

## Municipal Heritage Committee Report

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<b>Report Number:</b>	<b>KLMHC2024-035</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	June 6, 2024
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Proposed Heritage Designation of 19-21 King Street East, Village of Omemee</b>
<b>Description:</b>	Proposed heritage designation of 19-21 King Street East (Mulligan's Drug Store) under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act
<b>Author and Title:</b>	Emily Turner, Economic Development Officer – Heritage Planning

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### Recommendations:

**That** Report KLMHC2024-036, **Proposed Heritage Designation of 19-21 King Street East, Village of Omemee**, be received;

**That** the designation of the property known municipally as 19-21 King Street East be endorsed; and

**That** the recommendation to designate the subject property be forwarded to Council for approval.

**Department Head:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial/Legal/HR/Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chief Administrative Officer:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Background:**

The City of Kawartha Lakes designates properties under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act. Properties are recommended for designation by their owners, members of the public, local organizations, the Municipal Heritage Committee, Council or staff. Properties proposed for designation are reviewed by the Municipal Heritage Committee, as required by subsection 29(2) of the Ontario Heritage Act, and their recommendation is brought forward to Council under the cover of a staff report.

19-21 King Street East, also known as Mulligan's Drug Store, was constructed around 1891 as a pharmacy and a representative example of Italianate commercial architecture in Omemee. The property is currently listed on the City's Heritage Register. Although there was initially no intention by staff to designate this building under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act made through Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act (2022) now require municipalities to designate listed properties or remove them from the Register within two years of the amendments coming into effect. Practically, this means that, in order for municipalities to provide heritage protection to its cultural heritage resources as is required by provincial land use planning policy, they must be designated under Part IV of the Act. The amendments came into effect on January 1, 2023.

19-21 King Street East has been prioritized as an important commercial block in downtown Omemee and due to the potential for development pressures on the site in future as a serviced property on a main thoroughfare in the village. It has a high degree of architectural and historical value in Omemee and is a key building block of Omemee's historic downtown core. This property was identified by staff as a priority property. Staff have undertaken a site visit to and heritage evaluation report about the property and have determined that the property is eligible for designation under Part IV of the Act.

This report provides the background information regarding the cultural heritage value of the property.

## **Rationale:**

19-21 King Street East has cultural heritage value as a representative example of Italianate commercial architecture in Omemee and as a long-standing pharmacy, known at the time of its construction as Mulligan's Drug Store. Constructed beginning in late 1891, the property displays key characteristics of the Italianate style as executed in commercial architecture in Ontario in the second half of the nineteenth century,

including its flat roof, cornice, and recessed Victorian storefront. The property has historical value in its longstanding role as a drug store in Omemee. The current building was erected on this site after the 1891 fire that swept much of downtown Omemee to replace an older pharmacy on the same site and has functioned in that capacity since that time. The current property was constructed for prominent local businessman and community leader R.J. Mulligan and yields information regarding the pharmacy business in turn-of-the-century small town Ontario. The property is a contributing feature to the historic landscape of downtown Omemee as one of a collection of late nineteenth century Second Empire style commercial buildings along King Street East.

A heritage evaluation report outlining the full reasons for designation and the property's heritage attributes is attached to this report as Appendix A.

### **Other Alternatives Considered:**

There are no recommended alternatives.

### **Financial/Operation Impacts:**

There will be costs associated with the provision of public notice and for the registration of the designation by-law associated with this application which are covered by the existing Heritage Planning budget.

### **Consultations:**

N/A

### **Attachments:**

Appendix A – Heritage Evaluation Report: 19-21 King Street East



Adobe Acrobat  
Document

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**Department Head:** Leah Barrie, Director of Development Services