



TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS
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REPORT

TO: Mayor Bonnette and Members of Council

FROM: Laura Loney, Senior Heritage Planner

DATE: January 21, 2022

REPORT NO.: PD-2022-0008

SUBJECT: Intention to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act – 70 Mill Street (Old Post Office)

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. PD-2022-0008 dated January 21, 2022 and titled “Intention to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act – 70 Mill Street (Old Post Office)” be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council state its intention to designate the property at 70 Mill Street, legally described as “PT LT 18, CON 9 ESQ, AS IN 685129”, under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act as recommended by Heritage Halton Hills;

AND FURTHER THAT the Town Clerk proceed with serving a Notice of Intention to Designate as mandated by Section 29(3) of the Ontario Heritage Act;

AND FURTHER THAT once the 30-day objection period has expired, and if there are no objections, a designation by-law for the property at 70 Mill Street be brought forward to Council for adoption.

KEY POINTS:

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this report:

- The property at 70 Mill Street meets Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*; and,
- Staff are recommending that Council state its intention to designate the property.
- In accordance with Council's direction, staff and Heritage Halton Hills have prepared a Research and Evaluation Report for the property located at 70 Mill Street in Georgetown.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

The subject property is located at 70 Mill Street (refer to location map in Appendix A of this report). The property at 70 Mill Street is currently listed on the Town's Municipal Heritage Register.

The property at 70 Mill Street is an irregular-shaped parcel located in Georgetown in the Town of Halton Hills. The property contains a two-storey, flat-roofed stone structure with elevated clock-tower and block foundation known as the Old Post Office, located on a bend in Mill Street with the Park Avenue intersection across the road and built into the hill rising to the west.

At its meeting of December 13, 2021, the following Resolution (2021-0234) was adopted by Council, regarding the Old Post Office: "THAT staff be directed to complete the research and evaluation of 70 & 74 Mill Street (Georgetown) to investigate potential heritage designation and bring the results for discussion and approval to the Heritage Halton Hills Committee at their meeting in January, 2022".

Town staff, together with the Heritage Halton Hills Committee, have prepared a Research & Evaluation Report for the property located at 70 Mill Street (Appendix B). Staff note that only the Old Post Office at 70 Mill Street has been researched and evaluated to date, and that the former theatre building at 74 Mill Street will be reviewed to assess whether it warrants full research and evaluation under Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria.

Heritage Halton Hills reviewed the final Research & Evaluation report for the property at 70 Mill Street at its meeting of January 19, 2022, and the following motion was carried:

Recommendation No. HERITAGE-2022-0003

THAT Heritage Halton Hills recommends that Council proceed with a Notice of Intention to Designate the property at 70 Mill Street.

Heritage Attributes:

As described in the Research & Evaluation Report, the identified heritage attributes of the property at 70 Mill Street include:

- The setback, placement, and orientation of the 1935 building along Mill Street in the community of Georgetown;
- The scale, form, and massing of the two-storey stone Art Deco building with stone foundation;
- The flat roof with central clock tower at the primary elevation and parapet with decorative geometric sandstone detailing and motifs at the front elevation;
- The materials, including limestone, sandstone and copper detailing;
- Original wooden sash windows throughout, including sills, lintels, and surrounds;
- On the principal (south-east) elevation:

- Centrally-located entrance, accessed by a concrete porch, with fenestration spanning two-storeys and including three window openings beneath the clock tower;
- Symmetrically placed window openings on the first and second storeys;
- The clock tower, including copper and stone detailing;
- IBM clock face with Roman Numerals and electric clock;
- On the side and rear elevations:
 - Window openings at the first and second storeys;
- On the interior:
 - Southwest staircase with wood banister, metal balusters and brass newel cap;
 - Ceiling moulding and birch trim within the interior lobby; and,
 - Wooden double doors with stained-glass transoms at either end of the interior lobby.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This report aligns to the Town's Strategic plan recognizing the value to preserve, protect and promote our distinctive historical urban and rural character of Halton Hills through the conservation and promotion of our built heritage, cultural heritage landscapes and archaeological resources.

This report also identifies shaping growth as one of the Town's Strategic priorities.

RELATIONSHIP TO CLIMATE CHANGE:

This report is administrative in nature and does not directly impact or address climate change and the Town's Net Zero target.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

Public Engagement was not needed as this report is administrative in nature.

INTERNAL CONSULTATION:

Consultation between staff and Heritage Halton Hills led to the preparation of this report. Staff contacted the realtor for the property on January 5, 2022 to inquire about access to the building's interior and attended the site on January 7, 2022.

Staff will contact the current property owners to advise them of this report prior to Council's consideration of the cultural heritage value of the property.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

This report is administrative in nature and does not have any financial implications.

Reviewed and approved by,

Bronwyn Parker, Director of Planning Policy

John Linhardt, Commissioner of Planning and Development

Chris Mills, Chief Administrative Officer