



REPORT

TO: Mayor Lawlor and Members of Council

FROM: Laura Loney, Manager of Heritage Planning

DATE: November 1, 2024

REPORT NO.: PD-2024-094

SUBJECT: Heritage Halton Hills Recommendations for Prioritized Research and Evaluation

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. PD-2024-094, dated November 1, 2024, and titled “Heritage Halton Hills Recommendations for Prioritized Research and Evaluation” be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to prioritize the properties identified in Appendix A for research and evaluation, and following consultation with Heritage Halton Hills, recommend that Council designate any eligible properties under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as appropriate.

KEY POINTS:

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

- On October 28, 2024, Council considered Report PD-2024-081, dated October 11, 2024, which outlined the adoption of the Town’s Bill 23 Heritage Strategy in March 2023, amendments to the timeline provided through Bill 200, the *Homeowner Protection Act*, and recommendations from Heritage Halton Hills to remove 130 properties from the Heritage Register.
- Heritage Halton Hills has also recommended 11 listed properties for prioritized research and evaluation for potential designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- This report recommends that Council direct staff to prioritize these 11 properties for research and evaluation.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

September HHH Meeting

At the HHH meeting of September 18, 2024, staff provided an opportunity for committee members to identify properties for additional prioritization, in light of the extended period of two years (until January 1, 2027) to review the Town's listed properties as a result of Bill 200 (the *Homeowner Protection Act*).

Recommendation No. HHH-2024-0041

THAT Council direct staff to prioritize the research and evaluation of the following listed properties:

1. Prospect Park (Acton)
2. Limehouse Memorial Hall (12389 Fifth Line)
3. One-room Schoolhouses, including;
 - a) Ligny School House (7593 5 Side Road)
 - b) Pine Grove School (15769 5 Side Road)
 - c) Gibraltar School (11999 Fifth Line)
 - d) Waterloo School House (10421 Fourth Line)
 - e) Former Bannockburn School (13420 Fourth Line)
 - f) Lorne School (14021 Regional Road 25)
 - g) Blue Mountain School (13802 Trafalgar Road)
 - h) Swan House/former Dufferin School (10454 Regional Road 25)
 - i) Former Hornby School (13029 Steeles Avenue)

CARRIED

Next Steps

Staff note that the prioritization of these 11 properties, including Prospect Park (a potential cultural heritage landscape), and historic community institutions including a former church building (Limehouse Memorial Hall) and former schoolhouses, is appropriate given the additional time-period provided through Bill 200 (to January 1, 2027). Additionally, this prioritization aligns with recommendations in the *Halton Hills Cultural Heritage Strategy: Planning for Heritage in an Evolving Landscape (2023)* to conserve historic community institutions and significant character areas. Staff note that the ongoing research and evaluation of properties in order of their prioritization through the Bill 23 Heritage Strategy will continue alongside this work, should Council adopt staff's recommendations.

As of the finalization of this report, staff have notified the property owners impacted by HHH's recommendations, and will continue to communicate with them throughout the research and evaluation process. Should the research and evaluation process identify that any of these properties have significant cultural heritage value and meet the requirements for designation through Ontario Regulation 9/06 *Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest*, staff will consult with HHH and recommend that Council pursue designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This report identifies natural areas and heritage 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. However, impacted property owners have been contacted by staff to discuss the recommendations of HHH and the research and evaluation process.

INTERNAL CONSULTATION:

Heritage Halton Hills was consulted in 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