

## REPORT

**REPORT TO:** Chair and Members of the Planning, Public Works and Transportation Committee

**REPORT FROM:** Anne Fisher, Heritage Planner

**DATE:** April 27, 2018

**REPORT NO.:** PLS-2018-0036

**RE:** Intent to Designate the Glen Williams Schoolhouse at 15 Prince Street, Glen Williams

### RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. PLS-2018-0036 dated April 27, 2018 and titled "Intent to Designate the Glen Williams Schoolhouse at 15 Prince Street Glen Williams under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act", be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council indicate its intention to designate the property at 15 Prince Street, Glen Williams (Plan 56 Part lot 68; RP 20R11535 Part 5, Glen Williams, Town of Halton Hills, Regional Municipality of Halton); and known as the Glen Williams Schoolhouse, under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act;

AND FURTHER THAT Clerks staff 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 Glen Williams Schoolhouse be brought forward to Council for adoption.

### BACKGROUND:

The owners of the property at 15 Prince Street, Glen Williams have requested that this property be designated under the provisions of Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. This property is situated on the south side of Prince Street at the eastern side of its intersection with Princess Lane (see Location Plan in Schedule One to this report). It contains the old Glen Williams Schoolhouse (SS# 11) that was built in 1873 and is now used as a house. The property is a landscape of heritage resources comprised of the old schoolhouse building, encircled with numerous trees. It is surrounded by properties containing single detached houses set in mature landscaped grounds.

Glen Williams Schoolhouse is the third school building to have been built in the village of Glen Williams and it is the first to be constructed in brick. It was used for school purposes from 1873 until 1949 before being converted into a house. This property meets the requirements for heritage designation as set out in the *Ontario Regulation 9/06* in that it:

- Has design and physical value as a rare and early example of the conversion of a large brick schoolhouse into a two-storey house;
- Has historic and associative value as one of two nineteenth century old schoolhouses that remain in the village of Glen Williams; and
- Has contextual value as being physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to the development of the village of Glen Williams and as it is associated with the theme of the school system created by the early residents of this part of Halton Hills. It also is a heritage resource that helps to define, maintain and support the character of Glen Williams.

Heritage Halton Hills prepared a Designation Report (attached as Schedule 2 of this report) which was considered at their meeting on February 21, 2018. At this meeting Heritage Halton Hills passed a resolution supporting the owners' request for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Staff consider the Glen Williams Schoolhouse to be a cultural heritage resource that complies with the provisions of *Ontario Regulation 9/06*. As such it is recommended that this property be designated under the provisions of Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

## **COMMENTS:**

The, Glen Williams Schoolhouse (SS#11) is the third school building to have been built in the village of Glen Williams and was the first to be constructed in brick. It was originally a large single storey 5-bay brick schoolhouse with chimneys at both ends and a projecting central gabled entrance porch. A prominent cupola that contained the school bell existed on the front of the roof situated just behind the projecting front gable. The schoolhouse displayed characteristics of the Gothic Revival style of architecture.

In 1949 the eastern end of the school collapsed during a building project to expand the school building. As a consequence a new school was built elsewhere in the village and the old brick schoolhouse was renovated and converted into a house. The renovations included adding a new internal floor to make the building two storeys in height with a loft above. The long windows were removed to allow for the insertion of new upper floor and lower floor windows. The original stone window sills were reused and the original buff coloured brick voussoirs were reused to create voussoirs for the new house. Most of the Gothic inspired features of the original schoolhouse were removed when the building was converted into residential use; however the location and shape of the original window and door openings can still be seen in the brickwork facades. In addition many of the bricks retain scratch marks that form graffiti made by the pupils. These features

reflect the evolution of the building since its construction in 1873 and reflect its identity and heritage value as a former schoolhouse building. The Glen Williams Schoolhouse (SS#11) is of design and physical value as a rare and early example the conversion of a large brick schoolhouse into a two storey house.

The old brick Glen Williams Schoolhouse has historical or associative value as one of two nineteenth century old school houses that remain in the village.

The property is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to the development of the village of Glen Williams and the school house is associated with the theme of the school system created by the early residents to this part of Halton Hills. This landscape of heritage resources helps to define, maintain and support the character of the Glen Williams.

Key attributes of the Old Brick Glen Williams SS#11 that reflect its design and physical value to the village of Glen Williams and the wider community of Halton Hills include its:

- Rectangular form with projecting two-storey front gable wing containing the front entrance and a single storey rear wing.
- Pitched roof;
- Three-bay front façade;
- Red brick laid in stretcher bond on the front, rear and side gable end walls on both sides of the house and laid in common bond on single-storey rear projecting wing.
- A water table comprising two projecting brick courses above the foundations of the original school building (not on the truncated eastern end or the rear single storey projecting wing);
- Buff coloured bricks providing decorative “quoin” features at the corners of the original school building (not the truncated eastern end);
- Buff coloured brick voussoirs above the windows and entrance door on the front and western gable end wall of the original school building;
- Red brick voussoirs above the windows and doors on the rear wall
- Scratched letters and marks from schoolchildren in many original exterior bricks
- Line of original window and door openings present in brickwork;
- Fieldstone foundation on exterior

- Lug stone window sills with tooled edges on original school building. [Lug sills are not present on the truncated eastern end or the rear projecting single storey wing (including the small square window above the projecting rear wing)];
- Brick chimney with corbelled brick detailing and a buff brick base on western end of roof.

It is noted that the front chimney, the existing windows and doors and the detached garage are not of heritage significance.

If Council decides to proceed with designation, a notice of intention to designate will be served on the property owner, Ontario Heritage Trust, and published in the local newspaper. Any person may object to the notice of intention to designate within 30 days of its publication. If there are no objections within the 30-day period, the designation by-law for the Glen Williams Schoolhouse will be brought forward to Council for approval. If, however there are objections, they will be referred to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing. Subsequently, Council will receive a recommendation report from the Conservation Review Board for consideration, prior to making a final decision regarding designation of the property.

#### **RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:**

This report directly relates to the implementation of Strategic Direction D: Preserve, Protect, and Promote Our Distinctive History, the Goal to preserve the historical urban and rural character of Halton Hills through the conservation and promotion of our built heritage, cultural heritage landscapes and archaeological resources, and the following Strategic Objectives:

- D.2 To encourage the preservation and enhancement of the historical character of the Town's distinctive neighbourhoods, districts, hamlets and rural settlement areas; and,
- D.4 To use the conservation of built heritage and cultural heritage landscape resources to enhance the character and vitality of neighbourhoods, and to provide opportunities for economic development and tourism.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

If designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, the property will be eligible for the Town's Heritage Property Tax Refund Program.

**CONSULTATION:**

Consultation between Heritage Halton Hills, Town staff, and the current property owners of the Glen Williams Schoolhouse led to the preparation of this report.

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:**

The property owners and Heritage Halton Hills were engaged in the process leading to the preparation of this report.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:**

The Town is committed to implementing our Community Sustainability Strategy, Imagine Halton Hills. Doing so will lead to a higher quality of life.

The recommendation outlined in this report advances the Strategy's implementation.

This report supports the Cultural Vibrancy pillar of Sustainability and in summary the alignment of this report with the Community Sustainability Strategy is good.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

If Council decides to proceed with designation a notice of intention to designate will be served on the on the property owner, Ontario Heritage Trust, and published in the local newspaper. Further, if Council proceeds with passing a designation by-law for the Glen Williams Schoolhouse upon lapse of the 30-day objection period, a notice of designation will be served on the property owner, the Ontario Heritage Trust, and published in the local newspaper.

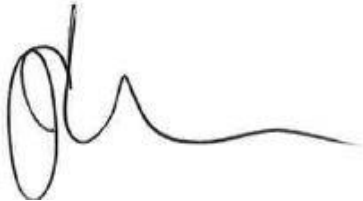
**CONCLUSION:**

It is recommended that Council indicate its intent to designate the Glen Williams Schoolhouse under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Reviewed and Approved by,

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Steve Burke, Manager of Planning Policy

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Linhardt". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a prominent initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

John Linhardt, Commissioner of Planning and Sustainability

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Marshall". The signature is cursive and stylized, with the first name "Brent" and last name "Marshall" clearly visible.

Brent Marshall, CAO