

**TOWN OF GRAVENHURST  
MUNICIPAL REGISTER – June 2023**

<b>Year</b>	<b>By-law No.</b>	<b>Property Address &amp; Legal Description</b>	<b>Statement of Cultural Heritage Value &amp; Description</b>	<b>Comments / Notes</b>
1982	82-48 Designated	1002 Cowbell Lane  Lot 1, Range E.M.R. being Parts 1 and 2, Plan 35R-7645, Morrison  Roll #030-003-003	The Severn River Inn is a 2½-storey, brick veneer building built in 1907; its predecessor burned down in 1906 but was rebuilt the following year. An inn was located here from 1858. It is situated on the site of the original Severn Bridge General Store (1858), Post Office (1861) and telephone exchange (1894), and architecturally is a significant example of the early Muskoka store and inn construction.	<b>Severn River Inn</b>  Portion of the porch removed in 2014
1983	83-130 Designated	275 & 295 Muskoka Rd S.  Plan 8, Pt. Lot 11, 12, 13 Gravenhurst  Roll #010-009-018	The Gravenhurst Opera House was designed by J. Francis Brown and constructed for several purposes – a town hall for Council meetings, a theatre for local productions and touring companies, a central location for town meetings; it opened in 1901. The building is a beautiful example of Gothic Revival architectural style. It has survived several threats to its existence, but plebiscites have always supported its future.	<b>Opera House</b>  Plaques October 2014
1983	83-130 Designated	275 & 295 Muskoka Rd S.  Plan 8, Pt. Lot 11, 12, 13 Gravenhurst  Roll #010-009-018	The original Mechanics' Institute Library began in Gravenhurst ca 1883 and was turned over to the Town of Gravenhurst in 1895. In 1906, the Town sought funding from the Carnegie Foundation to build a town library and the Foundation granted the funding with the stipulation that the Town continue to underwrite the ongoing operations of the library. As the Town felt it could not meet this requirement, the project was dropped. In 1922 the Town once again applied to the Carnegie Foundation for funding, but the program had concluded with the death of its benefactor; however, the foundation agreed to provide the remaining fund dollars to Gravenhurst, based on the earlier grant agreement. Contractor Andrew Ferguson completed the building in 1923, the last Carnegie Library to be built in Ontario. It is one of only 90 Carnegie Libraries remaining in Ontario. An addition designed by Howard Walker was opened in 1975. A new Gravenhurst Public Library was opened in 2000 and the original building was renamed the Terence Haight Carnegie Centre in 2011 to honour a town benefactor.	<b>Carnegie Library</b>  Plaques October 2014  Renamed to Terence Haight Carnegie Centre October 2011

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1984	83-05 Designated	100 Muskoka Road North  Lots 18, 19 & 22, Plan 2, Gravenhurst  Roll #010-010-001	The original Albion Hotel was a wood-frame structure built in 1879 by G.W. Taylor and leased to Alexander McKinnon and Frank Wasley; Wasley purchased the building outright in 1880. In 1887, the hotel burned to the ground in the Great Fire. Wasley rebuilt the hotel of red brick to conform to newly enacted core building codes and added buff accented Romanesque arched windows and quoins. The new hotel contained 25 rooms over three storeys with dining room and bar. A balcony overlooking Muskoka Road was once again included but this time in a more elaborate form. Various additions over time included a single-storey tail built as a bus terminal and restaurant but eventually becoming a well-known bar. Renovations undertaken in the 1980's were less than sympathetic to the original 19 <sup>th</sup> century hotel architecture. But in 2011, Guy Gagnon of Bracebridge purchased the hotel, updated its viability and restored its original elegance. Situated throughout its history at the main intersection of the town, this hotel has become one of the town's most iconic and best-loved structures, and Arts at the Albion has given it another new identity. It was plaqued in 2016.	<b>Albion Hotel</b>  Plaqued October 2016
1985	2012-27 Designated	150 Second Street  Part of Lots 18, 33, and 36 to 38, Plan 6 and Part of N.R.Co. Station Grounds Part of Main Street, Plan 35R-6467 and Part 1, Plan 35R-18614 and Part 1, Plan 35R-19960  Roll #010-017-101	The arrival of the Northern Railway in 1875 was the most important development within the community in the late 19 <sup>th</sup> century. It enabled settlement, supported the lumber industry, and with its extension to the Muskoka Wharf and steamships, provided a connection to a growing lively summer resort industry. The original station, located in the southern area of town, burned to the ground in 1913. A new station, more centrally located in the heart of town was quickly completed, and officially opened in 1919 by Edward, Prince of Wales. The station became a transportation hub under various rail companies until the demise of rail transportation to central and northern Ontario. It continued as a transportation hub for bus service with taxi connections for many years. It is an excellent example of early 20 <sup>th</sup> century railway architecture and is one of the few remaining early stations in Central Ontario.	<b>Gravenhurst Train Station</b>  Plaqued June 2012

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1989	89-140 Designated	2000 Muskoka Rd N  Part of Lots 22 and 23, Con. 6 and 7, Muskoka  Roll #020-021-053	This beautiful Gazebo or Joss House was built overlooking Muskoka Bay ca 1898 was a popular relaxation site for patients. Visitors to the Muskoka Cottage Sanatorium (renamed Muskoka Hospital) used it as a picnic site as did those who came to visit its later iteration as Muskoka Centre. Restored to its original beauty in 1988 under the Ontario Heritage Properties Program, the Gazebo is now on the list of Historic Sites in Ontario. It remains an original reminder of the significant role that Gravenhurst played in the treatment of tuberculosis.	<b>Muskoka Centre Gazebo</b>
1991	2010-133 Designated	235 Steamship Bay Rd.  Part of Lots 23 and 24, Concession 4 Range W.M.R. and Part of Shore Road Allowance and Part of Water Lots A and C Plan 35R-21581 and Parts 2 and 3, Plan 35R-22073, Muskoka  Roll #010-013-028	Built in 1907, the RMS Cherokee was one of the new, steel-hulled "palace steamers". The Cherokee was built mainly of native Muskoka red pine with white cedar-clad wainscoting and red oak moldings. She was retired in 1950. The wheelhouse provides a reminder of the beautiful steamer that once plied the Muskoka Lakes.  The RMS Islander was a handsome little auxiliary steamer built in 1900. She plied the Muskoka Lakes for over half a century before being retired in 1950. The wheelhouse, built mostly of red pine and cedar, and the artifacts typical of steamers, is an original piece of our steamship history.	<b>Wheelhouses of the RMS Cherokee and RMS Islander</b> By-law 91-83 and 91-84 Repealed by 2004-143 (July 27/04) Re-designated under By-law 2010-133  Plaqued February 2013  Re-Plaqued May 2022
1991	2009-103 Designated	Archway at South Entrance on Muskoka Road South	The first entrance archway welcoming visitors to Gravenhurst, the Gateway to the Muskoka Lakes, was built by the Gravenhurst Board of Trade in 1925 and is one of the few civic archways in Ontario to survive. Over the years the Archway was built and rebuilt in various materials and with various messages of welcome, optimism and prosperity. The most recent version, rebuilt in 2009, returns to the original look, a reminder that we continue to be the Gateway to Muskoka.	<b>Gravenhurst Arch</b> By-law 91-206 Repealed by 2005-151  Re-designated under By-law 2009-103  Plaqued June 2022

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2014	2014-033 Designated	315 Bay St  Plan 8 Lots 8 TO 10 S/S Bay St N Halves Lots 8 To 10 Ns Hotchkiss St Gravenhurst  Roll # 010-008-029	This beautiful Bay Street home was built ca 1884 by Charles Mickle Sr. and named Rosehurst by his wife Emma. This home became the social hub of Gravenhurst where countless community garden parties and amateur theatricals were hosted by Emma and Charles. Mickle was president of Mickle, Dymont & Son Lumber Company, town councillor and twice Mayor of Gravenhurst. As Mayor, Mickle negotiated with William Gage to bring the first TB sanatorium in Canada to Gravenhurst. He also championed the building of the Gravenhurst Opera House in 1901. Following the death of Charles Mickle Jr., the home was sold during the 1930's* to the Garner family and became both permanent and temporary lodging for countless newcomers and visitors to the town. Several other families would own this home and provide tourist accommodations there before it was purchased and completely and sympathetically renovated in 2015 to provide condominium apartments. Throughout its history, many original features have survived including its mansard roof, bay window, garden arches, carriage stepping stone and garden urn.	<b>Rosehurst/Garner Lodge</b>  Plaqued August 2015
2014	2014-034 Designated	315 Muskoka Road N.  Lot 1, Plan 4 Gravenhurst  Roll #010-011-014	Knox Presbyterian Church is the oldest surviving church in Gravenhurst. The congregation was formed in 1875 and held services in North Ward School. In the fall of 1876, the foundations of Knox were laid and the building was finished circa 1878. The church is a fine example of Carpenter's Gothic style originally using board-and-batten wall construction. At one time, a steeple housed an 800-pound bell to summon churchgoers but also raise the alarm for firefighters. The bell was removed in 1932. Reverend Malcom Bethune was minister from 1889 to 1893. His son, Dr. Norman Bethune, who was born at the Manse in 1891, became famous for his medical innovations and medical care in war-torn Spain and China.	<b>Knox Presbyterian Church</b>  Plaqued September 2014
2014	2014-032 Designated	180 Phillip St. W.  Part 1, Plan 35R7412 Gravenhurst  Roll #010-009-025	This two-storey brick residence reflects the prominence of James Clipsham, town councillor and school board trustee, who owned the adjacent carriage works, blacksmith shop and livery. He built his home in 1877, and unlike his business, the home survived the Great Fire of 1887. The home features a large porch, and an added L-shaped extension on the west side, contrasting brick trim, gable windows, and a single-storey annex added to the east where much of the blacksmithing work was conducted. It is considered to be one of the oldest buildings in town.	<b>Clipsham House</b>  Plaqued October 2015

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2015	2015-104 Designated	101 Muskoka Road North Part of Lot 6, Plan 8 Gravenhurst Roll # 010-011-001	The Gravenhurst Post Office stands at the most prominent intersection of town, emblematic of a federal presence in the community. Several hotels had once stood on this site including Dugald Brown's Steamboat and Stage Hotel, the Fraser Hotel lost in the Great Fire of 1887, and the Windsor Hotel, burned to the ground in 1903. The site had been purchased by the Federal Government with construction of the post office originally planned for 1914, but the Great War and its financial burden postponed construction of a single-storey post office to 1926. A second storey with clock tower was added to the building in 1931*.	<b>Gravenhurst Post Office</b> Plaqued April 2016
2016	2017-104 Designated	No address Part of Island A (Lighthouse Island), Lake Muskoka, former Township of Muskoka Roll # 020-039-03101	The Narrows at only 80 feet in width and 20 feet in depth is a difficult and dangerous channel to navigate. As it is the only way in and out of Muskoka Bay, the site of the lighthouse has always been important for navigation. In 1905 contractor George Brown of Bracebridge built a light tower on Denison Island to replace an 1884 beacon. This square, wooden structure was mounted on a masonry base while a lantern and walkway sat on top. Keepers from the Schell, Readman and Barnes family maintained the light for decades. The light can be seen from up to eight miles away. For decades it secured the safe passage of steamers delivering tourists to resorts, the mail, freight, and lumber rafts. In 2017, the Canada Coast Guard substituted white vinyl siding and an aluminum frame for the deteriorated wooden frame. The Narrows Lighthouse is one of only two on the Muskoka Lakes.	<b>Narrows Lighthouse</b> Plaqued August 2018
2012	2018-62 Designated	3411 Southwood Rd. Part of Lot 5, Concession 15 Wood Roll # 020-043-081	This log church structure was built circa 1928 on land donated by the Chapman family. The present latch gate sign near the road marks the location of the first church building. It was rebuilt in 1936 and renovated in 2010 when threatened with demolition. The close proximity of this Anglican church to the Torrance Barrens and its location at the half-way point on Southwood Road has made it a favoured stopping-off point. Its reconstruction by Southwood volunteers is a shining example of a community conservation project.	<b>Church of Our Lady, Southwood</b> Plaqued September 2018

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2018	2019-84 Designated	<p>405 Brock Street &amp; 485 Brock Street</p> <p>Lots 82 to 96, 100 to 107, Part of Lots 78 to 81, 99 and 108, Plan 2 and Lots 116 to 119, 121 to 125 and 193, Part of Lots 192 and 194, Plan 3 Gravenhurst</p> <p>Roll # 010-005-114</p>	<p>Gull Lake Rotary Park has a vibrant and important history. In the late 1800's, it was the scene of regattas featuring canoe, boat, and swimming races. A gazebo relocated to the park from the Opera House Square provided a venue for local citizen bands offering entertainment to citizens and vacationers on summer afternoons. Giant white pines, native to Muskoka, provided welcome relief from heat, and these were maintained, and replaced over the years. In 1898, the Gravenhurst Electric Light and Power Company opened a brick power plant on the shore of Gull Lake which burned down in 1900 but was replaced and operated as a generating station for many years. Eventually this building became the headquarters for lifeguards who watched over swimming lessons and summer fun at the beach. There is a graphic etched in concrete above the side door. During the Second World War, a German officer, a prisoner of war at Camp 20, skilled in park planning, designed a stone retaining wall, stone steps, and a stone pier with small decorative lighthouse for the park. German prisoners of war built these structures for the Town of Gravenhurst, and the stone steps and sections of the wall remain. In 1949 a barge was anchored off the shoreline of the park. Bands and entertainers took small boats to the barge. A more permanent structure with wooden walkway access was built, with eventual renovations and updates designed by Stanley White, an Ottawa-based architect and local Gravenhurst son. The newly updated barge was opened by Queen Elizabeth during the royal couple's visit to Canada in 1959. Concerts on the Barge and movies in the park continue to be a popular summer Sunday evening activity and provide audiences with a rare offshore stage set up. Gull Lake was also the site of ice harvesting, an important local source of income, and the staging area for the ice harvesting industry was here.</p>	<p><b>Gull Lake Rotary Park including Public Utilities Commission</b></p>

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2012	Listed	180 Hughson St.  Lot 6 and Part of Lot 7, Plan 8 Gravenhurst  Roll #010-011-10800	Lafranier House, built ca 1887, is a two-storey Victorian Cottage of restrained Gothic Revival style. David Lafranier had been involved in the lumber industry before purchasing the Fraser Hotel, located where the Post Office now stands. In 1896, Lafranier (sometimes spelled Lafraniere) paid \$1100 for the property and lived both in this house and above his hotel before it was destroyed by fire. In 1912, J.J. McNabb, an accountant for the Mickle, Dymont & Son Lumber Company, acquired the residence. Frederick Freeman bought it in 1939 upon his appointment as Postmaster of Gravenhurst; he renamed it Maple Hall. In 1991 the Freeman family sold the home to Andrew Griffith who established the first of several bed and breakfast operations in the home. Lafranier house was representative of the brick buildings which sprang up in town as a response to the Great Fire of 1887. It is now sheathed in vinyl with additions to the north and east sides. Its peaked gable windows recall the Ontario vernacular central gable cottage style so prevalent in this town and throughout Ontario.	<b>Lafranier House/Blaincroft</b>
2012	Listed	181 Bay St.  Part of Lot 1, Plan 8 Gravenhurst  Roll #010-009-039	Built in 1887, this was home to the former Mayor of Gravenhurst (1913-1914) Albert Hill. He operated a livery stable and blacksmithing shop earlier on Hotchkiss Street and later at this site on Bay Street. The wrought iron fence at the building was his work. In 2001, this building received a Muskoka Heritage Foundation Stewardship Award.	<b>Albert Hill's/ Gadsby's</b>
2012	Listed	320 Bay St.  Lot 9, Plan 8 Gravenhurst  Roll # 010-012-061	This Victorian, two-storey, red brick residence dates to the 1870's. B.R. Mowry was its original owner. His foundry – B.R. Mowry and Sons – was the source of the Great Fire of 1887. The home was later owned by the McJannet family who operated a department store at the northwest corner of Muskoka Road and Hotchkiss Streets. The home had several caring owners before the Westovers renovated it sympathetically to become a bed and breakfast operation.	<b>Mowry/ East Residence/ McJannet Home (Lorenz/Westover's)</b>

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2012	Listed	190 Mary St. North  Part of Lots 6 & 7, Plan 8 Gravenhurst  Roll # 010-011-10901	The property was originally part of the Dugald Brown land grant. The home was built ca 1880 in the 'Stick Style' of architecture developed in New England. It bears a resemblance to Bethune Memorial House located nearby and represents stately accommodation of a bygone era. Anglican Archdeacon Lindsell purchased the home and lived there with his family. Lindsell had been both pastor at St. James from 1914 to 1917, and chaplain for decades at the Sanatoriums located in Gravenhurst. He continued to serve as a prominent clergyman in Gravenhurst up until his sudden death.	<b>Lindsell House/Finch House</b>
2012	Listed	220 Bay St.  Lots 3 to 5 and Part of Lot 5 and N/S Bay St, Plan 9, and Lot 3 to 4 and Part Lot 5 and S/S Hughson St, Plan 8 Gravenhurst  Roll # 010-011-057	Dugald (Dougald) Brown's original business was established on this property in 1873. He manufactured fizzy drinks such as Belfast Ginger Beer, sarsaparilla, and soda water, and operated a livery and a liquor store on this property. Later a bottling plant utilizing a natural spring of crystal-clear water was established. Brown's Beverages became the leading bottler of soft drinks in Muskoka under various members of the Brown family and supplied these to resorts throughout the district. Their familiar green trucks were seen everywhere and were housed and stocked in the added-on garage area. An iconic feature of this operation was the large glass window through which passers-by could watch the filling of bottles. Many interior features remain as well. The two-storey brown brick section of this complex was added to the Municipal Register in 2012.	<b>Brown's Beverages</b>
2012	Listed	1647 Highway 11 S  Lot 17 Range WMR, being Part 1 and 2, Plan 35R-7901 Morrison  Roll # 030-007-053	This building, located on the west side of Highway 11, was once the central building of a community called Malta. Known as Morrison Schoolhouse #5, it was the replacement for the original community school located almost immediately across the road. It was in these two original schoolhouses, built ca 1867, that Thomas Whyte (White) taught school and in his home next door, operated the Malta Post Office. That was the former White/Augustine House, now demolished, a home which may have been the oldest building in present-day Gravenhurst. The schoolhouse with two-storey rear addition became an antiques business operated by Mary Counter of Toronto for many years. It is now a private home.	<b>Little Red Schoolhouse</b>

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2012	Listed	140 First St. Lot 56, Plan 2 Gravenhurst Roll # 010-006-006	Long a focus of social life in rural communities and a religious and political power in Ontario, The Orange Lodge declined after World War II. Some of the most popular public Lodge activities were the July 12 parades down Muskoka Road. These continued into the 1960's even after the virtual demise of the organization.	<b>Orange Lodge</b>
2013	Listed	235 John St N Lots 3 to 4, Plan 8 Gravenhurst Roll # 010-011-062	This two-storey clapboard home built in 1880 was the Presbyterian manse where the Rev. Malcolm Bethune took up residence with his family in 1890. His son Henry Norman Bethune, who would one day become one of our most globally recognized Canadians ever, was born here in 1890. Norman Bethune was respected for his medical innovations and his commitment to soldiers on the battlefield during World War One and during the Spanish Civil War. Revered by the Chinese for his medical ministrations to the wounded soldiers of Mao Zedong during the Great March, Norman Bethune died in 1939 of blood poisoning while attending to a patient. The home was purchased by Parks Canada in 1973 and receives countless visitors each year including Chinese visitors from all over Canada and from China itself. The home was designated a National Historic Site in 1996.	<b>Bethune Memorial House</b>
2013	Listed	191 Hotchkiss St Part of Lot 9, Plan 8 Gravenhurst Roll # 010-009-033	This present St. James Anglican Church followed an original church of logs located close to the present St. James Anglican Cemetery on Muskoka Road and a second, frame church built at the southwest corner of John Street at Hotchkiss in 1882 and lost in the Great Fire of 1887, some five years later. St. James was quickly rebuilt of red brick and dedicated at Christmas in 1888. The body of the church features a wooden ceiling reminiscent of hulls created during the shipbuilding era. The vaulted gothic windows hold stained glass scenes dedicated by parishioners over the years. The bell tower caught fire but was completely restored.	<b>St. James Anglican Church</b>

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2018	Listed	1495 Muskoka Road North  Part of Lot 21 and 22, Concession 5, Muskoka  Roll #020-020-033	Massey Hall was built in 1907 by the Massey family to provide space for study, reflection and religious services on the property of the Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives. It survived the catastrophic fire of 1920 which destroyed many of the buildings at the Free Hospital, and continued to play an important role in the life of the sanatorium which merged with the Muskoka Cottage Sanatorium to become Muskoka Hospital. Massey Hall became a sanatorium recreation centre where mainstream Hollywood films were shown and entertainment created by the patients and staff, as well as town theatre groups, were presented. In 1957 the former Free Hospital property was purchased by the Ontario government to fulfill legislation tabled in 1949 to provide a residential fire college for the training of Ontario fire services. The man directly responsible for that legislation and for the ultimate opening of an Ontario Fire College in Gravenhurst was William J. Scott, Fire Marshal of Ontario from 1935 to 1960 and internationally renowned fire service educator and innovator. The Ontario Fire College became the first residential fire college in Canada and one of the first in North America. The college has continued to educate fire officers from departments across Ontario, from other provinces and from countries around the world. Massey Hall was renamed for Scott in 1960, and continues to play a vital role in courses and seminars offered at the Ontario Fire College today.	<b>Scott Hall</b>
2018	Listed	1108 Clipsham Road  Part of Lots 27 and 28, Concession 5, Morrison  Roll #030-012-040	One is hard pressed to find an older surviving building in Gravenhurst than the Clipsham-Everbeck Residence on Sparrow Lake. It was built 1858-1863 by German immigrant and pioneer John Everbeck. It was bought by Michael Clipsham 1883 and remains in the Clipsham family. The stucco construction and central gable is reminiscent of the Ontario vernacular style.	<b>Clipsham-Everbeck Residence (Sparrow Lake)</b>

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2020	Listed	490 Phillip Street East (formerly 130 Phillip Street East)  Lot 130, Plan 3 Gravenhurst  Roll # 010-005-10900	Adolph Olaveson came to Canada from Norway in 1873 and built this home with his wife Julia and four children circa 1896, in the area which is now known as Swedetown. The architectural style is "Ontario Workers Cottage". It has a central front door flanked on either side by large rectangular vertical windows. The front part is the original cottage. It has a steep gable roof parallel to the road. Adolph was a master plasterer in constant demand to finish the walls of municipal buildings, homes and businesses being rebuilt after the Great Fire of 1887. Julia was a midwife who assisted with many births. The property currently is used as a Bed and Breakfast.	<b>Olaveson House</b>
2020	Listed	510 Muskoka Road North  Lot 2, Block B, Plan 19 Gravenhurst  Roll # 010-010-01700	David Warnica was the first owner of this home which was built circa 1884 and survived the Great Fire of 1887, which did not reach this far north. The Bed and Breakfast side of the present house was the original home which was built as plank board frame. Additions occurred circa 1942 in restrained Gothic Revival style with an influence from the ubiquitous Ontario vernacular residence construction. The exceptional wooden ceilings in the living room are the same design, and completed by the same woodworker, as those in the Bethune House and Lafranier House. Additional notable features include the barge board edging along the eaves, the porch, the bay window at the front left of the house, the Reading Room at the back in the summer house and the landscaped yard and pool.	<b>Warnica House</b>

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2021		510 Phillip Street East  Lot 191 & Part of Lot 192, Plan 3 Gravenhurst  Roll #010-005-10700	<p>Broughton House was built circa 1885 and was considered to be the initiation of the Swedetown neighbourhood as it was the first house built on the street. Andrew Ferguson, a plasterer by trade, constructed the house and proceeded to construct his own home directly across the street, as well as the home to the east of Broughton House. Notable features of the two-and-a-half storey wooden frame Broughton House include the gabled roofline, bay window, and porch. The property includes an additional building to the rear which has been used as a rental home, a storage barn and a studio. The property adjoins Gull Lake Park and a walkway to the park. The Broughton sisters – Clara and May – lived in the home with their mother Mary Broughton following the death of their brother Maitland in 1906, until the death of Clara in 1969. Clara was one of the early teachers at Gravenhurst High School. The home underwent several renovations, mainly to provide space for the numerous paying summer guests who were entertained by the Broughton Sisters. After it ceased as a summer boarding house, past guests would visit the sisters to relive happy memories. Since 1981, the home has been owned by Hilary Clark Cole, renowned Canadian sculptor.</p>	<b>Broughton House</b>

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