

Statements of Significance

736 Pinecrest Road.....	1
599 King Street	1
5446 Sherston Road and 825 Pleasant Beach Road	2
115 Kent Street.....	2
172 King Street	2
143 King Street	3
83 Tennessee Avenue	3
Notes.....	4

736 Pinecrest Road

The property has significant historical and architectural value. Its historical significance lies in its association with early Mennonite settlers of Humberstone Township, the Knisleys and later the Nighs. It remained in and was farmed by the Knisley family from 1817 until purchased by Harold and Mildred Nigh in 1972.

Architecturally, much of the exterior of the original part of the house built in the "Ontario Cottage" Gothic Revival style with an L-shaped addition is intact despite newer additions to the north and west sides. The addition dates to 1899 with the possibility that the earliest part dates to the 1870s (see Age above) This original portion of the house has retained the majority of its early architectural features and materials. The original drive shed with roof supported by small tree trunks is also of interest.

599 King Street

The property at 599 King St. in Humberstone has a rich history, originally part of Lot 4 in the Fares Plan. The house was likely built while the property was owned by members of the Anderson family. Elizabeth Hanniford Anderson, who ran a tavern and hotel on West St, died in 1883, and left her property, including 599 King St., to Francis and John F. Anderson. In 1885, the house and property was sold to Daniel Stahlschmidt, a Lutheran minister, and his wife Wilhelmina. The Stahlschmidts' daughter, Louisa, married Thomas Snyder, who served as minister at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. The Stahlschmidt and Snyder families shared the house, and during this time the northern addition was constructed, adding significant space to the original house. In 1907, Frederick Landgraft purchased the property and he sold it to Arthur Dickhout in 1921. The house has historical significance due to its ties to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, local businesses, and the village of Humberstone. Architecturally, with exceptions of the cedar shingle siding, the house and especially, its front façade are remarkably well-preserved, including original window

and door placement, window trim, and other features. It is an excellent and well-preserved example of the Ontario Cottage style, with a contemporary addition.

5446 Sherkston Road and 825 Pleasant Beach Road

The oldest part of the house facing Sherkston Road dates back at least to the 1880's, likely the 1870's and while there have been several alterations over the years the basic characteristics of an "Ontario Cottage" style are still evident. Its early twentieth century porch has also retained most of its original fabric and character especially in the upper portion with some alterations to the lower half. The character of the former stable building north of the house can also be discerned despite the later addition of a second storey and this building also likely was constructed during the second half of the nineteenth century. The property owners over the years represent many families associated with the early settlers in Sherkston and Humberstone township.

Of particular interest, however, regarding designation under the Ontario Heritage Act is the presence of the old Abner Lee Blacksmith Shop facing Sherkston Road dating to 1895 which survives in large part unchanged with original windows, door and roofline. It may be the last surviving Blacksmith Shop in Sherkston.

115 Kent Street

The house at 115 Kent St., Port Colborne, is a two-and-a-half-storey red brick building, constructed between autumn 1908 and January 1909 for Gregor and Marie Pitzke. The house retains many original features, including distinctive Palladian windows, a one-storey bay window on the east side, and decorative brickwork around the windows. The porch has Doric-style columns and a wood-shingled pediment. A small extension was added to the rear in the early twentieth century.

The property was originally part of Park Lot 4, subdivided in the 1870s. Samuel Hopkins owned the block before it was sold to Gregor Pitzke in 1908. Gregor, a former harness maker, and his wife Marie, who ran a store, lived in the home with their daughters. By 1928, the house was granted to their daughter, Gertrude E. Boneberg, who continued boarding lodgers until her death in 1993 at the age of 100.

172 King Street

The property on which 172 King St. stands was originally owned by Jeremiah Barnhart and later Samuel Hopkins, who sold it to his great niece, Alice A.M. Hopkins, in 1899. The two-and-a-half-storey home was commissioned in 1900 by Alice A.M. Hopkins, a local music teacher and organist at St. James Anglican Church, and her brother, Leopold E.J. Hopkins, a prominent local merchant and business owner. The building contract was awarded to Mssrs. Augustine and Son, who were also proprietors of the Port Colborne Planing Mill. At the time of the home's construction, Alice A.M. Hopkins owned the property on which the home was built – the north halves of Lots 3 and 4 on the north side of Kent St. – though she sold it to her brother in 1902 following his marriage.

The two-and-a-half-storey home features a two-storey gabled bay window and a unique one-storey bay window on the southeast corner. The house has undergone significant changes, including a shift from a wooden to a brick exterior (now restored to clapboard siding), and alterations to the porch and verandah. Inside, much of the original hardwood trim, French doors, wainscoting, and crown moulding remain, likely made at the Port Colborne Planing Mill, owned by the contractors.

143 King Street

In 1890, Salvatore Shickluna purchased the lot on which 143 King St. now stands from Bridget Finn, whose husband, Owen, had run a blacksmith business on the property for over twenty years. Salvatore Shickluna built the present house in 1897 adding the rear portion in 1904. The Shicklunas, a prominent family in local shipbuilding, were originally from Malta. Salvatore Shickluna continued the family business in Port Colborne and ran a successful operation, building and repairing vessels, while also branching into other business endeavours. The home remained in the possession of members of the Shickluna family until 1938.

This house is typical of style of the period and includes both Victorian and Edwardian architectural elements. The two-and-a-half-storey red brick building features decorative quoins on the corners and a concrete frieze under the eaves. There is a two-storey bay window on the south side. Some exterior alterations have occurred, including replacing the original windows, removing the rear porch, and adding a dormer window to the upper half-storey. The porch on the front of the house originally had low brick walls, and pillars supported by concrete block bases which match the decorative quoins on the house. The concrete block bases are still present, though they have been painted.

83 Tennessee Avenue

The house at 83 Tennessee Avenue was originally built as a summer cottage and later converted into a year-round residence. Over the years, significant exterior alterations have been made, including replacing the original wooden clapboard with weatherboard siding, enclosing the wraparound verandah, and adding a garage to the basement. Some original window placements and decorative mullions remain, though many windows have been altered. The main entrance was relocated from the south side to the west, likely when the verandah was enclosed. Additional modifications include a small overhang and changes to the porch and soffits.

The property is part of a large block of land sold by Charles Steele to Peter McIntyre, a prominent businessman from Memphis, Tennessee. Steele and McIntyre had it surveyed into cottage lots, and the block was then sold to the Humberstone Summer Resort Company, Peter McIntyre being one of the company's first directors. In 1893, Lina Duke Pinson bought the land on which she had the cottage at 83 Tennessee Ave built. Pinson was one of the longest continuous cottage owners in the Humberstone Resort, her tenure lasting nearly 38 years, until 1931. The property was then passed to various owners,

including Ruth Railton, who made extensive renovations before selling it to John and Frances Woodhouse in 1946.

The Humberstone Summer Resort Company, incorporated in 1890, aimed to create an upscale summer resort on Gravelly Bay, called the Humberstone Club, with large cottages, shared formal dining, and housekeeping services. The company had the public road closed off, and the renamed Tennessee Avenue became a private road for the exclusive use of the cottage owners and visitors. A stone wall and gates were built in 1895 to enclose the property. However, the resort struggled financially, and the company went out of business in 1935. In the following years the remaining cottages underwent extensive renovations to turn them into year-round homes.

Notes

The Heritage Subcommittee has voted in favour of designating the following properties:

- **736 Pinecrest Road**
- **599 King Street**
- **5446 Sherkston Road and 825 Pleasant Beach Road**
- **115 Kent Street**
- **172 King Street**
- **143 King Street**
- **83 Tennessee Avenue**
- 5222 Second Concession Road
- 48 and 50 Neff Street
- 44 King Street
- 55 Charlotte Street
- 123 King Street
- 19 Tennessee Avenue
- 214 Steele Street

The bolded properties in the list above are the ones that the property owner is in favour of designating.

The properties in normal font in the list above are ones where the property owner either did not reach out at all or reached out to state they are not interested in designation.