

APPENDIX E

Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report

Dr. John A. Johnstone House

3048 Trafalgar Road, Oakville, Ontario



The Dr. John A. Johnstone House, 3048 Trafalgar Road, 1895. *Source: Oakville Historical Society*

Town of Oakville

Heritage Planning

Authors: Elaine Eigl and Carolyn Van Sligtenhorst

June 2023

1. Executive Summary

The purpose of this Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (CHER) is to determine if the subject property merits designation under Part IV, section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (OHA). A Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (CHER) provides an overview of the property based on primary and secondary research and visual inspection of the property. It also includes an evaluation against the prescribed criteria of Ontario Regulation 9/06, including design/physical value, historical/associative value and contextual value. This CHER also includes a draft Statement of Significance and identification of heritage attributes.

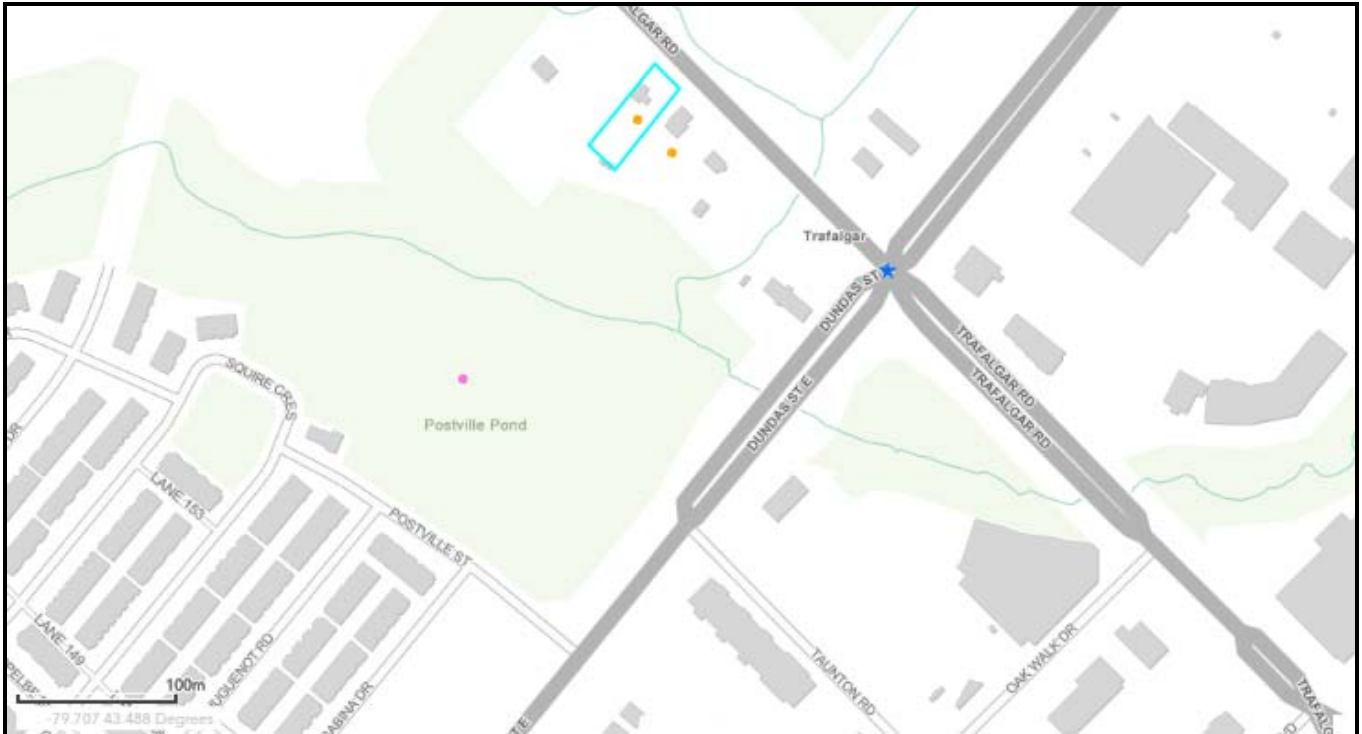
The designation of heritage properties is legislated by the OHA and is supported at a provincial level by the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) and the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2019). The conservation of cultural heritage resources is also supported by the Region of Halton Official Plan, the Livable Oakville Plan, the North Oakville East Secondary Plan and the North Oakville West Secondary Plan.

The Dr. John A. Johnstone House property is located at 3048 Trafalgar Road on the west side of Trafalgar Road north of Dundas Street East. The property is located within the territory covered by the Head of the Lake Treaty, No. 14, which was signed in 1806 by the Mississaugas and the British Crown. In 2007, 3048 Trafalgar Road was added to the Town's Heritage Register for its potential cultural heritage value as the "c.1850 Dr. J.A. Johnstone" house. Prior to 2007, the property was on an informal inventory of historic properties maintained by the former Oakville Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC).

This CHER has evaluated the property in accordance with the requirements of the OHA and finds that the property meets three of the criteria of Regulation 9/06. It is therefore recommended that the property be designated under Part IV, section 29 of the OHA.

2. Subject Property

The subject property is located at 3048 Trafalgar Road on the west side of Trafalgar Road, north of Dundas Street East. The property is located within the territory covered by the Head of the Lake Treaty, No. 14, which was signed in 1806 by the Mississaugas and the British Crown. The Crown quickly set about having the land surveyed, and the result was Deputy Provincial Surveyor, Samuel Street Wilmot's June 1806 map called *"Trafalgar, Plan of the Second Township, In the tract of Land lately Purchased from the Mississauga [sic] Indians"*. Wilmot's survey locates the subject property on part of Lot 13, 1st Concession North of Dundas Street (NDS) in Trafalgar Township.



Location map: Subject property is outlined in teal. May 2023

Source: Town of Oakville, GIS

Legal description: PT LT 13, CON 1 TRAFALGAR, NORTH OF DUNDAS STREET , AS IN 604333

3. Background Research

Design and Physical Value

The Dr. John A. Johnstone House, located at 3048 Trafalgar Road, is a 2 and 2-½ storey, wood frame structure built in the Queen Anne style of architecture. The house was likely built sometime during Albert and Catharine Post's ownership, which lasted from 1868 and 1895. Some records indicate a construction date of circa 1890.¹

Common in Canada between 1880 and 1910, the Queen Anne style of architecture has been described as a display "of decorative elements and varied forms manipulated into an imaginative and at times witty visual display."² It was English architect Richard Shaw, and not Queen Anne, who developed the style during the second half of the nineteenth century.

Shaw's style is recognizable by its "unified composition of half-timbering, tiled and brick walls with steep cathedral-like roof shapes and tall chimneys."³ Surfaces were highly decorated, and enhanced by a selective application of Classical features. Fenestration was an assortment of randomly spaced windows.

Architects on both side of the Atlantic were inspired by "Shaw's unique adaptation" of the asymmetry and rambling mass of Medieval Elizabethan country houses, which he combined with "Classical elements of the English Renaissance derived from houses of the early eighteenth century, including [from] the reign of Queen Anne."⁴ North American architects freely and imaginatively interpreted and reorganized a mixture of elements from the Medieval and early eighteenth century Classicism, creating what today is known as the Queen Anne Style.

Elements typical of North America's version of Queen Anne architecture include an irregular outline or silhouette, consisting of towers, broad gables or pediments; multi-sloped roofs; tall, decorated chimneys; and projecting two-storey bays. Cladding consists of a variety of materials of different textures and shapes, with as many as three different kinds used on the same house. For example, brick on the first storey, horizontal board on the second, and wood or terra-cotta tiles on third storey gables. Asymmetry was taken so far as to use different materials between gables; while one gable could be embellished with hexagonal shingles, another could sport fish scale shingles.

John Blumenson, in his book, "Ontario Architecture: A Guide to Styles and Building Terms 1784 to the present", succinctly described one Kingston, Ontario example of a Queen Anne style building as being a "richly decorated irregular form".⁵

The Dr. John A. Johnstone House is unique as an entirely wood-clad structure example of Queen Anne style architecture. There are two wings of the L-shaped, asymmetrical house. A 2 ½ storey wing projects towards the front and contains most of the building's unique details. This gable-roofed wing has a clipped, or jerkinhead, roof that brings attention to this portion of the house. The two-storey wing to the rear has a hipped roof and is lower

¹ Town of Oakville, *Heritage Property Register: Town of Oakville: Section F: Register of Properties of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (NOT Designated)*, <https://www.oakville.ca/getmedia/140f25bb-70aa-40e2-9dec-db4ad6e48b78/planning-heritage-property-register-listed-properties.pdf>, pg. 84. (Accessed 1 June 2023)

² Blumenson, John. "Queen Anne (1880-1910)." *Ontario Architecture: A Guide to Styles and Building Terms 1784 to the present*, Fitzhenry & Whiteside, Canada, 1990, p. 102.

³ Blumenson, John. "Queen Anne (1880-1910)." *Ontario Architecture*. 102.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Blumenson, John. "Queen Anne (1880-1910)." *Ontario Architecture*. 104.

in height and has fewer design details than the 2 ½ storey portion. Each wing has a door facing the front, one on the front wing that accesses a small stoop, and the other on the rear wing that originally accessed a front porch, which has since been removed. This irregular design was a step away from the more formal, symmetrical styles of the earlier Georgian and Classical periods.



South and east elevations of the subject house, showing the two wings of the house. May 2023. Source: *Town of Oakville, Heritage Planning staff photo*

Both wings of the house are built on a lakestone foundation and clad in horizontal wood siding that is protected by vertical wood corner boards. The mix of design details typical of the Queen Anne style can be found in many of its original details, including: the first storey bump-out with a rounded window; segmentally-arched windows throughout; the projecting second storey underlined by a bracketed frieze; decorative half-cove (or a close approximation of) shingles in the third storey gable; exposed eaves; matching sets of decorative corbels on the second storey corners; and a front porch finished with latticework (since removed). These decorative elements are all different, rather than repeated throughout the house. The result is an eclectic design typical of the style.

While the front porch was removed sometime between 1977 and 1992, the house still contains most of its original design details. These details can more easily be seen in the historic photos below when the building was better maintained and paint colours highlighted the various decorative elements of the house.



The Dr. John A. Johnstone House, 3048 Trafalgar Road, 1895. *Source: Oakville Historical Society*



June 1977. Note the second storey-wing over the front porch that was later removed. *Source: Heritage Planning property file*



3048 Trafalgar Road, February 1992. Source: Town of Oakville, Planning Services file



Close-up of the jerkinhead gable with decorative cedar shingles, exposed eaves, wood corbels, segmentally arched windows and bracketed frieze below second storey. May 2023. Source: Town of Oakville, Heritage Planning staff photo



Close-up of lakestone foundation. May 2023. *Source: Town of Oakville, Heritage Planning staff photo*



Close-up view horizontal wood siding and wood corner board trim; close-up of the original front door behind a contemporary metal screen door. May 2023. *Source: Town of Oakville, Heritage Planning staff photo*



South (side) and east (front) elevations of the house. Decorative wood friezes with brackets remain intact on both elevations. May 2023.
Source: Town of Oakville, Heritage Planning staff photo



North (side) elevation of the house. The block chimney and upper window were later additions. May 2023. *Source: Town of Oakville, Heritage Planning staff photo*



West (rear) elevation of the house. May 2023. Source: Town of Oakville, Heritage Planning staff photo



South (side) elevation of the house. May 2023. Source: Town of Oakville, Heritage Planning staff phot

Historical and Associative Value

Historically, the subject property at 3048 Trafalgar Road was part of a larger 200-acre parcel, which was sold and subdivided over two dozen times. Many of the purchasers owned the property for relatively short periods of time, and often they left little historical evidence of their time or association with the subject property and Oakville in general. In many cases, information about the purchasers was limited to only that contained within the real estate transaction documents. As such, not all owners will be discussed in the CHER. Rather, the focus will be on persons of note, with a focus on the most likely candidate to have built, or commissioned the construction of, the property's building or buildings; on anyone who was significant to the community; or on anyone who lived on the subject property for an extended period of time.

Also of note is that one property owner, Benjamin Thompson, seems to have sold what eventually becomes the subject property as two separate parcels: one to Arthur Bernard Kingston, a yeoman, from Trafalgar Township, and one to John Cavell, a blacksmith also from Trafalgar Township. Dr. John Albert Johnstone subsequently purchased these two separate parcels and in doing so formed the property that exists today.^{6, 7}

Below is a partial summary of the owners of the property from the sale of the Crown patent to the present.

Name of Owner(s)	Acreage	Years of Ownership
Crown		1806-1808
Abraham Grobb	200	1808-1808
Peter Cline	100	1808-1816
James Thompson	100	1816-1847
Benjamin Thompson	95-5/12*	1847-1856 & 1857
1) Arthur B. Kingston	¼	1856-1857
Edmund H Mills	¼	Apr. 1857-Jun. 1857
Robert Hall	¼	1857-1864
William Frogget	¼	1864-1867
Thomas Archer	¼	1867-1892
John A. Johnstone	¼	1892-1938
2) John Cavell	1/8	1857-1868
Hiram Albert (or Albert Hiram) Post	1/8	1868-1895
Catharine I. Post, widow of A.H. Post		1895-1895
John A. Johnstone		1895-1938
Estate of John Albert Johnstone		1938-1964
John Davis Johnstone		1964-1964
Allan W. Christie		1964-1984
Wayne Zach & Marianne Sant		1984-2013
Monica Narula		2013-2017
Current owners		2017–present

*Benjamin Thompson's acreage is an approximation as the acreage was not stated in the sale document.

⁶ LRO Instrument #6294, being a Bargain & Sale, dated 12 February 1892, between Thomas Archer, a carpenter from Trafalgar Township, and John A. Johnstone, a Veterinary Surgeon from the same place.

⁷ LRO Instrument #8905V, being a Bargain & Sale, dated 26 April 1895, between Catharine I. (or J.) Post, widow, and Oliver Post & Gertrude Mary Post (Oliver's wife), and John A. Johnstone.

The Dr. John A. Johnstone House is located on lands that were part of the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN or simply “the Mississaugas”). In 1805, the Mississaugas and the British Crown reached a provisional agreement in which the Mississaugas ceded almost 71,000 acres of land to the Crown. In return they were given £1000 of trade goods; were promised the sole right of the fisheries in the Twelve and Sixteen Mile Creek along with the possession of each creek’s flats; and the Mississaugas reserved the sole right of fishing at the Credit River and were to retain a 1-mile strip of land on each of its banks.⁸

The agreement was negotiated when the Mississaugas were experiencing duress due to land encroachment, the depletion of fish stocks, and a population that was in severe decline.⁹ This put the Mississaugas into “a more compromised position” from which to negotiate.¹⁰ The agreement was formalized on 5 September 1806, when the Head of the Lake Treaty, No. 14, was signed.¹¹

In June 1806, three months before Treaty No. 14 was finalized, Deputy Provincial Surveyor, Samuel Street Wilmot completed his plan called “*Trafalgar, Plan of the Second Township, In the tract of Land lately Purchased from the Mississauga [sic] Indians*”. The survey was completed to facilitate European settlement. Unusually, Wilmot’s plan doesn’t show the land to be set aside for the Mississaugas along the Twelve and Sixteen Mile Creeks, possibly because it was completed before the treaty was finalized.

Settlers started arriving in the area circa 1806, around the time Wilmot was undertaking his survey. After the area was surveyed, several crossroad settlements, hamlets, and villages were established in the northern part of Trafalgar township, including communities such as Glenorchy, Munn’s Corners, Palermo, Post’s Corners, Sixteen Hollow which later became Proudfoot’s Hollow, and Snider’s Corners, to name a few.¹² Some of the earliest settlers included the Albertson, Bigger (or Biggar), Chalmer, Chisholm, Hagar, Kaitting, Kenney, Munn, Post, Proudfoot, Snider, and Sovereign families.

By 1817, the population of Trafalgar Township had reached 548, and there were four sawmills and one gristmill, a mill for grinding grain.¹³ Initially, the Crown transferred ownership of these lands to individuals and companies, granting most of the land free of charge, excluding administrative fees. However, starting in the 1820s, most of the land released by the Crown was sold and not granted. A land registry system was established to document private transactions.¹⁴

⁸ “Head of the Lake Treaty, No. 14 (1806).” *Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation*, 4 Nov. 2020, <https://mncfn.ca/head-of-the-lake-treaty-no-14-1806/>

⁹ Emma Stelter. *Friendship, Peace and Respect For All Future Generations*, Debwewin: The Oakville Truth Project, Feb. 2023, pg. 7.

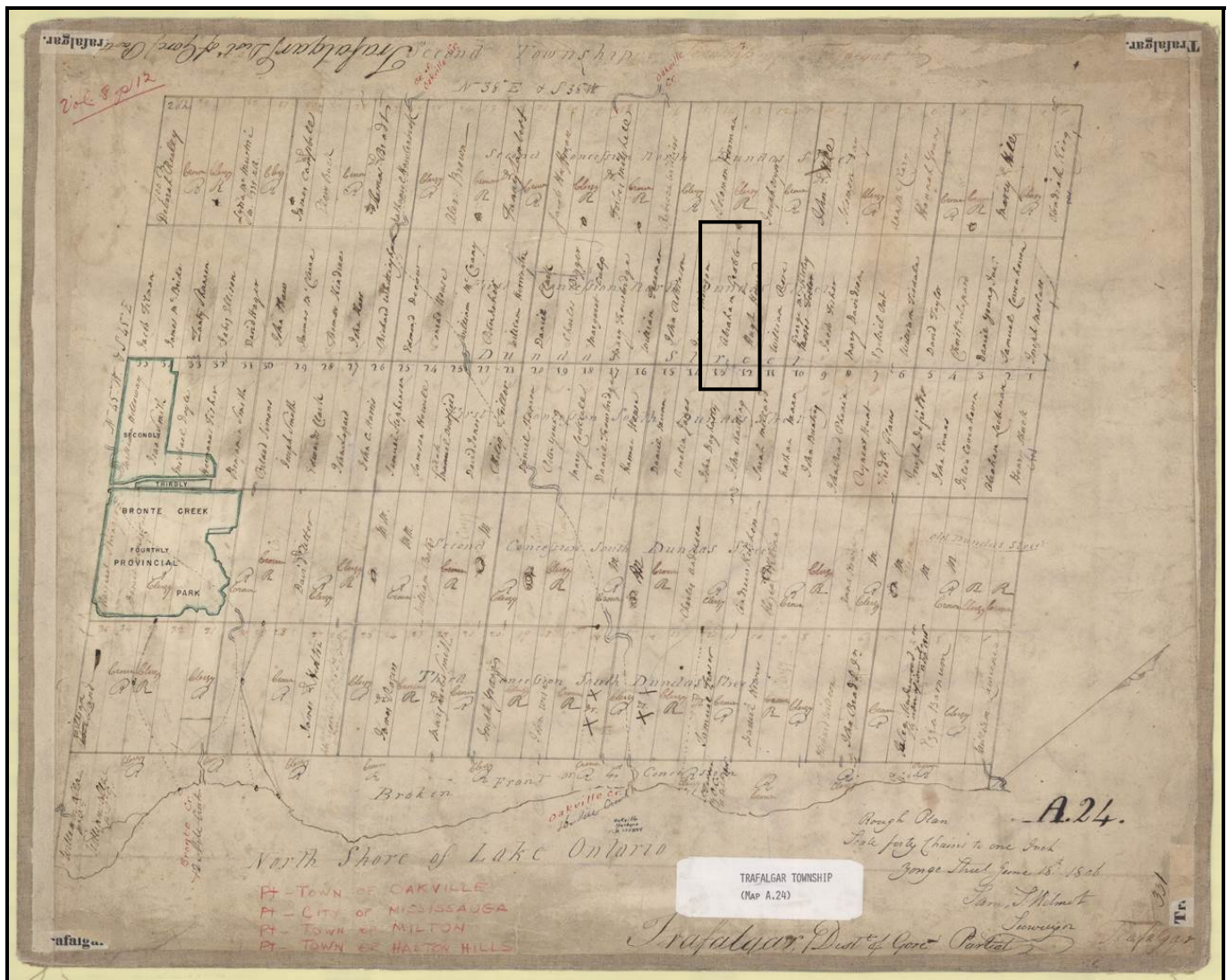
¹⁰ Emma Stelter. *Friendship, Peace and Respect For All Future Generations*, Debwewin, pg. 7.

¹¹ Ibid, pg. 9.

¹² Trafalgar Township Historical Society, *Early Communities*, <https://tths.ca/early-communities> - accessed 14 September 2022

¹³ New Directions Archaeology Ltd, *Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Burnhamthorpe Road West – Loyalist Drive to the West City Limit Municipal Class EA, on Part of Lots 2 to 5, Concession 2 NDS and Lots 1 to 5, Concession 1 NDS, in the geographic Township of Trafalgar, Former Halton County, City of Mississauga, Regional Municipality of Peel*, March 2018, [Appendix E_Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment Report_e01.pdf \(mississauga.ca\)](https://www.mississauga.ca/Appendix_E_Stage_1_Archaeological_Assessment_Report_e01.pdf) – accessed 12 Sept 2022

¹⁴ Archives of Ontario, *Research Guide 215: Early Land Records from the 1780s to the 1850s*, http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/access/documents/research_guide_215_grant_to_patent.pdf - accessed 14 September 2022



Lot 13, 1st Concession NDS is shown as being occupied by Abraham Grobb. Grobb received the patent to the land on 6 January 1808.
Source: Archives of Ontario, Trafalgar District of Gore, Partial, June 1806

By 1846, there were over 11,000 hectares of land under cultivation, and the area was known for its orchards. There were 23 sawmills and seven gristmills, and Dundas Street was the main east-west thoroughfare. By 1850, the population was slightly more than 4,500 people.¹⁵

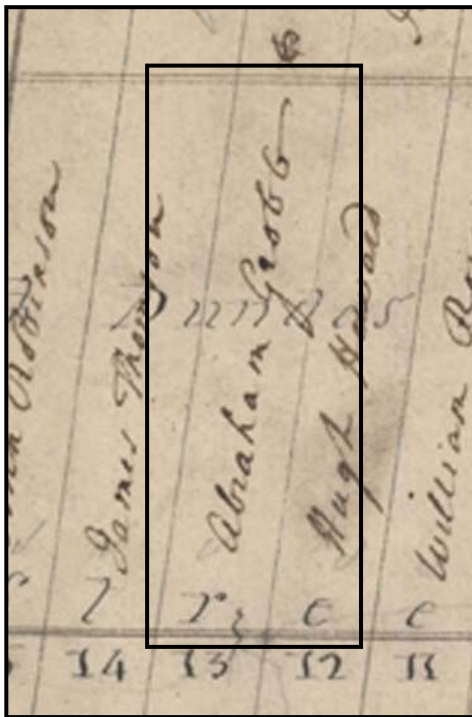
The Dr. John A. Johnstone House property is directly associated with Dr. Johnstone and his family, as well as the lost hamlet of Post's Corners, which by the time Dr. Johnstone and his family lived there was known as Postville, and later the village of Trafalgar.

¹⁵ New Directions Archaeology Ltd, Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of Burnhamthorpe Road West – Loyalist Drive to the West City Limit Municipal Class EA, on Part of Lots 2 to 5, Concession 2 NDS and Lots 1 to 5, Concession 1 NDS, in the geographic Township of Trafalgar, Former Halton County, City of Mississauga, Regional Municipality of Peel, March 2018, [Appendix E Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment Report e01.pdf \(mississauga.ca\)](#) – accessed 12 Sept 2022



Detail of the 1877 Halton County historical atlas showing the village of Trafalgar, formerly known as Post's Corners and later Postville. Source: *Illustrated Historical Atlas of Halton County, Ont.*

The subject property was originally part of Lot 13 in the 1st Concession North of Dundas Street (NDS). Created in 1806, the Crown held the 200-acre lot until 1808 when it was transferred to Abraham Grobb on 6 January 1808.¹⁶



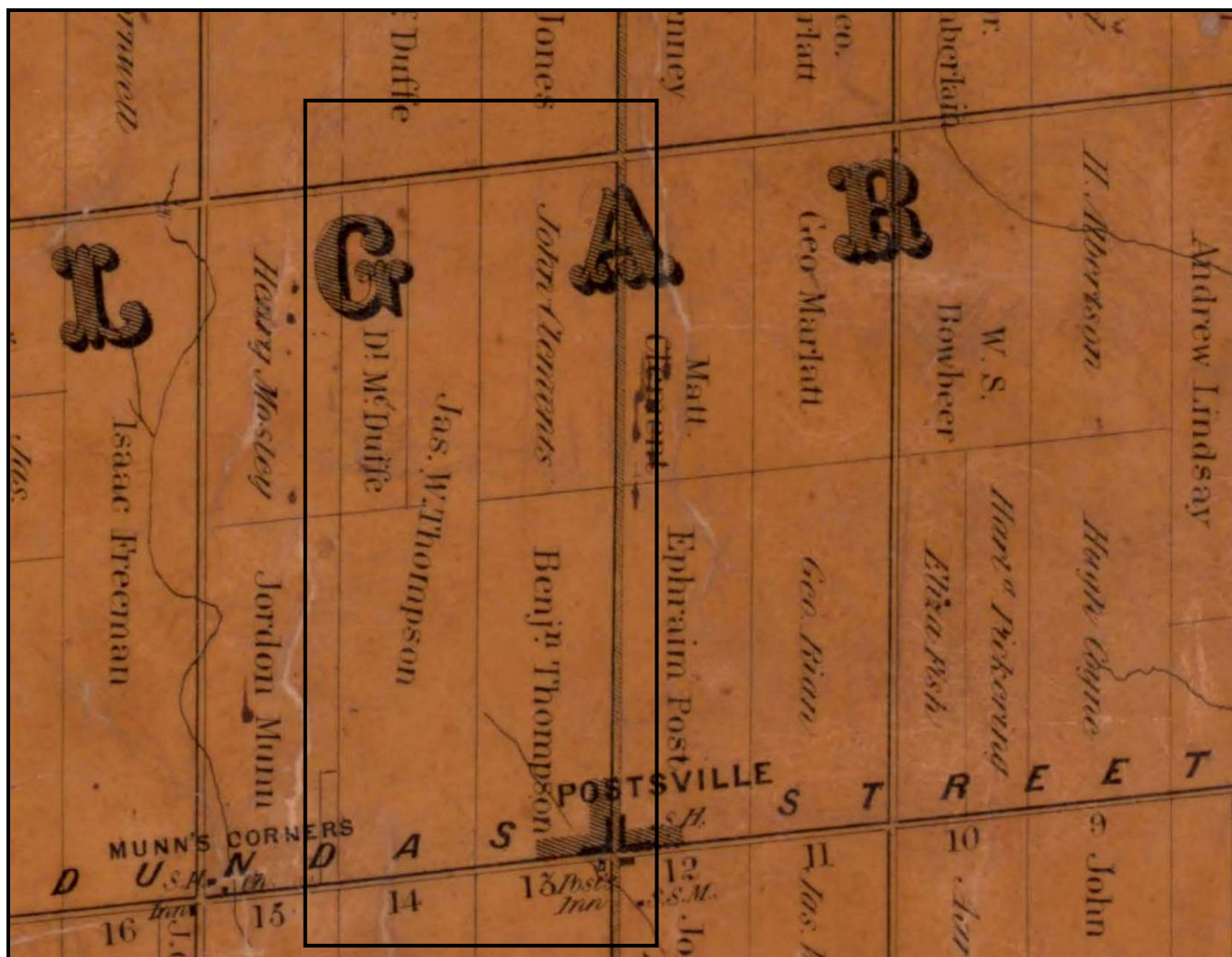
Trafalgar, Plan of the Second Township, In the Tract of Land lately Purchased from the Mississauga [sic] Indians, Samuel S. Wilmot, 28 June 1806, showing Abraham Grobb on Lot 13, 1st Concession NDS. A subsequent owner of the subject property, James Thompson, is also shown on Wilmot's map. Thompson received the Crown Patent for the adjoining lot, Lot 14, 1st Concession NDS, on 5 October 1808.¹⁷ Source: Archives of Ontario, Trafalgar District of Gore, Partial, June 1806

¹⁶ FamilySearch, Abstract index books, ca. 1798-1958, Trafalgar Township, v. A-B ca. 1808-1958, Film #179049, Image Group Number (DGS) 8199185, page 227, [Abstract index books, ca. 1798-1958 \(familysearch.org\)](https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSK3-3?i=227) (accessed 25 May 2023)

¹⁷ Ibid, page 230, [Abstract index books, ca. 1798-1958 \(familysearch.org\)](https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSK3-3?i=230) (accessed 25 May 2023)

In order to take legal possession of the property, the Crown required all Patentees to complete settlement duties, which included clearing five acres of land, fencing the lot, constructing a home, and making road improvements. In issuing the Patent to Grobb, the Crown confirmed that Grobb had satisfied these requirements.¹⁸

Just two months after he was awarded the Patent, in March 1808, Abraham Grobb sold the south half of Lot 13, 1st Concession to Peter Cline.¹⁹ In 1816, Cline sold the property to James Thompson, whose family owned the 100 acre lot for 40 plus years.²⁰ At the time of the purchase, Thompson already owned the neighbouring property, Lot 14, located to the west of the subject property.²¹



Properties owned by James Thompsons' children, per the 1858 Tremaine Map, as substantiated in his Last Will & Testament. James Walter Thompson is on part of Lot 14, 1st Concession NDS, and Benjamin Thompson is on the south part of Lot 13, 1st Concession NDS.
Source: 1858 Tremaine's Map of Halton County, Canada West, George C. Tremaine

¹⁸ "Land Petitions of Upper Canada, 1763-1865." *Library and Archives Canada*, 8 Apr. 2021, www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/land/land-petitions-upper-canada-1763-1865/Pages/land-petitions-upper-canada.aspx.

¹⁹ LRO Instrument #336, being a Bargain & Sale, dated 5 March 1808, between Abraham Grobb, Farmer, of the Township of Clinton, and Peter Cline, Farmer, of the Township of Grimsby.

²⁰ LRO Instrument #52, being a Bargain & Sale, dated 13 November 1816, between Peter Cline and James Thompson, Yeoman from Trafalgar Township.

²¹ FamilySearch, Abstract Index books, ca. 1798-1958, Trafalgar Township, v. A-B ca. 1808-1958, Film #179049, Image Group Number (DGS) 8199185, page 230, Abstract index books, ca. 1798-1958 (familysearch.org) (accessed 25 May 2023)

When Thompson died sometime in 1846 or 1847, he left approximately 95 acres of the south half of Lot 13, including the subject property, to his son Benjamin Thompson.²² The land upon which the subject property sits remained in the Thompson family for 40 and 41 years respectively, having been sold as two separate parcels.^{23, 24}

The next owner of note was Albert Hiram Post (ca.1840-1895). Albert was the great-grandson of Jordan Post (1744-1829) and Abigail (nee Loomis) Post (1745-1820).²⁵ Jordan and Abigail Post were early landowners at the present-day intersection of Trafalgar Road and Dundas Street East. The area, historically known as Post's Corners, Postville, and later Trafalgar, was named in honour of the Post family.²⁶

Albert Post married Catharine Jane Fish (ca.1834-1910), the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Fish, on 18 March 1863.²⁷ Albert and Catharine had at least seven children. They were Edith E. J. (1866-1933); Robert Hiram (b. ca.1869); Lorena Josephine (1871-1875); Albert Reginald (1873-1875); Charles Wesley (1875-1875); Oliver Ernest (1876-1942); and Nellie Mae Post (1882-1896). Tragically, in November 1875, three of their children died within 17 days of each other. Four-year-old Lorena and 2-year-old Albert died of diphtheria, and six-week-old Charles died of "ulceration and exhaustion".²⁸

Like the Thompson family, the Post family were also long-term owners of the subject property. Albert owned the property from February 1868 until his death in 1895.²⁹ With his passing, Albert bequeathed to "his beloved wife Catherine" his "present dwelling house" upon "about three quarters of an acre", and all of his "household furniture and household effects of every kind and description" for her own free use during her natural life.³⁰

From Albert's will, we know that the subject house existed by 1895. Some records indicate a construction date of circa 1890.³¹ Given this information, and the style of the house, it is likely that it was constructed in the 1890s by Albert and Catharine Post.

Upon Catharine's death, the house and lot, along with any remaining household goods, was to be sold and the proceeds divided equally between his son Oliver and his daughter Nellie May Post.³² Instead, Catharine sold the

²² LRO Instrument #14, being the probated Last Will & Testament of James Thompson, late of Trafalgar Township, Halton County, dated 10 February 1847.

²³ LRO Instrument #694, being a Bargain & Sale, dated 12 June 1856, between Benjamin and Mary Ann Thompson, and Arthur Bernard Kingston, Yeoman from Trafalgar Township.

²⁴ LRO Instrument #664, being a Bargain & Sale dated 16 March 1857, between Benjamin and Mary Ann Thompson, and John Cavell, a Blacksmith from Trafalgar Township.

²⁵ LRO Instrument #24, being a Bargain & Sale dated 29 February 1868, between John and Mary Eyre Cavell, and Hiram Albert Post, Yeoman from Trafalgar Township.

²⁶ Trafalgar Township Historical Society, *Early Communities*, <https://tths.ca/early-communities> - accessed 31 May 2023

²⁷ "Canada, Ontario County Marriage Registers, 1858-1869," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:Q2YM-Q4RY> : 17 March 2018), Albert Post and C Fish, 18 Mar 1863; citing Halton, Ontario, Canada, Archives of Ontario, Toronto; FHL microfilm 1,030,057.

²⁸ Archives of Ontario, *Ontario, Canada, Deaths and Deaths Overseas, 1869-1948*, Archives of Ontario; Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Collection: MS935; Reel: 9, per Ancestry.ca (accessed 6 June 2023).

²⁹ Archives of Ontario, *Ontario, Canada, Deaths and Deaths Overseas, 1869-1948*, Archives of Ontario; Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Collection: MS935; Reel: 75, per Ancestry.ca (accessed 31 May 2023).

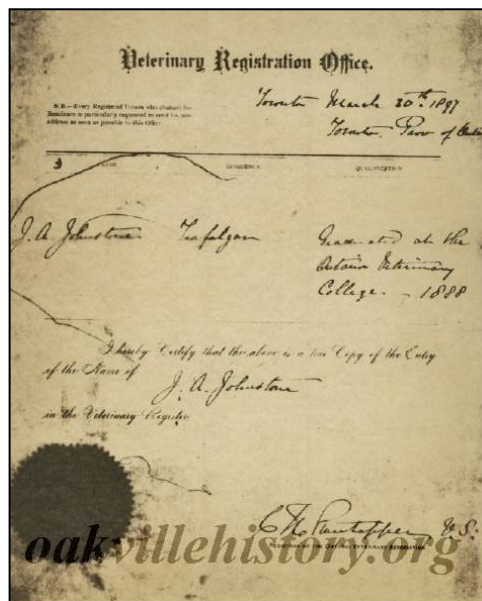
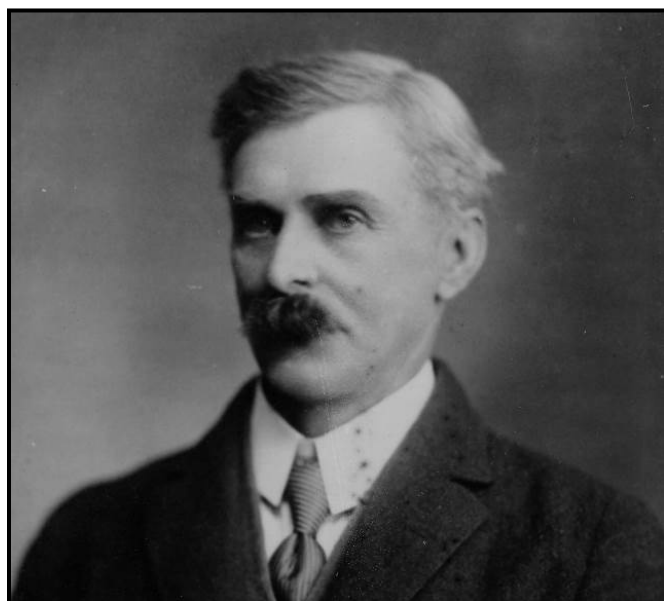
³⁰ LRO Instrument #6985, being the probated Last Will & Testament of Albert Hiram Post, late of Trafalgar Township, in the County of Halton, dated 1 November 1895.

³¹ Town of Oakville, *Heritage Property Register: Town of Oakville: Section F: Register of Properties of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (NOT Designated)*, <https://www.oakville.ca/getmedia/140f25bb-70aa-40e2-9dec-db4ad6e48b78/planning-heritage-property-register-listed-properties.pdf>, pg. 84. (Accessed 1 June 2023)

³² LRO Instrument #6985, being the probated Last Will & Testament of Albert Hiram Post, late of Trafalgar Township, in the County of Halton, dated 1 November 1895.

“about three quarters of an acre” property to John A. Johnstone on 26 April 1895, in return for \$25 and “the premises”, meaning that she was granted a life interest in the property, which allowed her to live in the premises until her death.³³ However, the 1901 Census of Canada record shows her living with her son Oliver E. and her sister, Elizabeth Fish, at Oliver’s home in Parry Sound/Muskoka.³⁴

Dr. John Albert Johnstone (1862-1938) was a veterinary surgeon, who was born in Cookstown, Innisfil, Ontario to William Johnstone (1827-1902) and Catherine Thompson Dawson (1830-1918).^{35, 36, 37} Johnstone graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in Toronto in 1888.³⁸ As well as practicing in the county as a veterinarian surgeon for 52 years, Dr. Johnstone was the veterinary inspector for Halton for 30 years and was the first Deputy Reeve of Trafalgar Township.^{39, 40}



Left: Dr. John Albert Johnstone. Right: Dr. Johnstone’s veterinary registration, 1897. Source: Oakville Historical Society

³³ LRO Instrument #8905V, being a Bargain & Sale, dated 26 April 1895, between Catharine I. (or J.) Post, widow, and Oliver Post & Gertrude Mary Post (Oliver’s wife), and John A. Johnstone.

³⁴ Canada, Library and Archives. “Search Results: Census of Canada, 1901.” *Library and Archives Canada*, 30 Aug. 2022, www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/1901/Pages/results.aspx?k=cnsSurname%3A%22Post%22%2BAND%2BcnsGivenName%3A%22Oliver%22%2BAND%2BcnsProvinceCode%3A%22ON%22

³⁵ “Dr. John Albert Johnstone (1862-1938).” *Find a Grave*, 19 Aug. 2005, www.findagrave.com/memorial/11563355/john-albert-johnstone?_gl=1%2A12o2jnz%2A_ga%2AMTg3OTgwNDM2OS4xNjY3NDg4Mzg3%2A_ga_4QT8FMEX30%2ANDcwM2IxmJEtN2RhZS00ZGYwLWI4NmItY2Y0MmUwMDFhOTFjE4NS4xLjE2ODQ0MzI5MjUuNTguMC4w

³⁶ Archives of Ontario, *Ontario, Canada, Deaths and Deaths Overseas, 1869-1948*, Archives of Ontario; Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Registrations of Ontario Overseas Deaths, 1939-1947; MS 944, reels 1-11, per Ancestry.ca.

³⁷ Archives of Ontario, *Ontario, Canada, Deaths and Deaths Overseas, 1869-1948*, Archives of Ontario; Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Registrations of Ontario Overseas Deaths, 1939-1947; MS 944, reels 1-11, per Ancestry.ca.

³⁸ “Archive Record.” *Copy of Veterinary Registration for J. A. Johnstone (1897) – Certified in Toronto, Having Graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 1888. Dr. Johnstone Was a Resident of Trafalgar. Signed by the Registrar of the Ontario Veterinary Association.* | Oakville Historical Society, oakvillehistory.pastperfectonline.com/Archive/D99A89F1-4132-4213-A99F-117767310767. Accessed 7 June 2023.

³⁹ Town of Oakville, Planning Services, 3048 Trafalgar Road property file folder. *3048 Trafalgar 1NDS Lot 13*, undated, unattributed, pg. 7

⁴⁰ Town of Oakville, Planning Services, 3048 Trafalgar Road property file folder. *3048 Trafalgar 1NDS Lot 13*, undated, unattributed, pg. 7

Dr. Johnstone married Henrietta Marcella Ludlow (1864-1938), who was known as Hettie.⁴¹ Hettie was the daughter of George and Frances* (nee Cruise) Ludlow.⁴² John and Hettie had at least six children. They were Myrtle Olive (1889-1955), Bessie Catherine I. (b. 1893), Florence B. (b. 1894), Mildred Barbara (1900-1913); John Davis (1904-1978), and Thomas Cook Johnstone (1908-1979).



Dr. John A. Johnstone, front passenger (in the peak cap), and his wife, Henrietta M. (nee Ludlow) Johnstone, far left, behind Dr. Johnstone, with two of her sisters and a brother-in-law. *Source: Jane Watt, Ludlow descendant.*

⁴¹ Archives of Ontario, *Ontario, Canada, Deaths and Deaths Overseas, 1869-1948*, Archives of Ontario; Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Collection: MS935; Reel: 607, per Ancestry.ca (accessed 6 June 2023).

⁴² Ibid.

* France Cruise was misidentified as "Martha Cruise" on her daughter, Henrietta Johnstone's death certificate, per Jane Watt, Ludlow family descendant.



Photo entitled "Our Home, Trafalgar, Winter 1912". Rear, left to right: Cora McGowan, Mary McGowan and George Long. Bottom, left to right: Thomas (Tim) Johnstone, John Johnstone, Mildred Johnstone and Bess Johnstone (children of John and Henrietta Johnstone). Mildred died the year after this photo was taken. The rear elevation of the house can be seen in the background. *Source: Oakville Historical Society*

The property remained in the Estate of John A. Johnstone from his death in 1938 until 1964. His son John Davis Johnstone was the executor of the estate and eventually sold the property in 1964. While the Post family likely constructed the house, it has been known for over a century as the Dr. Johnstone House. Dr. Johnstone was well-known within the community and many local farmers and pet owners would have been to his residence for veterinarian care for their animals. This CHER has therefore labelled the house as the "Dr. John A. Johnstone House".

The subject property also has cultural heritage value for its association with the former village of Trafalgar. The Post family, who appear to have built the subject house, owned land at the intersection of present-day Dundas Street East and Trafalgar Road from the early 1800s onwards. The area has had a few names including, as early as 1814, Post's Corners, and by 1857 it was called Postville.⁴³ In 1877, the area was known as both Postville and

⁴³ Trafalgar Township Historical Society, *Early Communities: Postville/Post's Corners*, <https://tths.ca/early-communities#:~:text=Postville%2F%20Post's%20Corners%20%E2%80%93%20Located%20at,stop%20between%20York%20and%20Dundas> (accessed 25 November 2022)

Trafalgar.⁴⁴ The Post family operated the Post Inn on the southwest corner of the intersection. The hamlet also included a post office, a steam mill, a schoolhouse and was the location of a stagecoach stop between York and Dundas.⁴⁵

The Dr. John A. Johnstone House was located right in the heart of the village and would have been a well-known and often-visited landmark in the area. Today, the house is one of the only remaining structures left of the once thriving village.

⁴⁴ Pope, J.H., "Southern Part of Trafalgar Township." *Illustrated Historical Atlas of Halton County, Ont.*, Walker & Miles, Toronto, 1877. Page 59.

⁴⁵ Trafalgar Township Historical Society, *Early Communities: Postville/Post's Corners*, <https://tths.ca/early-communities#:~:text=Postville%2F%20Post's%20Corners%20%E2%80%93%20Located%20at,stop%20between%20York%20and%20Dundas> (accessed 25 November 2022)

Contextual Value

The subject property has cultural heritage value because it is physically, visually and historically linked to its surroundings. The building is one of the only remaining structures from the former village of Post's Corners/Postville/Trafalgar. The house has cultural heritage value as a reminder of village life and of the agricultural and settler history of Trafalgar Township.

The images below show the Dr. John A. Johnstone House property and the surrounding streetscape along Trafalgar Road.



Trafalgar Road streetscape facing southwest. 3048 Trafalgar Road is flanked by 3040 Trafalgar Road on the left, and 3064 Trafalgar Road is on the right. August 2021

Source: Google



Trafalgar Road streetscape facing northeast. 3040 Trafalgar Road is the white house with the blue awning, on the left side of Trafalgar Road. 3048 Trafalgar Road sits just past it. New construction can be seen on the east side of Trafalgar Road. August 2021

Source: Google

4. Evaluation under Ontario Regulation 9/06

Evaluation of the cultural heritage value of the subject property is guided by the criteria outlined in the *Ontario Heritage Act's, Ontario Regulation 9/06: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest*. This Regulation outlines several criteria for determining whether a property is of cultural heritage value or interest. For a property to be designated under section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, it must meet two or more of these criteria, which are outlined below.

Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria	Evaluation	Criteria met (Y/N)
1. The property has design value or physical value because it:		
i. is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method;	The property is a representative example of a late 19 th century Queen Anne style house.	Y
ii. displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit;	The property does not display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.	N
iii. demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.	The property does not demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.	N
2. The property has historical value or associative value because it:		
i. has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community;	The property has direct associations with Dr. John A. Johnstone and with the former village of Trafalgar.	Y
ii. yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture;	The property does not appear to yield information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture.	N
iii. demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.	There are no known connections to an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.	N
3. The property has contextual value because it:		
i. is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area;	The property no longer defines the character of the area.	N
ii. is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings;	The property remains physically, visually and historically linked to its surroundings.	Y
iii. is a landmark.	The property is not a landmark.	N

5. Statement of Cultural Heritage Value and Significance

The subject property has been researched and evaluated to determine its cultural heritage significance according to Ontario Regulation 9/06. This Regulation, defined in the *Ontario Heritage Act*, outlines several criteria for determining whether a property is of cultural heritage value or interest. By using these criteria, staff can determine if the property's cultural heritage value or interest merits designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Design Value or Physical Value:

The Dr. John A. Johnstone House building has design and physical value as a representative example of a late 19th century Queen Anne style residential structure. Constructed sometime in the 1890s, the house has an asymmetrical and eclectic design, typical of the style. Built on a lakestone foundation, the house is clad in horizontal wood siding and contains a number of design elements reflective of the Queen Anne style, including: the first storey bump-out with a rounded window; segmentally-arched windows throughout; the projecting second storey underlined by a bracketed frieze; decorative half-cove (or a close approximation of) shingles in the third storey gable; exposed eaves; and matching sets of decorative corbels on the second storey corners.

Historical Value or Associative Value:

The Dr. John A. Johnstone House building has historical value because of its direct associations with Dr. John A. Johnstone, a well-known veterinary surgeon who practiced in Halton County for over 50 years. Dr. Johnstone was also the veterinary inspector for Halton County for 30 years and was the first Deputy Reeve of Trafalgar Township. John and his wife Catherine raised six children in the subject house. The property also has historical associations with the former village of Trafalgar, also known as Post's Corners and Postville. The Dr. John A. Johnstone House was located right in the heart of the village and would have been a well-known and often-visited landmark in the area.

Contextual Value:

The Dr. John A. Johnstone House building has contextual value because it is physically, visually and historically linked to its surroundings. The building is one of the only remaining structures from the former village of Post's Corners/Postville/Trafalgar. The house has cultural heritage value as a reminder of village life and of the agricultural and settler history of Trafalgar Township.

Description of Heritage Attributes

Key attributes of the Dr. John A. Johnstone House that exemplify its value as a representative example of a Queen Anne style house include the following:

- The footprint and form of the two and 2 ½ storey building, including its gable roof with jerkinhead gable, hip roof, and projecting second storey and first storey bay window on the front elevation;
- Horizontal wood cladding with wood corner board trim;
- Decorative half-cove style cedar shingle cladding in front gable;
- Exposed eaves in front gable;
- Wood soffit and fascia throughout the house;
- Wood corbels on second storey;
- Bracketed friezes on the south and east elevations;
- Historic fenestration of the windows and doors on the north, east, south and west elevations;
- Segmentally shaped window openings and wood window opening trim;

- Historic wood front door on east elevation;
- Lakestone foundation above grade; and
- The orientation of the building towards Trafalgar Road.

6. Conclusion

This property meets three of the criteria of Ontario Regulation 9/06, including design/physical value, historical/associative value, and contextual value. It is therefore recommended that the property be designated under Part IV, section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

7. Sources

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- Parks Canada, Canadian Inventory of Historic Buildings
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- Region of Halton Official Plan
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