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THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF WHITBY

BY-LAW NO. 2739-89

BEING A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE STRUCTURE MUNICIPALLY KNOWN AS 519 DUNDAS STREET EAST AS BEING OF HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL VALUE AND INTEREST

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, c. 337, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Whitby considers it desirable to designate property as hereinafter described to be of historic and architectural value and interest;

AND WHEREAS, the Council of the said Corporation has caused to be served on the owners of property municipally known as 519 Dundas Street East, Whitby, Ontario, and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of its intention to designate the structure at the aforesaid address to be of historic and architectural value and interest and has caused such notice to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the Town of Whitby;

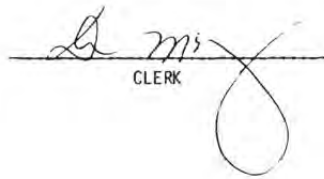
AND WHEREAS, no person has served a notice of objection to the proposed designation on the Clerk of the said Corporation;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Whitby enacts as follows:

1. The structure known as Donald Wilson House located on property municipally known as 519 Dundas Street East, Whitby, Ontario, and being more particularly described in Schedule "A", attached to and forming part of this by-law, is designated as being of historic and architectural value and interest for the reasons set out in Schedule "B", attached hereto.
2. This designation shall not preclude any changes that may be deemed necessary for the efficient use of the structure provided that any and all changes shall be in keeping with the original and current character of the structure and shall be carried out in consultation with the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee of the Town of Whitby.

By-law No. 2739-89 (cont'd.)

BY-LAW READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 13TH DAY
OF NOVEMBER, A.D., 1989.


CLERK


MAYOR

SCHEDULE "A"

TO

BY-LAW NO. 2739-89

Part of Lot 25, Concession 1
Town of Whitby
Regional Municipality of Durham
Registry Division of Durham (No. 40)

More particularly described as follows:

COMMENCING at a point in the Northerly limit of said Lot 25, distant 571 feet 8 inches measured Westerly therein from the North-East angle thereof;

THENCE Southerly parallel to the Easterly limit of said Lot 25 a distance of 330 feet 0 inches;

THENCE Easterly parallel to the North limit of said Lot 25 a distance of 121 feet 0 inches;

THENCE Northerly parallel to the said East limit of Lot 25 a distance of 330 feet 0 inches to a point in the North limit of said Lot, distant 121 feet 0 inches measured easterly therein from the point of commencement thereof;

THENCE Westerly along said north limit a distance of 121 feet 0 inches to the Point of Commencement.

SAVING AND EXCEPTING THEREFROM that part of the said lands conveyed to The Corporation of the Town of Whitby for the purposes of road widening which may be more particularly described as follows:

COMMENCING at a point in the Northerly limit of said Lot 25, distant 571 feet 8 inches measured Westerly therein from the North-East angle thereof;

THENCE Southerly parallel to the Easterly limit of said Lot 25, a distance of 17 feet 0 inches;

THENCE Easterly parallel to the North limit of said Lot 25, a distance of 121 feet 0 inches;

THENCE Northerly parallel to the said East limit of Lot 25, a distance of 17 feet 0 inches to a point in the North limit of said lot, distance 121 feet 0 inches measured easterly therein from the point of commencement thereof;

THENCE Westerly along said North limit, a distance of 121 feet 0 inches to the point of commencement.

Previously described in Instrument No. D261797.

SCHEDULE "B"

TO

BY-LAW NO. 2739-89

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

DESIGNATION REPORT

THE DONALD WILSON HOUSE

519 DUNDAS STREET EAST

1928

HISTORICAL REPORT
THE DONALD WILSON HOUSE
519 DUNDAS STREET EAST
1928

Compiled by Brian Winter, Whitby Archivist

May 16, 1989

THE DONALD A. WILSON HOUSE

1928

Part of Lot 25, Concession 1, Town of Whitby, 519 Dundas Street East.

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The Donald A. Wilson House built in 1928, is one of the finest brick houses of the period in Whitby. It was custom built for a wealthy gentleman who played an important part in the modern history of Whitby, and although used in later years by commercial development, it has been well preserved and carefully maintained.

The house stands on less than an acre of land in township lot No. 25, Concession 1, Whitby. The 200-acre lot was patented on Dec. 30 1840 to Sophia Kent, and over the next 149 years it was divided up into many small parcels of land under different owners. At one time the land on which the Donald A. Wilson house stands, was owned by James Holden (1828-1881) who had a large brick house called "The Gables" east of the Wilson house site. James Holden was managing director of the Whitby and Port Perry Railway in 1873, a founder of the Dominion Bank in 1871 and a founder of the Ontario Ladies' College (now Trafalgar Castle School) in 1874. His widow, Orilla Holden sold the land on which the Wilson house now stands, on April 12 1904 to Thomas Deverell, a local building contractor.

There were seven changes of ownership in the following years until the property was sold on Sept. 8, 1924 to Pearl L. Millner. On March 10, 1928, she sold the land to Donald A. Wilson.

Donald Alexander Wilson (1891-1987) was one of the most influential people in Whitby in a life that spanned 95 years. Born at Whitby on June 23, 1891, he was a son of David Wilson, a painter and decorator, and Harriet Jane Pringle. His mother was a twin and she and her sister were the first children baptised in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in 1863. As the oldest native resident of Whitby in 1955, at the age of 92, she was Whitby's Centennial Queen, when the town celebrated 100 years of incorporation. Donald Wilson's grandfather, Alexander C. Wilson came to Whitby from St. Andrew's, Fifeshire, Scotland, before 1857.

Donald A. Wilson House - 2

In his youth, Donald Wilson was a member of a Junior Hockey Team from 1908 to 1910 which won the Ontario Championship in 1909. He was first employed as a clerk in Arthur T. Lawler's grocery store on Brock Street South. From 1910 to 1927 Mr. Wilson was in the rubber and logging business in Nicaragua, Central America, rising to the position of general manager of a mahogany lumber company. Having made a considerable amount of money in this business, he returned to Whitby in 1927 and became a partner in Whitby Motors Ltd. with William Davidson. He retired in 1963 as secretary-treasurer of the company, which was located where the Toronto Dominion Bank is now beside the cenotaph.

Mr. Wilson took an active part in community life in Whitby. He was a member of the Whitby Board of Education for more than 25 years, and was chairman of the board from 1940 to 1943. He was the first chairman of the Whitby District High School Board when it was formed in 1949 and served as such until 1950. He was chairman of the building committee of the Whitby District High School which built the present Henry Street High School in 1953-54 and an addition to that building in 1957. He was a long-time member of the Board of Directors of the Ontario Ladies' College (Trafalgar Castle School), serving many years as secretary-treasurer.

Mr. Wilson was a charter member of the Whitby Rotary Club when it was formed in 193 and served as club president from 1940 to 1941. In 1976 he was named a Paul Harris Fellow, the highest honor in Rotary. He was also a founding member of the Whitby Chamber of Commerce in 1928.

For nearly 40 years, Mr. Wilson was a member of the Session and an elder at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, and assisted in laying the corner stone for the new church on Cochrane Street in 1967. He was President of the Whitby Boy Scout Association and a member of the Scouts' Provincial Council in the 1950s.

Mr. Wilson was one of the prime movers in the construction of the Whitby Community Arena in 1953-54, raising funds and acting as secretary-treasurer of the Whitby Community Arena Board.

He was a director of the Whitby Dunlops Senior A Hockey Club in the 1950s and went to Oslo, Norway to watch the team win the World Hockey Championship in 1958.

Donald A. Wilson house - 3

For his many services to the Town of Whitby, Mr. Wilson was named as the first recipient of the Peter Perry Award as Whitby's outstanding citizen, in 1955. In 1984 he was a recipient of the Ontario Bicentennial Medal.

Donald Wilson was married to Madge Agnes Dorsey on July 16, 1932, at Edmonton, Alberta. She was president of the Whitby branch of the Victorian Order of Nurses in 1940-42 and was active in other community groups. They had two sons, Donald, an engineer and Neil, a high school vice-principal in Toronto. Donald died in Toronto on April 6, 1989.

Donald A. Wilson died at Whitby on March 30, 1987, at the age of 95, the second oldest native-born resident of the town. His wife died two weeks later, on April 14, 19 at the Oshawa General Hospital.

Within two months of his purchase of land on Dundas Street East, Donald A. Wilson began construction of his new home. Although a careful search has been made, no definite information has turned up on who the architect and contractor were for the Donald A. Wilson house. One possibility for the builder is John Thompson Scott (1882-1969) a Whitby contractor who was born in Edinburgh, Scotland and came to Whitby in 1915 to work on the construction of the Whitby Psychiatric Hospital. The suggestion that he was the builder is by word of mouth only and cannot be relied upon totally.

One particular feature of the house is the wainscoting and wood trim, which is all of mahogany taken from a single tree Mr. Wilson shipped to Whitby from Nicaragua. Most of the original furnishings of the house were also of mahogany.

The following article about the construction of the house was printed in The Oshawa Daily Times of May 19, 1928:

"Excavations of the foundation for the new house being erected by Mr. Donald Wilson on Dundas Street East, adjoining the "Gables" has been completed and work has now been started on the foundation walls.

"This residence, which will be built at an estimated cost between \$8,000 and \$10,000 bids fair to be one of the finest homes in Whitby, from an architectural standpoint. It is to be of English type, with a long sloping roof facing the street

Donald A. Wilson house - 4

and two gables projecting in front while between the gables on the roof will be a dormer window. Brick veneer in construction, the dimensions over all are 40 feet 3 inches long by 28 feet wide. There will be two floors beside the basement, the ground floor to consist of a long hall, a large kitchen with pantry, dining room, living room with fireplace and sunroom, the second floor including three large bedrooms and a bath. The finishing throughout will be mahogany. The plans also call for an attached garage on the southeast corner."

According to Neil Wilson, a sunroom and upstairs bedroom were added to the house before he was born in 1939.

When Donald A. Wilson retired in 1963 he had a new home built at 401 Fairview Drive, and sold his home at 519 Dundas Street East on Aug. 26, 1963 to Helen Dick wife of Henry H. Dick, who had purchased Whitby Motors. The house came to him as part of the deal for purchase of the business.

Henry H. Dick was born at Tigerwiede, Ukraine, in 1911 and lived most of his life in Ontario's Niagara Peninsula. He was a member of the Niagara Volunteer Fire Department and chairman of the Niagara District High School Board.

He came to Whitby in 1962 and established H. Dick Pontiac Buick Ltd. in the old Whitby Motors building. He was president of the business until his retirement in 1968. Mr. Dick was an elder of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, a member of the Whitby Rotary Club and David T. Campbell Lodge, the Whitby Curling Club and the Board of Governors of the Dr. J. O. Ruddy General Hospital (now Whitby General Hospital).

He died at Sarnia, Ont. at the home of his daughter, on May 31, 1969 and is buried in St. Catharines.

Mr. Dick moved out of the house at 519 Dundas Street East and sold it on June 4, 1965 to Totten Sims and Associates Ltd. for \$3,300. This consulting engineering firm, now known as Totten Sims Hubicki and Associates, was formed by three former county engineers, George L. Totten from Northumberland and Durham County, Ted Sims of Ontario County and John Hubicki, of Peterborough County. The business was started by Mr. Totten in Cobourg and Mr. Sims opened a Whitby office in the Professional Building beside All

Donald A. Wilson house - 5

Saints' Anglican Church at the end of 1963. The company designed the streets, sewer and water systems for the subdivision built west of the old County House of Refuge in Whitby and went on to build bridges, highways and other structures in the Region of Durham.

The Whitby office handled all projects west of Cobourg, while the Cobourg office handled all projects east of that town.

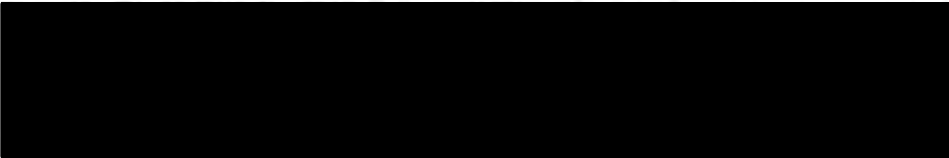
The Totten Sims operation was the first commercial use of the Donald A. Wilson house.

Ted Sims says the layout of the building was quite conducive to professional offices. Fred and Ruth Dakin were caretakers for the offices after Totten-Sims moved into the building in the summer of 1965. As the business expanded, Ted Sims wanted to build an addition to the house, but the Town of Whitby Planning Department would not allow him to do it. With this proposal turned down, Totten Sims Hubicki and Associates purchased land in the new Whitby Industrial Park at Hopkins Street and Consumers Drive and built a new office there, starting in 1969. On April 27, 1971, Totten Sims Hubicki and Associates Ltd. sold the house at 519 Dundas Street East to Dr. David H. Epstein and Mohamed Raza Rayman. These two doctors planned to set up a medical centre in the house and managed to get approval from the town planning department for an addition which was not attached to the house, but stood a few feet to the back of it. The doctors formed a company called Davray Ltd., a combination of their names, and sold the building to this company on Nov. 9, 1971. They proceeded in 1971 to build a one-storey addition to the back of the house, to contain eight suites for various medical offices. Winvalley Construction, owned by William D. Winter, was the contractor. By 1972, the Whitby Medical Arts building, as it was now called had suites occupied by physicians, M. R. Rayman, P. W. Aggett, David Epstein; P. W. Davidson, dentist, and M.D.S. Labs., all in the new addition.

When the addition was opened in 1972, the original house was divided into two apartments and rented to several tenants by Dr. Epstein and Dr. Rayman. From 1981 to 1987 Dr. Epstein's receptionist Vivian Aiken and her husband Raymond lived in the entire house. During the doctors' ownership of the house, little change was made in the structure.

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and it remained much as it was in Mr. Wilson's time.



Despite its commercial use, the Donald A. Wilson house is unaltered since the time it was built and is still being used as a residence while the commercial offices are in a detached building behind it and cannot be seen from the street. With its mahogany trim and fine features, the house is unique in Whitby for its period, and also is associated with the Donald Wilson family which played an important part in Whitby's recent history.

It is a rare example where an older building has been adapted for commercial use without altering the original structure inside or out, and its future is reasonably secure in a rapidly growing commercial area.

Architectural Report

519 Dundas Street East
Whitby

Description

In plan the house is organized as a modified H, with a centre hall on the long axis of the house joining 'public' and 'service' wings at either end. The interior is discussed in greater detail in the next section of the report.

Externally faced in a hard, vermiculated brick in variegated tones of red, brown and black with iron streaks, construction seems to have been poured concrete foundations, wood framing and lath and plaster interior finishing. The foundations are not visible except around the front door. All brick is stretcher bond, with deep rectangular mortar joints and grey mortar. In one area protected inside a back porch, the mortar is black, which probably indicates the original pointing. Roofing is red asphalt shingles, which also cover a central front dormer.

In elevation the H-plan is expressed as two high, very steep gables over each wing connecting to a cross ridge that terminates in steep gables on each end of the house. The north front facade therefore consists of two steep but not quite symmetrical gables with a shed-roofed, three-light dormer inserted into the roof between them. The gable fascia swoops down over the doorway, sheltering it and disrupting what would otherwise be a static, centralized composition. Tall external chimneys are centred on each gable end (east and west), and a third has been added inside the H on the back of the west wing. The firebox for that third chimney recently proved faulty: the electrical wiring in the walls caught fire and the fireplace front was substantially destroyed.

Several additions have been made to the house which were thought to occur in the 1950s. The house was duplexed, with changes to the interior which also particularly affected the access to the building. A steeply-roofed garage in the same brick was added on the east end of the house, with fenestration to match that used elsewhere; at the opposite end of the house the 'public' wing was extended through both floors by the addition of one more room on the (south) back; various porches, sheds and doorways appear to have been added on the back.

Fenestration

The disposition of fenestration across each elevation is basically symmetrical without being mirror-image. Windows do occur singly and without symmetrical counterpart, as in the attic vents high on the gable ends beside the chimneys, or with slight differences, as in the grouping of windows on the east (left) half of the front, around the tall staircase window.

The variety and inconsistency in the occurrence of window openings makes it easier to describe them in general terms. Fenestration tends to be of two kinds. Most of the larger window openings in the brick wall are set back the depth of one brick, with narrow wood frames and a two-over-one glazing in which the top two lights are approximately one-third the height of the window opening (instead of the traditional half). Windows on the dormer and the oriel bays are set into plain, unmoulded wood surrounds and consist of either small leaded panes over a single light ($\frac{12}{1}$ on the west end) or of pairs of small-paned units (the eight-pane vertical units on each of the three faces of the oriel on the west end, for instance, which was, however, a later addition). Small openings in the brick wall have pairs of leaded lights arranged in triplets, as in the six-light windows high on the wall flanking the west fireplace. Window openings in the brick all have slightly cambered voussoir arches; those in wood framing are flat-headed. Openings which have been added into the brick can be distinguished by the white mortar and thick joints of their voussoir arches (ie., the side door at the back of the garage).

South back

The relatively free and coherent symmetry of the front and sides breaks down on the south back, cluttered by two unusual brick wing walls providing a cellar entrance and support for an enclosed back porch in the eastern corner. This porch was built in front of an existing door and window. A concrete platform has been laid across the back, raising the ground level and blocking the external clean-out trap of the third chimney. The extent of additions and alterations makes it difficult to be certain of the original appearance of the south wall. The original dining room window with $\frac{6+6}{1}$ glazing in a group of three was and still is central to the connecting bar of the H.

Soffits are medium width on both house and additions, of a beaded strip boarding on the house and plain plank boards on the additions. Gable returns are built up with shingled, miniature roofs filling in the angle of the return.

Interiors

As previously mentioned, the house has two full stories plus a full basement but the duplexing of the house created a number of anomalies, not all of which can be identified with certainty.

There are two circulation systems through the house: the hall running the long axis of the house on both floors, and connections between many of the rooms, creating a flow parallel to the hall. There is one stair.

Main floor

Entrance is through an enclosed vestibule into a panelled stair hall which is open to the stair but can be shut off from the rooms. Wood used throughout the house for doorframes, window surrounds, banister, balusters and wall panelling is said to be red heart mahogany, stained. Floors and public stairs are a light, narrow strip hardwood. (Quarter-turn basement stairs seem to have pine treads.) Baseboards throughout, where retained, are about seven inches high, plain, with a bevel toward the top. Doorframes are similar, consisting of an inner bead, a narrow sloping edge, and a flat surround. Doors to most of the public rooms have fifteen etched glass panels in mahogany frames and faceted glass knobs.

A side door leads into the hall from the east end. The kitchen on the back of the house has been modernized and the insertion of a four-piece bathroom into part of its space has altered finishes and proportions. Immediately inside the door is a closet-sized, unfinished room with exposed framing. This room and the basement stair are tucked under the rise of the main stair, which has a small square landing and two final descents into the hallway: one facing the vestibule, one into the back hall. The dining room is at the centre of the house off the front hall. It has box-built ceiling beams and a compact, built-in sideboard comprising three cupboards, a serving surface and three lead-glazed upper cupboards. Small Gothic arch cut-out screens are at each end of the serving surface.

The 'public' wing includes three connected rooms on the west end: a small front sitting room with bowed oriel, the principal parlour, and a later addition built at a slightly lower level on the south back. This room was recently damaged by fire so is not further considered here.

The principal parlour has a coved ceiling, and a brick fireplace on the outer west wall whose ornament relies on an unusual bowed front of brick standing vertically between framing courses, the projection carried on corbels.

The stair is essentially a quarter-turn type from the landing, with absolutely straight, almost square balusters, square newels with flat cap mouldings, and a broad fluid banister with traditional bead and scotia mouldings.

Upper floor

The principal feature of the upper hall is a sitting nook with candle wall fixtures, the area framed by a mahogany 'arch', actually a flat and fairly simple scroll-cut board defining the space. Three bedrooms are ranged along the south back; the northern wall of the corridor carries closets, the stair and the nook. The two easterly bedrooms, each with closets, are connected by a tiny 'dressing room' less than a metre wide. It still has its built-in drawers and the evidence of a sink. A bathroom with most original fittings (glazed wall tiles, coordinated floor tiles, built-in, separate shower and tub enclosures) occupies the west end of the hall. With the exception of the hallway, the woodwork of the upper floor has been painted.

The west bedroom, which connects directly to the bathroom, has been subdivided to provide a narrow corridor to a sunny back bedroom, the addition discussed earlier.

Basement

The full basement has a poured concrete floor, parged concrete and painted brick walls, several small windows, closed ceilings approximately seven feet high and substantial wall partitions between three main spatial areas. It has apparently been used for office and storage space in the past. There are a variety of exposed pipes and, as the area is subject to sewer flooding, many signs of dampness in the walls and floors.

Site

The house sits against the west edge of the parcel, behind a generous residential lawn on the south side of Dundas Street east a short distance from the 'four corners'. The domestic quality of the site is best maintained by the random flagstone walk set into the grass, curving in gently from the street edge; and by the hedge separating the large lot of the small single-family dwelling immediately to the west. These two open areas retain the quality of the semi-rural setting which typified ex-urban settlement in the early twentieth century. The area is now mixed residential, combining a range of historic buildings from different periods and low-rise, multiple-unit apartment blocks in varying relationships to the street. A much larger multi-unit residential building occupies the lot to the east.

Immediately behind the house a low, one-storey commercial block housing about eight businesses has been built in the same brick as the house, to a width just slightly less than that of the house. The east edge of the site is a paved parking lot parallel to the business block.

The site therefore has an abrupt edge between the domestic setting of the house, which is limited to the lawn and the perimeter of the walls, and the commercial use. The concrete platform where the back garden might have been, and the paving all around the east side of the house, cut the house off from its original setting and tie it in to the commercial development. The negative impact of the setting would be difficult to mitigate.

History

The house was reportedly built in early 1928 for Donald Wilson, a local businessman with lumber interests. Based on the architectural evidence, it would appear that careful and sympathetic additions and expansions were made in the 1950s, and less sensitive alterations may have occurred in the 1960s. As detailed historical information is provided to the Committee by a Whitby historian these areas have not been fully investigated for the purposes of this report.

/ Analysis

The house is characteristic of early forms taken by the 'modern' house as we know it, built with the amenities we consider essential, and an emphasis on serving utilitarian needs. Plans in the early twentieth century were a little more experimental than previously, although still available from pattern books. Features included large windows, rooms planned for sunlight, 'sanitary' indoor bathrooms, built-in closets, fixtures and kitchen cupboards; even central heating, whose history had begun in North America in the 1840s, became a standard part of construction.¹

Stylistically the house combines aspects of romantic and picturesque English revival styles with the utilitarian American Craftsman style. The English cottage style, which recalled the charm of thatched rural cottage prototypes, is conspicuously recalled in the soft sweeping lines of the roof, here expressed by the swoop of the west front gable, a roof height evoking cosy domesticity, and a pleasant asymmetry suggesting unplanned, natural growth.²

The Tudor Revival contributed to the picturesque arrangement of massing and many of the details: the leaded glazing, the numerous gables, the oriels, the interior nooks, the interior ceiling beams and in part the panelling.

The Craftsman ideal informs the consistency of interior hardware, proportions and woodwork. Craftsman architecture was an American development with stylistic and philosophical links to European modernism. The strict rectilinearity of the stair rail, for instance, derives from Craftsmanly ideals of honesty of workmanship and materials. Probably the unusual three-to-one proportions of fenestration derives from distant Craftsman ideals as well.

Formulated by furniture manufacturer Gustav Stickley and promulgated through his influential magazine *The Craftsman* (1901-16), Craftsman came to represent a style of American living in the early twentieth century, manifested in architecture, furniture (also known as Mission and Arts and Crafts furniture), fixtures, textiles, even food.³

A strong exterior Craftsman detail is the little porch roof propped above the east doorway. Its exposed rafters and rational wood support system express principles of the Craftsman in a form that became very common on Ontario houses. Here the utilitarian, practical nature of the Craftsman is juxtaposed against the romantic imagery of the English revival styles, seen in the strong gabled silhouettes of the roof.

The Craftsman interior featured lavish use of natural wood in wainscotting, beamed ceilings, window seats and built-in furnishings. The prominence of the stair hall in this house, characteristic of the Craftsman interior, echoes a concern that began in the late 1880s for a stairhall/hearth at the 'heart' of the house. Rough plaster, as found in the principle sitting room, was common, and walls were typically decorated with plate rails and stencilled friezes in dull earth tones.⁴

Integrity of design intention carried through to fixtures, particularly metalwork. Doorknobs, drawer pulls and single-candle wall lights are quite consistent where originals remain or have been relocated (as in the upstairs bedroom corridor).

Perhaps the most startling element of the house is the external cladding: a textured, vermiculated brick, (literally 'worm-eaten', from a method of stone finish) of rather harsh variegated colours that are more characteristic of later periods. The fact that this brick is used consistently and without obvious key lines on all the additions and modern construction is rather suspicious, although no definite evidence that the house has been refaced is apparent from a visual inspection. The small area of black pointing detected inside the back porch indicates, conversely, a 'period' finish, since coloured mortars and pointing were seldom used in the recent modern period.

Houses of this type were more frequently built during the 'teens and twenties in grey random-coursed stone, red brick laid in ornamental herringbone patterns, or sheathed in stucco with applied mock half-timbering, depending on the stylistic source being emulated. In its purest architectural form, the Craftsman manifested itself as a bungalow built of natural fieldstone or hand-split shakes. Possibly a rough brick was considered a good substitute.

The roof shingles appear to be out-of-scale and poorly applied in relation to the quality the house seems to suggest, particularly in the area of the central roof dormer, where they are clumsily laid over the front walls of the dormer itself. The flatness of the shingle is also inappropriate. The steepness of the roof pitch could have carried slate, tile or, possibly, a black asphalt shingle, but something with texture would be expected. (Historical photographs will supply some idea of the original surface.)

Significance

It has been seen that the house exemplifies elements of English Tudor and Cottage revival styles in massing and some of its detailing, and elements of the Craftsman style in its interior and the use of materials. This blending of styles points to the hybrid, popular nature of the house as an architectural entity. Naturally the history must be taken into consideration, as the personality and wishes of the owner are clearly evident throughout the building. In absolute terms, the architecture is not a distinguished example of the styles it emulates, but is typical of domestic architecture in Ontario built for clients whose ambition may exceed available resources.

Urbanistically the property represents two phases in Whitby's development: the wide-grain, urban fringe 'estate' settlement phenomenon especially typical of the teens and twenties period, and the institutional or commercial re-use phase which is the most common fate of such 'estate' houses, even small ones.

V.89

519 Dundas Street East

Recommendation:

It is recommended that 519 Dundas Street East be designated for architectural and historical reasons. *(Historical information must be inserted as appropriate. The house does not have sufficient architectural significance to merit designation solely on those grounds.)* Architecturally it is representative of the Craftsman style, with elements of the English cottage revival, in its prominent sweeping gables, leaded glazing, projecting oriels, H plan massing organized around a central hall, and its consistent interior detailing of mahogany panelling and woodwork throughout the house.

(This wording will protect the interior woodwork, the lay-out, the general shape of the house and fenestration.)

A.M. de Fort-Menares
V.89

Notes

¹Clem Labine and Patricia Poore, *The Comfortable House, The Old-House Journal New Compendium*, (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1983), p. 8.

²*Ibid.*, p. 11.

³Carolyn Flaherty, *The Craftsman House*, *ibid.*, p. 29.

⁴*Ibid.*, p. 31.

A.M. de Fort-Menares

519 Dundas Street East 7

Addendum to Architectural Report

Further to the designation report, the L.A.C.A.C. recommend photographic evidence will support the existence of another window on the east side of the house and will illustrate the unique steel windows in the sunroom at the rear of the house, on the south side. The L.A.C.A.C. further recommend the window on the east wall be restored.