

Research and Evaluation Report



(Town of Halton Hills 2024)

The Three Sisters

5, 7 & 9 Tweedle Street, Town of Halton Hills

June 2025

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Table of Contents

1.0 Property Description	5
2.0 Background	5
2.1 Historical Background	6
2.2 Property & Architectural Description	20
2.3 Architectural Style and Comparative Analysis	25
3.0 Description of Heritage Attributes and Evaluation Checklist	27
4.0 Summary	29
5.0 Sources.....	32

Table of Figures

Figure 1: Location Map – 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street	5
Figure 2: Aerial Photograph – 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street	5
Figure 3: Job advertisement for Glen Woollen Mills Ltd (<i>Georgetown Herald</i> , November 7, 1917, p. 3) ...	7
Figure 4: Mrs. Solway and Gertie Martin working on blankets in the Glen Woollen Mills, c.1930 (EHS 00995)	7
Figure 5: Employees in front of the Sykes and Ainley Mill, c.1910 (EHS 21781)	8
Figure 6: Job advertisement for the Glen Woollen Mills Limited and Melrose Knitting Company (<i>Georgetown Herald</i> , September 27, 1922, p.2).....	8
Figure 7: Rear view of the Glen Woollen Mills and Melrose Knitting, c.1910 (EHS 00147)	8
Figure 8: Subject properties identified on 1819 Patent Plan.....	9
Figure 9: Subject properties identified on Tremaine's 1858 <i>Map of the County of Halton, Canada West</i> ..	9
Figure 10: Subject properties identified on 1877 <i>Illustrated Atlas of the County of Halton</i>	10
Figure 11: Subject properties identified on the 1898 Fire Insurance Plan	10
Figure 12: The "Three Sisters" identified on a c.1915 postcard (EHS 26109).....	10
Figure 13: The "Three Sisters" identified on a c.1910 postcard (EHS 00969).....	10
Figure 14: 3, 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street c.1919 (EHS 00441)	11
Figure 15: The residences at 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street identified in photograph Glen Williams from the cemetery c.1940s. (EHS 09920)	11
Figure 16: Una and Ed Hill in front of 5 Tweedle Street in the winter of 1940 (EHS 00960).....	11
Figure 17: 5 Tweedle Street identified in c.1919 photograph of the "Three Sisters" (EHS 00441)	11
Figure 18: A 1922 photograph of the Hill family on Tweedle Street (EHS 01004).....	12
Figure 19: Nancy "nan" Hill at the back gate of 3 Tweedle Street; 5 Tweedle Street is in the background, c. 1922 (EHS 01006)	12
Figure 20: A c.1923 photograph of members of the Hill family on Tweedle Street (EHS 01005).	12
Figure 21: Elizabeth Hill (1851-1949) in front of her Tweedle Street home. The Glen Woollen Mills' barn is across Tweedle Street. c.1930 (EHS 01000)	12
Figure 22: Edward Hill standing in front of 5 Tweedle Street in uniform c. 1943 (EHS 09970).....	13
Figure 23: Private Una Hill at 5 Tweedle Street. c.1943 (EHS 00998).....	13
Figure 24: A 1948 Portrait of Elizabeth "Lizzy" Duff Hill (EHS 01014).....	14

Figure 26: A c.1910 photograph of 7 Tweedle Street (EHS 20259)	15
Figure 27: 7 Tweedle Street identified in a c.1919 photograph of the "Three Sisters" (EHS 00441)	15
Figure 28: The British Steam Ship Montrose leaving Liverpool c. 1898. (Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping. Vol. I—Steamers. London: Lloyd's Register of Shipping, 1898).....	15
Figure 29: The Dale Family, c.1912 (Courtesy of Cliff Dale and Mark Rowe)	15
Figure 30: 9 Tweedle Street c.2000 (Heritage Halton Hills).....	16
Figure 31: 9 Tweedle Street identified in a c.1919 photograph of the "Three Sisters" (EHS 00441)	16
Figure 32: A woman in a horse-drawn buggy pauses in front of 9 Tweedle Street c.1915 (EHS 02177) ...	16
Figure 33: The sale of mill assets (including the subject property) advertised in the <i>Georgetown Herald</i> , November 9, 1938, p. 5.....	17
Figure 34: A cropped view of the "Three Sisters" from the cemetery c.1940 (EHS 09920)	17
Figure 35: Subject properties identified on the 1929 <i>National Topographic Survey</i>	18
Figure 36: Subject properties identified on the 1938 <i>National Topographical Survey</i>	18
Figure 37: Subject properties identified on the 1942 National Topographic Survey	18
Figure 38: Subject properties identified on the 1954 aerial photography	18
Figure 39: Subject properties identified on the 1974 <i>National Topographic Survey</i>	19
Figure 40: Subject properties identified in 1977 aerial photography.....	19
Figure 41: Subject properties identified in 2002 aerial photography.....	19
Figure 42: Subject properties identified in 2017 aerial photography.....	19
Figure 43: Subject properties identified in 2023 aerial photography.....	20
Figure 44: 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street looking east from Glen Crescent (Town of Halton Hills 2024).....	20
Figure 45: Looking north up Tweedle Street from 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)	20
Figure 46: Looking south down Tweedle Street from 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)	20
Figure 47: 5 Tweedle Street Front (West) Elevation (Town of Halton Hills 2024).....	21
Figure 48: 5 Tweedle Street Side (North) Elevation (Town of Halton Hills 2024).....	22
Figure 49: 5 Tweedle Street Side (South) Elevation (Town of Halton Hills 2024).....	22
Figure 50: Front (west) elevation of 7 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)	23
Figure 51: The front (west) elevation of 7 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)	23
Figure 52: Side (north) elevation of the existing house at 7 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)	23
Figure 53: Partial side (south) elevation of 7 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024).....	23
Figure 54: Front (west) elevation of 9 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)	24
Figure 55: Side (north) elevation of the existing house at 9 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)	25
Figure 56: Side (south) elevation of the existing house at 9 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)	25
Figure 57: Vernacular workers' residence at 139 Crescent Street built for Beardmore Tannery workers (Town of Halton Hills 2024)	26
Figure 58: Vernacular workers' residence at 123 Crescent Street built for Beardmore Tannery workers (Town of Halton Hills 2024)	26
Figure 59: Gothic Revival style workers' residence constructed in 1905 by Sykes and Ainsley Co. at 14 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	27
Figure 60: Gothic Revival residence at 514 Main Street, Glen Williams (Google Streetview 2023)	27

1.0 Property Description

5, 7 & 9 Tweedle Street, Glen Williams	
Municipality	Town of Halton Hills
County or Region	Region of Halton
Legal Description	<p><u>5 Tweedle Street:</u> PT LT 21, CON 10 ESQ; AKA; PT LT 15, PL GLEN WILLIAMS, PART 5 & 6, 20R5698, E OF TWEEDLE ST; AKA; LT 31, RCP 1556; S/T & T/W 175372; HALTON HILLS/ESQUESING</p> <p><u>7 Tweedle Street:</u> LT 30, RCP 1556, T/W & S/T 175372; HALTON HILLS</p> <p><u>9 Tweedle Street:</u> LT 29, RCP 1556, BEING PT 2, PL 20R5698. T/W & S/T 175372; HALTON HILLS</p>
Construction Date	c.1907
Original Use	Residential
Current Use	Residential
Architect/Building/Designer	Sykes and Ainley Manufacturing Company Ltd.
Architectural Style	Vernacular with Gothic Revival influences
Additions/Alterations	N/A
Heritage Status	Listed on the Town's Heritage Register
Recorder(s)	Austin Foster; Caylee MacPherson; Laura Loney
Report Date	June 2025

2.0 Background

This research and evaluation report describes the history, context, and physical characteristics of the properties at 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street 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*.

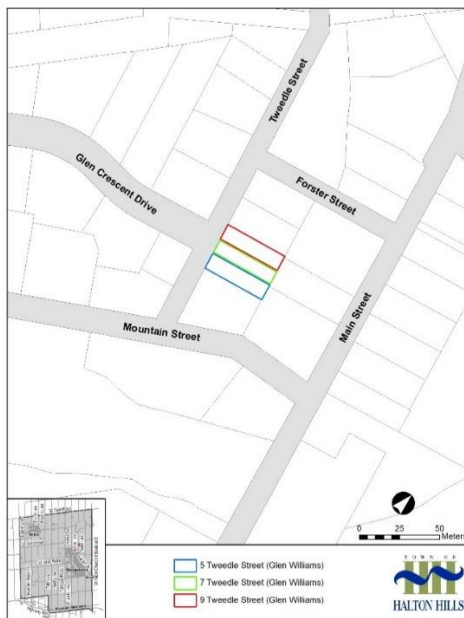


Figure 1: Location Map – 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street

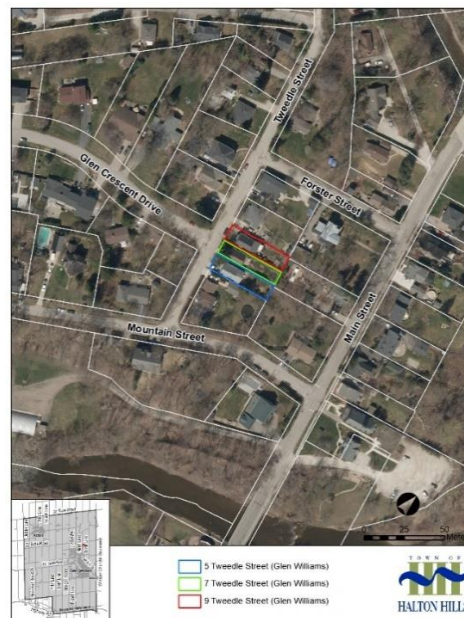


Figure 2: Aerial Photograph – 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street

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 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 because 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 Nation.¹

Early European Settlement and the Mills of Glen Williams

In 1824, the Crown granted Lot 21, Concession 10, to John Butler Muirhead of Niagara. On November 9, 1825, the executors of Muirhead's estate sold the lot to Benajah Williams. In 1839, Benajah’s son Jacob Williams established a woollen mill along the Credit River, marking the beginning of industrial activity in the area. The property was later surveyed into village lots, with the first lots near the river sold around 1849.

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.

Jacob Williams' woollen mill, erected in 1839, became a cornerstone of local industry. After Jacob's sudden death in 1853, his brother, Charles Williams, took over the operation. By 1866, the mill also housed Brown's Pump Factory and Bradshaw's Comb Factory. However, the original mill was destroyed by fire in 1867. Charles rebuilt a new stone mill in its place, only for it to burn down again in 1875. Charles reconstructed the mill as a two-and-a-half-storey structure powered by a forty-horsepower waterwheel. The mill employed over 50 workers and processed 450 pounds of wool daily.

By January 1878, the mill was advertised for sale in the *Toronto Globe*, although Joseph Williams continued to manage operations. In 1889, the mill was sold to John Sykes and his son-in-law, Norman Ainley, along with Harry Holdroyd, the later son-in-law of Joseph Williams. Together, they formed the Sykes and Ainley Manufacturing Company.

The Sykes and Ainley Manufacturing Company continued to operate the mill, maintaining a connection to the Williams family through Holdroyd's marriage to Joseph Williams' daughter Evangeline (1870-1952) in 1891. The company was a major local employer and significantly contributed to the village economy.

In 1907, the Glen Woollen Mills Company Ltd., originally established in Yorkshire, England, took over the mill. The company expanded operations under the leadership of local entrepreneur and Vice-President H.P. Lawson and Secretary-Treasurer and General Manager E.Y. Barraclough, who relocated from England to Glen Williams. Barraclough lived in the manager's home at 25 Mountain Street (Barraclough House). At its peak, the Glen Woollen Mills Company employed between 60 and 70 people.

WANTED AT ONCE
--- BY ---
Glen Woollen Mills Ltd.
SPINNERS
by piece or day work. Steady Employment.
**Weavers, Winders, Spoolers and
Warpers**
Good Wages Paid
BY KNITTING FACTORY
**Jenckes Knitters can earn \$2.50
to \$3 per day.**
Lumbermen's sox Knitters, Winders and Menders. Best
wages throughout. Apply to
E. Y. BARRACLOUGH
Managing Director Glen Williams, Ont.

Figure 3: Job advertisement for Glen Woollen Mills Ltd (Georgetown Herald, November 7, 1917, p. 3)



Figure 4: Mrs. Solway and Gertie Martin working on blankets in the Glen Woollen Mills, c.1930 (EHS 00995)



Figure 5: Employees in front of the Sykes and Ainley Mill, c.1910 (EHS 21781)

The Melrose Knitting Company operated within the Glen Woollen Mills during the early twentieth century, utilizing the mill's waterpower and a dynamo to produce electricity for its machinery and lighting. By 1949, the company was producing approximately 540,000 pairs of socks annually.



Figure 6: Job advertisement for the Glen Woollen Mills Limited and Melrose Knitting Company (*Georgetown Herald*, September 27, 1922, p.2)



Figure 7: Rear view of the Glen Woollen Mills and Melrose Knitting, c.1910 (EHS 00147)

In 1936, following the sudden death of manager E.Y. Barraclough, the Glen Woollen Mills Company Limited filed for bankruptcy. During the company's reorganization, housing and land in the village were sold. The onset of WWII brought renewed success to the mill, operating then as Glen Textiles, before closing in 1950. Following its closure, the building served as a warehouse until it was destroyed by fire in 1954.

5, 7 & 9 Tweedle Street: Sykes and Ainsley Worker Housing

The existing residences at 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street are a set of three near-identical workers' homes constructed in 1907 by the Sykes and Ainley Manufacturing Company. Situated on Village Lots 15, 16, and 17, these properties occupy the former site of a wool storage warehouse built in the 1890s, following the company's acquisition of the lots in 1889.



Figure 8: Subject properties identified on 1819 Patent Plan



Figure 9: Subject properties identified on Tremaine's 1858 Map of the County of Halton, Canada West

Designed to accommodate workers and their families, the Tweedle Street “Triplets” or the “Three Sisters” provided housing for employees of the Glen Williams Woollen Mills between 1907 and 1936. It appears that these homes would have replaced earlier accessory structures as shown on the 1898 Fire Insurance Plan (Figure 11), including a two-storey wool storage building with one-storey additions within the property boundaries now known as 9 and 7 Tweedle Street, and a smaller one-storey accessory structure within the property now known as 5 Tweedle Street.

Census records from 1911 to 1931 confirm that most residents on Tweedle Street during this period were engaged in the local wool and textile industry.

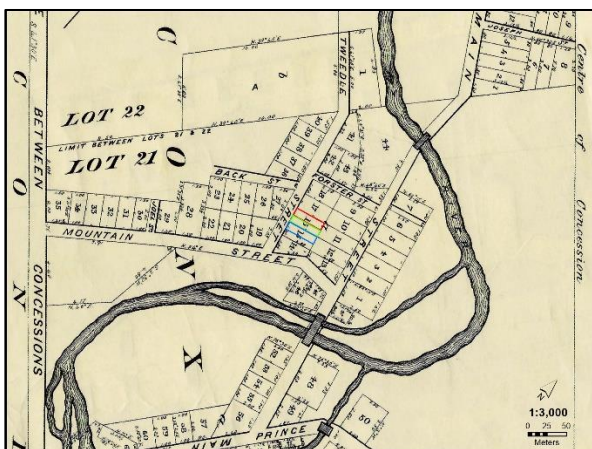


Figure 10: Subject properties identified on 1877 *Illustrated Atlas of the County of Halton*

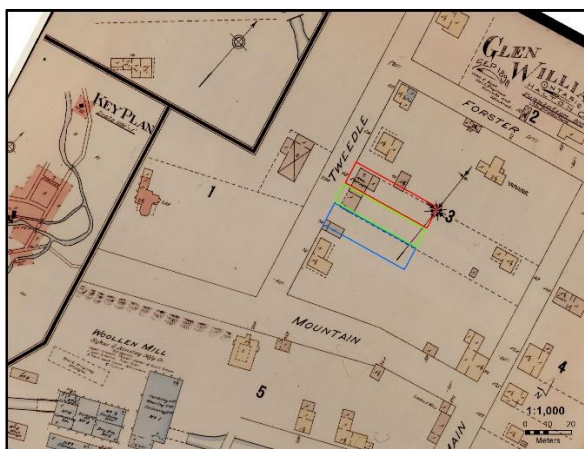


Figure 11: Subject properties identified on the 1898 Fire Insurance Plan



Figure 12: The "Three Sisters" identified on a c.1915 postcard (EHS 26109)



Figure 13: The "Three Sisters" identified on a c.1910 postcard (EHS 00969)



Figure 14: 3, 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street c.1919 (EHS 00441)

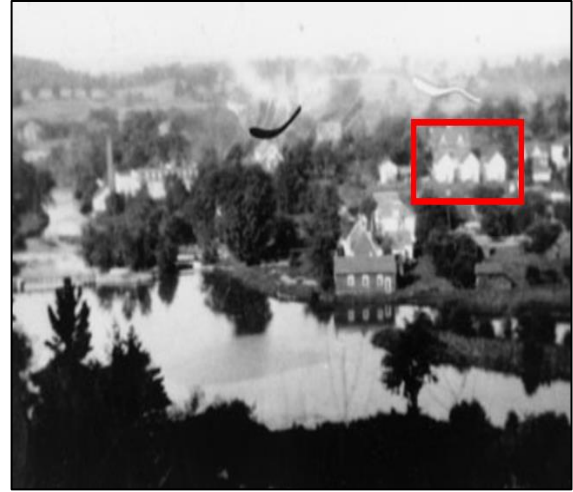


Figure 15: The residences at 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street identified in photograph of Glen Williams from the cemetery c.1940s. (EHS 09920)

The Early Years: 5 Tweedle Street



Figure 16: Una and Ed Hill in front of 5 Tweedle Street in the winter of 1940 (EHS 00960)

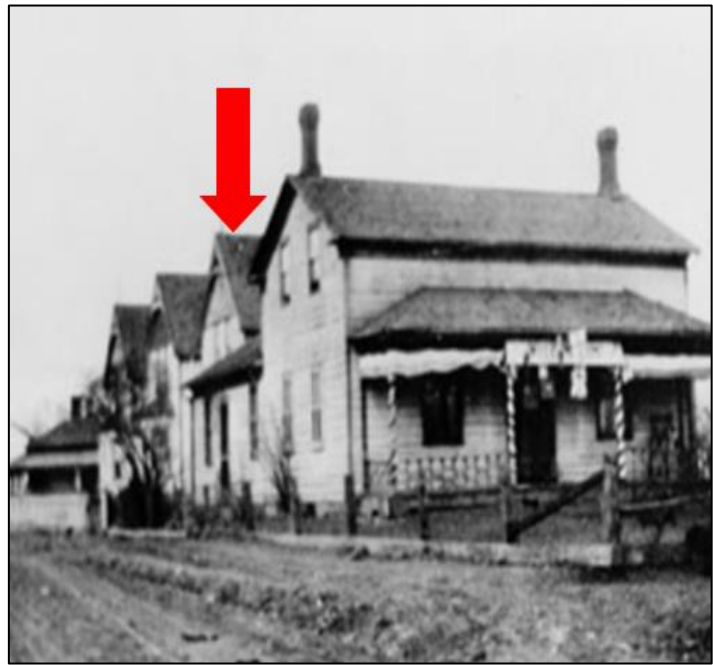


Figure 17: 5 Tweedle Street identified in c.1919 photograph of the "Three Sisters" (EHS 00441)

Herbert "Bert" Allen Hill (1891–1965) was among the earliest recorded residents of 5 Tweedle Street. Hill was raised in the neighbouring house at 3 Tweedle Street by his parents, Robert Hill (1862–1940) and Elizabeth "Lizzy" Duff Hill (1851–1949).

Robert Hill was an American-born immigrant who arrived in Canada in the 1880s. He married Elizabeth Duff around 1881, and the couple initially settled in Limehouse for a period when Robert worked as a farm labourer. By 1901, the couple had relocated to Glen Williams where they raised eight children: Isabella (b.1882), Emma (1884–1963), Catherine (b.1885), Jane (b.1887), Nancy "Nan" (1888–1986),

Herbert "Bert" (1891-1965), Edward (1892-1963) and William (1905-1976). While living in the Glen, Robert was employed as a teamster at the woollen mill. By 1909, the Hill family had established themselves at 3 Tweedle Street, and by 1921, several of Robert's children were also employed at the mill. Herbert Hill married Jeane Milne (1891-1965) in 1914, and the couple began renting the house at 5 Tweedle Street. Like his father, Herbert was employed at the mill. His children, Una Hill (1919-1997) and Edward Hill (1915-1968), attended the local school and St. Albans Church and would become staples in the Glen Williams community throughout the early-twentieth century.



Figure 18: A 1922 photograph of the Hill family on Tweedle Street (EHS 01004)



Figure 19: Nancy "Nan" Hill at the back gate of 3 Tweedle Street; 5 Tweedle Street is in the background, c. 1922 (EHS 01006)



Figure 20: A c.1923 photograph of members of the Hill family on Tweedle Street (EHS 01005).



Figure 21: Elizabeth Hill (1851-1949) in front of her Tweedle Street home. The Glen Woollen Mills' barn is across Tweedle Street. c.1930 (EHS 01000)

Una Hill and Edward Hill both served in the Second World War. In October 1942, Una enlisted in the Canadian Women's Army Corps (CWAC) and was assigned to military hospital staff, first at Niagara-on-the-Lake and later at Chorley Military Hospital in Toronto, where she served for 26 months. Upon her

return to Glen Williams in January 1945, she married RCAF officer and Glen Williams native Winfield Lloyd “Curley” Wheeler (1915–1959). Edward Hill, meanwhile, joined the Lorne Scots regiment in 1941 and served in France.



Figure 22: Edward Hill standing in front of 5 Tweedle Street in uniform c. 1943 (EHS 09970)



Figure 23: Private Una Hill at 5 Tweedle Street. c.1943 (EHS 00998)

Although the property at 5 Tweedle Street was sold to Herbert E. Distance in 1939, the Hill family continued to live at the address for two decades. Following the closure of the mill, Bert became a professional painter and worked with Edward Bludd.

The Hill family remained tight knit during this period, with gatherings often held at the properties at 3 and 5 Tweedle Street. Robert Hill was admitted to the Guelph Hospital in December 1939 and passed away in March 1940. His wife, Elizabeth, continued to live in the home at 3 Tweedle Street for nearly a decade after his death.



Figure 24: A 1948 Portrait of Elizabeth "Lizzy" Duff Hill (EHS 01014)

Following WWII, Una and Edward cared for their grandmother, Elizabeth Hill, who remained at 3 Tweedle Street until her death at 98 in 1949, at which time she was recognized as the district's oldest resident. Edward moved to Toronto shortly thereafter, and Una eventually relocated to an apartment in Glen Williams owned by the Wheeler family at the modern address of 519-521 Main Street. When Bert and Jean Hill became ill in the 1960s, Una again cared for her family. After months of prolonged sickness, Bert Hill died at the Georgetown Memorial Hospital in September of 1965, six months after his wife, Jean Milne Hill.

The Early Years: 7 Tweedle Street

The Dale family were among 7 Tweedle Street's earliest tenants. George Dale (1870–1947) was born in Leicester, England, where he spent the early part of his life working in various textile factories. In the summer of 1894, he married Mary Houghton (1870–1929). The couple resided in a small brick row house on Donnington Street in North Leicester, where George secured employment in the hosiery industry. They lived there for over a decade before emigrating to Canada.

On April 23, 1910, the Dale family departed Liverpool aboard *The Montrose* and arrived in Quebec on May 4, 1910, accompanied by their five children: Sidney George (1896–1974), Thomas Bertram (1899–1968), Ivy May (1901–1996), Gladys Grace (1905–1994), and Beatrice Eveline (1907–1983).



Figure 25: A c.1910 photograph of 7 Tweedle Street (EHS 20259)

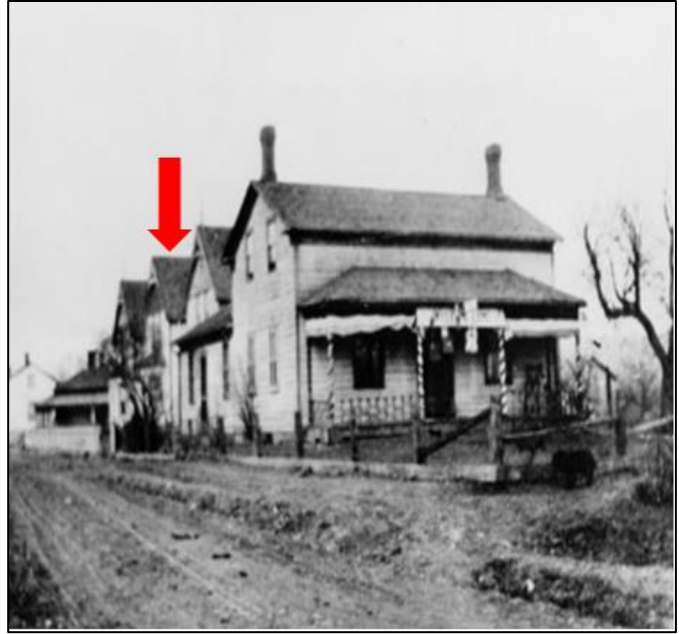


Figure 26: 7 Tweedle Street identified in a c.1919 photograph of the "Three Sisters" (EHS 00441)

Upon their arrival in Canada, the family settled in Glen Williams. George and his sons found employment at the Glen Woollen Mills and established their residence at the subject property. They became members of St. Alban the Martyr Anglican Church in 1910, and the younger children (Ivy, Gladys, and Beatrice) were enrolled in the local school.

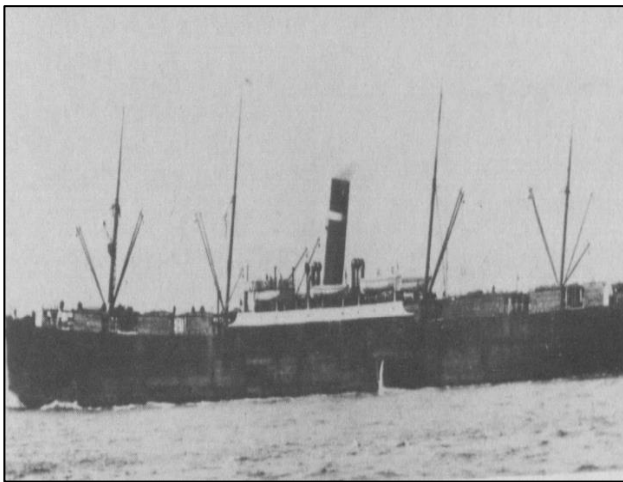


Figure 27: The British Steam Ship Montrose leaving Liverpool c. 1898. (Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping. Vol. I—Steamers. London: Lloyd's Register of Shipping, 1898).



Figure 28: The Dale Family, c.1912 (Courtesy of Cliff Dale and Mark Rowe)

George worked as a labourer at the mill, earning an annual wage of \$286. Sidney, employed as a mule minder, earned \$128 annually, while Thomas worked as a winder and earned \$80 per year. By 1914, the Dale family had relocated to Galt where George would find employment as a shipper for another woollen mill, and Sidney would enlist in the Canadian Expeditionary Force in 1915. Following the Dales'

relocation, the Allen family rented the residence at 7 Tweedle Street and the home continued to serve as a worker's residence for the Glen Woollen Mills until its sale to Herbert E. Distance in 1939.

The Early Years: 9 Tweedle Street



Figure 29: 9 Tweedle Street c.2000 (Heritage Halton Hills)



Figure 30: 9 Tweedle Street identified in a c.1919 photograph of the "Three Sisters" (EHS 00441)

George Jarvis (1878–1947) was among the earliest residents of 9 Tweedle Street. Originally from Gaulby, England, Jarvis and his wife, Alice (1879–1960), immigrated to Canada in 1910 and settled in Glen Williams the following year. George was employed as a knitter at the Glen Woollen Mills, and the couple established themselves at 9 Tweedle Street with their three children: George Edwin Jarvis (1901–1979), Elsie J. Jarvis (b. 1906), and Dorothy Jarvis (b. 1909). The family attended the Glen Methodist Church, and the children received their education at the local school. Around 1919, the Jarvis family returned to England and the residence continued its role as workers housing for the following decade.



Figure 31: A woman in a horse-drawn buggy pauses in front of 9 Tweedle Street c.1915 (EHS 02177)

Herbert E. Distance: Landlord

Following the sudden death of manager E.Y. Barraclough in 1936, the Glen Woollen Mills Company Ltd. filed for bankruptcy. During the company's subsequent reorganization, housing and land in the village, including the Tweedle Street properties, were sold. In 1939, Frederick M. Moffat, Trustee of the Woollen Mills, officiated the sale of 'Parcel 3' containing all three residences to Herbert E. Distance.



Figure 32: The sale of mill assets (including the subject property) advertised in the *Georgetown Herald*, November 9, 1938, p. 5



Figure 33: A cropped view of the "Three Sisters" from the cemetery c.1940 (EHS 09920)

Herbert Edwin Distance (1879–1956) was born in July 1879 in Yorkshire, England and was one of twelve children of Francis and Jane Distance. He was raised on his father's 80-acre farm in Buttercrambe, where he worked as a farm laborer for several years. Following his father's death in 1906, Herbert received a small inheritance and moved to Liverpool, where he worked in a print shop for several years. On August 13, 1924, he departed Liverpool aboard the *Milita* and arrived in Montreal the following month.

Upon arriving in Canada, Distance initially worked for a year on the John Hainer farm in Limehouse before securing employment at the Georgetown Paper Mill. By the early 1930s, he had settled in Georgetown and taken a position as a foreman colour maker at Alliance Paper Mills, Ltd. He lived in Glen Williams for some time before relocating to 17 Victoria Street in Georgetown in the late 1940s. In 1939, he purchased Parcel 3 of the Glen Woollen Mills' liquidated assets following their bankruptcy. The properties were subsequently rented to various tenants, many of whom were already workers of the mill.

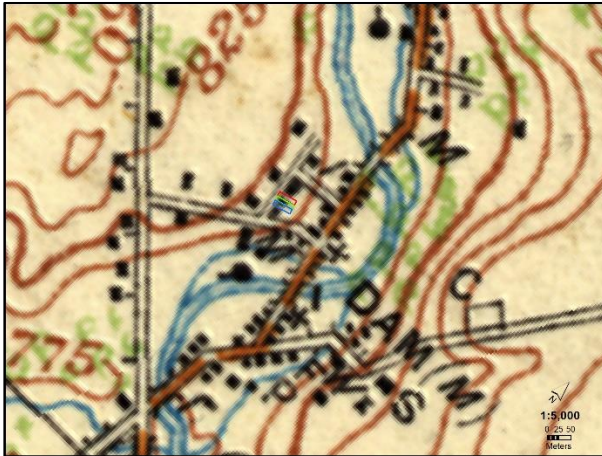


Figure 34: Subject properties identified on the 1929 *National Topographic Survey*

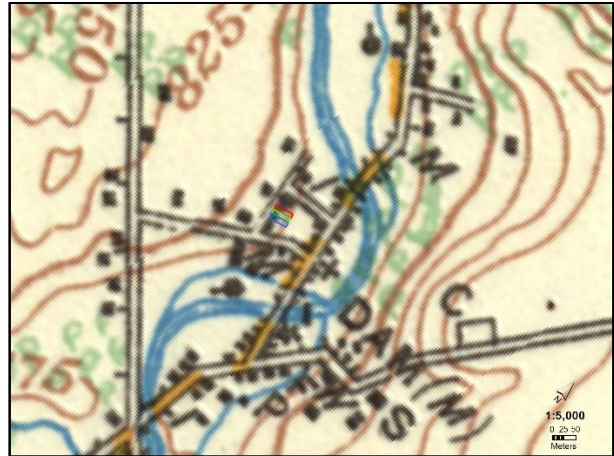


Figure 35: Subject properties identified on the 1938 *National Topographical Survey*

Distance retired from Alliance Paper Mills in 1948 and continued to reside in Georgetown until his death following a heart attack at his home on Victoria Street on December 30, 1956. In November 1964, Sheridan Nurseries, which had been expanding its land holdings in the area since 1955, purchased 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street. The “Three Sisters,” along with other nearby properties such as 14 Tweedle Street, were used to house seasonal workers for the next two decades.

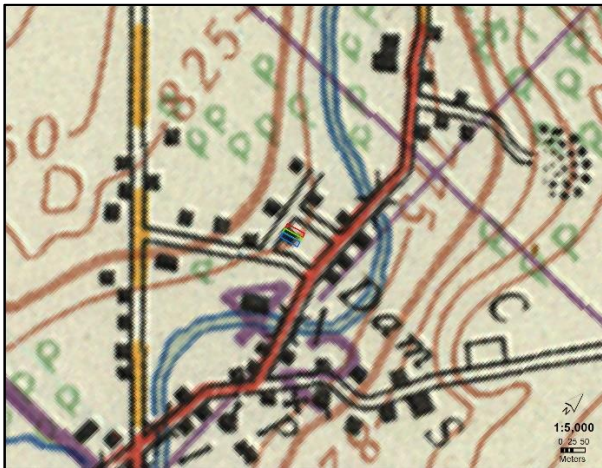


Figure 36: Subject properties identified on the 1942 *National Topographic Survey*



Figure 37: Subject properties identified on the 1954 aerial photography

In 1982, the properties were subdivided and sold separately. That same year, the property and residence at 5 Tweedle Street were sold to its current owners. The property at 7 Tweedle Street was sold to Frank Roslofsen, who later sold it to its current owners in 1992. Meanwhile, 9 Tweedle Street was sold to the Barclay family in 1982 and has since changed hands multiple times.

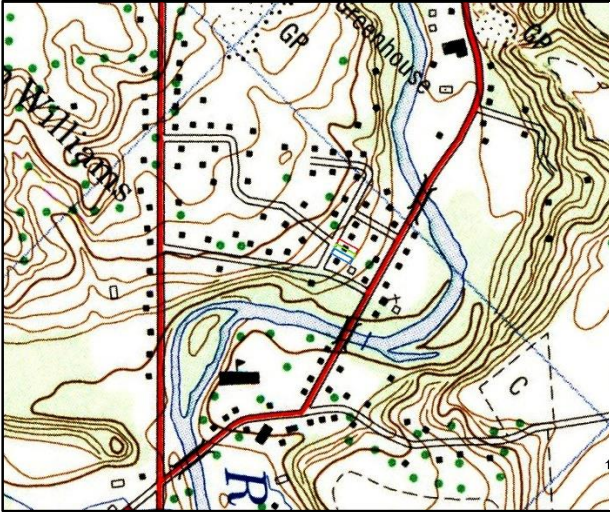


Figure 38: Subject properties identified on the 1974 *National Topographic Survey*



Figure 39: Subject properties identified in 1977 aerial photography



Figure 40: Subject properties identified in 2002 aerial photography

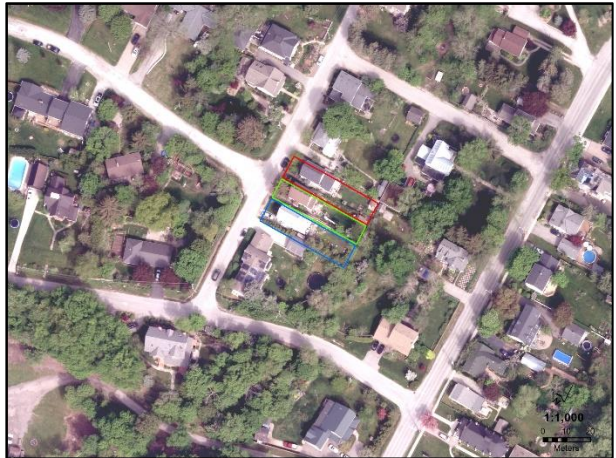


Figure 41: Subject properties identified in 2017 aerial photography

2.2 Property & Architectural Description

The properties at 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street are located along the east side of Tweedle Street in the community of Glen Williams in the Town of Halton Hills.



Figure 42: Subject properties identified in 2023 aerial photography



Figure 43: 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street looking east from Glen Crescent (Town of Halton Hills 2024)



Figure 44: Looking north up Tweedle Street from 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)



Figure 45: Looking south down Tweedle Street from 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)

5 Tweedle Street

The property at 5 Tweedle Street is a rectangular shaped parcel located on the east side of Tweedle Street in the community of Glen Williams within the Town of Halton Hills. The property is legally described as “PT LT 21, CON 10 ESQ; AKA; PT LT 15, PL GLEN WILLIAMS, PART 5 & 6, 20R5698, E OF TWEEDLE ST; AKA; LT 31, RCP 1556; S/T & T/W 175372; HALTON HILLS/ESQUESING”. The property contains a single-detached, two-storey wood frame residential building constructed c.1907, with a c.1980s two storey addition to the rear. The property is accessed via an interlock driveway extending from Tweedle Street. The existing residential building is a representative example of a vernacular workers’ residence with Gothic Revival influences in the community of Glen Williams.



Figure 46: 5 Tweedle Street Front (West) Elevation (Town of Halton Hills 2024)

The first storey of the front (west) elevation includes a tripartite bay window with three rectangular, flat-headed window openings. The bay is capped with a shallow hipped roof that terminates below the second storey. The second storey features two narrow, rectangular flat-headed window openings positioned beneath a steeply pitched gable end. The area from the eaves to the gable peak is clad with scalloped "fish-scale" wooden shakes, while the gable peak is adorned with decorative wooden bargeboard. The structure is clad in modern siding.



Figure 47: 5 Tweedle Street Side (North) Elevation (Town of Halton Hills 2024)

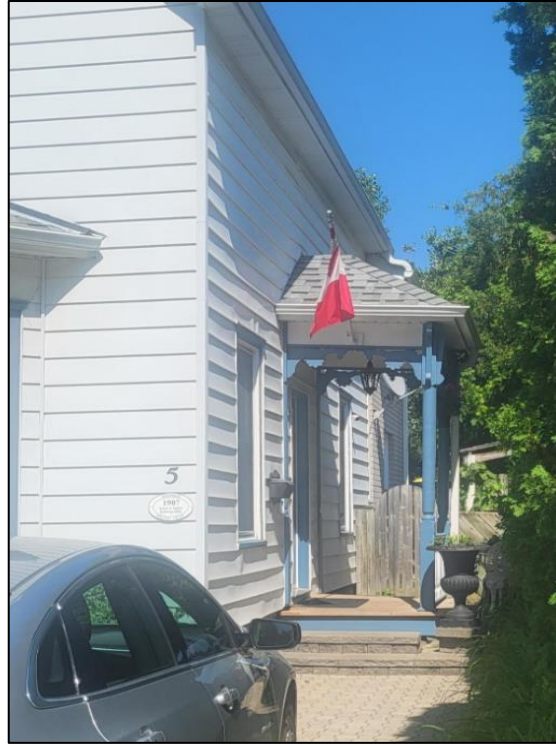


Figure 48: 5 Tweedle Street Side (South) Elevation (Town of Halton Hills 2024)

The north elevation of 5 Tweedle Street features two rectangular window openings at grade and a single rectangular window opening and a modern octagonal window on the second storey. The south elevation is characterized by a centrally positioned entrance, flanked by rectangular window openings on either side. A single-storey decorative Italianate wooden veranda with a shallow hipped roof extends across the entrance, sheltering the door and wooden stoop. Moderately overhanging eaves span the width of these elevations, which is capped with a steeply pitched gable roof.

7 Tweedle Street

The property at 7 Tweedle Street is a rectangular shaped parcel located on the east side of Tweedle Street in the community of Glen Williams within the Town of Halton Hills. The property is legally described as “LT 30, RCP 1556, T/W & S/T 175372; HALTON HILLS”. The property contains a single-detached, two-storey wood frame residential building constructed c.1907, featuring a mature coniferous tree on the front lawn, with a small contemporary outbuilding towards the rear. The residence is flanked by near-identical dwellings on either side. The property is accessed via an unpaved driveway extending from Tweedle Street. The existing residential building is a representative example of a vernacular workers’ residence with Gothic Revival influences in the community of Glen Williams.



Figure 49: Front (west) elevation of 7 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)

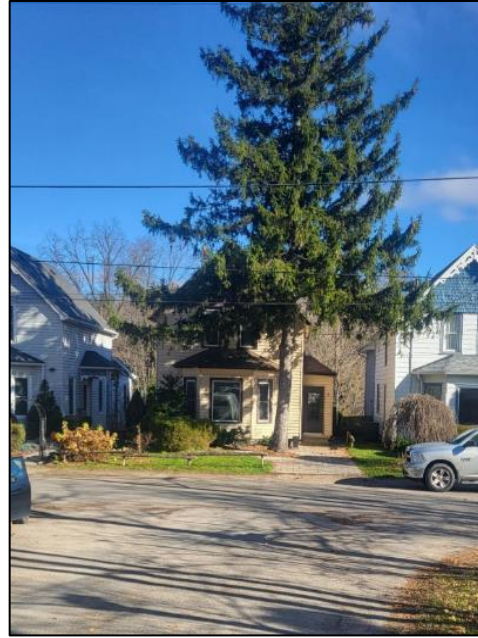


Figure 50: The front (west) elevation of 7 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)

The first storey of the front (west) elevation includes a tripartite bay window with three rectangular, flat-headed window openings. The bay is capped with a shallow hipped roof that terminates at the second storey. The second storey features two narrow, rectangular flat-headed window openings positioned beneath a steeply pitched gable end. The area from the eaves to the gable peak is clad with scalloped “fish-scale” wooden shakes, while the gable peak is adorned with decorative wooden bargeboard. The whole structure is clad in modern vinyl siding.



Figure 51: Side (north) elevation of the existing house at 7 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)



Figure 52: Partial side (south) elevation of 7 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)

The side (north) elevation features two irregularly spaced, flatheaded rectangular window openings on the first storey. The westernmost window is taller and narrower, occupying a more central position on the wall, while the easternmost window is shorter and wider. The second storey contains a single, centrally placed flat-headed rectangular window opening. Moderately overhanging eaves span the

width of this elevation, which is capped with a steeply pitched gable roof. A later twentieth-century addition on the rear elevation includes a single flat-headed window opening on this side.

The side (south) elevation features two rectangular window openings on the first storey, each flanking a central entrance. The historic porch has been enclosed, but its original scale and form remain evident, characterized by a shallow hipped roof and concrete landing. The primary entrance now faces west. There are no window openings on the second storey along this elevation. Moderately overhanging eaves span the width of this elevation, which is capped with a steeply pitched gable roof. The structure's stone foundation is visible at this elevation.

9 Tweedle Street

The property at 9 Tweedle Street is a rectangular shaped parcel located on the east side of Tweedle Street in the community of Glen Williams within the Town of Halton Hills. The property is legally described as "LT 29, RCP 1556, BEING PT 2, PL 20R5698. T/W & S/T 175372; HALTON HILLS". The property contains a single-detached, two-storey wood frame residential building constructed c.1907, with a c.1990s single storey addition to the rear. The property is accessed via a paved driveway extending from Tweedle Street. The existing residential building is a representative example of a vernacular workers' residence with Gothic Revival influences in the community of Glen Williams.



Figure 53: Front (west) elevation of 9 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)

The first storey of the front (west) elevation includes a tripartite bay window with three rectangular, flat-headed window openings. The bay is capped with a shallow hipped roof that terminates at the second storey. The second storey features two narrow, rectangular flat-headed window openings positioned beneath a steeply pitched gable end. The area from the eaves to the gable peak is clad with scalloped "fish-scale" wooden shakes, while the gable peak is adorned with decorative wooden bargeboard. The structure is clad in modern vinyl siding.



Figure 54: Side (north) elevation of the existing house at 9 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)



Figure 55: Side (south) elevation of the existing house at 9 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2024)

The side (north) elevation features two irregularly spaced, flat-headed rectangular window openings on the first storey. The westernmost window is taller and narrower, occupying a more central position on the wall, while the easternmost window is shorter and wider. The second storey contains a single centrally placed flat-headed rectangular window opening. Moderately overhanging eaves span the width of this elevation, which is capped with a steeply pitched gable roof.

The south elevation is characterized by a centrally positioned entrance, flanked by rectangular window openings on either side. A single-storey decorative Italianate wooden veranda with a shallow hipped roof extends across the entrance, sheltering the door and wooden stoop.

2.3 Architectural Style and Comparative Analysis

The existing dwellings located at 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street are representative examples of early-twentieth century vernacular workers housing with Gothic Revival architectural influences. The Gothic Revival architectural style was prevalent in Ontario between 1830 and 1900 and was used for a variety of buildings from brick and frame cottages to stone castles. According to John Blumenson, characteristics of the Gothic Revival style include, but are not limited to, one-and-a-half to two-storeys in massing, a steep gabled roof with decorative wooden bargeboard, a bay window along the front elevation, and dichromatic or polychromatic brick patterns.

Vernacular buildings are not often defined by a particular style of architecture but can be influenced by or feature elements from certain architectural styles. They typically prioritize functionality, the availability of local resources, and incorporate design elements influenced by regional architectural styles and traditional local building techniques. Vernacular architecture is dependent on the local architectural context and is often used to describe buildings reflecting local designs and materials.

The subject dwellings are best described as vernacular structures; however, they also feature influences borrowed from the Gothic Revival architectural style, including the steeply pitched gable roofs, prominent bay windows on the front (west) elevations, the scalloped “fish scale” wooden shakes, and decorative wooden barge board. The residences also featured ornate gothic and Italianate inspired porches on the southern elevation, but only remain extant at 5 and 9 Tweedle Street. The residences at 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street are excellent representations of workers’ housing built by the Sykes & Ainley Manufacturing company at the beginning of the twentieth century for its employees.

The residences at 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street share significant commonalities with other contemporary workers’ residences constructed for large manufacturing firms in the Halton Hills area. For example, the residences on Acton’s Crescent Street (formerly Beardmore Crescent), built for Beardmore Tannery workers in the early twentieth century, exhibit similar characteristics in scale, material, form, and massing. However, these examples lack the prominent Gothic Revival influences (such as the fish-scale shakes, bay windows, bargeboard, verandas, and detailing) present in the Tweedle Street properties, which set them apart as more architecturally detailed examples of workers' housing.



Figure 56: Vernacular workers’ residence at 139 Crescent Street built for Beardmore Tannery workers (Town of Halton Hills 2024)



Figure 57: Vernacular workers’ residence at 123 Crescent Street built for Beardmore Tannery workers (Town of Halton Hills 2024)

The Gothic Revival style was popular in Glen Williams during the late nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. A notable example is the Ontario Gothic worker's cottage located just north of the three residences at 14 Tweedle Street, constructed by the Sykes and Ainley Company in 1905. This residence exemplifies the style as utilized in Glen Williams, featuring a gable roof, central gable peak window, ornate porch, and decorative wooden bargeboard. Similarly, the Gothic Revival residence at 514 Main Street in Glen Williams represents a larger and more elaborate interpretation of the style, displaying its characteristic elements. While prioritizing function, size, and cost efficiency, as seen in the Beardmore Crescent workers' houses in Acton, the subject properties incorporate several key architectural features of the Gothic Revival style that defined the character of Glen Williams during this period.



Figure 58: Gothic Revival style workers' residence constructed in 1905 by Sykes and Ainsley Co. at 14 Tweedle Street (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 59: Gothic Revival residence at 514 Main Street, Glen Williams (Google Streetview 2023)

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

Known locally as the "Three Sisters," the existing residential buildings at 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street have physical and design value as representative vernacular workers' housing with Gothic Revival influences in the community of Glen Williams in the Town of Halton Hills. Reflecting the practical construction methods of vernacular architecture, the two-storey frame structures incorporate local building techniques, affordable materials, and functional designs, while also displaying key elements of the Gothic Revival or Carpenter Gothic style. These features include its steeply pitched roof, decorative wooden bargeboard, bay window, and intricate wooden architectural detailing. Despite minor alterations to the exterior, the scale, form, and massing of the two-storey structures, one-storey bay windows, and solid-to-void ratios of window openings along the primary elevations, remain extant.

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 properties at 5,7, and 9 Tweedle Street have significant historical and associative value due to their associations with the woollen mill industry in the Hamlet of Glen Williams. Built as worker's housing in 1907 by the Sykes and Ainley Manufacturing Company Ltd., 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street served as residences through several changes in the mill's ownership until its closure in the mid-twentieth century, including housing for the Sykes and Ainley Manufacturing Company Ltd., the Glen Williams Woollen Mills, and later, Glen Textiles. These properties are also associated with the prominent Hill family of Glen Williams. Additionally, the properties served as housing for seasonal workers for Sheridan Nurseries until they were sold in the 1980s.

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 Three Sisters at 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street hold significant contextual value, contributing to the preservation of the area's historical character and maintaining the architectural cohesion of modest worker's housing in the Glen Williams community. These residences are physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to their surroundings, forming an integral part of the area's heritage despite the loss of the former woollen mill. The continued presence of Gothic Revival workers' housing in this area serves as a tangible reminder of the community's historical ties to the nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century wool industry. Constructed on the site of a former wool storage barn used by the Sykes and Ainsley Company in the late-nineteenth century, the three properties share an identical scale, form, massing, and architectural style, reinforcing their interconnected significance. While minor alterations have occurred since their construction in 1907, the Three Sisters retain a strong visual association and continue to reflect their shared historical and architectural character, collectively supporting and enhancing the heritage fabric of Glen Williams. Due to the modest size of the buildings, the Three Sisters have not been identified as a landmark.

4.0 Summary

Following research and evaluation according to Ontario Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the properties at 5, 7, and 9 Tweedle Street have physical and design, historical and associative, and contextual value and therefore meets Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest.

5 Tweedle Street

The heritage attributes of the property at 5 Tweedle Street that contribute to its physical and design value include:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the two-storey vernacular worker's cottage with Gothic Revival detailing along Tweedle Street in the community of Glen Williams;
- The scale, form, and massing of the existing building, including its gable roof;
- The materials, including stone foundation and wooden architectural and decorative elements throughout;
- The front elevation, including:
 - o The tripartite bay window with shallow hipped roof;
 - o Decorative wooden bargeboard on the gable end;
 - o Scalloped "fish scale" wooden shakes beneath the gable end;
- The side (south) elevation, including:
 - o Two flat-headed rectangular window openings; and,
 - o The wooden veranda with Italianate motifs.

The identified heritage attribute of the property at 5 Tweedle Street that contributes to its historical and associative value includes:

- The legibility of the existing house as an early-twentieth century vernacular worker's cottage with Gothic Revival detailing along Tweedle Street within the community of Glen Williams in the Town of Halton Hills.

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 5 Tweedle Street that contribute to its contextual value include:

- The legibility of the existing house as an early-twentieth century vernacular worker's cottage with Gothic Revival detailing along Tweedle Street within the community of Glen Williams in the Town of Halton Hills;
- The setback, location, and orientation of the c.1907 residential building on the east side of Tweedle Street in the community of Glen Williams; and,
- The scale, form, and massing of the two-storey wood frame residential building.

7 Tweedle Street

The heritage attributes of the property at 7 Tweedle Street that contribute to its physical and design value include:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the two-storey vernacular worker's cottage with Gothic revival detailing along Tweedle Street in the community of Glen Williams;
- The scale, form, and massing of the existing building, including its gable roof;

- The materials, including stone foundation and wooden architectural and decorative elements throughout;
- The front elevation, including:
 - o The tripartite bay window with shallow hipped roof;
 - o Decorative wooden bargeboard on the gable end; and,
 - o Scalloped “fish scale” wooden shakes beneath the gable end.

The identified heritage attribute of the property at 7 Tweedle Street that contributes to its historical and associative value includes:

- The legibility of the existing house as an early-twentieth century vernacular worker's cottage with Gothic Revival detailing along Tweedle Street within the community of Glen Williams in the Town of Halton Hills.

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 7 Tweedle Street that contribute to its contextual value include:

- The legibility of the existing house as an early-twentieth century vernacular worker's cottage with Gothic Revival detailing along Tweedle Street within the community of Glen Williams in the Town of Halton Hills;
- The setback, location, and orientation of the c.1907 residential building on the east side of Tweedle Street in the community of Glen Williams; and,
- The scale, form, and massing of the two-storey wood frame residential building.

9 Tweedle Street

The heritage attributes of the property at 9 Tweedle Street that contribute to its physical and design value include:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the two-storey vernacular worker's cottage with Gothic Revival detailing along Tweedle Street in the community of Glen Williams;
- The scale, form, and massing of the existing building, including its gable roof;
- The materials, including stone foundation and wooden architectural and decorative elements throughout;
- The front elevation, including:
 - o The tripartite bay window with shallow hipped roof;
 - o Decorative wooden bargeboard on the gable end;
 - o Scalloped “fish scale” wooden shakes beneath the gable end;
- The side (south) elevation, including:
 - o Two flat-headed rectangular window openings; and,
 - o The wooden veranda with Italianate motifs.

The identified heritage attribute of the property at 9 Tweedle Street that contributes to its historical and associative value includes:

- The legibility of the existing house as an early-twentieth century vernacular worker's cottage with Gothic Revival detailing along Tweedle Street within the community of Glen Williams in the Town of Halton Hills.

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 9 Tweedle Street that contribute to its contextual value include:

- The legibility of the existing house as an early-twentieth century vernacular worker's cottage with Gothic Revival detailing along Tweedle Street within the community of Glen Williams in the Town of Halton Hills;
- The setback, location, and orientation of the c.1907 residential building on the east side of Tweedle Street in the community of Glen Williams; and,
- The scale, form, and massing of the two-storey wood frame residential building.

The rear elevation, rear addition, and interiors for 5,7, and 9 Tweedle Street have not been identified as part of this report.

Please note, this Research and Evaluation Report reflects the most up to date findings relating to its cultural heritage value as identified by staff. This report may be updated in future to reflect future findings as required.

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