

Address: 1154 Dwight Beach Road

Legal Description: Lot 11, Concession 10, RP RD305, Part 1, Franklin

Original Owner: William Hood

Year Built: 1913-1915 by Frank Keown

Architectural Styles: Saltbox with Vernacular Gable Roof

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:



The property's cultural heritage value is represented by its association with Mr. William Hood, one of the founding families of Dwight, who hired Mr. Frank Keown to build the two storey dwelling between 1913 and 1915. The structure was originally designed to be a store with living quarters. However, with the outbreak of World War I, the store fixtures were sold and it became a residential home. For a brief time in 1915, Mr. Hood acted as postmaster and operated the post office out of his home, while a new post office was being re-built after it was destroyed by fire.



The property has design value as it is representative of the saltbox style, featuring a two storey structure, with 2-over-2 sash pane wood-framed windows and a vernacular gable roof. The building materials and birch hardwood floors were locally sourced from Quinn's Mill.



Contextual value soundly resides with the dwelling being centrally located in the heart of Dwight, along the old Huntsville and Bobcaygeon Road. From the front porch, you can see Dwight Beach, where the SS Mohawk Belle and SS Joe delivered supplies and passengers daily in the early 20th century. Until the more recent growth of Dwight, this property has been located in the hub of the community, surrounded by the necessities of a rural village, including a public school, church, and post office. The Lemmon House property is a fixture in the community, demonstrating the unique lifestyle of early communities that developed around the lakes in Muskoka.

Designation Date: June 20, 2017
Designation By-law: 2017-054