

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GRIMSBY

BY-LAW NO. 23-96

A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 266 MAIN STREET WEST, AS A FEATURE OF HISTORICAL, ARCHITECTURAL, AND/OR CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

Whereas pursuant to Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, the Council of a municipality is authorized to enact by-laws to designate a real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

And whereas the municipal council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby has cause to be served on the owners of the lands and premises at:

266 Main Street West  
Grimsby, ON

and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, notice of intention to designate the property at 266 Main Street West and a statement of the reasons for the proposed designation, and further, has caused said notice of intention to be published in a newspaper with general circulation in the municipality;

And whereas the reasons for designation and extent to which the designation applies are set out in schedule "B" attached hereto and form part of the By-law.

Now therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby enacts as follows:

1. That the following real property, more particularly described in schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this By-law is hereby designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest:

266 Main Street West  
Town of Grimsby  
The Regional Municipality of Niagara

2. That the Town solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" attached hereto at the Land Registry Office.

Read a first time, considered, and passed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2024.



J.A. Jordan, Mayor



B. Nistico-Dunk, Acting Town Clerk

Schedule 'A' to By-law 23-96

In the Town of Grimsby in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, property description as follows:

PT LT 13 CON 2, North Grimsby (FMLY PCL 3); PT 3, 30R-9825; GRIMSBY



Schedule 'B' to By-law 23-96  
Statement of Significance and Description of Extent of the Features to which the  
Designation Applies

The property at 266 Main Street West contains many Edwardian elements, with Queen-Anne influences. The dwelling at 266 Main Street West has a high degree of artistic merit and craftsmanship that is traditionally found on Queen Anne and Edwardian architectural style dwellings. The wide front porch, use of flat roofs, the front porch columns with Ionic plaster capitols, hipped roof, and 1 over 1 wooden windows are signature elements of the Edwardian period. The clapboard siding meets the wood shingle siding creating a "flare" detail, which is a signature element within Edwardian architecture. The Queen-Anne gingerbread and fish-scale shingles on the front façade are later additions to the house that add to the structure's artistic merit.

In the early 20th century, Richard Norris Wolfenden moved to Grimsby and lived in the house at 266 Main Street West. Richard was born in January 1854 in Bolton, Lancashire. He was from an old family, dating back to the 1200s. The Wolfenden's were well established political leaders for many years. Dr. Wolfenden's great uncle, Richard Stuart Norris was the chief superintendent for the group who surveyed and engineered most of the London and the Northwestern Railway of England. It was Wolfenden's great-uncle Richard Norris, who most influenced him towards science and natural history. It was at Cambridge that he obtained a B.A. with Honours in Natural Science in 1876, followed by an M.B. in 1880. Wolfenden received an M.D., from Cambridge, in 1884. Upon receiving his degree, he was appointed to the post of senior house physician at the London Hospital.

During Dr. Wolfenden's career he worked under Morell Mackenzie. Morell Mackenzie was the first laryngologist; Mackenzie was among the most successful consulting physicians in the Golden Age of Queen Victoria. By 1890, Wolfenden had established an active private practice at 19 Harley Street, near Mackenzie's famous Harley Street consulting rooms in London, England.

While at the Throat Hospital, Wolfenden was chosen by Mackenzie to accompany him to Berlin on his first consultation with Frederick, Crown Prince of Germany, in May 1887. Dr Mackenzie and Dr. Wolfenden were brought to Germany to consult on the emperor's throat cancer. At the height of the Victorian Age, this new and unexpected patient was the heir to a great empire and married to the eldest daughter of Queen Victoria herself. Ultimately, the surgery was unsuccessful. When Frederick died in 1888, he had been the Emperor of Germany for only three months.

It is understood amongst the Germans that if the diagnosis and treatment had been done earlier using German methods Frederick would have remained kaiser and the first World War would have been avoided.

At the height of professional success, Wolfenden retired from the practice of medicine in 1893. When X-rays were discovered in 1895, Wolfenden was intrigued and began to improve techniques. As early as 1896, Wolfenden was making cinematic photographs with X-rays, showing movement of muscle and bones in frogs. The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) did not begin their important periodic cruises until 1902, when they included Wolfenden's stations in their sampling scheme. Wolfenden was a Founder Member (1903) of the Challenger Society, a group of notable oceanographers who gave lectures and exhibits to further this new science. The Challenger Society is still active. Wolfenden abruptly terminated his productive marine zoological investigations just as he had his medical career nearly 20 years previously.

Wolfenden's brother owned a farm near Grimsby, Ontario, Canada, and Wolfenden was persuaded to visit there in 1908. Here in Grimsby he put his remaining energy into a 200-acre fruit farm raising cherries and peaches in a characteristically intense scientific fashion. Wolfenden died suddenly in August 1926.

The scale, mass and form of the historic dwelling contributes to the character of the historic Main Street West corridor. The location of the house on Main Street West provides insight into the early development within Grimsby along the Main Street corridor.

The house at 266 Main Street West is visually linked to its surroundings as it contributes to the historical character of Main Street West. The King's Highway (Main Street West) was once a very prominent route, well before the construction of the Queen Elizabeth Way, connecting York to Queenston. This corridor contains large estates that visually illustrate the prosperity of the community at the time of the dwellings construction.

The Heritage Attributes to be designated at 266 Main Street West includes:

- Edwardian Architectural Design with Queen Anne Influences
- Symmetrical front façade
- Flare detail between the siding of the first and second floor
- Fish Scale Shingles
- Ornate Fretwork on Lower Porches
- Porch on North Façade with Gingerbread
- Ionic Porch columns
- Flat Top Hipped Roof
- Gabled Dormers
- Brick chimney
- Second Floor Sunroom (Later Addition)
- Arched Window Openings
- Original Window Openings
- 1 Over 1 Wooden Windows
- Original Door Openings
- Arched Stairwell Window on the East Façade
- Shutters (later Addition)
- Cedar Shake siding
- Clap board siding
- Stone Foundation
- Setback from Main Street West
- No interior features are included in the designation
- No trees are included in the designation