



Supplementary Rationale for Heritage Designation Submitted by Dr. Shona Harrison JN Thompson House at 3940 Miller Road

Given the significant development pressures in downtown Kelowna, I relocated the registered heritage house, known as the J.N. Thompson house, c.1910 Queen Ann Revival, from 1875 Richter Street to an acreage in South East Kelowna, specifically 3940 Miller Road.

I bore a significant financial burden to relocate this house to ensure its continued existence for years to come. Given its significant cultural and historical value to Kelowna, I am now seeking for its further protection by way of Heritage Designation. Designating this special house, upon her relocation, is a promise that I made to both the City of Kelowna Planning Dept and my heritage advocate colleagues through the CoK Heritage Grants Committee and Central Okanagan Heritage Society.

As is already documented, this is not only the former home of a prominent and founding Kelowna citizen John Thompson, and designed and built by local contractor George E. Ritchie (interesting to note that Ritchie's grandson, now in his 90s, and his daughter, came out just last week to Miller Road to see the house—both are thrilled that it has been moved and therefore saved), but is a remarkable heritage structure. Upon my initial purchase, some seven years ago, I set out to restore this house that had fallen into grave disrepair. My restoration to her former glory brought notice from Heritage BC where in 2017 I won a provincial conservation award. Additionally, I won another conservation award through the City of Kelowna, Central Okanagan Heritage Society, for a "Conservation Project on a Heritage Building Currently in Residential Use."

At its new site, I ensured the construction of a new foundation would keep the same elevation as the original—even the original wood mullioned windows from the basement were saved and put back in the house in the original positions. While positioning the house on the acreage, I also ensured its orientation is similar to that of Richter Street. The chimney was also rebuilt with the original brick that was dismantled and saved before the house was moved. At its new site, I also replicated the original brick patio in herringbone pattern. In keeping with heritage-style, all fences for this 13 ac. horse property are traditional wood and panted to match the trim of the house. Essentially, the house is the same as it was on Richter, except it now resides in SE Kelowna away from wrecking balls of developers.

I respectfully ask that she, this beautiful and noteworthy Queen Ann Revival be confirmed as a Designated Heritage house to ensure her longevity for generations to come. Should you wish to view her in person at the new site, so as to ensure her worthy of heritage designation, vs simply being on the heritage registry, I would welcome this.

Kindly, Shona Harrison



