The Corporation of the Town of Kingsville By-law 106-2018

Schedule "A"
192 County Road 14, Cottam, Ontario
The Christopher Dresser House

Description of Property:

Constructed in 1909, The Christopher Dresser House is a 2 ½ storey brick house built in the Edwardian era. It is located on the South side of County Road 14 in the Village of Cottam, in the Town of Kingsville.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:

The cultural heritage value of The Christopher Dresser House lies in its association with the Dresser family, local farmers and descendants of the earliest settlers to the area. The Dresser family, founded by George Dresser of Mersea Township, is one of the oldest families of this section of Essex County. Christopher Dresser was the grandson of George. He and his family moved to Gosfield when they bought the property at County Road 14 in 1913.

Description of Heritage Attributes:

The home bears many features of the Edwardian era, which blossomed by 1892 and lasted until the end of the 1st World War. The home features 3 or 4 upstairs bedrooms. It has many windows allowing sunlight in every room and a dormer upstairs that allows light to a small attic. The outside surface of the house is smooth brick and the shape of the house and windows is rectangular. The windows have flat arches and plain stone sills or lentils. While painted wood frames each window. Stone quoins form the exterior corners of the front wall of the house. They are made of rocks and are a different colour than the rest of the house thus giving a decorative appearance. The same rock-faced rusticated quoin forms an arch around the front door.

The home shows the influence of Edwardian Classicism with its simple balance design, its straight rooflines, its maintenance-free detailing and uncomplicated ornamentation. A touch of the "Craftsman" influence is seen in the inside end chimney and the overhanging eaves.

Some of the items which show indication from the Regency Period are the mouldings and paneling on the doors inside the house.

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