

Research and Evaluation Report



(Town of Halton Hills 2022)

FORMER GEORGETOWN POST OFFICE AND CUSTOMS HOUSE

70 Mill Street, Georgetown, Town of Halton Hills

January 2022

Prepared by:

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70 Mill Street | PT LT 18, CON 9 ESQ, AS IN 685129

1.0 Property Description

Property Address	70 Mill Street
Municipality	Town of Halton Hills
County or Region	Regional Municipality of Halton
Legal Description	PT LT 18, CON 9 ESQ, AS IN 685129
Construction Date	c.1935
Original Use	Institutional - Government
Current Use	Multi-unit Residential
Architect/Building/Designer	J.E. Walker and J.G. Elliott (Architects); J.B Mackenzie & S.J. Mackenzie (Builders)
Architectural Style	Art Deco
Additions/Alterations	Interior alterations; Alterations to front entrance
Heritage Status	Listed on the Town's Heritage Register - 2007
Recorder(s)	Mark Rowe; Laura Loney; Tharushe Jayaveer
Report Date	January 2022

2.0 Background

This research and evaluation report describes the history, context, and physical characteristics of the property at 70 Mill Street in Georgetown, Town of Halton Hills, Ontario. The report includes an evaluation of the property's cultural heritage value as prescribed by the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

2.1 Historical Background

The property is located at 70 Mill Street in the community of Georgetown, Halton Hills. The property is situated along the northwest side of Mill Street and at the terminus of Park Avenue. The property is legally known as PT LT 18, CON 9 ESQ, AS IN 685129 (Figure 1) and will be referred to as the Post Office throughout this report.



Figure 1: 70 Mill Street outlined in black (2021 Aerial View)

Lot 18, Concession 9, Esquesing, which was designated as a mill seat, was granted by the Crown to John Moore in 1821 (Figure 2). In 1823, Moore sold the entire 200 acres to George Kennedy. Kennedy had also received a 100-acre grant (Lot 20) from the Crown for his service in the War of 1812, however he later sold it to his brother Morris and continued to subdivide and sell off lots.

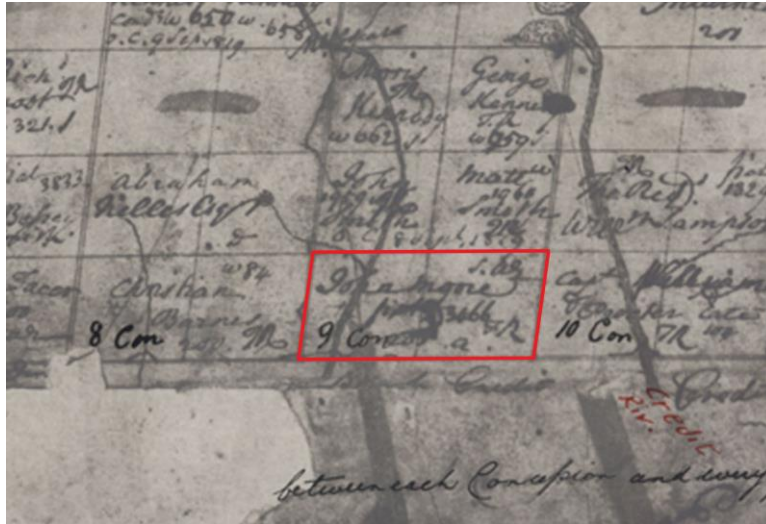


Figure 2: Excerpt from 1819 Patent Plan for Esqueving Township (Archives of Ontario RG 1-100-0-0-570)

In 1837, after struggling to build a milling business in what became known as “Hungry Hollow”, Kennedy sold the operations to the business-minded Barber family, who had trained in Crook’s Hollow in Ancaster, in 1837. After relocating to Hungry Hollow, the Barbers constructed a mill and metal foundry, leading to the continued growth of the community. Figure 3 shows the property across from the Flour Mill, and the 1877 Halton County Atlas shows the property within its larger context towards the end of the nineteenth century (Figure 4).

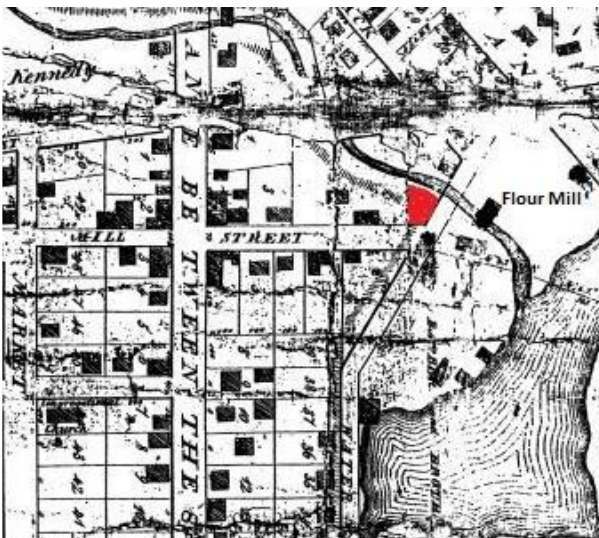


Figure 3: 1854 Map showing the subject property identified in red

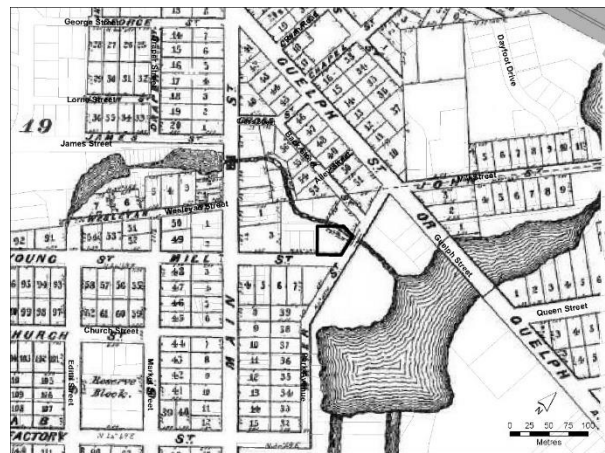


Figure 4: Excerpt from the 1877 Halton County Atlas

This subject property within Lot 18 remained vacant, however may have been used as a marshalling yard during the fall milling season for the flour mill along the creek. The 1922 Fire Insurance Map of Georgetown shows the lot to the west of Main Street (Figure 5), and an aerial photograph from the 1920s shows the vacant site (Figure 5).

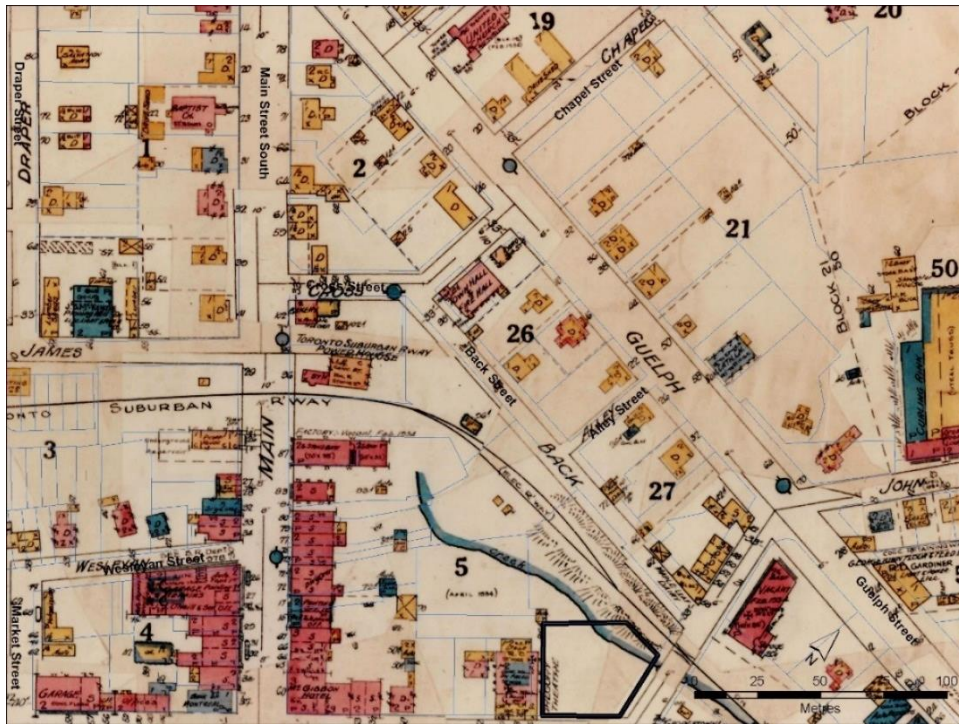


Figure 5: 1922 (1934) Fire Insurance Map of Georgetown



Figure 6: Subject property identified with a star, c.1920s. The Radial Railway trestle crossing where Kennedy's mill once stood and Guelph Street (#7), which parallels the railway in the foreground, are shown (EHS11292)

Post Office

In 1851, following an 1844 petition to the Governor, Georgetown was granted its first post office. The first postmaster was John Sumpter who ran the service as part of his store. Sumpter remained postmaster until 1859 and was succeeded by Conrad Vandusen (1859-1862), Arthur Burnside (1862-1865), Francis Barclay (1865-1871), Lafayette Goodenow (1871-1894), H. B. Henderson (1894-1903), and William McLeod (1903-1913). Following McLeod, John McDermid served as postmaster between 1913-1939 and opened the new Dominion building during his tenure.

The Canadian Post Office Department was established in 1867. An effort to build dedicated facilities soon began in large centres and trickled down to smaller centres over time. In 1912, Acton was selected for a new post office, which was constructed in 1913. In Georgetown, town officials were promised a similar building, however the declaration of WWI in 1914 diverted federal funds going forward. Additionally, the Parliament buildings in Ottawa were destroyed by fire in 1916, resulting in the redistribution of funds for reconstruction following the war, in addition to the construction of the Vimy Memorial in France.

The Great Depression in 1929 and resulting economic devastation prompted the Canadian government to begin extensive public works programs to boost the economy. The Town of Georgetown's Council saw this move as an opportunity, and on Tuesday 6th February 1934 passed the following resolution:

Moved by C.J. Cummings, seconded by J.M. Buck – 'Whereas it appears that the Government of Canada during the present year are going to expend large sums of money on Public Works throughout the Dominion;

And whereas although the citizens of Georgetown, in common with the people of the rest of the Dominion have contributed their share of public works expenditures through taxation or otherwise, yet no public money has been spent by any Government of Canada during the last decade in Georgetown;

And whereas the Town of Georgetown is urgently in need of a Post Office and Customs House and the time is most opportune for the building of the same, both as a means of helping to relieve unemployment and to give the Municipality proper Postal and Customs facilities in keeping with the other urban municipalities of the County of Halton who have had modern post offices and customs houses for years;

Be it resolved by the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Town of Georgetown:

(1) That the Government of Canada be requested to build a Post Office and Customs House in the Town of Georgetown during the year 1934 and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable H.A. Stewart, Minister of Public Works, to the Honourable Mr. Sauve, Post Master General and to Dr. Anderson, M.P., our representative for Halton in the Federal Parliament (Georgetown Herald 07 02 1934).

An editorial in The Georgetown Herald supported the move and urged the government to fulfil its promise of twenty years earlier (Figure 7). Additionally, Council had purchased a vacant piece of land at the time of the original promise prior to WWI, which was offered to the Federal government.



Figure 7: Excerpt from the Georgetown Herald (28 Feb 1934)

The property committee of Council (Councillors Speight, Cleave and Fleck) was authorized to work directly with the government on the project. In response to the local economic realities during the Great Depression, at the committee meeting in March 1935 Councillor Arthur Speight moved "...that the Government of Canada be required to specify that the excavation in connection with this building be done in such a way as to provide work for local unemployed men and not by the steam shovel process" (Georgetown Herald 1935 03 06).

The call for tenders for the project was printed in The Georgetown Herald on 13 March 1935. Following the March 26 deadline for proposals, the paper congratulated J. B. Mackenzie & Son of Georgetown for acquiring the contract in their 24 April 1935 edition. The partnership consisted of two generations of builders, John B. Mackenzie and Samuel J. Mackenzie (Figure 8). John Boyd Mackenzie (1876-1947) was born in Esquesing Township and attended Dublin School. He was trained in carpentry and opened his first shop in Acton. His interest in contracting led him to become a dealer in lumber, and the growth of his businesses resulted in him establishing a planing mill in Acton in 1900. In 1909, Mackenzie bought contractor H. P. Lawson's planing mill (8 James Street) in Georgetown and later moved with his family to Georgetown after building "The Birches" at 75 Mill Street in 1915. Alongside running the two mills, J.B Mackenzie was actively conducting his contracting business. He took contracts for various sizes and types of buildings. Mackenzie also built the Roxy Cinemas on Mill Street in both Acton and Georgetown, as well as the Coated Paper Mill beside the CNR tracks. Additionally, he remodeled the Willoughby Stables into what is now the Georgetown Royal Canadian Legion, and is responsible for dozens of homes in Halton Hills. Mackenzie served on Georgetown Council and was Mayor from 1930-34 and then Chief Magistrate.

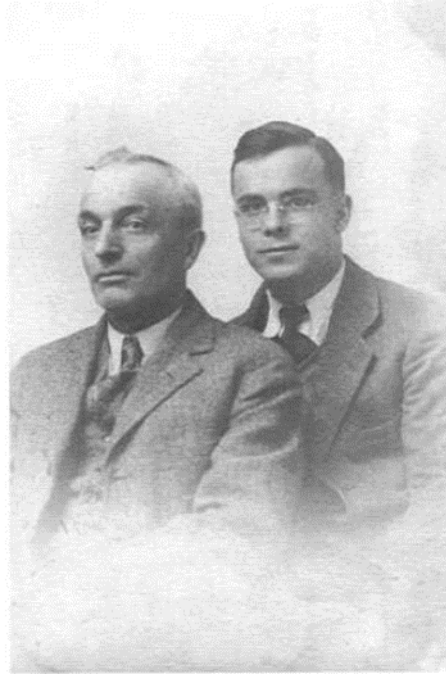


Figure 8: John B. Mackenzie (left) and Samuel J. Mackenzie (right) pause for portrait. EHS p8541

Work on the Post Office was to commence on May 1, 1935. The Georgetown Herald revealed that the limestone and sandstone structure would include a clock tower and be designed by J. E. Walker and J.G. Elliott, prominent Toronto architects. John Edmund Walker (1874-1963) was born in Caledonia, Ontario and attended Hamilton Art School. At the start of his career, Walker worked as an apprentice for leading Hamilton architect Charles Mills between 1894 and 1895. He moved to New York City (NYC) in 1895 to expand on his education and training. He worked alongside Arnold Brunner for a year. Brunner was recognized as a talented architect and city planner for NYC. Between 1897 and 1908 Walker worked as a draftsman for Wilson Potter. They operated as a partnership in New York from 1909 to 1913. During his time in NYC, he joined evening classes over a four-year period organized by the New York Society of Beaux-Arts Architects which was led by recognized Beaux-Arts masters Henry Hornbostel and E.L. Masqueray. In 1914, the Mayor of Welland, John Goodwin included Walker in a list of architects who he had asked to submit sketches for a potential library. Between the years of 1915 and 1920 Walker worked for various architects in Toledo and Columbus, Ohio, as well as Massachusetts.

Walker returned to Canada in 1922 and formed the partnership of Walker & Gibson with John M. Gibson in 1923. This partnership designed the Caledonia High School and the Office for Hunt's Bakery Ltd. The partnership between Gibson and Walker dissolved in 1930. Walker then operated his own practice for five years before joining John G. Elliott to form the office of Walker & Elliot in 1935. The Dictionary of Architects in Canada wrote, "They collaborated on the design of the Post Office & Customs House, GEORGETOWN, ONT., 1935-36, a restrained and muted interpretation of Art Deco adapted for a civic landmark." From 1950 and onwards Walker practiced in Toronto and was briefly employed with Mathers & Haldenby. Walker died in Toronto on 21 February 1963.

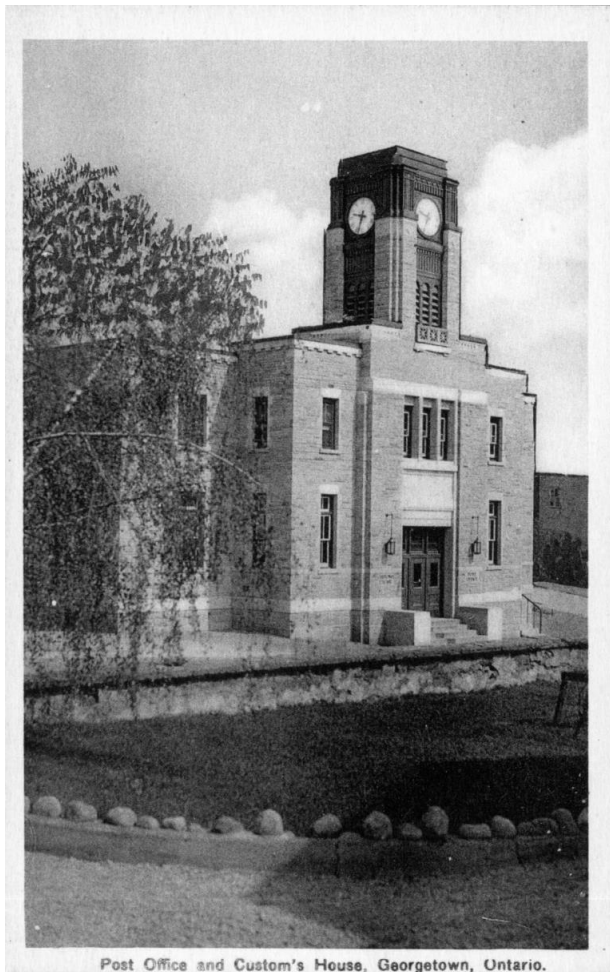


Figure 9: Post Office as viewed from J.B. Mackenzie home c.1939 (EHS26077)



Figure 10: Postcard with the clock tower c.1939 (EHS26078)

Although it is not clear how the foundations were excavated, the 21 August 1935 edition of The Georgetown Herald assured the reading public: "The exterior of the new post office is nearing completion. It is a fine building well-constructed and a credit to our local contractors, J.B. Mackenzie & Sons."

The new Georgetown Post Office and Customs House was officially opened on 1 February 1936 (Figure 11). The post office, described as the 'most up-to-date building in the county', was opened on Saturday 1 February 1936 by former Halton Member of Parliament Dr. Robert King Anderson). Dr. Anderson revealed the building cost at \$42,000 and how it was best to build for future expansion (this building became too small in the 1960s). Most importantly, he pointed out all raw materials had come from Halton County. "The stone came from Glen Williams, the bricks and lime from Milton and all other materials used in the construction are of Canadian manufacture." He concluded by pointing out that the mail now leaves this building in the name of His Majesty King Edward VIII, as King George V had died on 20 January (Georgetown Herald 1936 02 05).

At the opening, then Mayor Joseph Gibbons emphasized the number of years it had taken from the purchase of the land to approval of the project. He noted that former Mayor Leroy Dale lobbied for the

new facility and then that Mayor J.B. Mackenzie had renewed the matter with the government until the project was approved.

The 5 February 1936 edition of the Georgetown Herald provided a description of the Post Office.

"Besides the large vestibule and commodious Post Office department which occupies the ground floor, it contains Customs Offices and an apartment for the caretaker, also a large assembly room on the second floor. The interior trim and floors are of birch". The sub-contractors for the project were also listed, including Diasher Steel Co., Toronto; George Adams (stonework); R.H. Thompson & Co. (plumbing and heating); G.R. Muckart (wiring, roofing and copper work); George Hannaford & Son, Hamilton (plasterwork), Kent Tile & Marble Co., Hamilton; Olmstead & Parker, Hamilton (ornamental iron work) and George Ford (painter).

Georgetown \$40,000 Post Office Officially Opened on Saturday

Georgetown's new \$40,000 Post Office was officially opened by Dr. R. K. Anderson, of Milton, for a score of years representative of Halton County in the Federal House, on Saturday afternoon, in the presence of some 200 Georgetown residents, to whom the building was thrown open for inspection during the afternoon.

Built by J. B. Mackenzie & Son, Georgetown, the building is one of the most up-to-date in Central Ontario, and said the most handsome structure in Halton County. Construction was carried out in Credit Valley limestone, and nearly all of the raw materials of the

building were produced in Halton County.

Other speakers at the opening ceremony were Hughes Cleaver, M.P., T. A. Blakelock, M.P.P., L. E. Meek, LeRoy Dale, K.C., and J. B. Mackenzie. Mayor Joseph Gibbons was Chairman. Lorne Rifkin Band assisted in the service.

Post Office, Customs and Excise Offices were thrown open for complete inspection, following the series of addresses. The first stamp to be sold in the building was handed to Mayor Gibbons by Postmaster John McDermid, who moved his staff into the new building on Monday morning.

Figure 11: The new Georgetown Post Office was officially opened on February 1, 1936 (Acton Free Press, 6 February 1936)

Georgetown was justifiably proud of their new Federal building. Local jeweler Cecil McNamara was called to attend to the electric IBM clock in the tower when needed. However, following the Baby Boom in the 1950s, the Post Office became too small to serve the population of Georgetown. A new warehouse-style post office opened in 1963 at 112 Guelph Street and continues to serve the town.



Figure 12: 1960 Fire Insurance Map of Georgetown



Figure 13: New Post Office in Georgetown, c. 1963 (EHS06733)

After moving to the new facility, the Federal government offered 70 Mill Street to the Town of Georgetown, who purchased the property for \$15,000. It was seen by many as a chance for the Town to move their offices from the expanded pumphouse (36 Main Street South, however due to budget constraints the Town sold the building to private interests in 1964 for \$16,000).



Figure 14: 1965 Aerial Photograph, showing the subject property outlined in black

The Post Office has been the backdrop for several made-in-Georgetown movies (Figure 15). It served as the headquarters of the Hampshire Constabulary in the 1976 movie *Equus*, starring Richard Burton, Peter Firth and Colin Blakely. The Madison County Sherriff's office was here in the 1979 filming of *Never Trust an Honest Thief*, released in 1986 as *Hot Money*, starring Orson Welles, Michael Murphy and Michele Finney. A third example was the 1989 movie *The Reckoning* starring Michael Beck, Catherine Colvey and Maurice Dean Wint (released in 1996 as *Final Judgement*). Additionally, the television series *Slings and Arrows* was filmed in Georgetown between 2003 and 2006 and the Post Office was featured in many episodes.



Figure 15: Movies featuring the former Post Office (l to r): *Equus* (EHS25307); *Never Trust An Honest Thief* (EHS19188 & EHS19186); *The Reckoning* (EHS25416)

The Post Office has also served as an apartment building since its sale in 1964. Available land records show the sale of the property from Halex Holdings Ltd. in 1984 to The Canadian Training and Development Group Inc. (CTDC). In 1987, The Canadian Training and Development Group Inc. sold the

property to Robert Latrelle investments Inc., who sold it the following year to 442763 Ontario Limited. In 2001, the property was sold to its current owners, the Euteneier family.

2.3 Property & Architectural Description

The property at 70 Mill Street is located in the community of Georgetown in the Town of Halton Hills and includes one structure. The c.1935 Post Office building is a two-storey, flat-roofed stone structure with elevated clock-tower and block foundation, located on a bend in Mill Street with the Park Avenue intersection across the road and built into the hill rising to the west (Figure 16 and Figure 17). An asphalt parking lot is located to the rear of the existing building, with an alley along the southwest side.



Figure 16: Looking north towards 70 Mill Street (Town of Halton Hills 2022)



Figure 17: Looking northwest towards 70 Mill Street (Town of Halton Hills 2022)

The Post Office building was designed in the Art Deco style which was popularized in France after WWI. While earlier examples of Art Deco buildings are quite elaborate, as with many Art Deco buildings following the Great Depression, the Post Office building is a slightly more restrained interpretation of the style using more affordable materials. In *Ontario Architecture* (1990), author John Blumenson describes the Post Office Building, stating that “The stepped-back configuration emphasized with flat roofs, straight apertures, lack of enrichments and the octagonal lanterns are characteristic of Art Deco, but the rock-faced stone and the multi-paned wood sash windows are appropriate to the Colonial and Chateau styles.”

The building is composed primarily of a light-coloured limestone quarried nearby at Glen Williams, with Credit Valley sandstone detailing. This gives the building a light tan colour, which contrasts with the oxidized copper exterior hanging lamps (not original) and the louvred venting on the clock tower. Application of the “Rule of Three” (the principle that things arranged in odd numbers is more interesting and visually appealing) is evident in the building’s design. The building is comprised of three masses of slightly declining height, each topped with dentils surrounding a flat roof.

The primary elevation along Mill Street is symmetrical and divided into five bays, with the entrance consisting of three distinct portions centrally located beneath the clock tower (Figure 18). The lowest portion of the entrance includes the original entry that once contained three wooden doors with three square transoms above. The original doors have been removed and replaced by a double aluminum frame glass doors with a large rectangular glass transom within a painted gray surround.



Figure 18: Southeast elevation (Town of Halton Hills 2022)



Figure 19: Southwest corner of 70 Mill Street (Town of Halton Hills 2021)

Above the doorway is a large sandstone spandrel comprised of four sections. The door header has equally-spaced vertical channels and is topped with a header of equal size with the vertical channels widely spaced. Three large sandstone blocks sit on top of the two headers with a recessed plain entablature of two rows of sandstone blocks. The recessed entablature is framed by a row of dentils.

The entrance is topped by recessed triple windows, designed to reflect the original triple doors below. Large sandstone blocks frame each sash two-pane window with a sandstone header with identical geometric designs of half diamonds. The entire diamond shape can be seen in the sandstone band at the level of the clock face on the tower. The top of the entrance reveal lines up with a third sandstone band which only spans the three sides of the tower.

A wide stone band wraps the building at the ground floor level. A second, narrower band parallels the lower band at the height of the lintels of the ground floor windows. A vertical band of sandstone frames the recessed central entrance.

The second block of the façade has matching narrow windows on either side. The ground floor sash two pane wooden windows remain and feature square double pane transoms. The second-floor windows do not have transoms and have been covered by aluminum storm windows. There are corresponding windows on each side of the second block.

The third block of the building again has one window on each side of the façade with a matching window opening on the second floor. The ground floor windows are sash triple pane windows with a square triple pane transom. The upper windows do not have transoms but also are sash triple pane windows. Again, the sides of the block have corresponding windows.

The second block extends past the third block at the rear of the building on the southwest end, at which is located a door with a narrow window centred between the door and the roof. The rear elevation features five windows on each floor. The first is a narrow window. The second and third are matching narrow sash, two-pane windows of full height, including a two-pane transom on the ground floor pair. The fourth and fifth are wider windows with triple-pane transoms on the ground floor.



Figure 20: Rear elevation, showing original window openings and rear entrance, with modified opening on south end of rear elevation (Town of Halton Hills 2022)



Figure 21: Northeast elevation of 70 Mill Street (Town of Halton Hills 2021)

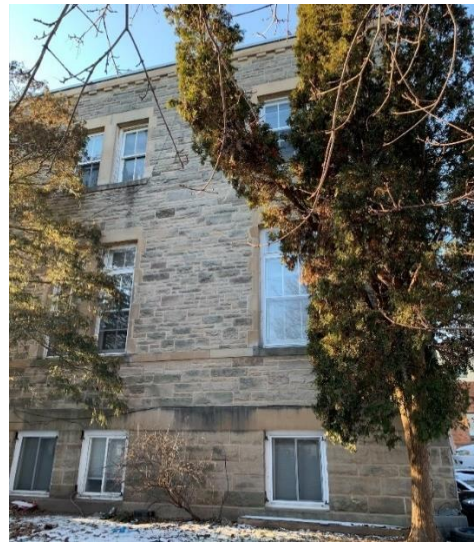


Figure 22: Northeast elevation detail of 70 Mill Street (Town of Halton Hills 2021)

Clock Tower

The central tower of the building has the Art Deco clock tower on top (Figure 23), flanked by stone blocks with carved dentils and a geometric patterned corner stone. Directly below the tower belfry are three square sandstone blocks punctured by a sunburst geometric design.

The clock tower consists of four corner piers of stone topped by a large stone block carved with a diamond within a diamond supported by two carved channels. The piers support a belfry with a central recessed copper (green) section with three arched louvered openings. This is topped by an entablature of spaced vertical channels, topped by dentils and a final plain horizontal block upon which sits the clock. An access door is inset at the back of the tower. The square clock plate has a geometric design surrounding the round white clock face. The IBM clock is apparently the only existing IBM clock face with Roman numerals (Boileau). A copper topping of classical Doric triglyphs with a flat cornice topping sits on the stone piers. The flat top is extending over the square clock plate with a row of dentils and a final row of the half diamond pattern.

Although the clock tower once featured an Art Deco lamp on either side of the doorway, these have been replaced with two simple square light fixtures.



Figure 23: Southeast elevation of Clock Tower (Town of Halton Hills 2021)

Interior

Although the Post Office building was converted to a multi-residential apartment building in the 1960s, many original, character-defining features are still extant within the building.

The interior lobby space mirrors the symmetry of the front elevation, with flights of stairs on either side of the entrance accessing the hallways on either side of the building (Figure 24 and Figure 25). Although the original wooden entry doors have been replaced with aluminum, the birch trim around the entrance on the interior and birch trim around the existing windows remains. Directly across from the entrance is a window divided into three panes with wooden mullions, which currently looks into an interior unit (Figure 24 and Figure 25). Wooden double doors with stained glass transom windows are located on either end of the first-floor lobby (Figure 27). Detailed moulding can be found across the ceiling in the lobby, with intricate trim below in a “Greek key” pattern (Figure 26).

The southwest staircase providing access to the second floor features a wood banister, metal balusters and brass newel cap (Figure 28). Original wooden doors to individual units are extant throughout the building (Figure 29). At the northwest corner, the rear staircase with metal handrails and balusters extends to the upper units at the north end (Figure 30 and Figure 31).



Figure 24: Interior entrance, looking southwest (Town of Halton Hills 2022)

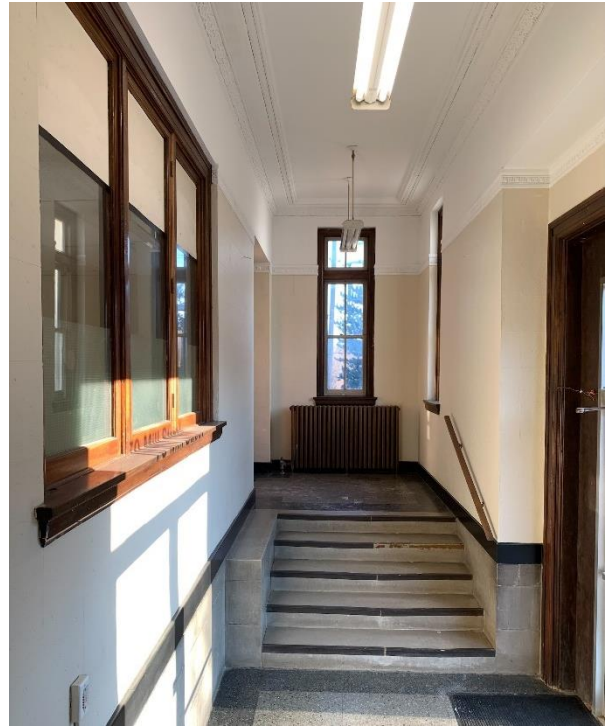


Figure 25: Interior entrance, looking northeast, showing centrally-placed interior window (Town of Halton Hills 2022)



Figure 26: Detail of lobby ceiling, showing detailed moulding along the ceiling and trim in a Greek key pattern below (Town of Halton Hills 2022)

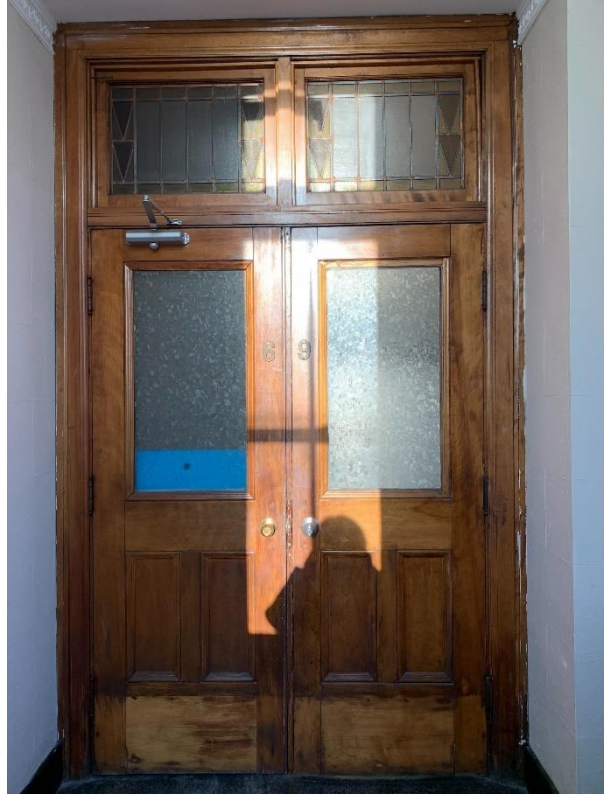


Figure 27: Looking towards the northeast double doors (birch) with stained glass transoms off the lobby (Town of Halton Hills 2022)



Figure 28: Detail of newel post in stairway (Town of Halton Hills 2022)



Figure 29: Example of interior birch door on second floor (Town of Halton Hills 2022)



Figure 30: Looking towards the rear entrance on the first floor (Town of Halton Hills 2022)

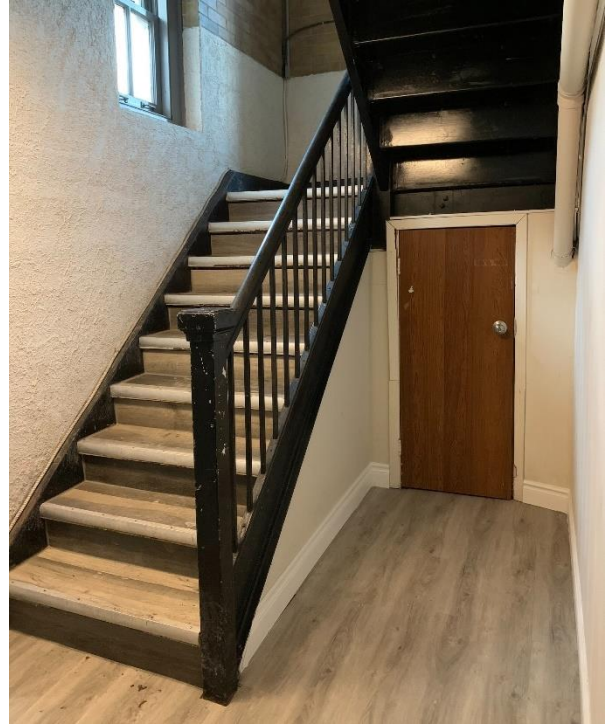


Figure 31: Looking towards the rear staircase at the northwest corner of the first floor (Town of Halton Hills 2022)

Art Deco in Ontario

The Art Deco style emerged in the early twentieth century, gaining popularity during the 1920s and 1930s. Art Deco broke from past architectural traditions after WWI and is described by Shannon Kyles on the *Ontario Architecture* website as a “self-conscious split from the past”, celebrating modern technology and innovation”. The style includes references to design motifs from Ancient Egypt, Africa, Turkey, and Japan in architecture as well as the visual arts and design. Typical characteristics of the style include symmetry, vertical emphasis, repeated geometric patterns and motifs, stepped facade, and excellent craftsmanship, and, according to the Ontario Heritage Trust, the style generally incorporates angular geometric forms, diagonal patterns, box-like massing, stone wall surfaces, and modern metal alloys.

Art Deco Civic Buildings in Ontario

The Post Office at 70 Mill Street is the only known example of Art Deco civic architecture within the Town of Halton Hills, and is the only building identified as Art Deco on the Town’s Heritage Register.

There are several public buildings constructed in the Art Deco style during the 1920s and 1930s in Southern Ontario of varying scales and interpretations, generally reflecting the more subdued post-Depression implementation of the style (Figure 32 through Figure 35). However, the scale and unique design of the Post Office Building are rare and stand out amongst identified examples of the style in Ontario.



Figure 32: Millbrook Post Office 1935
(<https://www.ptbocanada.com/journal/2018/3/13/look-at-these-vintage-millbrook-pictures>)



Figure 33: Public Utilities Commission Building in Kitchener, built c.1931 (<https://www.historicplaces.ca/en/rep-reg/place-lieu.aspx?id=15474> 2007)



Figure 34: Postal Station K Toronto 1981
(<https://digitalarchive.tpl.ca/objects/358644/postal-station-k-yonge-street-west-side-between-helendale>)



Figure 35: Former Police Station #12 in Toronto, built c.1932 (ACO TO Built)

3.0 Description of Heritage Attributes and Evaluation Checklist

The following evaluation checklist applies to Ontario Regulation 9/06 made under the *Ontario Heritage Act*: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. The criteria are prescribed for municipal designation of Heritage Properties under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The evaluation tables utilize an 'X' to signify applicable criteria and 'N/A' to signify criteria that is not applicable for this property.

Design or Physical Value	x
Is rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material, or construction method	x
Displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit	x
Demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement	N/A

The property at 70 Mill Street has physical and design value as an excellent example of Art Deco civic architecture within the Town of Halton Hills, including features characteristic of Art Deco architecture in Ontario, including symmetry, vertical emphasis, repeated geometric patterns and motifs, stepped facade, and excellent craftsmanship. The building also highlights the execution of the design with local labour and materials, using materials found within Halton Region including local limestone and sandstone. The building is a rare example of an Art Deco post office of this scale in Ontario.

Celebrating the supremacy of hydro-electricity, the clock tower atop the building is representative of the era, incorporating the latest in electrical public clocks while incorporating simplified gothic roman numerals and hands.

The building may represent the finest work of local contractor J. B. Mackenzie and is comprised primarily of local limestone and sandstone from the Credit Valley quarries. It was built by local labour and employed a number of area craftsmen.

Historical or Associative Value	
Has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization, or institution that is significant to a community	x
Yields, or has potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture	N/A
Demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer, or theorist who is significant to a community	x

The property at 70 Mill Street has historical and associative value due to its association with prominent Canadian architects J.E. Walker and J.G. Elliott, as well as local contractor J. B. Mackenzie.

The property also is associated with the long struggle of the citizens of Georgetown to gain a federal building and the growing importance of the town to the economy of Ontario and Canada upon its construction. The Post Office was a central hub of the community, acknowledged in the original inclusion of an assembly space within the public building.

The Post Office is also one of very few public buildings in the area opened during the short reign of King Edward VIII.

Contextual Value	
Is important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of an area	x
Is physically, functionally, visually, or historically linked to its surroundings	x
Is a landmark	x

The property at 70 Mill Street has contextual value as a landmark within Georgetown's historic downtown, defining the lower end of the central business district at the intersection of Mill Street and Park Avenue and supporting the historic character of the area. The Post Office is physically and historically linked to its surroundings and speaks of the former importance of this building to the history of Georgetown.

4.0 Summary

Following research and evaluation according to Ontario Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the property at 70 Mill Street has physical and design, historical and associative, and contextual value and therefore meets Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest.

The heritage attributes of the property at 70 Mill Street are identified as follows:

- 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.

5.0 Sources

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