

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value & Heritage Attributes – 908 2nd Ave E

Description of Property – Kilbourn Block, 908 2nd Ave E

Kilbourn Block is a three-storey commercial building located on the northwest corner of the intersection of 2nd Avenue East and 9th Street East in the City of Owen Sound. The property is municipally known as 908 2nd Avenue East.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Kilbourn Block's cultural heritage value lies in it being an example of the Italianate style of architecture. Typical of this style, it features a large projecting roof eave and a repeated window and brick pilaster motif across the second and third storeys of front (east) and side (south) façades. All windows have original openings, stone lintels, and are lined with faint red brick keystone arches.

Influences of Edwardian Classicism are evidenced by the building's smooth exterior brick finish and a pronounced cornice supported by large modillion blocks.

Kilbourn Block's cultural heritage value also lies in its association with the Kilbourn family, a prominent family that contributed to the economic and cultural life of Owen Sound and the surrounding area of Grey County.

The Kilbourn's purchased large, undeveloped tracts of land in and around Owen Sound and were responsible for the development of much of the downtown. Kilbourn Block was constructed by John Melbourne Kilborne, the eldest son of the Kilbourn family between 1880 and the early 1900's.

Description of Heritage Attributes

Key exterior attributes that embody the heritage value of Kilbourn Block as an example of a mix of Italianate and Edwardian Classicism style of architecture in Owen Sound include its:

• Smooth red brick exterior finish on the second and third storeys of the front (east) and side (south) facades;

- Original window openings and the repeated window motif across the front (east) and side (south) façades;
- Brick pilasters lining the second and third storeys of the front (east) and side (south) façades;
- Keystone arches placed above each window;
- Stone window lintels;
- A projecting roof eave on the third storey of the front (east) and side (south) façades;
- Two large cornices with modillion blocks that cap the first and third storeys on the front (east) and side (south) façade;
- One original stained glass window transom on the side (south) façade.