



REPORT

TO: Mayor Lawlor and Members of Council

FROM: Caylee MacPherson, Planner – Development Review & Heritage

DATE: February 6, 2025

REPORT NO.: PD-2025-007

SUBJECT: Intention to Designate Under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act – 15 Queen Street, Georgetown

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. PD-2025-007 dated February 6, 2025 and titled “Intention to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act – 15 Queen Street, Georgetown” be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council state its intention to designate the property at 15 Queen Street, Georgetown, known as the Atkinson-Lake House, legally described as “PLAN 37 LOT 7 PT BLK D; 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 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 15 Queen Street, Georgetown be brought forward to Council for adoption.

KEY POINTS:

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

- Staff have completed a Research & Evaluation Report for the property at 15 Queen Street, Georgetown, in accordance with the Town’s Council-approved Heritage Register Prioritization Strategy to respond to *Bill 23, More Homes, Built Faster Act, 2022*, with further amendments made through Bill 200, the *Homeowner Protection Act*;

- The subject property meets Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*; and,
- Staff are recommending that Council state its intention to designate the property.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

The property at 15 Queen Street is located along the northwest side of Queen Street in the community of Georgetown and features a two-storey frame dwelling with vinyl siding, a hipped-roof, front porch, and rear one-storey addition. The property was listed on the Town's Heritage Register during Phase 2 of the Town's Heritage Register process (2011) and was identified as a representative example of a vernacular building that contributes to the historic landscape of Queen Street.

The property at 15 Queen Street has been researched and evaluated by staff as part of the Town's Council-approved Heritage Register prioritization strategy to respond to Bill 23, *More Homes, Built Faster Act, 2022*.¹

At the Heritage Halton Hills meeting on September 18, 2024, the committee provided a list of properties recommended for removal from the Register based on preliminary review, which originally included 15 Queen Street. However, the owners contacted staff and requested that the property continue to be researched and evaluated for potential designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. After determining that the property had sufficient cultural heritage value to warrant designation, staff delivered a notice via mail on January 6, 2025, advising the owners that the Research and Evaluation Report for the subject property would be reviewed at the January 15, 2025, meeting of Heritage Halton Hills.

Heritage Halton Hills reviewed the final Research & Evaluation Report for the property at its meeting of January 15, 2025.

Following discussion, the following motion was carried:

Recommendation No. HHH-2025-0003:

THAT the Heritage Halton Hills Committee recommends Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property at 15 Queen Street (Georgetown) for designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

The Atkinson-Lake House has been identified as a representative example of a two-storey vernacular, late-nineteenth-century residential building with Gothic Revival architectural influences, and features frame construction, a bay window and two gable peaks along the side (southwest) elevation, and a contemporary front porch.

¹ Bill 23 stipulates that municipalities have a two-year window to determine whether properties on the Heritage Register warrant designation under the Ontario Heritage Act. If not so designated after two years, properties must be removed from the Heritage Register. On June 6, 2024, Bill 200 (the *Homeowner Protection Act*) received Royal Assent, extending the 2-year timeline prescribed by Bill 23, giving municipalities, including the Town of Halton Hills, until January 1, 2027, to either issue a NOID for a listed property or to remove it from the Heritage Register.

The property has historical and associative value due to its associations with the Glassey and Dale families. John Glassey worked at the local Barber Paper Mill as a paper maker, alongside his children John Jr. and Ellen. Ellen was later granted ownership of the property and lived there with her husband, LeRoy Dale, who served as a Village Councillor, Reeve, and the first Mayor of Georgetown. The property is also associated with John. J. Gibbons, who served multiple terms as a Councillor and Mayor throughout the early- to mid-twentieth century. Additionally, the property is associated with Laurent Thibault, who volunteered for various community groups, such as the Georgetown Hospital Foundation, the Halton Hills Cultural Round Table, as well as the Economic Pillar Subcommittee of the Town's Sustainability Advisory Committee. Mr. Thibault has also served on the Board of Governors at McMaster University, the Board of Directors of the Canadian Foundation for Economic Education and has been instated as an honorary life member for the Canadian Association for Business Economics.

The property is important in defining and maintaining the late-nineteenth and early twentieth-century character of Queen Street, surrounding the former Grand Trunk Railway Station in Georgetown, and is physically, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings in the residential neighbourhood.

As described in the Research & Evaluation Report, the identified heritage attributes of the property at 15 Queen Street include:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the existing building along Queen Street in Georgetown;
- The scale, form, and massing of the existing c.1880s, two-storey vernacular residential building with gable roof, one-storey covered porch, and frame construction;
- The front (southeast) elevation, including:
 - Flatheaded window openings located at the first and second storeys;
 - Flatheaded entryway located beneath the existing covered porch;
- The side (southwest) elevation, including:
 - One-storey projecting bay with three window openings;
 - Twin gable peaks located at the second storey; and,
 - Flatheaded window opening at the first storey.

The two-storey rear addition, one-storey detached garage, side (northeast) elevation, and interiors have not been identified as heritage attributes of the property.

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 *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.

INTERNAL CONSULTATION:

Heritage Halton Hills was consulted in preparation of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

This report is administrative in nature and does not have any financial implications.

Reviewed and approved by,

Laura Loney, Manager of Heritage Planning

Bronwyn Parker, Director of Planning Policy

John Linhardt, Commissioner of Planning & Development

Chris Mills, Chief Administrative Officer