



Conservation
Review Board

Ministry of
Culture and
Communications

Commission des
biens culturels

Ministère de la
Culture et des
Communications

4th floor
400 University Ave
Toronto ON M7A 2R9
Tel (416) 314-7137
Fax (416) 314-7175

4e étage
400 avenue University
Toronto ON M7A 2R9
Tél (416) 314-7137
Télé (416) 314-7175

**RE: TOWNSHIP OF COLLINGWOOD - INTENTION TO DESIGNATE
PART LOT 31, CONCESSION 11 (KNOWN AS MITCHELL FARM)**

Elizabeth Burnham, Member

March 26, 1990

Hearing pursuant to Section 29(8) of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O 1980, Chapter 337, and amendments thereto, of the Notice of Intention given by the Council of the Township of Collingwood, in the County of Grey, to designate the property known as the Mitchell Farm, Part Lot 31, Concession 11, Part II, Plan 16R-323, as a property of historic or architectural value or interest under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Appearing for the Township of Collingwood:

Stephen Keast, Assistant Clerk
Margaret Chapman Lind, owner of the Mitchell Farm house
property and supporter of the designation

An objector, Len Dawson, did not appear at the hearing and had advised Stephen Keast verbally that he would not be proceeding with his objection to the designation.

Appearing in support of the designation:

Malcolm D. Kirk - a Director and representative of the Beaver
Valley Heritage Society

Gerry Weinberg - Director, The Grey Association for Better
Planning

The Board attended at Council Chambers of the Township of Collingwood, at Holland Drive in Clarksburg, on Monday, March 26, 1990.

It was noted by the Board that the Notice of Hearing published in accordance with the Act, erroneously described the Mitchell Farm property as known as "Lot 32, Concession 11". The correct description is "Lot 31, Concession 11". The Notice was considered adequate public notice as the discrepancy was a minor one.

The property was granted to Alexander Grant as Crown land in 1838 and subsequently was purchased by Alex Mitchell. The 1872 map of the Township of Collingwood shows him as owner of the property. These documents are included in An Illustrated History of Collingwood Township, published by the Council of the Township of Collingwood, 1979, with William Shannon as the General Editor and writer.

This publication establishes that the Mitchell family was an important family in the valley. The son of Alex, John Mitchell, started the Mitchell brand of apple produce and operated an experimental fruit farm, on the original 50 acres, in the late 19th century. He was an important individual in the development and success of the fruit industry, experimenting with different varieties of fruit. He was one of the five principals in forming the Georgian Bay Fruit Grower's Association.

The original house built around 1872 was a two-storey stucco on lath in the early Canadian farmhouse style of architecture with centre peak and small window above. The casement windows, with 12 panes, have original glass from England. The barn on the property is a rectangular barn with stone foundations, vertical boards, and a gabled tin roof. It was built around the same time as the house and was used for apple storage.

The owner, Margaret Lind, exhibited three linings found in the farmhouse: one dated 1892, signed by John Mitchell; second dated 1892, signed by George Herbert MacCarroll Mitchell and the third dated June 15, 1892, signed by John Mitchell. These linings were used when the addition was added to the house.

The Board gave an oral decision recommending that the property be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act. The evidence produced at the hearing supported the designation on both historic and architectural grounds.

(Original Signed by)

Elizabeth Burnham, Member