

APPENDIX A

90 CANBORO ROAD

Fonthill ON L0S1E0

"The Wilson-Hansler-Stirtzinger House"

Roll No.: 273203000616700

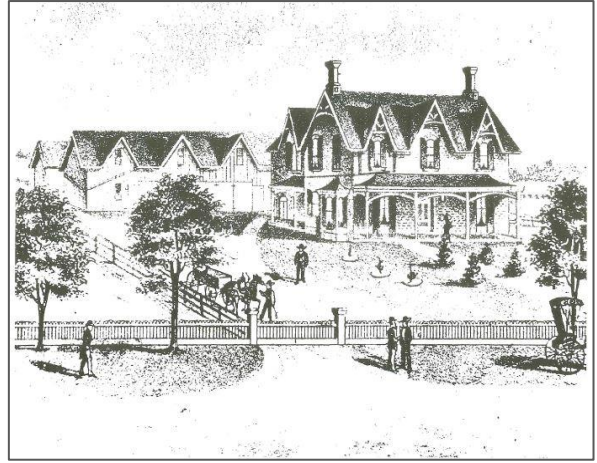
Legal Description: PLAN 717 PT BLK U RP 59R13664 PART 2

Date of Construction: 1860 (MPAC 1870)

Architectural Influence(s): Gothic Revival

Historical Association(s): John Wilson, John L. Stirtzinger,
Dr. John Hansler

Heritage Evaluation Grade: A



Statement of Design and/or Architectural Value and/or Interest:

The home at 90 Canboro Road was built by John Wilson out of triple brick. The basement walls are two feet thick. The floors throughout the home are a mixture of cherry and maple. The inside windows of the parlour were all hand-painted. Two staircases led to large airy bedrooms. After 1876 an upstairs balcony was added to the house. The two-storey home once served as a triplex around approximately 1870. Over time it has been remodeled to provide a residential property with five self-contained units.

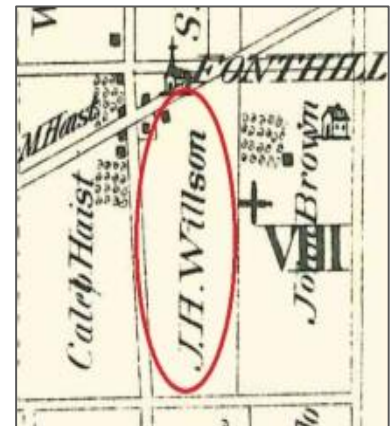
This beautiful home is an example of the gothic revival style of architecture. The side gabled roof contains three steeply pitched dormers. Each dormer has decorative moulding bargeboards with a single prominent drop in the centre. The second storey features three true-arch windows on the front façade beneath each dormer which are double-hung, but have a fixed upper window on the exterior with six lites and dividing mullions. Each window has a prominent keystone and brick voissours, with cement sills below.

The front porch spans almost the full width of the home. It features a combined shed and gable roof, with a front pediment. The entranceway is ornate, with triple panel side lights made of stained glass, and a stained glass swept head transom overtop. It is trimmed in cream with decorative moulding around the windows. On the left side of the entrance is another doorway, with a large wooden, two panel glass door and a voissour with keystone. To the right of the entrance is another door which is different from the other two, as it is cream with six panes of glass. The porch is supported by four porch columns.

Both the east and west façades of the home have triple-window bays, with true-arch windows and concave roofs, trimmed fully in a cream colour matching the trim on the exterior of the home. The roof gables on either side of the house have similar bargeboards to those found under the dormers, and matching windows to those on the second storey of the front façade are also found on the second storey sides of the home. The home has two brick chimneys on either end of the roof. Off the rear of the home is a cross gable with two dormers on each side of the roof. The southwest corner of the home has another porch area, with a similar overhang to that on the front façade complete with porch columns and a pediment on the roof. There is potentially another on the south east portion of the home as well, behind the attached carport, but it is relatively hidden from view.

Statement of Historical and/or Associative Value and/or Interest:

In 1876, there were approximately 400 inhabitants in Fonthill. There were several churches, one public school and a grammar school. The Wilson-Hansler-Stirtzinger was "spacious, well situated and architecturally unique" in the early days of Fonthill. When he was thirty years old, John Wilson built it out of triple brick. The property once featured a large notable barn however this burned down shortly after John L. Stirtzinger became owner. A new one was necessary, and Edmund Beamer constructed a new one at a cost of \$850.00, and in 1980 was used as a 4-unit apartment building.



Dr. John Hansler had graduated with honours from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Toronto University at the age of 22, and had been in partnership with Dr. Fraser for a few years. Over time, he decided to practice medicine on his own, and he opened his office in this home on the Wilson Farm. He married John Wilson's widow, living and practising here until his death in 1924. Mr. Hansler erected a carriage step and two hitching posts during his time here, one of which is still found on the property along with the step.

Dr. Hansler's nephew, John Loyal Stirtzinger, purchased the estate in 1926 and moved here with his wife, the former Iva Adell Book of Tintern, and their two children. Electricity was installed, the dining room was panelled in chestnut, and a fireplace was added to the living room. Mr. Stirtzinger was a prosperous fruit farmer and house builder, and remained in the area for over twenty years with his family. He also built a smaller home to the east of the property. He was an active member on the Trustee Board of the Pelham District Secondary School, was Chairman of the Board for some time, and of the Building Committee, serving a total of fifteen years.

His grandfather, Joh Stirtzinger, came to America into Pennsylvania, from Luxemburg, Germany round about 1825. He was rowed across the Niagara River by an Indian in order to enter Canada from Buffalo; he travelled overland to Fenwick, where Centre Street is now. He found work at the Slough Farm and remained there for the remainder of his life. He eventually married their daughter, Julia.

Direct descendants of John and Julia (Slough) Stirtzinger are Miss Marjorie and Mr. Cecil Stirtzinger, who live in new homes built beside the large brick house.

Statement of Contextual Value and/or Interest:

The Wilson-Hansler-Stirtzinger House is situated in one of the denser areas of Fonthill, surrounded by single detached homes. It is east of the intersection of Haist Street and Canboro Road, found just past Daleview Crescent. Further east along Canboro Road is the Fonthill United Church, and one of the major intersections of the community, where Highway 20 West, Canboro Road, and Church Hill meet. The home sits on an almost one acre piece of property, and has a second residential estate located to the east of the home that was erected in 1946.

Source: Pelham Historical Calendar, 1980



Additional Photographs of 90 Canboro Road:

