

# Heritage Designation Brief



**The William Thornton House**

**583 Harvey Street**

**Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee**

## HERITAGE DESIGNATION STATUS SHEET

Street Address:	583 Harvey Street
Roll Number:	040090115000000
Short Legal Description:	PT 2 S DUBLIN E WATER REG 0.08AC 29.08FR 114.17D
Owners' Concurrence:	Yes
PACAC Application Review Date:	March 8, 2011
On Site Evaluation Date:	
Evaluation Category:	B (56.05)
Evaluators:	Jennifer Patterson
Heritage Type:	Built Structure
Designation Type:	Ontario Heritage Act – Part IV
Designation Brief Completion Date:	February 25, 2011
PACAC Application Approval Date:	
Designation Brief Completed by:	Jennifer Patterson
Submission Date:	
Objections Noted:	
Comments:	

*"The short statement of the reason for the designation, including a description of the heritage attributes along with all other components of the Heritage Designation Report constitute the "Reasons for the Designation" required under the Ontario Heritage Act. The Heritage Designation Report is available for viewing in the City Clerk's office during regular business hours."*

## **SHORT STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR HERITAGE DESIGNATION**

### **Heritage Evaluation Criteria Note:**

*Category B: The properties in this category are of distinct importance by virtue of architectural, historical and environmental criteria along with integrity of design and construction. They stand out individually but are of lesser overall significance than "Category A" properties. "Category B" properties hold city-wide importance.*

583 Harvey Street has historical and architectural value. Constructed in 1875 by William Thornton, a merchant and builder in Peterborough, it was the family home and remained in the Thornton family for over 100 years and surrounded by two other houses built by William Thornton ( 581& 585)581 is said to have been the first home to be built on Harvey Street.



583 Harvey Street is a well-preserved example of a vernacular one and a half storey home from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The home features an intricately carved verandah at the front of the simple one and a half storey house clad entirely in stucco, the earliest form of sheathing.

The veranda of 583 Harvey Street has excellent value as an intact Victorian verandah with details and intricate scrollwork reminiscent of the Eastlake style which was popular at the time. This is significant in its association with skilled craftsmen and their availability during this time period.

According to Martha Kidd, craftsmen were settling into this area in the mid to late 1800s to build their homes and establish workshops. The lumber mill was an obvious draw and the neighbourhood's appearance and early inhabitants reflect its early successes.

The location of the building is also very significant in relation to its first owner and inhabitant, listed in the census as a merchant and a builder. In the days preceding the automobile, it was understandably common to live in close proximity to the workplace, and this particular neighbourhood's development is testament to this notion.

**ORIGINAL OWNER: William Thornton**

**ARCHITECT/BUILDER: William Thornton**

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1875**

**CONTEXT- SITE AND SETTING:** The home at 583 Harvey Street is located just a few blocks from Peterborough's downtown core in a historic residential neighbourhood that developed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century around the Dickson Lumber Mill. The property, located between London and McDonnell Streets fits in well with the heritage character of the streetscape which features a variety of one and two storey dwellings constructed of brick or frame covered in stucco.



### **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES TO BE DESIGNATED**

The Reasons for Designation include the following heritage attributes and apply to all elevations and the roof including all facades, entrances, windows, chimneys, and trim, together with construction materials of wood, brick, stone, plaster parging, metal and glazing, their related building techniques and landscape features:

#### **Exterior Elements:**

- Original one and a half storey frame construction, covered in stucco
- Gable end roof with open eaves
- Original window openings
- Original wooden verandah with roof and intricately carved and painted details, an interpretation of the Eastlake style
  - Ornamental balusters across top of verandah
  - Ornamental brackets in top corners of verandah
- Original wooden front door
- Wooden addition

