

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE  
PROPERTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT**

**R.S.O. 1990 (Ch.O.18, Sec. 29)**

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Centre Wellington intends to designate the property municipally known as 6717 Sixth Line (see key map below) in the Township of Centre Wellington (West Garafraxa Township), as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, as amended, (Ch.O.18, Sec. 29).

**Cultural Heritage Value: 6717 Sixth Line**

The cultural heritage value of 6717 Sixth Line lies in its design/physical value, its historical/associative value, and its contextual value.

*Historical or Associative Value:*

The property is significant because it has potential to yield information about the theme of early European settlement and contributes to the rural agricultural history of Centre Wellington. The property changed ownership several times before being purchased by David Kyle, who is listed on the West Garafraxa census as living in a log cabin with six children, though it is unknown whether the log cabin was located on this property as the Kyle family owned several in the area. David Kyle is listed as a farmer on the 1855 census. The Kyle family was originally from Scotland, and the property remained in the family for several generations. It is believed that the family built the current dwelling around 1890 (according to MPAC records) or possibly earlier, as a dwelling is already shown on the 1877 atlas. However, it cannot be confirmed that this is the same dwelling. The current dwelling may have replaced a previous log cabin.

David and his wife Agnes' four sons were regarded as "good farmers" and all lived in the vicinity at some point, though it is unclear if they all lived on the property. Robert S.C. Kyle (grandson of David), also a farmer, sold the property in 1906. It then passed on to several known farmers, continuing the property's association with agriculture in the area.

*Design or Physical Value:*

The dwelling at 6717 Sixth Line is significant because it is a representative example of the Gothic Revival Cottage architectural style prevalent in rural Ontario at the time of construction. This was the most common residential design in all of Ontario prior to the 1950s, particularly in the rural area. Based on available records, it is likely that the house was constructed circa 1890 or earlier.

As a representative Gothic Revival Cottage, it includes typical elements such as: an end gabled roof with peaked centre gable and lancet window including voussoirs and keystone; carved wooden bargeboards and finial in the centre gable; rough-cut limestone and field stone construction; symmetrical front façade with two main floor windows; limestone voussoirs over main floor windows; stone sills on upper floor windows; and original wooden door with transom and sidelights.

The front porch appears to be original to the structure and includes posts and decorative fretwork above. The porch floor is not original and has been replaced and extended – the original would likely have been wood. The windows on both storeys are modern replacements. The large limestone quoins and the lancet arched central window are of particular interest. A board and batten addition can be found at the back of the house, constructed in 1977, as evident from the inscription carved into the foundation, likely replacing a previous summer kitchen.

The large bank barn is significant as a representative example of early bank barns in this part of Ontario and is thought to have been built around the same time as the dwelling. It displays a high degree of craftsmanship. Barns of this age and type are becoming increasingly rare in Centre Wellington. The barn is wooden with a fieldstone foundation and corrugated metal roof. Most of the original materials have been retained, with the exception of modern structural reinforcements. The addition onto the west (front) side of the barn is thought to have been all or part of a dwelling moved here from across the road at an unknown date.

*Contextual Value:*

The property has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to its surroundings and contributes to the local rural agricultural context of this part of the Township. The dwelling is south-east facing and likely would have been situated on the lands in order to maximize natural light and have good views of the property (and farmland). The house has sweeping views of the rolling agricultural fields it overlooks.

There are numerous mature sugar maple trees, approximately twenty, located near the front portion of the property, in the general vicinity of the driveway and dwelling. Approximately half of these were planted along the front property line, creating a sense of arrival to the property at the top of the hill. Most of these appear to have been planted around the same time as construction of the dwelling and barn. These trees contribute to the aesthetic value of the farmstead but also provide significant shade and wildlife habitat.

## **Description of Heritage Attributes**

### Dwelling:

- Height, scale, and massing of the original one-and-a-half storey stone dwelling
- The pitch and overhang of the roof, including the centre-gable, and end-gables
- The limestone quoining at the corners
- Fenestration pattern including central lancet arched window opening on the second storey
- Wooden front door, including transom and sidelights with associated trim, in their original location
- Limestone voussoirs and keystones over all first storey windows
- Carved wooden bargeboards, finial and fretwork in front central peaked gable
- Limestone and field stone construction and materials

### Bank Barn:

- Height, scale and massing of the large wooden bank barn
- Fieldstone foundation
- Three cupolas

- Window and door openings
- Original barn board construction
- Hand hewn large timbers (likely local)
- Mortise and tenon joints
- Hand-made wrought iron square nails
- Lower-level stables for livestock

Landscape:

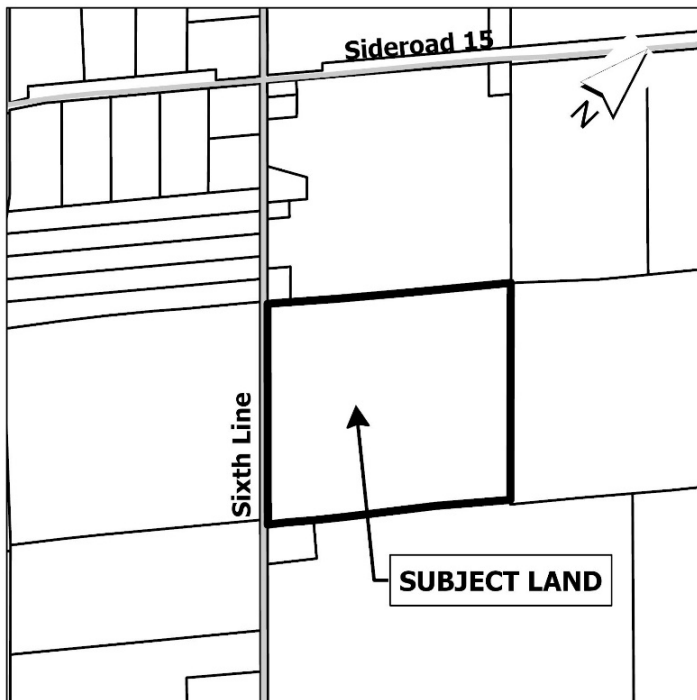
- The row of ten mature sugar maple trees along the front property line
- The two sugar maple trees directly south and one directly east of the dwelling

Excluded from Designation

- 1970's rear addition onto main dwelling
- One storey later addition to barn (front)
- Quonset hut structure and smaller accessory structure

For further information with respect to the proposed designation please contact Deanna Maiden, Senior Development Planner, at (519) 846-9691, ext. 292.

Notice of objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts may be served to the Clerk of the Township of Centre Wellington on or before the 21<sup>st</sup> of December, 2024.



Dated at the Township of Centre Wellington this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2024.

Kerri O'Kane, Clerk

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