



BY-LAW NO. 2023-0057

A By-law to designate the Old Armoury, located at 1 Park Avenue, Halton Hills under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18 authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact a by-law to designate real property, including all of the buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS authority was granted by the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills to designate the property at 1 Park Avenue, Town of Halton Hills, Regional Municipality of Halton, and known as the Old Armoury as being of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills has caused to be served upon the owners of the land and premises known as the Old Armoury at 1 Park Avenue, and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, Notice of Intention to Designate the property and has caused Notice of Intention to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the Municipality as required by the Ontario Heritage Act;

AND WHEREAS the Reasons for Designation are set out in Schedule "B" of this by-law;

AND WHEREAS on May 29, 2023, Council for the Town of Halton Hills approved Report No. PD-2023-033, dated April 20, 2023, in which certain recommendations were made relating to the designation of the subject property;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. THAT the Old Armoury located at 1 Park Avenue, and further described in Schedule "A", is hereby designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as being of cultural heritage value or interest for the reasons set out in Schedule "B" attached to and forming part of this By-law;
2. THAT a copy of this By-law together with reasons for the designation be registered against the property and served in accordance with Section 29 of the Act;
3. THAT a notice of this By-law be published in accordance with Section 29 of the Act.

BY-LAW read and passed by the Council for the Town of Halton Hills this 19th day of June, 2023.

MAYOR – ANN LAWLOR

TOWN CLERK – VALERIE PETRYNIAK

SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW NO. 2023-0057

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

PIN: 250320175

PT LT 18, CON 8 ESQ, PT 1, 20R12058. TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

SCHEDULE “B” TO BY-LAW NO. 2023-0057

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

Description of Property

The Old Armoury is located at 1 Park Avenue in the Town of Halton Hills. The property contains a nineteenth century drill shed, stone memorial and commemorative plaques.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The property at 1 Park Avenue is a rare surviving example of an early drill shed built in the 1860s in Ontario. Very few examples of drill sheds built during this time remain in the area as most were demolished in the latter half of the 20th century, including the Hornby Drill Shed in 2005 and the Norval Drill Shed. The only remaining mid-nineteenth century drill sheds known to be extant in Ontario include the Elora Drill Hall located in Wellington County, the Aurora Drill Shed in Aurora County, and the Acton Drill Shed in Halton County. Drill sheds of the time period were simple and utilitarian in design, making them quick and easy to build. The large spacious interior made them ideal for drilling practices and basic rifle training and were also an engineering feat of the time period, designed by railway engineer Walter Moberly. Key features of drill sheds built in the mid-19th century included reinforced truss systems and timber framed structure, all of which are reflected in the Georgetown Armoury’s architectural design.

The property at 1 Park Avenue is a direct example of the Canadian response to the Fenian Raids that occurred in 1866. The drill sheds of the time period are a representative example of an early form of this type of building in Ontario and served primarily as training facilities for volunteer regiments in Upper Canada. The Georgetown Armoury is also connected to the Georgetown’s military history and the Lorne Scots. This local battalion served in the 4th Battalion in WWI and various battalions in WWII, taking part in important battles such as the Sicilian Invasion in 1943. The Lorne Scots retains an active presence in the community to this day. The Old Armoury is also still connected to the Battalion, as demonstrated with the plaques located on property. Members of the battalion and Georgetown’s community still remember the Old Armoury’s use as a site for military parades and multiple community events in the 20th and 21st century.

The Old Armoury at 1 Park Avenue is considered a historical landmark of Georgetown and the Fairgrounds due to the structure’s location at the edge of the property. The relocation of the building to the Fairgrounds from the Market Square directly correlated with the community’s growing population; as the population of Georgetown began to grow, so did the number of recruits into the Halton Rifles. As a result, more space was required to train the volunteer regiment. The site’s surroundings and two memorial plaques pay homage to the Armoury’s military history whilst acknowledging the site’s use as a space for public events that brought the community together. Globe Productions continues to provide this space by holding fundraising events to help support their theatre productions and maintaining the Armoury building. The town’s use of the drill shed and the grounds as space for events helped to reinforce the connection that Georgetown’s residents have with the building and its surroundings.

Heritage Attributes

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 1 Park Avenue that contribute to its physical and design value and historical and associative value include:

- 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.

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 1 Park Avenue that contribute to its contextual value include:

- 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;