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Hamilton Mentworth



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September 5, 2000

File No.D11-WO

Ontario Heritage Foundation 10 Adelaide Street, East Toronto, ON M5C 1J3

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re:

Heritage Designation By-Law 2000-95-H Kerr-Woolsey House 99 Mountsberg Road

At their meeting of August 28, 2000, Council passed By-Law 2000-95-H, designating the Kerr-Woolsey House, pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act. A copy of the By-Law is enclosed.

As required by the Act, the Town is now advertising the passage of the By-Law in the local newspaper, for each of three consecutive weeks, and has requested the Town Solicitor to register the By-Law on the title of the property.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

Alexandra Rawlings, A.M.C.T.

Alexander Partig

Deputy Clerk

AR:kr Encl.

al18/00 /

## THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FLAMBOROUGH

BY-LAW NO. 2000 - 95 - H

Being a By-Law to designate the Kerr-Woolsey House located on Part of Lot 11, Concession 5, formerly in the Township of East Flamborough, now in the Town of Flamborough, under the Ontario Heritage Act.

WHEREAS, Section 28 of The Ontario Heritage Act, RSO 1990, authorizes the Council of a Municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of architectural or historical value or interest, and;

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Flamborough has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises known as the Kerr-Woolsey House, Part of Lot 11, Concession 5, formerly in the Township of East Flamborough, now in the Town of Flamborough and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid building and property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the municipality, one for each of three consecutive weeks, and:

WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "A" attached hereto, and;

WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the Municipality;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FLAMBOROUGH ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

- The Kerr-Woolsey House more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto, is designated as being of architectural and historical significance.
- 2. The Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "B" attached hereto in the proper land registry office.
- 3. The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this bylaw to be served on the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation, and to cause notice of the passing of this by-law to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the Municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks.

READ AND PASSED IN COUNCIL THIS 28t DAY OF August, 2000.

Del Mayor

DEPUTY CLERK

Alexander Par

# By-Law No. 2000- <sup>95</sup>- H

**REASONS FOR DESIGNATION:** 

The Kerr-Woolsey House 99 Mountsberg Road Mountsberg, Ontario.

The Kerr-Woolsey House is recommended for Heritage Designation for both its historical and architectural importance.

#### **Historical Significance**

The house was constructed between 1851 and 1861, on land originally owned by the brothers and heirs of General Sir Isaac Brock, who had been killed at Queenston Heights in 1812. The 100 acre parcel was originally rented from the Brock heirs in 1840, by Robert Kerr and his new wife, and by 1851, 50 acres had been cleared and was under cultivation. The property was purchased from the Brock heirs in 1857. The family's first home was almost certainly log, but by the 1861 census, the present two storey, fieldstone farmhouse had been constructed.

Robert and his wife Isabella Weir had ten children between 1841 and 1858. Robert was a prominent citizen in the local Mountsberg community, being a memof the Reserve Militia and Recording Steward and Secretary of the Methodist Episcopal Church Sabbath School. He also owned three additional properties in the area as well as one property outside Wentworth County.

Following Robert's death in March 1800, at the age of 49, the farm became the property of his son John R. Kerr and continued in the Kerr family ownership, until the death of Isabella Kerr in 1892. At this time, the property was purchased by Thomas Woolsey, who had originally came to the farm as a labourer, in the 1880's.

Thomas Woolsey and his family lived on the property until 1945, when Thomas died and the home was bought by one of his sons, Robert Garnet Woolsey. Another son, Stanley, continued to farm the property until the 1960's. When Robert Garnet Woolsey died, the ownership of the property was transferred to where.

Throughout the entire history of the house, there have only been two family names directly related to the ownership of the house, Kerr and Woolsey.

## **Architectural Significance**

99 Mountsberg Road is a one and one half storey building, with gable ends, constructed of rubble fieldstone. The house has a centre hall plan with two windows or either side of the entrance, each of which retains its original six over six sashes. The gable ends contain two large windows at ground level, with two smaller windows above. All the windows contain the original six over sashes, are capped by roughly dressed stone lintels and are finished with simple wooden sills. The front wall is capped with a box cornice with dentil moulding. Two original stone chimneys are located at the gable ends of the building.

While there have been several major alterations to the exterior of the building, including the addition of a central gable above the front entrance, the addition of an enclosed porch and the enclosure of the open veranda on the east side of the house, its simple Neo-Classical design survives. In addition, a number of original interior features remain, including carved wainscotting, grain painted doors and shutters, and wide pine floorboards.

The house represents an excellent example of the nineteenth century austere stone farmhouses found in rural Flamborough.

## **Designated Features**

The features to be designated at 99 Mountsberg Road are the exterior walls, the original windows, the box cornice and the stone chimneys.

#### **Exclusions**

Excluded from the designation are the interior features and the land surrounding the house.