STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

1478 Trussler Road



Summary of Significance

☑Design/Physical Value
 ☑Historical Value
 ☑Contextual Value

□Social Value
 □Economic Value
 □Environmental Value

Municipal Address: 1478 Trussler Road Legal Description: GCT Part Lot 145 Year Built: c. 1861 Architectural Style: Georgian Original Owner: Thomas Trussler Original Use: Farm Condition: Good

Description of Cultural Heritage Resource

The property municipally addressed as 1478 Trussler Road is a mid-19th century log house originally built in the Georgian architectural style with later additions featuring minor influences from the Gothic Revival architectural style. The building is situated on a 87.59-acre parcel of land located on the east side of Trussler Road between Bleams Road and Huron Road in the Rosenberg planning community of the City of Kitchener within the Region of Waterloo. The principal resources that contribute to the heritage value are the log house, the smoke house, the laneway and surrounding agricultural fields.

Heritage Value

1478 Trussler Road is recognized for its design/physical, historical/associative, and contextual values.

Design/Physical Value

The property demonstrates design/physical value as a rare and early example of a mid-19th century log house built in the Georgian architectural style with later additions featuring minor influences from the Gothic Revival architectural style.

These values were described in a document entitled *"Cultural Heritage Background Study: Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage Landscapes: Southwest Kitchener Urban Area Study"* written by Nancy Z. Tausky in August 2010 and based on this research are further described below.

The exterior appearance of the house has undergone many changes since the 1880. It was probably in the late nineteenth century that a front gable with a lancet window was added. In 1949 the verandah was removed, the present sun porch added, and the entire house covered with insulbrick. The house has since been covered with grey aluminum siding and the lancet window in the gable replaced by a rectangular sash window. At some point, an additional room was built south of the back kitchen, and a back extension was built to the north. A garage and sitting room were built onto the east side of the house.

The property also demonstrates design/physical value as a rare and well conserved example of a smoke house. The smoke house features: brick construction; front gable roof; and, interior slats of ceiling and attached hooks.

Further, the design/physical values were originally described in a document entitled *"Architectural Analysis – 1478 Trussler Road"* written by Don Ryan on June 5, 1991, and based on this research are further described below.

The house has a new roof with grey asphalt shingles. The Front (South) Façade features the central gable dormer influenced by the Gothic Revival architectural style. The windows are new, but the window openings retain the symmetry of the original windows. The Rear (North) Façade features two kitchen annexes: one built shortly after the log house, and the other about 1900. The Side (East) Façade features a contemporary front porch and deck that wraps around the east elevation, and a garage and sitting room have also been built off the east elevation.

Don Ryan (1991) goes on to describe changes to the log house. In 1949 the original roofed verandah, which spanned the front elevation, was removed and the present asymmetric porch was built. The return eaves and the pointed Gothic window were lost when the roof was rebuilt in 1938. All the windows and exterior doors are new. Two chimneys have been removed. The garage and sitting room were built in 1988.

Interior Value

These values were described in a document entitled *"Cultural Heritage Background Study: Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage Landscapes: Southwest Kitchener Urban Area Study"* written by Nancy Z. Tausky in August 2010 and based on this research are further described below.

Inside, however, the house retains almost all of its original features and much of its original character. The fireplace wall of the old kitchen is largely intact, with its original mantelpiece, bake oven, warming oven with cabinet above the warming oven. The house retains its simple, single board door and window surrounds, its chair and picture rails, the wainscot in the present dining room, its wide floorboards, and its original doors (some of which are panelled and some of which, in less public areas, are formed of vertical planks).

Further, these design/physical values were originally described in a document entitled *"Architectural Analysis – 1478 Trussler Road"* written by Don Ryan on June 5, 1991, and based on this research are further described below.

Inside one finds the original panelled doors, door hardware, and wainscotting. Upstairs, one room remains in its original condition with exposed plaster walls and ceiling. The enclosed staircase rises from the rear through the centre of the house. There are presently ten rooms inside. In the first (northeast) kitchen stands a large brick fireplace where maple syrup was once boiled. This room retains much of its original character.

Historical/Associative Value

The property municipally addressed as 1478 Trussler Road has historical/associative value due to its history and association with early settlement, and the Trussler family.

Thomas George Trussler was born on December 10, 1831 in Fernhurst, Sussex, England (Waterloo Region Generations, 2001-2024). His obituary from the Waterloo Chronicle dated February 18, 1897 reads *"Mr. Thomas Trussler, a highly esteemed citizen of our town, died at his home on Scott Street on Friday last after a prolonged illness, at the age of 66 years, 2 months and 2 days. Mr. Trussler emigrated with his parents to Canada in 1833, where they took up residence on the town line between Wilmot and Waterloo. In 1860 he was married to Miss Hannah Townsend. They then lived on a farm adjoining his father's until about 6 years ago when they moved to Berlin. His widow and five children, one son and four daughters, remain to mourn his death." (Waterloo Region Generations, 2001-2024).*

These values were described in a document entitled *"Cultural Heritage Background Study: Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage Landscapes: Southwest Kitchener Urban Area Study"* written by Nancy Z. Tausky in August 2010 and based on this research are further described below.

Thomas Trussler, a son of George Trussler and a brother of George Gilbert, purchased Lot 145 of the German Company Tract from his father in 1861 and replaced the small log house where he had lived at the corner of Huron and Trussler Roads (later moved and inhabited by George G.) with a larger log building on his new property. A family photograph shows that by circa 1880 the house had been covered with wood or brick siding (characteristically stuccoed under the front verandah; behind the house one can just glimpse a back kitchen wing. Thomas's daughter, Alicia bought the farm from her father in 1891, and she and her sister Minnie lived there and managed the farm until 1899, racking up a toll of notorious rumours in the process: racing a sulky up and down the lane, holding dances in the implement shed, and smacking the lazy hired man while he was still in bed. Alicia sold the farm in 1899, for the next couple of decades it was tenanted or owned by a number of different persons. In 1917, Oscar Trussler bought the farm, and in 1934, Oscar's son Robert and his wife moved into his great-uncle's house. It stayed in the Trussler family until recently sold to the Karen and Gordon Doehn.

An indenture (an agreement of purchase and sale) dated March 9, 1841 confirms that George Trussler purchased Lot 145 in 1841 and an indenture dated February 15, 1861 confirms that George Trussler sold some of his lands to his sons.

Contextual Value

The contextual values relate to physical, functional, visual and historic links between the log house, the smoke house and surrounding farmland. Although the barn and most outbuildings connected with the

farming operations are gone, the log house is still situated in its original location. The log house faces south and is setback from Trussler Road on a slight incline. The surrounding lands were traditionally used for mixed farmland and two apple orchards. The original smoke house is located adjacent to the east façade of the house and was once used to smoke ham and sausages.

Heritage Attributes

The heritage value of 1478 Trussler Road resides in the following heritage attributes:

- All elements related to the design/physical value of the log house built in the Georgian architectural style with later additions featuring minor influences from the Gothic Revival architectural style, including:
 - One-and-one-half storey height;
 - o Irregular plan due to the presence of additions;
 - The original side gable roofline with Gothic dormer;
 - Log construction;
 - Door and window openings; and,
 - \circ $\;$ The two kitchen annexes.
- All elements related to the design/physical value of the smoke house, including:
 - brick construction;
 - o front gable roof; and,
 - o interior slats of ceiling and attached hooks.
- All elements related to the design/physical value of the interior of the log house, including:
 - The enclosed staircase that rises from the rear through the centre of the house;
 - The fireplace wall of the old kitchen with its original mantelpiece, bake oven, and warming oven with cabinet above;
 - Single board door and window surrounds;
 - Chair and picture rails;
 - Wainscotting in the present dining room;
 - Wide floorboards; and,
 - Original doors (some of which are panelled and some of which, in less public areas, are formed of vertical planks), and door hardware.
- All elements related to the contextual value of the property, including:
 - Original location of the log house;
 - Orientation of the log house with the front elevation facing south;
 - Setback of the log house from Trussler Road on a slight incline;
 - Location of the smoke house; and,
 - Surrounding farmlands.

References

Google Earth (10.49.0.0 Multi-threaded) (2024). 1478 Trussler Road. [online]. Available from: https://earth.google.com/web/search/1478+Trussler+Road,+Kitchener,+ON/@43.3827299,-80.5175805,368.49006258a,594.1928504d,34.99999875y,0h,0t,0r/data=CowBGmISXAoIMHg4ODJj MGE2YjhhOTQyOTJkOjB4NTRmMjg0MThINDMwY2Q1ZhnG2RIL_bBFQCEHI_YJICFUwCohMTQ3 OCBUcnVzc2xlciBSb2FkLCBLaXRjaGVuZXIsIE9OGAIgASImCiQJcmH7DdHcRUARNTEhsAyrRUAZ YaXekYz7U8AhY4o_f31DVMA [Accessed 2024, April 5).

Ryan, D. (1991). "Architectural Analysis – 1478 Trussler Road." City of Kitchener: Kitchener, ON.

Tausky, N.Z. (2010). "Cultural Heritage Background Study: Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage Landscapes: Southwest Kitchener Urban Area Study." City of Kitchener: Kitchener, ON.

Waterloo Region Generations (2001-2024). Thomas George Trussler. [online]. Available from: <u>https://generations.regionofwaterloo.ca/getperson.php?personID=I146455&tree=generations</u> (Accessed 2024, April 8).

Photographs



Historic Front Elevation (South Façade): The house at 1478 Trussler Road c. 1880, viewed from the southwest. On the porch are Hannah and Thomas Trussler and their daughters Lizzie and Emmeline. (Source: Tausky, 2010)



Front Elevation (South Façade) – 1478 Trussler Road



Side Elevation (West Façade) – 1478 Trussler Road







CULTURAL HERITAGE EVALUATION FORM

	478 Trussler Road			Recorder:	Jean Haalboom
	Gothic Revival, rural			— Date:_	March 21, 2023
(date of constructi	on, architectural style, et	c)			
Photographs A	ttached:				
⊠Front Facac	le 🛛 Left Façade	🗆 Right Façade	🗆 Rear Facade	□ Details	⊠ Setting

Designation Criteria	Recorder – Heritage Kitchener Committee	Heritage Planning Staff
 This property has design value or physical value because it is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method. 	N/A □ Unknown □ No □ Yes ⊠	N/A □ Unknown □ No □ Yes ⊠
 The property has design value or physical value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit. 	N/A □ Unknown □ No ⊠ Yes □	N/A □ Unknown □ No ⊠ Yes □
 The property has design value or physical value because it demonstrates a high degree of technical or 	N/A □ Unknown □ No ⊠ Yes □	N/A □ Unknown ⊠ No □ Yes □



	scientific achievement.				
	* E.g constructed with a unique material combination or use, incorporates challenging geometric designs etc.				
4.	The property has historical value or associative value because it has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community. * Additional archival work	N/A □ Yes ⊠	Unknown 🗆 No 🗆	N/A □ Yes ⊠	Unknown 🗆 No
	may be required.				
5.	The property has historical or associative value because it yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture. * E.g - A commercial building may provide an	N/A □ Yes ⊠	Unknown 🗆 No 🗆	N/A □ Yes ⊠	Unknown 🗆 No 🗆
	understanding of how the economic development of the City occured. Additional archival work may be required.				
6.	The property has historical value or associative value because it demonstrates or	N/A □ Yes □	Unknown 🗆 No 🖾	N/A □ Yes □	Unknown 🗆 No 🖾



	reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community. * Additional archival work may be required.					
7.	The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area. * E.g It helps to define an entrance point to a neighbourhood or helps establish the (historic) rural character of an area.	N/A Yes	Unknown 🛛 No	N/A Yes	Unknown 🗆 No	
8.	The property has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings. * Additional archival work may be required.	N/A □ Yes ⊠	Unknown 🗆 No	N/A □ Yes ⊠	Unknown 🗆 No	
9.	The property has contextual value because it is a landmark. *within the region, city or neighborhood.	N/A □ Yes □	Unknown 🗆 No	N/A □ Yes □	Unknown 🗆 No	

Notes

J. Haalboom: main house, blue siding, windows modern, landscape, trees

M. Drake: see "Architectural Analysis -1478 Trussler Road" written by Don Ryan on June 5, 1991; see "Cultural Heritage Background Study: Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage Landscapes: Southwest Kitchener Urban Area Study" written by Nancy Z. Tausky in August 2010



Additional	Recorder	Heritage Kitchener Committee	
Criteria			
Interior: Is the interior arrangement, finish, craftsmanship and/or detail noteworthy?	N/A □ Unknown ⊠ No □ Yes □	N/A □ Unknown □ No □ Yes ⊠	
Completeness : Does this structure have other original outbuildings, notable landscaping or external features that complete the site?	N/A □ Unknown ⊠ No □ Yes □	N/A □ Unknown □ No □ Yes ⊠	
Site Integrity: Does the structure occupy its original site? * If relocated, is it relocated on its original site, moved from another site, etc.	N/A □ Unknown □ No □ Yes ⊠	N/A □ Unknown □ No □ Yes ⊠	
Alterations: Does this building retain most of its original materials and design features? Please refer to the list of heritage attributes within the	N/A □ Unknown □ No □ Yes ⊠	N/A □ Unknown □ No □ Yes ⊠	



Statement of Significance and indicate which elements are still existing and which ones have been removed.		
Alterations: Are there additional elements or features that should be added to the heritage attribute list?	N/A □ Unknown □ No ⊠ Yes □	N/A □ Unknown ⊠ No □ Yes □
Condition: Is the building in good condition? *E.g Could be a good candidate for adaptive re- use if possible and contribute towards equity- building and climate change action.	N/A □ Unknown □ No □ Yes ⊠	N/A □ Unknown □ No □ Yes ⊠
Indigenous History: Could this site be of importance to Indigenous heritage and history?	N/A □ Unknown ⊠ No □ Yes □ □ Additional Research Required	N/A □ Unknown ⊠ No □ Yes □ □ Additional Research Required
*E.g Site within 300m of water sources, near distinct	N/A □ Unknown ⊠ No □ Yes □	N/A □ Unknown □ No ⊠ Yes □



topographical land, or near cemeteries might have archaeological potential and indigenous heritage potential.	□ Additional Research Required	□ Additional Research Required
Could there be any urban Indigenous history associated with the property? * Additional archival work may be required.		
Function: What is the present function of the subject property? * Other may include vacant, social, institutional, etc. and important for the community from an equity building perspective.	Unknown Residential Commercial Office Other -	Unknown Residential Commercial Office Other Farm
Diversity and Inclusion: Does the subject property contribute to the cultural heritage of a community of people?	N/A □ Unknown ⊠ No ⊠ Yes □ □ Additional Research Required N/A □ Unknown ⊠ No □ Yes □ □ Additional Research Required	N/A □ Unknown □ No ⊠ Yes □ □ Additional Research Required N/A □ Unknown □ No ⊠ Yes □ □ Additional Research Required



Does the	
subject	
property have	
intangible	
value to a	
specific	
community of	
people?	
* E.g Waterloo	
Masjid (Muslim	
Society of	
Waterloo &	
Wellington	
Counties) was the	
first established	
Islamic Center	
and Masjid in the	
Region and	
contributes to the	
history of the	
Muslim	
community in the	
area.	

Notes about Additional Criteria Examined

J. Haalboom: too far off road to assess, can't see smoke house, in good condition based on what can be seen from the road

M. Drake: see *"Architectural Analysis -1478 Trussler Road"* written by Don Ryan on June 5, 1991; see *"Cultural Heritage Background Study: Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage Landscapes: Southwest Kitchener Urban Area Study"* written by Nancy Z. Tausky in August 2010, log house is covered by sidding

Recommendation

Does this property meet the definition of a significant built heritage resource, and should it be designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act? (Does it meet two or more of the designation criteria?)

N/A \Box Unknown \Box No \Box Yes \boxtimes

If not, please select the appropriate action for follow-up

- □ Keep on the Municipal Heritage Register
- □ Remove from the Municipal Heritage Register



□ Additional Research Required

Other: _____

General / Additional Notes

J. Haalboom: age and material and family (Trussler) should qualify for designation, requires reassessment – arrange with owner/resident for the visit
 M. Drake: assessments provided in 1991 and 2010, see *"Architectural Analysis -1478 Trussler Road"* written by Don Ryan on June 5, 1991; see *"Cultural Heritage Background Study: Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage Landscapes: Southwest Kitchener Urban Area Study"* written by Nancy Z. Tausky in August 2010

TO BE FILLED BY HERITAGE PLANNING STAFF:

Date of Property Owner Notification: