

Re: Item No. 12.2

HALIFAX

H00536 – Former Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children, 18 Wilfred Jackson Way

Request to Include Property in the Registry of Heritage
Property for the Halifax Regional Municipality

Halifax Regional Council
August 23rd, 2022

Location



Location



Location



c. 2022 Picture of Home



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Evaluation Criteria

Criterion	Maximum Score
1. Continuity of Use	25
2. Historical Importance	25
3. Integrity	10
4. Relationship to the Surrounding Area	10
Total	70

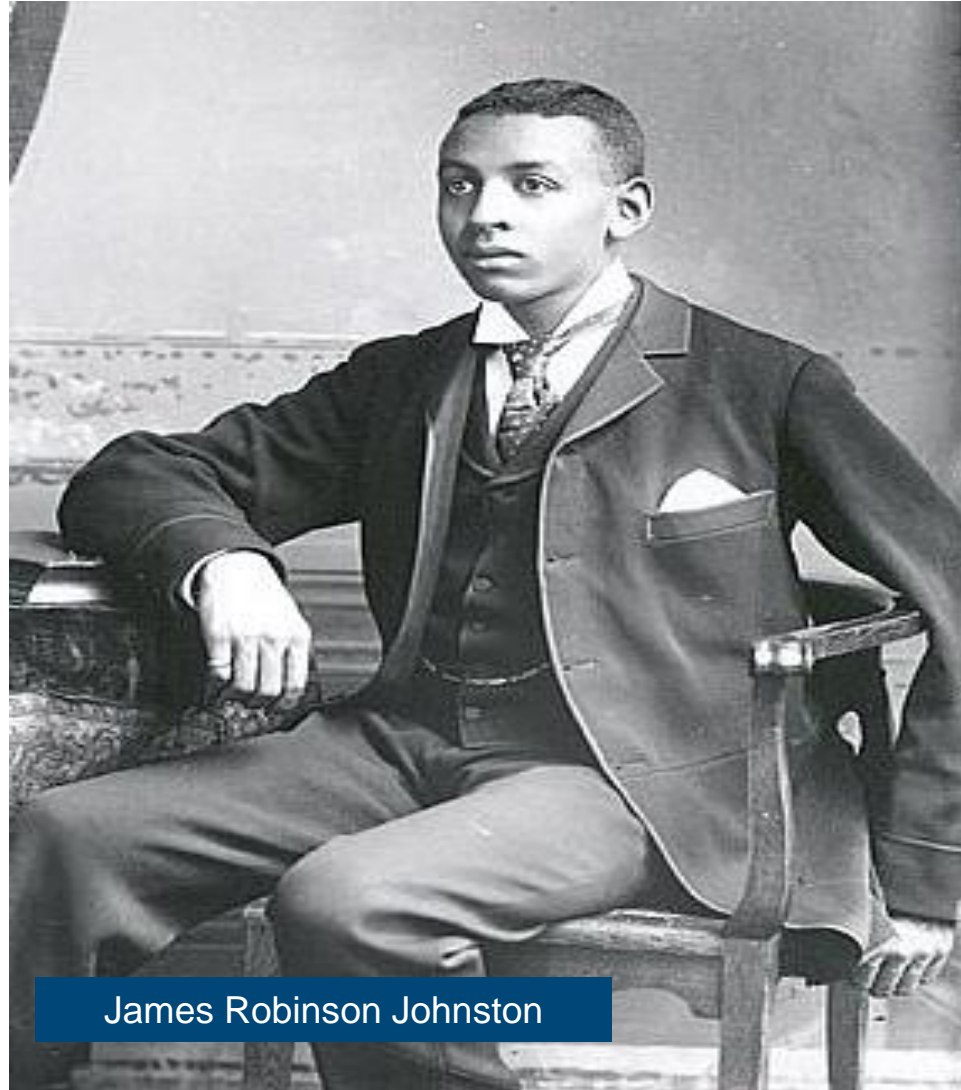
1. Continuity of Use



c. 1921 Picture of Home

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2. Historical Importance



James Robinson Johnston

HALIFAX

2. Historical Importance

The Mail-Star The Chronicle-Herald

NOVA

Abuse claims could hamper fundraising

Colored children's home faces PR difficulties as lawsuits loom

By Michael Lightstone



Officials hope future fundraising efforts for the Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children won't be harmed by mounting allegations of abuse.

"This type of publicity would have a negative impact on all aspects" of the Westphal facility, said Mike Mansfield, president of the board of directors.

He acknowledged Wednesday how the home is viewed "in the community at large, whether that (includes) fundraising or just public perception," is a concern.

"It would be great if we could get the same kind of (media coverage) when we are looking to do some kind of fundraising," Mr. Mansfield said.

He noted the allegations of abuse — stated by 10 people in court documents — are not lawsuits yet.

"What we have are some intended legal actions," Mr. Mansfield said.

Raymond Wagner, a Halifax lawyer representing the alleged victims, said this week the first lawsuit could be launched next month.

Other five people are potential

The building that for many years housed the Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children sits abandoned in Westphal.

Ingrid Bulmer / Herald Photo

litigants.

Court documents already filed by former home residents include allegations of sexual assault, beatings and mental abuse.

They date from the 1940s to '80s.

Mr. Mansfield wouldn't address specific allegations, saying only the home has "had a positive impact on the community" during its long history.

Former board member Wayne Adams said stories of alleged abuse are troubling. But he

"You can't change your commitment based on suspect and allegations," Mr. Adams said.

The home has operated as a coeducational residence for more than 75 years. Last year's telethon raised about \$50,000.

Conservative backbencher David Hendsbee, chairman of the 2000 fundraising broadcast, said people should not "rush to judgment" about alleged abuse.

The home is located in his Preston riding.

"These allegations have yet to be proven in a court of law," Mr. Hendsbee said. "The kids of today and in the future should not have to pay the price of mistakes that may have happened in the past."

Mr. Hendsbee said he wants to relocate his Lake Echo constituency office to the home's original site in Westphal, if the building is restored and if the proposed move fits the home's business plan.

Mr. Adams, who regularly appears on the telethon, conceded abuse claims are upsetting people associated with the home.

"I've heard a fair amount of distress," said Mr. Adams, a metro consultant and former provincial Liberal cabinet minister.

"People are very disappointed to hear these allegations at this stage of the game."

Mr. Adams added he wonders why some alleged victims took decades to come forward.

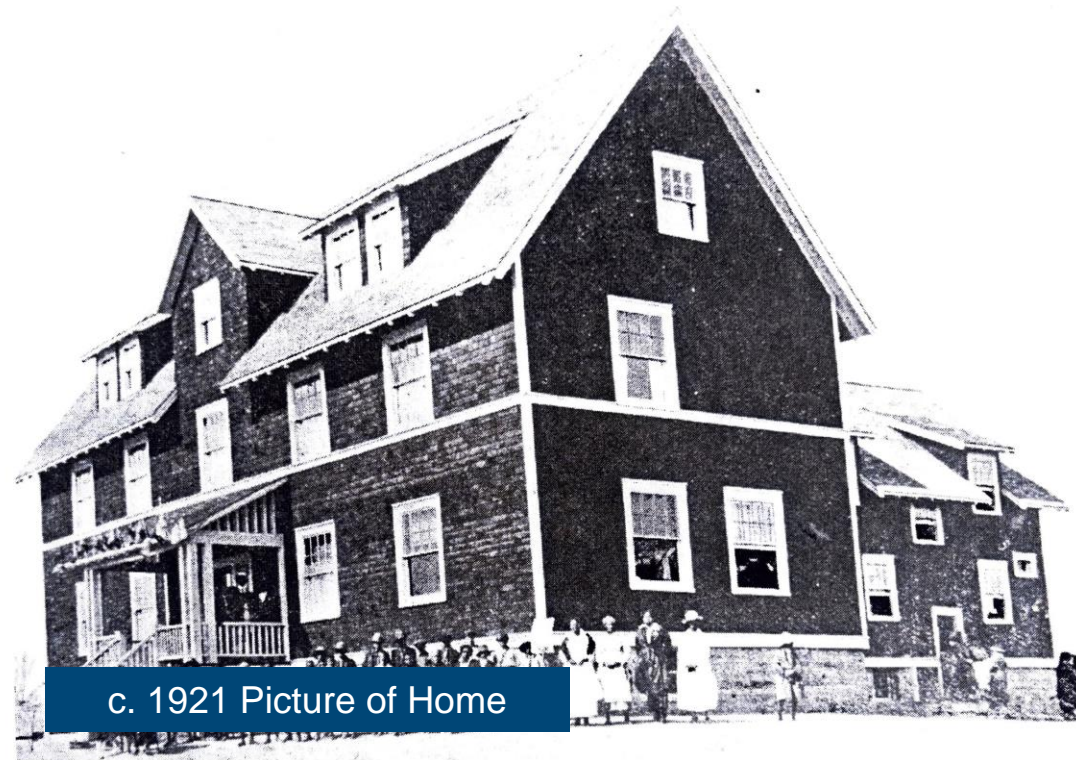
"Where have they been all these years?"

Mr. Adams has said it took his

grips

experi-

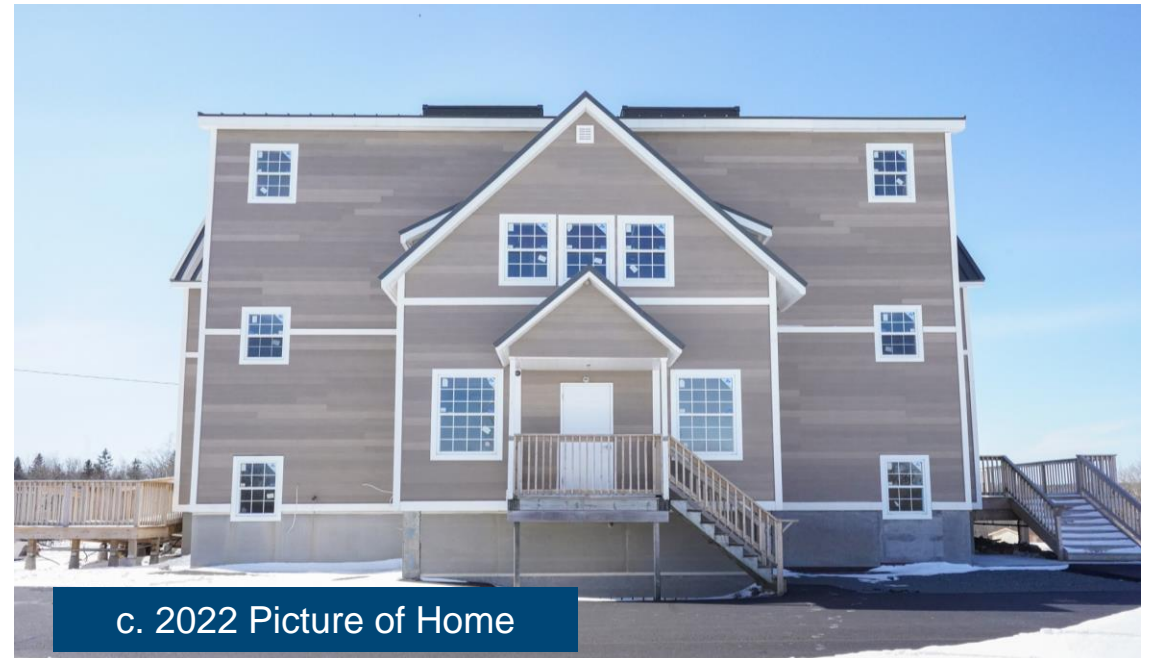
c. 2001 Newspaper Article



c. 1921 Picture of Home

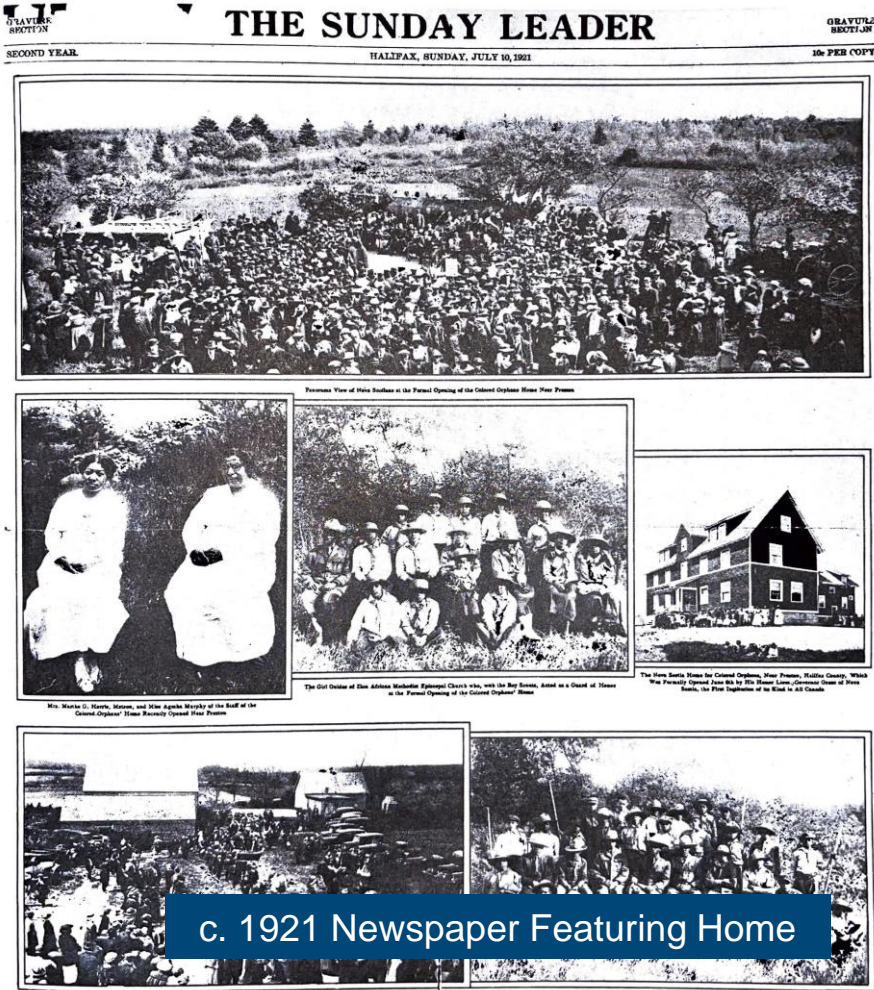
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3. Integrity (Other Structures and Landscape Features)



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4. Context: Relationship to the Surrounding Area



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Registration Evaluation Criteria

Criterion	Score Awarded
1. Continuity of Use	20
2. Historical Importance	25
3. Integrity	9
4. Relationship to the Surrounding Area	10
Total	64

Recommendation

That Halifax Regional Council approve the request to include 18 Wilfred Jackson Way, Westphal, in the Registry of Heritage Properties for the Halifax Regional Municipality, as shown on Map 1 of the June 23, 2022 report, as a municipal heritage property under the Heritage Property Act.

HALIFAX

Thank You