

Chair and Members
Heritage Committee
Township of Puslinch

October 3,2022

Application to demolish property listed on Heritage Register (82 Queen St)

I am submitting this document as part my delegation to encourage you to recommend to council to choose by by-law to designate the property 82 Queen Street within the municipality to be of cultural heritage value of interest based on the legislated criteria for determining cultural heritage value of interest.

Designation provides protection from demolition and enables a process that ensures changes to heritage properties are appropriately managed and that proposed changes respect the property's heritage value.

A detailed historical description of 82 Queen Street (attached) is taken from The David Morlock House the history of this house. Puslinch Historical Society Archives

My arguments to delegate this property are based on the Ontario Heritage Act, Ontario Regulation 9/06: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value of Interest, Section 29. (Criteria in bold)

Design Value:

- o Rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method**
- o High degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit o High degree of technical or scientific achievement**

The house on 82 Queen Street was built between 1909 and 1910 by the Morlock family, one of the founding families of the community of Morriston. The plans and construction of the house was undertaken by two Morlock sons, David and Peter and helped to be constructed by local craftsmen showing a high degree of craftsmanship. The exterior was made of wire cut brick from Elmira. This brick work is unique to Puslinch as to my knowledge there are only two other houses in Puslinch constructed of the same brick one on Watson Road and one at 4 Victoria Street.

Historical Value:

- o Direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community**
- o Yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture**
- o Demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community**

As mentioned before the house on 82 Queen Street was planed and built by David and Peter Morlock whose family was one of the founding members of the community of Morriston. The Morlock family along with the Calfass and Winer families among others helped to shape the culture and agricultural foundation of the community. The Morlock family were earnest in the advancement of education in the community, the first public school being built on the southeast corner of the Morlock homestead.

There are four remaining houses that were part of the original Morlock homestead. These include a stone cottage at 78 Queen Street, redbrick house at 80 Queen Street, 82 Queen Street and stone house at 84 Queen Street all built by the Morlock family between 1854 and 1910 and inhabited by Morlocks into the early 1900's. Each of these homes bring unique characteristics of the architecture of the time in which the Morlocks participated in their planning and design. As each home is unique in itself the four different styles provide an historical landmark in the community from the mid 1800's to mid 1900's.

Contextual Value:

- o A landmark**
- o Important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area**
- o Physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings**

As a landmark the house is significant given that in 1919 the house was bought by the Presbyterians as a manse for Duffs Church. It remained as a manse until 1993 when it was sold to a private family.

As mentioned above the 4 homes on the Morlock homestead help to define maintain and support the character of Morriston and in-fact all of Puslinch as we see in the older buildings still present in the community. They demonstrate the changing design over nearly a century all in one place. They are visually and functionally apparent being on one of the busiest roads in the region which has design guidelines for street fronts which emphasize maintaining our historical culture.

In summary I encourage the Heritage Committee to recommend to Puslinch Council to have the house on 82 Queen Street designated as a cultural heritage house for the reasons indicated above.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED] or

[REDACTED]

D C Mckay
Stoneleigh Farm

The David Morlock House The History of This House

This white brick house is the seventh house built on the old Morlock homestead. Number seven is a lucky number. Seven is a significant number. You see it mentioned in the Bible, in science, and in medicine.

In 1830, grandfather John Morlock emigrated from the old country, Germany. They sent him up the Aboukir Road, an old Indian trail. It was just blazed then, and he settled on Lot 32, Rear of Concession 7, along the west side of the old Brock Road, now Highway No. 6. They say that the first shack was built near the well. This was house number one. Later, grandfather built a log cabin on the right side of the driveway. There most of his children were born. This was house number two. Later, he and his son, John Christian Morlock (my father), built a large frame house on the east side of the driveway. This was house number three. (I might mention here that we, my brothers and sisters, were all born in this house, except the youngest). All of these houses have been removed and destroyed.

When grandfather retired, he built a stone house near the line fence, in which Mrs. Emily McLean now lives. This is house number four. Grandfather's son, John Christian, took over the old homestead and in 1882 built the stone house on the farm in which Mr. Neil Stewart currently lives. This is house number five. When my father, Christian Morlock, retired, he had the red brick house built in 1909, where Miss Louise Morlock now lives. This is house number six.

In the autumn of 1909, David Morlock, son of Christian Morlock and my brother, decided to build the white brick house. He had been working with the Binkley Brothers in the Morrison store and drove the wagon on the road with goods. He bought one fifth of an acre from father, and the work began. He finished it in the spring of 1910. This was house number 7. In his lifetime, my father, Christian Morlock Senior, saw seven houses being built on the old homestead, and he also saw the construction of the old school, near the line fence next to the Winer farm.

My late brother, Peter Morlock, was the contractor of the white brick house and drew the plans. My brother Ethelbert dug the cellar out and mixed the mortar. The brick carriers, that is, the labourers were Bert Huether and also my brother Bert. Robert Kennedy drew the stone

and sand for the foundation and cellar. The wire cut brick was made in Elmira, shipped to Puslinch Station, and the neighbours were hired to team them from there.

My brother, Peter Morlock, and his two men, Billy Grinder and Noah Bowman, laid the brick, masoned the cellar wall, and did the plastering. The late Frank Kistenmacher did the lathing. The late Oliver Gingrich, of Hespeler, did the carpentry, and along with him were his boy, Alvin, George Grinder, and Mr. Smith. The shingles came from British Columbia and were laid by these carpenters.

The painting was done by Mr. Baker and his assistant, Mr. Johnson, both of Hespeler. Mr. Lawrence Huether also did painting after the verandah was built up. Mr. Oaks, of Preston, put in the furnace for the heating system. Louis Gregor Senior dug and laid the pipes and connected them to the main pipe for the water system. A company from Preston did the plumbing in the bathroom et cetera. Most of the inside work of this house was done in the winter time.

The men boarded with my brother, Will, and me, in the old farmhouse, as we were batching it at the time, till our sister came to

keep house for us. I prepared the breakfast and gave the first call for breakfast. Mother came up every day from the red brick house and made the dinner and supper. We had a most delightful time in the evening while the building was going on.

My brother, Dave, bought an old building, an old hotel called “Halfway House”, half way between here and Hespeler. He bought it for \$50. Will and I teamed the lumber home. With the lumber, Dave built the barn, the sheeting for the roof of the house, the flooring for the attic, the stairs for the cellar and attic and the cellar doors. (By the way, the late Jim Reid built the barn.)

One night I walked home from Morriston with a gentleman and when we came to this house he said, “Do you know that this house is haunted, that oftentimes when I pass by at night I hear strange moaning sounds.” He wouldn’t sleep in this house for anything. “You know”, he said, “your brother, Dave, bought the timber of that old hotel to build this house and dear knows what took place in that old hotel years ago.” I laughed at him and told him what caused those ghost-like sounds. My father had bought a fancy wire fence from Donald Hanning, for along the road, and on the gate, a little tag was wired to it, the name of the fence. If certain winds blew, the tag would make a sizzling sound

and this is what he had heard. If there were ghosts in this house, I am sure that by this time they would have all disappeared, for there were no other but good people lived in this house, and a ghost couldn't stand that.

While brother Dave was living there in 1912, he had the acetylene lights installed in the house. I can well remember the date, the 20th of December, for I was away, singing at a Christmas entertainment down in Mountsberg. A load of young people went with me, and when I came home at midnight, I saw such a terrible scene.

There was someone young around with a flashlight. Upon further investigation, I found that all the windows had been blown out, some of the glass scattered over the lawn, nearly to the highway, and also the cellar door had been blown out. I expected that someone was hurt and when I entered my father's house, I found my sister, Louise, and Barbara, my sister-in-law, with their faces and heads bandaged. Severely burnt, especially Dave's wife, her fingers swelled up so badly that they had to file her wedding ring to remove it. The doctor had been there before I came home. Carmen, my niece, never got a scratch. She was playing the piano at the time, away from the window.

The man, who was getting things ready to light up, was in the kitchen, when Lu heard a boiling noise in the cellar and said, "What's that noise I hear?" The man quickly ran toward the cellar, with lantern in hand, and set it at the cellar door, to shut off the machine. Barbara and Lu followed him to the cellar door. The man called up to keep the lantern away, but instantly there was an explosion, before the man got down the cellar steps. Bar and Lu were in line with the two windows on each side of the house and that's why they received the force of the explosion. Bar had called over to Lu to come over to see the lights when it was ready to light up. Lu had a fur around her neck and that had protected her face to a certain extent.

Be that as it may, I said before that No. 7 was a lucky house and it was lucky in this way. The explosion shook the house, but not enough to ruin it, and it was "lucky" that no one was killed. Although they had a nurse for some months, everything healed up in due season.

The first residents of the white brick house were Mr. and Mrs. David Morlock and their daughter, Carmen. They lived there from the spring of 1910 until 1916, when they moved to Hamilton. In 1916, Mr. James Leith moved in, and he had the house painted. In 1919, Mr. Leith bought the house, and within a few days, he sold it to the Presbyterians for a manse, and along with house, was sold the one-fifth of an acre that lies between it and the Neil Stewart farm, to allow room for a driveway to the garage.

The first minister in the new manse, the white brick house built by David Morlock, was the Reverend Stewart Woods. He served as Presbyterian minister from 1920 until 1925, the year of the church union debate, and being strongly in favour of a union that was firmly rejected by the Presbyterian Church, Reverend Woods, feeling that it would be inappropriate to remain, departed, to serve the congregations of the United Church thereafter. Reverend Woods, his wife, two children, and their dog, "Rowdy" are favourably remembered. Mr. Woods kept a horse and buggy, and later, a car. He kept a nice garden and also kept the lawn well-mowed.

The second minister was the Reverend Peter Mathieson, who moved here in the fall of 1925 with his wife and daughter, Isabel. Mr.

Mathieson was a great flower man. If you wanted to have an interesting talk with Mr. Mathieson, just talk on flowers; he could name most of them. They had lived here, at the manse, for about ten years, when Mr. Mathieson took sick and died in 1935. It was the first death in this house and the first funeral and the largest funeral that I ever saw in Morriston. It was a sad house for a while. After that, Mrs. Mathieson held an auction and sold almost everything that they had, and then moved to Hamilton. We felt sorry for her and for Isabel and missed them when they left.

The third minister was Reverend James Burgess, who came with his wife and one child, Billie, who was only three years old. They came to the manse in 1936 and stayed for six years. Mr. Burgess also kept a beautiful garden. He received a call to a ministry in Orangeville and moved there in 1943, and again, we were sorry to see them go. They had a family of two children while they were here. Billy was known as "Cookie Boy", for he not infrequently came over for a cookie. Marion or "Apple Girl" came for an apple. Their son Andy, known as "Andy Bob", was born at Orangeville. Finally, we must not forget Rex or "Ricca" as Billy called him. Ricca came here as a little pup. He is six years old. They took him to Orangeville, but on account of Andrew's sickness, they brought him back. Ricca claims both houses as his home and gets

treated just the same by our neighbours, the Quail family, as by ourselves, some times a little better. Ricca will miss those treats and the Quail children when they leave.

For a year or so, the manse was vacant, and if the walls could speak, they would surely have said that they greatly missed hearing prayers.

However, in the fall of 1944, Mr. and Mrs. Quail and their children moved into the manse. Their names are Patsy, Arthur, Laura, and Diana. Mr. Quail is a seed inspector, works a fine garden, and keeps the surroundings clean and neat and the lawn well mown. The children help to keep the place lively and Ricca is quite at home there and he'll miss them, especially the children, when they move away, and we will all be sorry when that time comes, for they are really good neighbours.

We hope that the fourth minister, the Reverend Mr. Bryan, will find his stay at the manse as comfortable as the rest of the ministers. It ought to happen that way, for seven is a lucky number and the Bryan family is the seventh family to occupy the manse, the white brick house that David Morlock built.

I said at the beginning that this No. 7 house had its significance, and the significance is this, that the house was bought for a manse, for ministers to dwell in, who should be servants of “The Lord”, to carry on his good will and work, and this is the history of House No. 7.

**Signed,
Simon Morlock.**