Street East. Constructed as a vernacular farmhouse on an agricultural parcel, it reflects the property's long history as farmland and was an active farm during the height of Grimsby's agricultural prosperity.

The Heritage Attributes to be designated at 88 Main Street East include:

- 2-and-a-half storey wood framed Edwardian structure
- Front-facing Gable, with a rear hipped roof and dormer
- 2-storey bay window on the east façade
- Wooden sash windows throughout
- Coloured glass wooden windows
- Arched stained glass window
- Wooden storm windows
- Tapered window headers and wood trim
- Original wooden full-width porch
- Wooden front door
- Stone foundations
- Setback from Main Street