



REPORT

TO: Mayor Lawlor and Members of Council

FROM: Laura Loney, Senior Heritage Planner

DATE: April 20, 2023

REPORT NO.: PD-2023-033

SUBJECT: Intention to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act – 1 Park Avenue

RECOMMENDATION:

That Report No. PD-2023-033, dated April 20, 2023, titled “Intention to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act – 1 Park Avenue” be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council state its intention to designate the property at 1 Park Avenue, the Old Armoury, legally described as “PT LT 18, CON 8 ESQ, PT 1, 20R12058, TOWN OF HALTON HILLS” 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 the subject property 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 1 Park Avenue (Georgetown) be brought forward to Council for adoption.

KEY POINTS:

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

- The property at 1 Park Avenue (Georgetown) meets Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act (OHA)*; and,
- Staff are recommending that Council state its intention to designate the property.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

The subject property is located at 1 Park Avenue, Georgetown, and contains a rectangular, timber-frame two-storey structure with gable roof known as the Old Armoury. Staff, together with Heritage Halton Hills Committee member Mark Rowe, assisted former Cultural Heritage Assistant (Summer 2022) Dawn Chan in the preparation of a Research & Evaluation report for the Old Armoury, following consultation with representatives from Georgetown Globe Productions as well as Recreation & Parks staff.

Heritage Halton Hills reviewed the final Research & Evaluation Report (Appendix A) for the property at its meeting of June 15, 2022, and the following motion was carried:

Recommendation No. HERITAGE-2022-0024

THAT Heritage Halton Hills recommend that Council designate the property at 1 Park Avenue under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* in accordance with the Research and Evaluation Report for the property as presented by staff, with minor edits, including the inclusion of the existing window openings on the building as heritage attributes.

The Old Armoury is a rare surviving example of an early drill shed built in the 1860s in Ontario, and a direct example of the Canadian response to the Fenian Raids that occurred in 1866. The property is associated with Georgetown's military history and the Lorne Scots, and is a landmark within the community. The site's surroundings and plaques further interpret the history within the surrounding public realm.

The heritage attributes of the property at 1 Park Avenue are identified as follows:

- The setback, placement, and orientation of the 19th century drill shed within the Georgetown Fairgrounds;
- The scale, form, and massing of the rectangular, gable-roofed structure;
- On the interior, the large, open space, exposed wooden trusses and original barn-board siding and roof, reflecting its original use and military function;
- On the exterior, the wooden board-and-batten cladding; and,
- Adjacent to the drill shed, the stone memorial and plaques commemorating the military history of the building.

Based on the identified cultural heritage value of the property, and as the property meets criteria for designation per Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria, staff are recommending that Council designate the property under Part IV of the *OHA*. While the requirements for owner notification per the *OHA* do not apply as the Town owns the subject property, staff will ensure notice is given to both the public and the Ontario Heritage Trust in accordance with the *OHA*.

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 the Heritage Halton Hills committee, Recreation & Parks staff, and Globe Productions led to the preparation of this report.

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 & Development

Chris Mills, Chief Administrative Officer