



## NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

### 2 5<sup>th</sup> Street

**TAKE NOTICE** that Grimsby Town Council, on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, resolved to issue a Notice of Intention to Designate LTS 165 to 167 & 185 & PT LT 184, Township Plan 64, as in RO372130; 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 **2 5<sup>th</sup> Street** contributes towards the Town of Grimsby's inclusive heritage.

#### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

The structure at 2 5th Street is a representation of the wooden frame cottages that were built during the Chautauqua Methodist movement during the late 1800's. The cottages design is influenced from Folk Victorian design. The cottage at 2 5th Street contains many of the elements of Folk Victorians, while also possessing vernacular features that are unique to the Grimsby Beach community.

The Grimsby beach cottages at the time of construction were known for their narrow and tall floor plans (due to the buildings being constructed on former tent lots). Features such as multiple storey porches, multiple sets of French doors, arched wooden sash windows, board and batten siding, bargeboards, gingerbread, turned porch posts and bracketing were also commonly seen.

The Grimsby Chautauqua movement was about community, arts culture and religion, the use of multiple outdoor porches became a vital part of the community's culture. The cottage at 2 5th street shows evidence of multiple storey porches that have been enclosed over time.

The cottage at 2 5th Street is representative of this style, and retains a significant amount of its original form, including the steep rooflines, tall stature, wooden sash windows, and the detached garage with board and batten siding.

As the area declined after the Methodist movement halted, and the need for housing grew, the cottage community transitioned to a year-round neighborhood. Many of the surviving cottages have been expanded over the last century to accommodate the needs of the occupants, the additions and enclosure of the porches on the cottage are representative of this layer in Grimsby Beaches history.

The cottage at 2 5th street is historically known as Ilfracombe Lodge and was constructed in 1887. The cottage was owned by Reverend Dr. Alexander and Sarah Burns.

Alexander and Sarah Burns of Hamilton were associated with Grimsby Park prior to 1885 as demonstrated in early Park programs. They acquired the lots on 5th Street from the Ontario Methodist Campground Company in 1887, this was prior to the Bowslaugh family agreeing to sell the cottages. Ilfracombe was one of the earliest cottages to be "presold" out of the Methodist Campground Association. These early sales were in an effort to attract wealthy families to occupy and establish the cottages along the lakeshore.

Alexander Burns was a Reverend, an associate of the Methodist Church and a top North American academic and lecturer of the period. Burns was active in every phase of the Grimsby Park community, preaching at the auditorium, teaching Sunday school and thorough involvement in all the social programs held in the Park.

Rev. Burns was educated at Victoria College in Cobourg before the college became part of the U of T. On graduation in 1861 he received the Prince of Wales Gold Medal, the first to be awarded the institutions highest honor. He entered the Methodist ministry in 1862 and spent a time in Wellington County. At 28 he married Sarah Andrews of Cobourg in 1863. In 1865 the President of the University of Iowa selected Alex to be his successor and Alex agreed to move. He became the Chair of Mathematics and Astronomy at the University of Iowa and subsequently the University President. The first US university to admit men and women on an equal basis, this was a principal Burns followed throughout his career and he brought to Canada.

The cottage at 2 5th Street was owned by this notable family from 1887-1918, during this time the property was passed down from Rev. Burns and his wife Sarah to their children.

The dwelling at 2 5th Street has the potential to yield information to the understanding of the Chautauqua Methodist movement, and the cultural practices of the community. The structure also provides insight into the notable Burns family, who contributed significantly to the Methodist association at Grimsby Beach for over 30 years. The structure also provides a greater understanding of the type of housing used by the wealthy Methodist campground leaders, during the height of the Methodist movement.

The dwelling at 2 5th Street is representative of the distinct Grimsby beach cottage style that can be found within the neighborhood. The cottage at 2 5th Street would have been constructed by the Bowslaugh family and D. Marsh & Sons. At the time of construction, the cottage likely had gingerbread, corbels, and decorative woodwork on the façade, typical of early cottages.

A majority of the cottages were built with materials that were prepared at the D. Marsh Grimsby Beach Planing mill. D. Marsh and sons are responsible for the construction of many notable buildings within Grimsby. The original mill was located on Park Road, at the present site of the QEW.

The historic dwelling at 2 5th Street is representative of the age and architectural style that was historically found throughout the Grimsby Beach neighborhood. The core area of the neighborhood still retains a significant number of original cottages that have not been lost to historic mass fires or neglect.

The cottages on the lakeshore such as 2 5th Street were built in the second phase of construction and were built to be larger and more striking to attract wealthy Methodist families to summer at the park.

The historic dwelling at 2 5th Street is visually and historically linked to its surroundings. The cottage is a strong representation of the other surviving original Grimsby beach cottages built by the Bowslaugh family and D. Marsh & Sons. The proportions, proximity to the other cottages, style, and alterations on 2 5th street are representative of the Grimsby Beach cottage style found within the community and is considered a strong intact example built during the height of the methodist movement. The cottage at 2 5th Street is historically linked to its surroundings, as it is one of the original Methodist Campground cottages constructed in the 1880's. Historically the cottage would have been in view of passenger ships arriving daily, the cottage was designed to attract wealthy methodists upon their arrival at the pier. At one point the Park would see over 10,000 guests per day.

The Heritage Attributes to be designated at 2 5<sup>th</sup> Street include:

- Two storey wooden framed cottage
- Folk Victorian design
- Steep Rooflines, intersecting gables and dormers
- Tall Stature
- Wooden Sash Windows
- Detached Garage with Board & Batten Siding
- Beech Tree
- Setback from 5<sup>th</sup> Street

## **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 Victoria Steele, Town Clerk, 160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby ON, L3M 0J5.

## **MORE INFORMATION**

Any inquiries may be directed to Bianca Verrecchia, Intermediate Heritage Planner at 905-945-9634 ext. 2122 or by email [bverrecchia@grimsby.ca](mailto:bverrecchia@grimsby.ca)

**Last date to file Notice of Objection: April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024**