



NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

346 Main Street West

TAKE NOTICE that Grimsby Town Council, on May 1st, 2023, resolved to issue a Notice of Intention to Designate PT LT 16 CON 2, North Grimsby, as in RO468241; PT 1, 30R-10601 ; 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 **346 Main Street West** contributes towards the Town of Grimsby's inclusive heritage.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The dwelling at 346 Main Street West would have been constructed at the end of the Georgian period and the beginning of the Gothic Revival period. Features specific to 346 Main Street West acknowledge the Georgian style and these features include the multi-pane divided windows, large window openings, the triangular headers above the windows, as well as the shallow pitched gable roof (compared to the typical steeply pitched Gothic roofs in Grimsby).

The dwelling has a wraparound porch with a shed roof, which terminates on the East façade of the house with an open-air pergola with a brick floor. The porch can be seen in an 1876 lithograph illustration of the farm.

The historic structure retains most of the original wooden windows and wooden storm windows that can be seen from the public realm, as well as a wooden screen door. The exterior features paired wooden corbels under soffits, two red clay brick chimneys, and wooden shutters. An 1876 lithograph shows a wooden fence along Main Street West; this fence has since been replaced with two rubblestone columns flanking the driveway.

346 Main Street West displays a high degree of craftsmanship. The home was constructed at the end of the Georgian period and beginning of the Gothic Revival period. The dwelling shows design influences from both styles, the early construction date of 346 Main Street West indicates that this house would have been a modern product at the time of construction and would have required skilled craftsmanship to construct the innovative style of construction. The details on the structure are ahead of their time compared to the few surviving buildings of the similar age within Grimsby.

346 Main Street West is an early example of the Gothic Revival style and required skilled craftsmanship to undertake the new and innovative style of construction. This dwelling shows a high degree of technical achievement due to the advancements in architectural construction from Georgian to Gothic Revival architectural style.

The site itself has a high degree of scientific achievement because of Charles Woolverton's son, Linus. Linus devoted himself to the growing of fruit trees on Woolverton orchard. In 1896 when the government decided to pursue experimental work in fruit growing, Linus was asked to act as secretary and inspector of the experimental stations. Maplehurst was constructed in 1887 on land which was originally part of the Woolverton orchard. Maplehurst was one of the original experimental stations, as Linus used the orchard to experiment with a variety of fruits.

346 Main Street West was constructed for Charles Edward Woolverton c.1842-1844. Charles was a very well-known and respected fruit farmer within the Town of Grimsby. Charles became a leading agriculturalist in the Grimsby Township and planted the first peach orchard in the Town of Grimsby in 1856.

Charles was also very involved within the Baptist Church community: he was an educator, opening the church's Sunday School on Adelaide St. in the 1850s, and contributed to the construction of the Woolverton Baptist Church (or Woolverton House) at 19 Elm Street in 1880.

Charles E. Woolverton was also the son of grain and cattle farmer Dennis Woolverton. Dennis was a reformer in politics and a member of Upper Canada's legislative assembly from 1834-1836.

Charles was also the father of Linus Woolverton. a successful journalist, fruit farmer, and fruit stock nursery operator with many honorable appointments and achievements to his name.

346 Main Street West has the potential to yield information that contributes to a community or culture. Charles E. Woolverton planted Grimsby's first commercial peach orchard on the property in 1856 and was very involved in the growing of fruit within a community, which prospered from the successes of the fruit farming industry through the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Charles Woolverton's son Linus devoted himself to the growing of fruit trees on Woolverton orchard. In 1896, when the government decided to pursue experimental work in fruit growing, Linus was asked to act as secretary and inspector of the experimental stations. 'Maplehurst' was one of the original stations, as Linus used the orchard to experiment with a variety of fruits.

346 Main Street West was built by the notable Woolverton Family. The Woolverton family contributed directly to the success and prosperity of the Town. This dwelling was constructed by Charles Edward Woolverton. Charles' son, Linus, constructed the dwelling at 354 Main Street West, known as 'Maplehurst', on his father's fruit farm.

346 Main St West is representative of the architectural style that was found along the historic Main Street West corridor in the mid-late 19th century. This heritage dwelling visually illustrates the success and economic significance of mixed grain and cattle farming in Grimsby, which was the township's dominant style of farm prior to the rise to prominence of the tender fruit farming industry in the late 19th century.

346 Main Street West is historically linked to the property. The historic dwelling was constructed by Charles Woolverton, Charles Woolverton was a very well-known and respected local fruit farmer. Charles took over the farm from his father and became a leading agriculturalist in Grimsby Township, planting one of the first commercial peach orchards in the area and supplying trees to area farmers from what became an extensive nursery on his property.

In 1887, Linus constructed the dwelling known as Maplehurst, now 354 Main Street West, on the original Woolverton property with the proceeds from his inheritance. Later, 'Maplehurst' became one of the original experimental stations through his role as a secretary and inspector of the experimental stations.

In 1901, the Woolverton properties produced 2-3000 barrels of apples, 2000 barrels of pears, 1000 baskets of cherries, 2000 baskets of peaches and 500 baskets of quinces, 10 tons of grapes and berries.

346 Main Street West is the oldest Woolverton dwelling on the original Woolverton farmland.

HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES TO BE DESIGNATED

The Heritage Attributes to be designated at 346 Main Street West include:

- Multi-pane divided windows, existing large window openings
- Triangular headers above the windows
- Shallow pitched gable roof
- Wrap around porch with a shed roof, on the east façade of the house the porch roof structure terminates into an open-air pergola with a brick floor
- Dentil moulding on the porch beam below the soffit
- Original wooden windows and wooden storm windows
- Existing door openings
- Front wooden screen door
- Front door and sidelights
- Paired wooden corbels under soffits
- Two red clay brick chimneys
- Wooden louvered shutters
- Two rubble stone columns on either side of the driveway (gateposts)
- Three window bay
- Setback from Main Street West
- "L" shaped floorplan
- Gothic Revival Style Attributes
- Gothic Revival-style exterior

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, Town Clerk, 160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby ON, L3M 0J53.

MORE INFORMATION

Any inquiries may be directed to Bianca Verrecchia, Heritage Planner at 905-945-9634 ext. 2122 or by email bverrecchia@grimsby.ca

Last date to file Notice of Objection: July 18th, 2026