

SENT by EMAIL on 20 January 2019:

Mitch Twolan, Warden, County of Bruce  
Luke Charbonneau, Mayor of Saugeen Shores; Chair, Bruce County Museum Committee

Dear Mayor / Museum Committee Chair Luke Charbonneau and County Warden Mitch Twolan,

**RE: 254 High St, Southampton**

We write to emphasize our shared responsibility to preserve the historic Anglican Rectory at 254 High Street as an integral part of the defining identity of our cherished community of Southampton. That identity arises from a two-fold relationship: the preserved nature of our shoreline and the preserved heritage of our streetscape. The Gothic Revival and Queen Anne features of the Rectory are consistent with the historic Victorian styles that exemplify the distinctive character of Southampton.

We are fortunate to have preserved so much of our community. The Rectory stands as a landmark gateway at one end of our downtown High Street, which leads in one direction to the sublime beauty of the beach and its Lake Huron horizon, and leads in the other direction to the tranquility of Fairy Lake. A demolition of the elegant Rectory is unthinkable. Its loss would destroy the complementary relationship of the four corners at High and Victoria where the Victorian Rectory and the three Victorian churches face each other and welcome our residents and tourists to the peace of the wooded lake and to the cultural gatherings at the bandstand and the museum. Certainly the mandate of the Bruce County Museum as a cultural institution is to preserve and showcase the heritage of our community, with the Rectory among the most beautiful examples of our historic architecture.

There can be no rational reason to rush an order for demolition without consulting our community about what we love. We have lost some important examples of our architecture and cannot afford to lose more. We have faith that you will agree that preserving the unspoiled nature of our shoreline and preserving the heritage and integrity of our streetscape are the two principles equally essential in ensuring that the special character of Southampton will be saved for future generations.

Sincerely,  
David Latham  
Sheila Latham  
Southampton

cc:

Murray Clarke, Acting CAO, County of Bruce  
David Smith, CAO, Town of Saugeen Shores  
Don Matheson, Councillor-Southampton  
Cathy McGirr, Director, Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre  
Cheryl Grace, Councillor-Southampton  
Linda White, Clerk, Town of Saugeen Shores

F. Leslie Thompson, President, Architectural Conservancy of Ontario  
Scott Dunn, *The Sun Times* [Owen Sound]  
William Bowden, Southampton Residents Association  
Southampton Business Improvement Association  
The Editor, *The Shoreline Beacon*