



An agency of the Government of Ontario

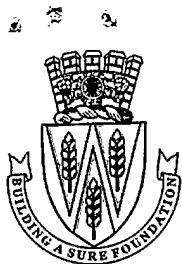


Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

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**.

Waterloo



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT

CLERK'S DEPARTMENT
JANE M. STELLER, A.M.C.T.
CLERK

*Chiptine
Langston*

60 Snyder's Road West,
Baden, Ontario
N0B 1G0
Telephone: (519) 634-8444
Fax: (519) 634-5522

December 6, 1994

Chairman
Ontario Heritage Foundation
77 Bloor Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2R9

DEC 22 1994

RECEIVED
PLANNING
DEC 22 1994

Dear Sir:

Re: Notice of Intention to Designate Property

Enclosed is a copy of a resolution of Wilmot Township Council expressing their intent to designate a property within the municipality.

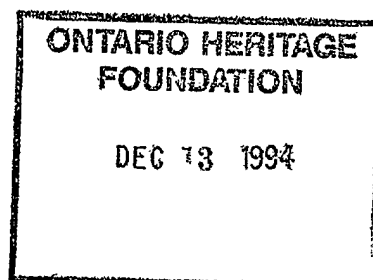
The Notice of Intention to Designate is submitted to you in accordance with Part IV, Section 29 (3) (a) of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O., 1990, Chapter O.18.

Yours truly,

Jane M. Steller

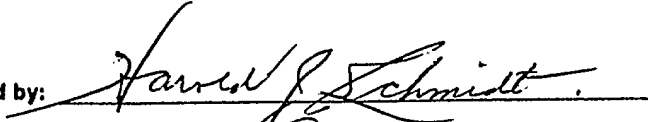
Jane M. Steller, A.M.C.T.
Clerk

/attachments



Corporation of the Township of Wilmot

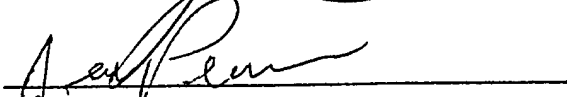
Moved by:



Date:

December 5, 1994

Seconded by:

**BE IT RESOLVED**

DEC 22 1994

THAT Wilmot Township Council adopts the Recommendation as contained in the Wilmot Report C1/95 as follows:

- (a) That Wilmot Township Council adopts the recommendation of the LACAC Committee as follows:
1. That the Council of the Township of Wilmot indicate that it intends to designate the property known as the Donna Patricia Clarke (Killer/Koch) Property, Part Lots 18 and 19, Concession 1, Block B, more particularly designated as Part 2, Reference Plan 58R-8164, as a property of Historical and Architectural Significance under Part IV, of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O., 1990, Chapter O.18, for the reasons as detailed in the Information attached to and forming part of this report;
 2. That the designation as described in the Information attached to and forming part of this report is recommended on historical and architectural grounds.
 3. That the Intent to Designate be advertised in accordance with the requirements of the Ontario Heritage Act, Part IV, R.S.O., 1990, Chapter O. 18, and funded from the 1994 LACAC Budget."



Carried

☐

Defeated

☐
Mayor

**HENRY KILLER/NELSON KOCH FARMSTEAD
PART LOTS 18 AND 19, CONCESSION 1, BLOCK B
TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT**

DEC 22 1994

Recommendation:

That the Henry Killer/Nelson Koch Farmstead, Part Lots 18 and 19, Concession 1, Block B, Township of Wilmot, located on Regional Road No. 5, 1 mile north of Philipsburg, more particularly the 2 storey fieldstone house and barn be considered for Heritage Designation.

Background:

The house was constructed by Henry Killer in 1860 and was sold by John Killer, Henry's son to George A. Koch in 1900. The house and farm remained in the Koch family until 1992. This property which was owned by only two families, in an excellent example of a typical farmhouse found in Wilmot Township.

The house is a typical rectangular split fieldstone house, 2 full stories in the Georgian style. The exterior is of particular interest and worthy of designation. The front elevation facing south is a five bay design constructed of coursed field stone. The present porch is closed in and replaces the original open porch which had six posts and a railing. The original porch and the present porch are supported on a full stone foundation.

The main entrance on this elevation is a panel door with glazed sidelights and transom and plan wood embrasure returns. Original hardware is used on the door. The porch wall has been plastered as was the custom of the day.

The four corners of the house have dressed limestone quoins.

The west elevation of the house is also coursed fieldstone, of particular interest is the semicircular carved datestone placed near the peak with the owner's name, Henry Killer and the date, 1860.

The rear (north) elevation is random fieldstone. The remains of an existing porch running the length of this elevation remain. Presently, a small enclosed vestibule has been constructed in place of the original porch. The original panel door with mold wood embrasure and original hardware is still in place.

The present gable roof is of metal but evidence in the attic indicates a cedar shingle roof was originally in place. Evidence of two interior brick chimneys exist. Eaves, soffit and frieze boards are very plain.

Attached to the east elevation of the house is a brick one storey summer kitchen and a post and beam board sided wood shed. These were added at a later date.

The interior of the house is a centre hall layout, four rooms per floor. Two of the rooms on the ground floor have stencilling on the upper walls and ceiling. The present house contains an apartment on each floor, but the original room layout has been maintained.

This house has undergone only minor alterations since it was built and is an example of a typical farmhouse constructed in Wilmot Township.

The wooden barn has an earthen bank inside the barn that leads to two storage areas. The hand hewn beams are over 60 feet in length and there is a plaster granary. This barn is very well preserved and remains an integral part of the farmstead.

Wilmot LACAC has visited this property at various time and would like to recommend the designation of the two storey fieldstone house and barn. The reason for this is that they represent a typical farm and barn used by the early settlers in the formative years of Wilmot Township, where very little has been altered and presents for a link with the past.

History of the Property

On January 13, 1854, Henry Killer, a recent arrival from Hesson, Germany purchased 100 acres, south half of Lot 18, from the Canada Company. The 1860 assessment rolls show that Henry Killer was living in Philipsburg, Canada West. The 1861 Assessment Roll shows that Henry Killer was now living in School Section 17, owning 133 acres of land (33 1/2 acres is Lot 21) assessment value of \$400.00 and owing 9 days of work to the Township.

The 1861 census list Henry Killer (age 54), Catherine Killer (age 47), Elizabeth Killer (age 16) and John Killer (age 15) as being on the property in a 2 storey house, built in 1860. This again agrees with the datestone on the house.

Henry Killer sold this property (Lot 18) to his son, John Killer in 1880 for \$2,500.00 and held the mortgage. John Killer farmed this land until he sold it to George A. Koch in 1900 for \$6,700.00.

George A. Koch farmed this land until selling it to his son, Henry S. Koch in 1908 for \$4,000.00.

Henry S. Koch raised his family of six children before selling this land to his oldest son, Herbert D. Koch in 1928 for \$7,500.00.

Herbert D. Koch raised his family and ran a mixed farmstead until he sold the land to his son Nelson H. Koch in 1960.

Nelson H. Koch, a lifetime bachelor, ran the farm until his death in 1991, when the property was sold in auction to the present owners, [REDACTED] in 1992.

As shown, this property has really been owned by only 3 families being primarily a mixed farm according to the notes from Don Koch, brother of Nelson Koch, the last owner of the property.

MAIN HOUSE

This typical Georgian cut fieldstone rectangular 2 storey farm house is a 3 bay Georgian on the rear (north) elevation and 5 bay on the front (south) elevation. The construction is cut fieldstone random on the north and east face but coarse on the south and west face. All four corners have cut limestone quoins that were dressed on site. It is a centre hall design with 4 rooms on the main floor and 4 bedrooms on the second floor. The basement has two main rooms. It is comprised of the main house, a summer kitchen and an attached wood shed, both of which were later additions.

The original house was built by a local builder with a datestone bearing the date 1860.

There is a circular driveway on the west side of the property.

EXTERIOR

Porches

The open porch on the north side is gone, yet the porch hangers in the stone wall still remain. This was a large porch that at one time ran the entire length of the north side of the house as indicated by the rubble stone remains of a stone foundation. It would be sitting on stone piers with the wall being plastered. The north door was a 6 panelled door with molded wood embrasure and trim with original hardware. This is now replaced by a small closed in mud room probably built sometime in the 1950's.

The porch on the south side was originally an open porch with six posts and railing built on a closed stone foundation that went the entire length of the south elevation. The wall of this porch was plastered. The main entrance on this facade has very wide transom with sidelights and original door hardware and decorative hinges. The present porch is closed in using asbestos siding sitting on the original stone foundation.

Datestone

This semicircular piece of limestone is decoratively carved with the owner's name (Henry Killer), dated 1860 and is in excellent condition. It is located on the west side of the house under the eaves.

Roof/Chimneys

The roof is a medium gable roof of 35 degrees that presently has a brick chimney on the east end and interior indications are that there was also a brick chimney on the west side. The present roof is steel but was originally cedar shingle. The roof joists in the attic have wooden pegs joining the joists together. There are two "S" tie rods on opposite sides of the house that tie the house together, as was normal for this type of construction.

The eaves, soffit and frieze boards are not decorative at all, but are very plain.

Windows

Exterior - The present windows are 2 over 2 but we assume that they were 6 over 6 in original plain wood frames with plain wood lug sills with buff brick lentils over each. (The bricks were laid flat arch with vertical joints). There are 11 windows in total in this house.

Interior - The window returns are 2 feet deep with a recessed wood sill and a panelled wood return. Susan Burke and Bev Grierson feel that the original windows have been replaced but the present ones could be 80 - 100 years old. The windows are taller downstairs than upstairs and are larger than normally found in windows of the same period.

Basement

There are hand hewn beams running east/west in the basement. These are in one piece approximately 30 feet long. The basement has a brick floor.

Front Door

This is a six panel centre facade, flat opening with a very wide flat transom with multiple sidelights that still have original hardware, original door and decorative hinges. There is a plain embrasure return on the exterior with molded trim.

House Interior

In the two front rooms, extensive stencilling has been done on the upper parts of the walls and on the ceilings. Susan Burke indicates that itinerant workers would have done this sometime around the original construction and it is more vernacular (folksy) than professional.

The south and southwest walls are plastered directly over the fieldstone exterior walls while the north and northwest walls are plastered over the lathe on the stones. This was done perhaps because of the shifting of the walls, lack of insulation or because of the availability of tradesmen because they put the trim around the windows before the plastering was done and they would be wanting to leave to go to their next job.

The wide wooden floor boards have all be refinished and the paster is all original as is the wainscotting that surrounds the kitchen.

Summer Kitchen

The buff brick summer kitchen at the back of the house was probably built shortly after the main house was built. It is attached to the main house extending towards the east. It is a room approximately 15 feet by 25 feet with doors leading to the outside on all four walls. It has a pressed metal ceiling and remnants of a wall for a back bedroom. There is no basement to this room. There is a board and batten wooden addition on the east side of the summer kitchen that served as a wood shed.

Smokehouse

This building, on the southeast side of the main house, and not connected to the main house could have been originally used as a house but most likely would have been used for a kill house, rendering and general cookhouse.

There are two windows 6 over 6 in this 15 foot by 16 foot house that has an open arched fireplace, plastered walls, bricked floor and a built in cupboard. It has a tin roof and rough fieldstone exterior walls. Water erosion has taken its toll through the years and has caused rapid deterioration to the southwest walls.

BARN

The barn has an earthen bank on the inside north end that leads to two large storage areas for farm equipment. The barn is approximately 80 feet by 80 feet and very similar in style to a neighbouring barn built in 1843. This one has a double thrashing floor with hand hewn beams measuring up to 60 feet long. The main floor is composed of the granary, made of brick and plaster approximately 12 feet by 12 feet, and an overhead pulley system used for the hauling of straw. The downstairs of the barn was used for livestock.

There were originally two other out buildings near the barn and they were a chicken coop and a pig pen, but have since been removed.

The southwest side of the barn is made of concrete blocks and served as the stable but the rest of the barn is a stone foundation. The roof is steel and there is a prominent hex sign in the west peak of the barn in the shape of a cross.

The cement silos of recent (1960's) construction.

Overall, the barn is in good condition for its age but a wind storm in the fall of 1993 has shifted the foundation a little and caused the wood frame to shift a few inches.

Efforts are being made to maintain the barn and to keep it as a going concern.

DRIVING SHED

This board and batten building adjacent to the barn is approximately 20 feet by 50 feet with hand hewn column and crossbeams. It originally had a shingle roof but now has a steel roof.

GENERAL COMMENTS

The present owners of this property, [REDACTED], approached Wilmot LACAC in May, 1992, indicating a desire to have this property designated.

The property has excellent merit for designation because of the fact that it is first of all a superb example of an early farmstead in the northern area of Wilmot Township where little industrial and commercial influences have changed the farm.

Wilmot LACAC has visited the farmstead many times since and decided that only the main house and barn would be considered for designation purposes. The main house has been very well preserved through the year because it has had very few owners that could have altered it, because it is in such fine condition, both inside and out and represents a typical farmhouse built by early pioneers in Wilmot Township. The barn is an excellent example of a pioneer farm building construction in a time where primitive tools created practical buildings that have stood the test of time.

The various elements of the property all have interesting potential for designation but as a group may not collectively be judged as having any more extraordinary aspects as many other properties in the area. The property is simply an excellent preserved example of a farmstead that dates to the early history of this Township and should be noted as such by Wilmot LACAC and the Township.