City of Mississauga Corporate Report



Date: September 28, 2021

To: Chair and Members of Heritage Advisory Committee

From: Jodi Robillos, Acting Commissioner of Community Services

Meeting date: October 12, 2021

Originator's files:

Subject

Proposed Heritage Designation of 60 Cumberland Drive (Ward 1)

Recommendation

That the property at 60 Cumberland Drive be designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act for its design, physical and contextual value and that the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto in the report dated September 28, 2021 from the Acting Commissioner of Community Services.

Executive Summary

- The house on the subject property was constructed circa 1940 for Agnes and Kurt Linke and designed by Alfred A. Samit
- The house exhibits the early International Style and is a local landmark
- It is rare surviving International Style house in Mississauga and is recognized in two seminal publications on Ontario architecture for its design merits
- It merits designation under the Ontario Heritage Act due to its physical, design and contextual value

Background

The house at 60 Cumberland Drive, known as the Samit-Linke House, was constructed circa 1940 for Agnes and silversmith Kurt Linke. Based on oral history, Alfred A. Samit designed the house. Samit had a "colourful" life, including participating in the Russian Revolution before fleeing to Germany. The house is unique and well designed; it offers a pleasing interplay of rectilinear forms with subtle asymmetry to create visual interest. With remnants of Art Nouveau mixed with the simplicity of high Modernism, it exhibits early International Style architecture. The City listed the property on its Heritage Register, then known as the Heritage Inventory, in 1982.

Comments

To merit designation under the Ontario Heritage Act a property must meet the criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest, i.e. it must have physical, design, historical, associative, and/or contextual value, per Ontario Regulation 9/06. See Appendix 1.

The property has design value because it is a rare surviving example of an International Style house in Mississauga. It also displays artistic merit. The Province defines "artistic merit" as "showing imaginative skill in arrangement or execution."

Built and designed by European immigrants, in an avant-garde style, the property has contextual value because it is a local landmark due to its distinct style. See Appendix 2 for a full assessment.

Strategic Plan

Heritage designation helps meet the City's strategic goal of celebrating our community ("Connect" pillar).

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact resulting from the recommendation in this report.

Conclusion

60 Cumberland Drive meets the criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest, per Regulation 9/06. As such, the subject property merits designation under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Attachments

Appendix 1: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Appendix 2: Cultural Heritage Assessment, including Proposed Designation Statement

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Jodi Robillos, Acting Commissioner of Community Services

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