

Research and Evaluation Report



(Town of Halton Hills 2024)

McCallum House

9296 Dublin Line, Town of Halton Hills

August 2024

Project Personnel

Report Authors

Laura Loney, MPlan, MCIP, CAHP, RPP
Manager of Heritage Planning

Historical Research

Laura Loney

Austin Foster, MA
Cultural Heritage Assistant

Field Review

Laura Loney

Report Preparation

Laura Loney

with

Austin Foster

Mapping Graphics:

Rehan Waheed, MA
Planning Data Analyst

Report Reviewers:

Caylee MacPherson
Planner – Development Review & Heritage

Bronwyn Parker
Director of Planning Policy

John Linhardt
Commissioner of Planning & Development

Table of Contents

1.0 Property Description	5
2.0 Background	5
2.1 Historical Background	6
2.2 Property & Architectural Description	12
2.3 Architectural Style.....	14
2.4 Farmstead Analysis	14
3.0 Description of Heritage Attributes and Evaluation Checklist	17
4.0 Summary	18
5.0 Sources.....	19

Table of Figures

Figure 1: Location Map – 9296 Dublin Line	5
Figure 2: Aerial Photograph – 9296 Dublin Line	5
Figure 3: Subject property identified on the 1822 Patent Plan	7
Figure 4: Duncan McCallum (Records and Memories of Boston Church of the Scotch Block; County of Halton, Ontario. 1820 – 1920; By John McColl D.D.)	7
Figure 5: Finlay McCallum, c.1870. Finlay was a teacher and County Treasurer (Milton Historical Society 1690)	7
Figure 6: Jane McCallum (nee Laidlaw), c.1860s (Milton Historical Society 4916).....	7
Figure 7: Subject property identified on Tremaine's 1858 <i>Map of the County of Halton</i>	8
Figure 8: Subject property identified on the 1877 <i>Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton</i>	8
Figure 9: Back row - Catherine, John, Susan, Duncan, Margaret. Centre row - (Mother) Catherine (nee McDougall d. 1930), Jane and (Father) Finlay. Front row - Myrtle and Neil. c.1890-1900 (Milton Historical Society 6067).....	9
Figure 10: Subject property identified on the 1909 <i>National Topographic Map</i>	9
Figure 11: Subject property identified on the 1918 <i>National Topographic Map</i>	9
Figure 12: Subject property identified on the 1929 <i>National Topographic Map</i>	10
Figure 13: Subject property identified on the 1938 <i>National Topographic Map</i>	10
Figure 14: Subject property identified on the 1942 <i>National Topographic Map</i> ; a new structure is identified to the rear of the original residence within the subject property.	10
Figure 15: Subject property identified in 1954 aerial photography	10
Figure 16: Subject property identified on the 1974 <i>National Topographic Map</i>	11
Figure 17: Subject property identified in 1999 aerial photography	11
Figure 18: Subject property identified in 2015 aerial photography	11
Figure 19: Subject property identified in 2023 aerial photography	11
Figure 21: Looking towards the subject property from Dublin Line (Town of Halton Hills 2024)	12
Figure 22: Looking towards the subject property from Dublin Line (Town of Halton Hills 2024)	12
Figure 23: Front (southeast) elevation of the Duncan McCallum House (Town of Halton Hills 2024).....	13

Figure 24: Partial southwest elevation of the Duncan McCallum House (Courtesy Avison Young) 13
Figure 25: Side (southwest) elevation of the Duncan McCallum House (Courtesy Avison Young) 14

1.0 Property Description

9296 Dublin Line	
Municipality	Town of Halton Hills
County or Region	Region of Halton
Legal Description	PT LT 7, CON 1 ESQ, AS IN 290299, EXCEPT PART 1, 20R9517; T/W 255316; S/T DEBTS, IF ANY, IN 247076; HALTON HILLS/ESQUESING
Construction Date	c.1860
Original Use	Residential/Farm
Current Use	Residential/Farm
Architect/Building/Designer	McCallum Family
Architectural Style	Georgian Farmhouse
Additions/Alterations	Rear Addition
Heritage Status	Listed on the Town’s Heritage Register
Recorder(s)	Laura Loney
Report Date	January 2024

2.0 Background

This research and evaluation report describes the history, context, and physical characteristics of the property at 9296 Dublin Line in Halton Hills, Ontario (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The report includes an evaluation of the property’s cultural heritage value as prescribed by the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

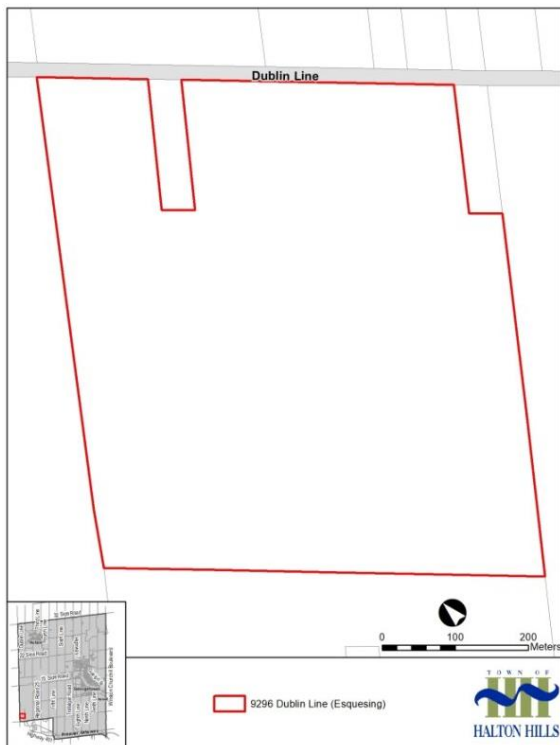


Figure 1: Location Map – 9296 Dublin Line



Figure 2: Aerial Photograph – 9296 Dublin Line

2.1 Historical Background

Indigenous History

The enduring history of First Nation Peoples in Halton Hills can be traced back through time immemorial before contact with Europeans in the 1600s. Prior to the arrival of European settlers, the Credit River was central to Indigenous ways of life, supporting settlements, fisheries, horticulture, transportation, and trade. Iroquoian-speaking peoples, ancestors of the Wendat, occupied the Credit River Valley for hundreds of years until approximately the mid-1600s, establishing semi-permanent villages. There are numerous archaeological sites in Halton Hills dating from this period, ranging from village sites to burial grounds, which reveal a rich cultural heritage.

The Wendat were displaced by the Haudenosaunee around 1649-50 amid the conflicts that arose between European colonial powers and their First Nation allies. The Mississaugas (part of the Anishinaabe Nation) arrived in southern Ontario in the 1690s, settling in two groups along the north shore of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. The western group, occupying the area between Toronto and Lake Erie, became known as the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Until the early 19th century, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation followed a seasonal cycle of movement and resource harvesting along the Credit River (Missinnihe, meaning “trusting creek”), and other rivers. In the winter months, extended family groups hunted in the Halton Hills area, travelling south towards the mouth of the river in the spring for the salmon run. The Mississaugas’ fisheries and traditional economies were diminished as a result of increased Euro-colonial settlement, leading to a state of impoverishment and dramatic population decline.

In 1818, the British Crown negotiated the purchase of 648,000 acres of land from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, including present-day Halton Hills, under the Ajetance Treaty (No. 19), named after Chief Ajetance. This left the Mississaugas with three small reserves on the Lake Ontario shoreline. The legitimacy of early land “surrenders” to the Crown is questionable when considering the Mississaugas’ traditional understanding of property ownership. Unlike the British, the Mississaugas understood land in spiritual terms, and did not share the idea that access to land and resources could be given up permanently.

In 1986, the Mississaugas initiated a claim against the Government of Canada over the 1805 Toronto Purchase. On June 8, 2010, the parties involved reached a final compensatory agreement. It resulted in a cash payment of \$145 million to the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation¹.

¹ This brief overview of Pre-Treaty Indigenous Territory within the land now known as Halton Hills is taken from the Town of Halton Hills’ 2023 *Cultural Heritage Strategy*. This document includes additional recommendations relating to Truth and Reconciliation in Heritage Planning as part of the Town's commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation.

Early European Settlement and the McCallum Family



Figure 3: Subject property identified on the 1822 Patent Plan

James McLean was granted the crown patent for Lot 7, Concession 1 in 1822. In 1839, the east 100 acres of the lot was sold to Duncan McCallum. Farmer and cabinetmaker Duncan McCallum (1800-1883) and his wife Susan (nee Menzies) (1801-1876) immigrated to Halton from Breadalbane, Perthshire, Scotland in 1833, along with Duncan's siblings Finlay and Archibald McCallum. The McCallum brothers had been selected by the Marquis of Breadalbane in 1822 to be sent to Edinburgh to welcome King George IV on his first visit to Scotland.



Figure 4: Duncan McCallum (Records and Memories of Boston Church of the Scotch Block; County of Halton, Ontario. 1820 – 1920; By John McCall D.D.)

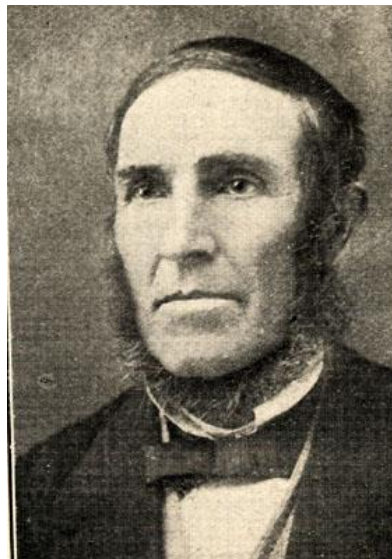


Figure 5: Finlay McCallum, c.1870. Finlay was a teacher and County Treasurer (Milton Historical Society 1690)



Figure 6: Jane McCallum (nee Laidlaw), c.1860s (Milton Historical Society 4916)

Duncan's brother Finlay also settled on Lot 7, Concession 1. Finlay McCallum (1813-1881) was a teacher in Milton, retiring in 1852 and then becoming Deputy Registrar and County Treasurer (1860-1881). Finlay and his wife Jane (1830-1906) had several children, including James, Agnes, Christina, Janet,

Elizabeth, John, Margaret, Andrew, Helen, and Mary. In 1866, Finlay purchased a farm on Lots 3 and 4, Concession 1, in Esquesing Township, where he lived until his death in 1881.

Duncan and Susan had several children, including John, Margaret, Finlay, Christina, Isabella, James, and Catherine. Duncan was chair of the committee to build Boston Presbyterian Church in March 1866 (James Smith of Toronto was the architect) and was superintendent of the building process. Duncan McCallum is buried at the Boston Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

The existing residential building within the subject property was constructed c.1860 and is identified on the 1877 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton* with an orchard to the south of the drive.

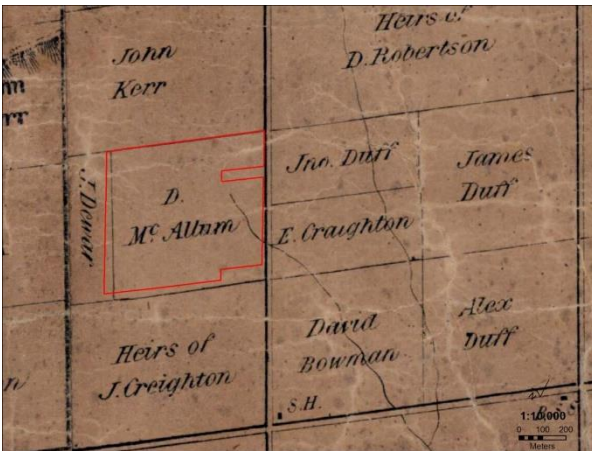


Figure 7: Subject property identified on Tremaine's 1858 Map of the County of Halton

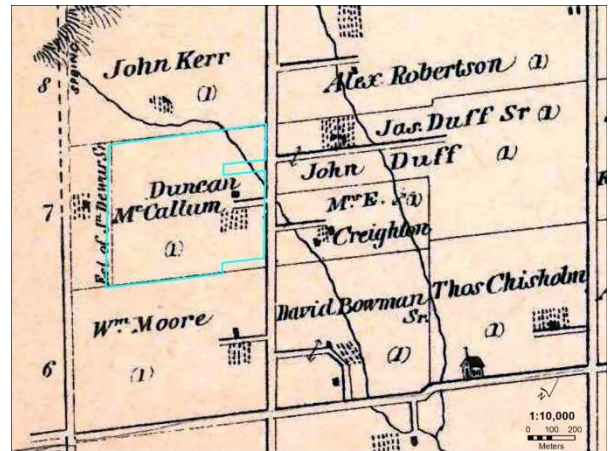


Figure 8: Subject property identified on the 1877 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton*

In 1882, the property was transferred to Duncan's son Finlay. Finlay McCallum (1829-1908) lived on the family farm until his death. Finlay and his wife Catherine (nee McDougall) (1852-1930) had several children, including Duncan, Jane, John, Janet, Neil, Susan, and Catherine.



Figure 9: Back row - Catherine, John, Susan, Duncan, Margaret. Centre row - (Mother) Catherine (nee McDougall d. 1930), Jane and (Father) Finlay. Front row - Myrtle and Neil. c.1890-1900 (Milton Historical Society 6067)

In 1914, the property was transferred from Catherine McCallum (son Finlay's widow) and family to their son Neil McCallum.



Figure 10: Subject property identified on the 1909 *National Topographic Map*

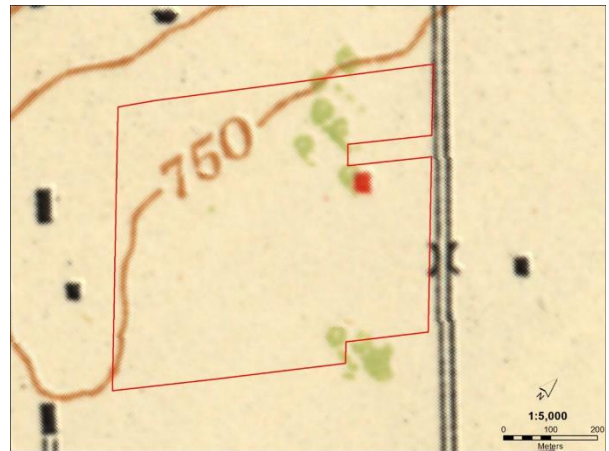


Figure 11: Subject property identified on the 1918 *National Topographic Map*

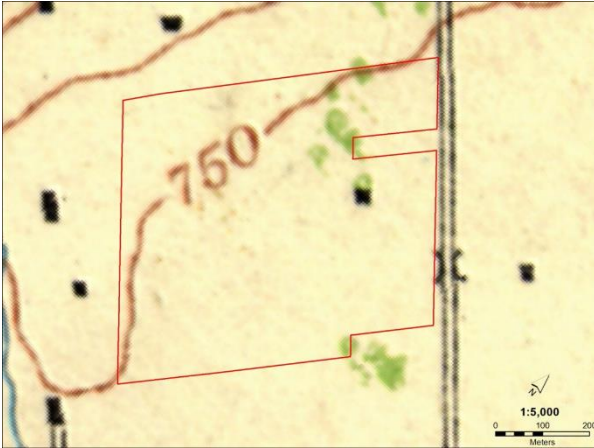


Figure 12: Subject property identified on the 1929 *National Topographic Map*

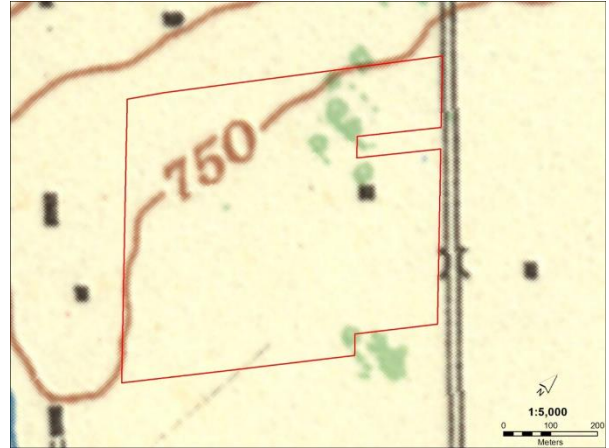


Figure 13: Subject property identified on the 1938 *National Topographic Map*

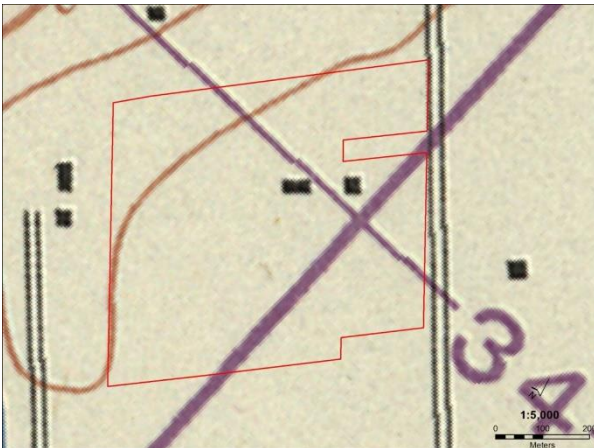


Figure 14: Subject property identified on the 1942 *National Topographic Map*; a new structure is identified to the rear of the original residence within the subject property.

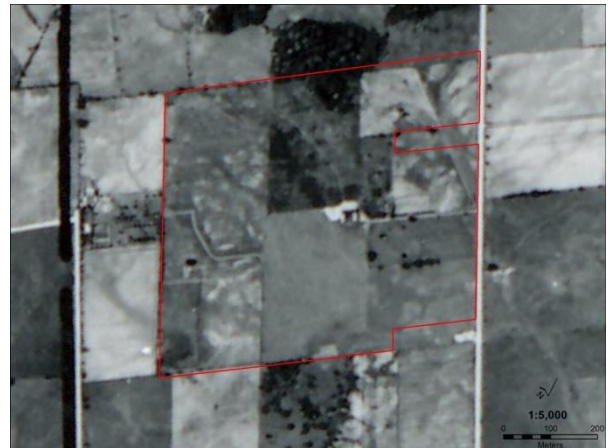


Figure 15: Subject property identified in 1954 aerial photography

In 1968, the property was transferred to Finlay Alexander McCallum (1924-2012) and his wife Nessie Elizabeth Rhoda McCallum (1929-2013), the fourth generation of the McCallum family to own the property. Their children, Finlay, Janet (May) and Susan (the fifth generation of the McCallum family) owned the property after their parents. The property has recently sold as of the finalization of this report, resulting in the end of ownership by the McCallum family for 185 years.

9296 Dublin Line| PT LT 7, CON 1 ESQ, AS IN 290299, EXCEPT PART 1, 20R9517; T/W 255316; S/T DEBTS, IF ANY, IN 247076; HALTON HILLS/ESQUESING

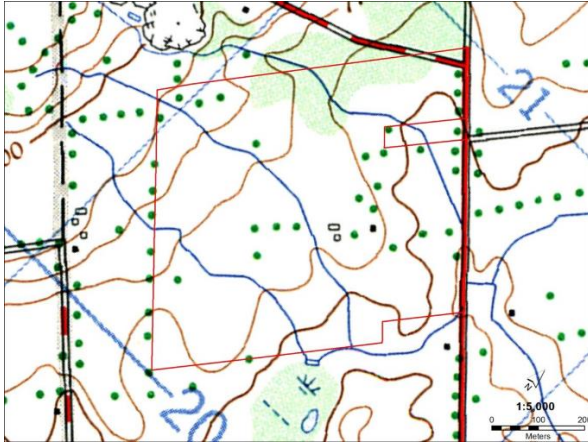


Figure 16: Subject property identified on the 1974 *National Topographic Map*



Figure 17: Subject property identified in 1999 aerial photography



Figure 18: Subject property identified in 2015 aerial photography



Figure 19: Subject property identified in 2023 aerial photography

2.2 Property & Architectural Description

The property at 9296 Dublin Line is located along the southwest side of Dublin Line, just north of Steeles Avenue in the Township of Esquesing within in the Town of Halton Hills. The property is primarily composed of agricultural fields, with a residence and associated buildings located in the centre of the parcel, accessed via a long driveway from Dublin Line. The property primarily consists of farm fields, while the house is located amongst mature vegetation at the end of a long drive. No additional farm-related outbuildings are extant within the subject property although there is a modern house to the rear (southwest) of the existing farmhouse.



Figure 20: Looking towards the subject property from Dublin Line (Town of Halton Hills 2024)



Figure 21: Looking towards the subject property from Dublin Line (Town of Halton Hills 2024)

The existing residential building on the subject property is a one-and-a-half storey, pre-Confederation stone farmhouse in the Georgian Revival style with gable roof and stone foundation and one-storey rear addition, constructed by the McCallum family.

The front (southeast) elevation is balanced with a central entrance within a flatheaded opening, with sidelights and transom. A stone lintel is located above the entrance. Two symmetrically placed flatheaded window openings are located on either side of the entrance with stone sills and lintels. The projecting eaves include wooden dentils beneath the wooden soffit.



Figure 22: Front (southeast) elevation of the Duncan McCallum House (Town of Halton Hills 2024)

The southwest elevation of the existing residential building features a single flatheaded angular window opening with stone sill and lintel at the first storey and smaller symmetrically placed flat-headed window openings with stone sills and lintels and wooden shutters at the upper storey beneath the gable peak and abutted by returning eaves; wooden dentils are featured beneath the eaves as well. A stone chimney is located above the roofline at either end.



Figure 23: Partial southwest elevation of the Duncan McCallum House (Courtesy Avison Young)

A one-storey stone addition with shed roof and central brick chimney is located towards the rear with two single flat-headed window openings and a larger middle section featuring siding and a contemporary door opening.



Figure 24: Side (southwest) elevation of the Duncan McCallum House (Courtesy Avison Young)

2.3 Architectural Style

Georgian-style architecture was brought to Canada by United Empire Loyalists and people emigrating from Great Britain. The style was used throughout the province primarily between the 1780s and 1860s, replacing the log homes of these early settlers. The style was known for its balanced composition, restrained ornamentation, and minimal detailing, focusing on symmetry, simplicity and solidity, and characterized by a formal arrangement of façades with some classical detailing.

The existing c.1860s residential building on the subject property can be best described as a Georgian Revival farmhouse. The home's stone construction rectangular form, five-bay primary elevation, end-gable roof, and centered single door entrance with shallow transom and sidelights are all features characteristic of the style.

2.4 Farmstead Analysis

The farmstead analysis provides an overview of the existing structures on the property typical to historic Ontario Farmsteads. The evaluation below helps identify the existing structures on the subject property, determine their date of construction, and confirm landscaping features. The farmstead analysis for the subject property can be found in the tables below.

Historic Ontario Farmstead Feature	Existing (Y/N)	Comments
A. Farmhouse	Y	The existing c.1860s farmhouse is extant within the subject property.
B. Barn	N	There are no farm-related outbuildings or barns within the subject property.
C. Outbuildings	N	There are no farm-related outbuildings or barns within the subject property.

Historic Ontario Farmstead Feature	Existing (Y/N)	Comments
D. Silo	N	There are no silos within the subject property.
E. Entrance Driveway Framed by Vegetation	N	The existing driveway features two small deciduous trees on either side of the drive adjacent to the right of way, and there are some mature trees surrounding the existing house. However, the existing driveway is not tree-lined.
F. Front-yard Mature Trees	N	The existing driveway features two small deciduous trees on either side of the drive adjacent to the right of way, however they are not mature.
G. Rear Fields	Y	The subject property features agricultural fields surrounding the original c.1860s residence.
H. Drive Lines	N	The driveway accessed from Dublin Line remains the only drive within the subject property.
I. Rear Woodlot	Somewhat	There is no woodlot located at the rear of the property, however there is a woodlot along the northwest property line which may have been the historic woodlot for the property.
J. Windrows along Property Edge	Y	The property features several windrows along the property lines and within the subject property.
K. Orchard	N	There are no orchards extant within the subject property; the orchard shown in early 1870s mapping is no longer extant.
Historic Ontario Farmstead Feature		
Additional Criteria for Consideration	Existing (Y/N)	Comments
Early Settlement/Pre-1867	Y	The subject property was settled by the McCallum family pre-Confederation, with the existing stone residence constructed c.1860.
Structures of Individual Architectural Significance	Y	The existing pre-Confederation Georgian Revival farmhouse remains a significant feature of the subject property.

Intact Collection of Typological Features	N	The c.1860s farmhouse remains an isolated feature of the former farm complex.
Within a Rural Area/Adjacent to other In-tact Farmsteads	Somewhat	The subject property remains within a rural area, however the landscape is continuously changing. A golf course is located directly across from the subject property, and the area to the south includes industrial and commercial properties. Residential infill on severed lots of former farms is located along the northwest side of Dublin Line just north of James Snow Parkway.
Site Development Pressure	N	The subject property is located within the Niagara Escarpment Control Area and within the Greenbelt.

The subject property has retained some elements that are typical of historic Ontario farmsteads, including the original c.1860s farmhouse, agricultural fields, windrows, and a woodlot along the northwest property line. However, there are no longer any associated outbuildings, including a barn, silo, or other agricultural facilities extant within the subject property. Additionally, the property is located within a changing broader context, with no in-tact historic farmsteads adjacent to the property and an evolving commercial, industrial, and residential context in the general area. The significant feature of the subject property remains the original farmhouse set back within the subject property within an agricultural setting. There is limited to no development pressure on the site which is subject to protection through the Niagara Escarpment Commission and is located within protected Greenbelt lands.

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 are not applicable for this property.

Design or Physical Value	
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	N/A
Demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement	N/A

The property at 9296 Dublin Line has physical and design value as an early example of a stone Georgian farmhouse in the historic Scotch Block community in the Town of Halton Hills. The one-and-a-half storey pre-confederation farmhouse features a cut ashlar stone façade, rectangular form, and end-gable roof. Typical to the Georgian architectural style, the front façade features a five-bay primary elevation, with a central entrance flanked by shallow sidelights and a transom, surrounded by a stone sill and lintel. Throughout the exterior are flatheaded window openings with stone lintels and sills, with few remaining wood shutters. On all elevations, painted wooden dentil detailing can be found beneath the eaves. Two stone chimneys exist directly above the roofline on both side elevations.

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	N/A

The property at 9296 Dublin Line has historical and associative value due to its 185-year history and association with the McCallum Family. The existing c. 1860s house was constructed by Duncan McCallum, who was a farmer and cabinet maker in Halton. Originally from Breadalbane, Perthshire, Scotland, Duncan immigrated to Halton in 1833. During his time in the community, Duncan was the chair of the committee overseeing the construction of Boston Presbyterian Church in 1886 and was the superintendent during the building process. Until the recent sale of this property, the McCallum family maintained ownership of the dwelling for nearly two centuries.

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	N/A

The property at 9296 Dublin Line has contextual value as it serves to maintain and support the rural character of the surrounding area in the historic Scotch Block community in the Town of Halton Hills. The existing farmhouse, surrounded by agricultural fields since its settlement in the mid-nineteenth

century, is physically, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings. The farmhouse has not been identified as landmark due to its deep setback from Dublin Line and modest size, however it remains distinct in its detailing and construction as the surrounding context of the area changes.

4.0 Summary

Following research and evaluation according to Ontario Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the property at 9296 Dublin Line 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 9296 Dublin Line are identified as follows:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the existing c.1860s farmhouse along Dublin Line in the Town of Halton Hills;
- The scale, form, and massing of the one-and-a-half storey Georgian farmhouse with gable roof with wooden soffits and dentils, stone chimneys, and stone foundation;
- The materials, including cut ashlar stone construction, stone lintels and sills, wooden door surround with transom and sidelights, and wooden dentils and soffits along the roofline;
- On the front (southeast) elevation:
 - The central entrance with wooden transom window and sidelights, and stone lintel and sill;
 - The flat-headed window openings with stone sills and lintels;
- On the side (southwest) elevation:
 - The flat-headed window openings with stone sills and lintels; and,
- On the side (northeast) elevation:
 - The flat-headed window openings with stone sills and lintels.

The one-storey addition, rear elevation of the one-and-a-half storey farmhouse, and interiors have not been identified as attributes as part of this report.

5.0 Sources

Primary Sources

Year: 1881; Census Place: *Esquesing, Halton, Ontario*; Roll: C_13258; Page: 63; Family No: 285.

Ancestry.com. *Canada, Find a Grave® Index, 1600s-Current* [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA:
Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012.

Newspapers

Acton Free Press

"Death of Finlay McCallum, Esquesing". (November 26, 1908). *Acton Free Press*, p.3.
<https://news.haltonhills.halinet.on.ca/85920/page/255079?q=duncan+mccallum>.

"The Late Janet Anderson". (November 17, 1904). *Acton Free Press*, p.3.
<https://news.haltonhills.halinet.on.ca/137717/data>.

Canadian Champion

"County treasurer Finlay McCallum chosen new Conservative candidate". (June 19, 1861).
Canadian Champion, p.11.
<https://news.milton.halinet.on.ca/2689405/page/1627843?q=finlay+mccallum>.

Secondary Sources

"Ontario Architecture: Georgian." Ontario Architecture.
<http://www.ontarioarchitecture.com/georgian.htm>.

"Sesquicentennial & Century Family Farms". *Esquesing Historical Society*.
<https://esquesinghistoricalsociety.com/century-farms-1967/>.

Dills, Jim and Brown, Gloria (Stark). *Halton's Scotch Block: The People and Their Stories*. Milton Historical Society: Milton, 2009.

Historic Homes and Buildings of Milton: Volume II. Milton Historical Society.

HPI Nomination Team – University of Waterloo. "Ontario Architectural Style Guide." Heritage Resources Centre.

McColl, John. *Records and Memories of Boston Church of the Scotch Block, County of Halton, Ontario. 1820-1920*. Published on ElectricCanadian.com.
<https://www.electriccanadian.com/history/ontario/scotchblock/index.htm>.

Whitlock, Brenda, Ed. *Milton Area Biographies: Volume 1*. Milton Historical Society 1995.