



NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

417 Main Street West

TAKE NOTICE that Grimsby Town Council, on July 4th, 2023 resolved to issue a Notice of Intention to Designate PT LT 18 CON 2, North Grimsby (FMLY PCL 10); PT 1, 30R-4577; GRIMSBY as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

The Reason for the Notice of Intention to Designate is to recognize the physical, associative and contextual value that **417 Main Street West** contributes towards the Town of Grimsby's inclusive heritage.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The brick house at 417 Main Street West is representative of the Queen Anne style typical of the 1880s to 1910s. The defining building materials include the smooth red brick, with inset brick panels, stone water table banding with stone sills and lintels, wooden fish scale shingles, and stained glass transoms.

The form of the house has many indications of the Queen-Anne style such as the hipped roof with multiple intersecting gables and dormers supported by corbels, projecting brick bay windows, large front porch, tall red brick chimneys with decorative details, large windows, turned wooden porch columns, and an a-symmetrical façade. The structure features a variety of window openings and groupings, some windows have brick voussoirs and others have solid limestone lintels, this mixture of detailing and decoration is common on homes of this period.

Decorative details that can be seen on the property include the elaborate wooden porch railing, quarter-round windows, decorative brick panels on the East bay windows, corbels supporting the porch soffit, double leaf front doors, and the dormer with an arched roof above the main entrance.

Additional defining features of the property include the river rock retaining wall along the property boundary facing Main Street West, the mature tree canopy surrounding the structure, and the surrounding active farmland.

The property displays a high degree of craftsmanship. The large Queen-Anne structure would have been custom designed by an architect at the time of construction. The building is in good condition and that is a testament to the high-quality materials and high degree of craftsmanship used at the time of construction.

417 Main Street West has direct associations with important figures in Grimsby's past, such as the Beamer family, the Hagar family, the Hawke family and the Farmerettes.

John Beamer was born the 27th of November, 1759 in Sussex, New Jersey. John was married to Anna (Young) Beamer on April 7th, 1782. Together the couple immigrated to Canada in 1790 with their four children. The Beamers were a very successful family in Grimsby's history, and held a large amount of land within the Town. The family's success can be attributed to the saw-mill they had built at Forty Mile Creek. The mill was built on additional land that was purchased from John Green. The Saw mill at Forty Mile Creek (Which is named after the distance from the

border to the tributary) was located at the top of the escarpment. The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority acquired Beamer Memorial Conservation Area in 1964, to protect and preserve the Niagara Escarpment and the Forty-Mile Creek valley system. The site is home to a variety of Carolinian plants and wildlife. John and Anna Beamer first settled this property in 1790, both Upper Beamer Falls and Lower Beamer Falls are named after John Beamer who built a dam just above Upper Beamer Falls to provide water power for his sawmill and grist mill.

Lewis L. Hagar purchased the land at 417 Main Street West from John Glover Ten Eyck. At first the family lived in a stone tenant house on the property, which was later replaced by the Queen-Anne structure constructed in 1887, Lewis named the house "Clovelly". Lewis L. Hagar eventually funded to build a rectory for St. Johns Church in Winona, Hagar School on the old Pettit property and in 1911 Lewis was on the Committee for Grimsby's Annual at Home committee. Lewis was a well-known fruit grower and former horseman, he passed at the age of 83.

Albert L. Hawke took possession of the home from the Hagar family. Albert was a pallbearer at Lewis L. Hagar's funeral, and the families were familiar with each other. Albert Hawke ran "Hawke's Store" in Grimsby. It was during this time that the Hawkes hosted the Farmerettes at the property, to aid in farming to support the ongoing war effort.

When Canadian men left the farms to join the military during World War Two, it became important to recruit helpers to continue producing food for this country. Therefore, the government organized the Ontario Farm Service Force which was made up of female high school graduates, commonly referred to as Farmerettes. By 1943, nearly 13,000 young women were enrolled as Farmerettes. The girls picked fruit, weeded, painted fences, helped with the canning, and did a multitude of other farm jobs. Several local farmers married Farmerettes. Without the aid of the 13,000 Farmerettes, the farming community within Ontario would've suffered un-imaginable losses.

The historic dwelling at 417 Main Street West is representative of the age and architectural style that historically was found along the historic Main Street West corridor. This heritage dwelling visually illustrates the wealth and prosperity within the Town during the height of the tender fruit industry found in the Town of Grimsby.

417 Main Street West is physically and visually linked to its surroundings. The large Queen-Anne structure remains largely unchanged on the façade fronting Main Street West, the property surrounding the Queen-Anne structure still maintains its historic use as tender fruit farming and other agricultural uses. The building maintains its original deep setback from Main Street West, this is an invaluable attribute found on other prosperous tender fruit farming estates within the Town. This property is also physically linked as the bend in the road in front of the heritage structure was often referred to as Hagar's Curve.

The property is a landmark. While driving down Main Street West the imposing Queen-Anne structure is very notable. The structure has been a main fixture since its construction. The property also features a large river rock wall fronting Main Street West, walls of this construction and length are not commonly seen elsewhere on the Main Street corridor. The property is located on a curve of Main Street West, which acts as a landmark while travelling down Hwy.8, a Grimsby Newspaper article from March 1921, states: the bend in the road was referred to as "Hagar's Curve".

HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES TO BE DESIGNATED

The Heritage Attributes to be designated at 417 Main Street West include:

- 2 ½ stories
- Queen Anne style architecture
- Gabled dormers
- Steeply pitched hip roof with intersecting gables
- Tall red brick chimneys with decorative details

Dormers:

- Gables supported by corbels
- Fish scale shingle details
- Window groupings with pediment headers
- Decorative bargeboard and drop finials in the peaks
- Dormer with metal arched roof

Masonry:

- Smooth red brick, characteristic of the Queen-Anne period
- Arched voussoirs above windows and doors
- Solid stone lintels above windows and doors
- Stone water table banding below the third floor frieze band
- Inset decorative brick panels on the front façade
- Projecting brick bay windows, box bay windows
- Stone windowsills
- Two decorative brick panels on the East façade bay window
- Stone foundation
- River rock retaining wall on the property boundary fronting Main Street West

Window openings & door openings:

- Arched multi-pane window on the second floor front façade
- Pie shaped windows on the third floor East façade gable
- Stained glass transom on porch picture window
- Transom above front doors
- Wooden double leaf front doors

Porch & Decorative Details:

- Turned ionic columns, paired in groupings supporting the porch roof, on wooden pedestals
- Corbelled eaves below the porch beam
- Wooden railing with arch detail
- Pediment above front wooden staircase

OBJECTIONS

Any objection to this designation must be filed no later than 30 days after the date of publication of the notice of intention in a newspaper. Objections should be directed to Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, Town Clerk, Town Clerk, 160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby ON, L3M 0J53.

MORE INFORMATION

Any inquiries may be directed to Bianca Verrecchia, Heritage Planner at 905-945-9634 ext. 2122 or by email bverrecchia@grimsby.ca

Last date to file Notice of Objection: August 12th, 2023