

A - Dumble Family (07-02)

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NEWS



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Tearing down history

LACAC MOVES TO SAVE HISTORIC COBOURG HOME

A local historical group wants to stop demolition of a 152-year-old Cobourg home, known locally as the Dumble House.

The owner of the house at 201 Darcy St. appeared at a meeting of the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) last Wednesday, asking for a demolition permit.

While the home is not on the Town's list of historically designated buildings, it is on LACAC's short list of houses that are historically significant.

Any owner who wants to demolish any of those homes or add an addition must appear before LACAC which then makes a recommendation to the Town.

LACAC turned down the demolition request and is now scurrying to have the home designated by Council, which would buy some time for LACAC to try and persuade the owners not to demolish the home, said Council's representative on LACAC, Councillor Tony Farren.

According to Cobourg historian Rob Mikel, the home is one of the finest examples of a Regency Villa in Ontario. It was built in 1840 by Darcy Boulton who later became mayor of Cobourg.

"It is one of the most historic homes around and an incredibly significant building," said Mr. Mikel.

The owner of the property is Don DePalma. He is in the middle of selling the land to Wilcolm Developments. Mr. DePalma told The News that as part of the sale, he had to apply for the demolition permit.



IN THE NEWS

TURNBULL WANTS TO

MOVE TRIAL: Cobourg school trustee Don Turnbull wants his trial on an indecent assault charge moved out of Cobourg.

Mr. Turnbull asked for the change of venue at a pre-trial hearing held Wednesday, Sept. 2. A decision on the change of venue was set over until Nov. 4.

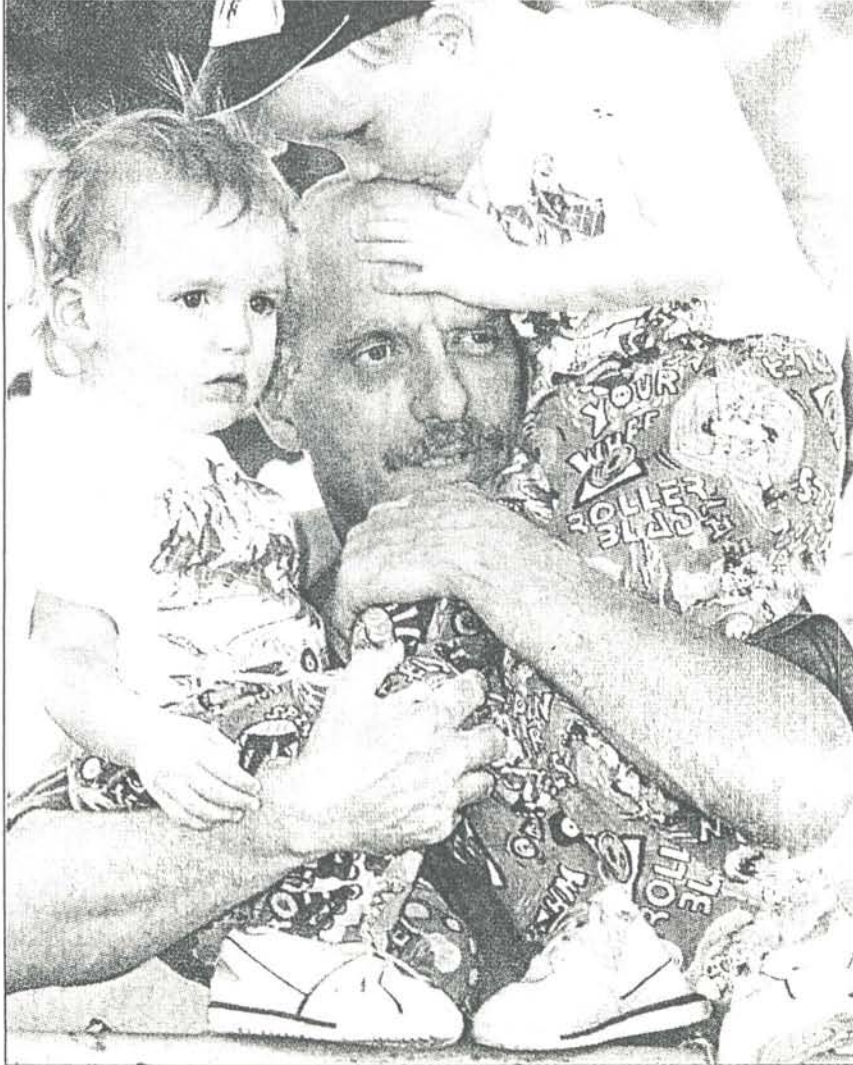
In April, Mr. Turnbull was charged with indecent assault and having sexual intercourse with a minor involving an incident that is alleged to have happened more than 20 years ago.

Mr. Turnbull recently returned to the Northumberland and Newcastle Board of Education



DON TURNBULL

Wants change



Peggy Wright/News Staff

Three's company

Logan and Wade Foster stopped to watch the Cobourg lawn bowling with their dad Noah. Look cute? Apparently their dad had just found them trying to flush their grandmother's cat down the toilet.

John Wilson, president of Wilcom, refused to comment on LACAC's decision. He added there were no set plans for development although condominiums would likely be built on the site.

LACAC wants to present a recommendation to Cobourg's executive committee on Tuesday, Sept. 8 to have the home designated as having historical significance.



TONY FARREN
Landmark house

On Thursday a phone poll was being conducted of all LACAC members on the recommendation, said Coun. Farren.

Council normally only designates homes when a request comes from the owner but Council does have the authority to designate homes it feels are historically significant, without the owner's permission.

According to Coun. Farren, if Council accepts LACAC's recommendations, nothing can happen to the property for 270 days.

"That will allow us some time to talk to the owners. That is a landmark house and just knocking it down is not in keeping with what the Town is trying to do," said Coun. Farren.

If the owners do not want the house designated, Coun. Farren said a hearing is held which will look at the historical significance of the home.

"That may be the ideal solution. It would focus public attention on the issue," said Coun. Farren.

According to Mr. Mikel, the Boulton's sold the home to an American family in 1902. It was owned by Mary Dumble who married captain Wilfred Dumble of Cobourg, her third marriage.

"It's a little worn but the whole house is in tact. It is a magnificent property. It's not designated but it should be. It's just another case of our heritage slipping away piece by piece," said Mr. Mikel.

defence.



GO GREEN WITH US: Waste Reduction Week is Sept. 27 to Oct. 4 and Northumberland News wants to know from our young readers why its important to reduce waste.

The News, along with the Recycling Council of Ontario (RCO), is sponsoring an essay and poster contest with the theme 'The Future is Rs! Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. The contest is open to youths between the ages of 9 and 12. The essays should be no longer than 500 words while the posters should be no larger than two feet by three feet.

The top poster and essay will be submitted to the RCO which will pick a province-wide winner in both categories. The winner will travel to the Ontario Legislature where he or she will meet government officials, tour Queen's Park and other Toronto sites and spend an evening as a guest of the RCO. Entries must be received by Monday, Oct. 19, 1992.