

THE CORPORATION OF THE
Town of Halton Hills



P.O. Box 128
HALTON HILLS (Georgetown)
Ontario
L7G 4T1

File No. 20-22
Dept. Clerk's

ESTABLISHED 1974

REPORT TO: CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF GENERAL COMMITTEE
FROM: S. THOMSON, ASSISTANT CLERK
REPORT NO.: CL-86-60
DATE: 1986 04 29
RE: NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE -
"CRAIGLEA HOUSE" - Owner JULIUS GEIST - PART OF
EAST ½ LOT 9, CONCESSION 3, HALTON HILLS

BACKGROUND

In February 1986, Julius Geist came to our office regarding an application he was making to the Ontario Heritage Foundation for a capital grant. To be eligible for the grant, Mr. Geist's house, "Craiglea", has to be Designated a Heritage Property by the local municipality. To that end, Mr. Geist submitted a letter to the Town requesting that "Craiglea" House be designated a heritage property (see copy of letter attached). I wrote a letter to the Heritage Foundation, at that time, stating that the Town would look into Designating the property.

COMMENT

The first step in the "Heritage Designation" process under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act is the "Notice of Intention to Designate". If Council decides that they would like to designate Craiglea House, then staff will have to serve notice of the intention to designate on the owner of the property the Ontario Heritage Foundation and advertise Council's Intention for 3 weeks in local newspapers.

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I have discussed the designation of "Craiglea House" with staff of the Ontario Heritage Foundation. The Foundation is very interested in the property and are willing to help preserve it. At staff request, they forwarded a description that they considered were the property's architectural and historical qualities which made the property worthy of designation. Attached is a copy of the Notice of Intention to Designate to be served on the property owner. It contains the reasons for which property is being designated.

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The property known as "Craiglea House" is recommended for designation for architectural and historical reasons. Built entirely of local pine, Craiglea is a 15-room white clapboard farm house located on a 97 acre farm in the "Scotch Block" of Halton, settled by Scots in the early 19th Century. It is popularly supposed that Craiglea was the first structure in the district built of anything more substantial than logs.

It is traditionally thought that the house was built between 1827-1830, but certain features of the structure indicate that it was either built after the 1840's or is a house of the 1820's with subsequent changes. The principal exterior feature is the elaborate main door-frame with its large-scale Doric frieze and pilasters. The interiors of the main rooms are detailed with large-scale decorative elements based on the classical order.

It is probably safest to call Craiglea a "Vernacular Classical Revival" with Greek aspects to several of its features, but the scale and relationship of the elements are not accurate.

John Stewart (1809-99), for whom Craiglea was built, was born in Perth, Scotland, and came to Canada with his family in 1817. His father received the land on which Craiglea now stands as a Crown Grant in 1819, making the Stewart family among the first settlers in the Scotch Block. Stewart became an active supporter of William Lyon MacKenzie's Reform Party. MacKenzie is known to have held a meeting on the Stewart Farm, and Stewart led a small force of rebels to Toronto in December 1837 in support of the revolt. Stewart was arrested and imprisoned at Kingston. He escaped and fled to the United States and was later pardoned and returned to Canada.

Chairman and Members
of General Committee

RECOMMENDATION

That Report CL-86-60, dated 1986 04 29, be received;

And that the Town of Halton Hills Council requests staff to take the necessary steps to show Council's intention to Designate "Craiglea House", for the reasons outlined in this report, located at Part E ½ Lot 9, Concession 3, Halton Hills, as a Heritage Property, under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Thomson
Assistant Clerk

ST:mjk

R.R. 5, MILTON, ONT.

TEL.: 878-9385

February 14, 1986.

Town of Halton Hills,
Georgetown, Ontario.

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of Council:

RE: Application for Heritage Designation for "Craiglea"

"Craiglea" is located on the east half of lot 9 Conc. 3 on the third line of Halton Hills.

The subject house was built in 1823 from lumber grown on this Stewart farm. A frame house with historic background.

In 1837 Rebellion, William Lyon McKenzie, the leader of the rebellion spoke from the front steps of the "Craiglea" house to the rebels.

Jack Stewart, McKenzie's confidant was condemned to Van Deemen Island. On the way he miraculously escaped from Kingston and fled to the states. After 22 years of exile he was pardoned; came back to Canada and lived the rest of his life in Paisley, Ontario.

We are in possession of numerous articles, regarding the property and its history. There have been numbers of interested people visiting "Craiglea" for its historic value and architectural beauty.

In order to preserve this historic beauty for the future, please give your consent to its Heritage Designation.

Yours truly,

Julius Geist

JG/tt
Enclosures

In the Matter of the Ontario Heritage
Chapter 337.

And in the Matter of the Lands and Premises known
Part of East $\frac{1}{2}$ Lot 9, Concession 3, Town of Halton Hills,
Province of Ontario.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO: Mr. Julius Geist
R.R. #5
Milton, Ontario
L9T 2X9

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of
the Town of Halton Hills intends to designate the property,
including lands and buildings, known as Part of the East $\frac{1}{2}$ of
Lot 9, Concession 3, as a property of architectural and
historical value or interest under Part IV of The Ontario
Heritage Act.

Reasons for the Proposed Designation

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for designation for architectural and historical reasons. Built
entirely of local pine, Craiglea is a 15-room white clapboard
farm house located on a 97 acre farm in the "Scotch Block" of
Halton, settled by Scots in the early 19th Century. It is
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of the revolt. Stewart was arrested and imprisoned at Kingston. He

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Any person may, within 30 days of the first publication of this notice, send, by registered mail, or deliver to the Clerk of the Town of Halton Hills, notice of his or her objection to the proposed designation together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. If such a Notice of Objection is received, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills shall refer the matter of the Conservation Review Board for a hearing.

Dated at The Town of Halton Hills in the Regional Municipality of Halton this day of 1986.

Clerk

CRAIGLEA

R.R. 5, MILTON, ONT.

TEL.: 878-9385

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