



TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS
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REPORT

TO: Mayor Lawlor and Members of Council

FROM: Laura Loney, Manager of Heritage Planning

DATE: August 8, 2025

REPORT NO.: PD-2025-048

SUBJECT: Intention to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act – 32 Stewarttown Road (Stewarttown)

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. PD-2025-048, dated August 8, 2025, and titled “Intention to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act – 32 Stewarttown Road (Stewarttown)” be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council state its intention to designate the property at 32 Stewarttown Road, Stewarttown, legally described as “PT LTS 7 & 8 SWM, PL 1550; BEING PLAN OF STEWARTTOWN, AS IN 855807; FORMERLY; PT LT 16, CON 7 ESQ; 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, legally described above, be brought forward to Council for adoption.

KEY POINTS:

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

- Staff have undertaken a Research & Evaluation Report for the subject property in accordance with the Town’s Council-approved Heritage Register Prioritization Strategy to respond to changes to the *Ontario Heritage Act* through *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 has been identified as a significant cultural heritage landscape; and,
- Staff are recommending that Council state its intention to designate the property.
- This report is identified as requiring immediate action due to legislated timelines for Notices of Intention to Designate under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

The property at 32 Stewarttown Road is located at the intersection of Stewarttown Road and Mill Pond Drive in the community of Stewarttown in the Town of Halton Hills. The property contains a single detached, one-and-a-half storey dwelling with rear accessory structure accessed from Mill Pond Drive.

The property at 32 Stewarttown Road 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.

On April 25, 2025, the current property owner was mailed a designation information package with covering letter from staff, identifying that this work was being undertaken and encouraging them to contact staff to discuss further. Staff sent an additional notice on June 5, 2025, advising them that the Research and Evaluation Report for the subject property would be reviewed at the June 18, 2025 meeting of Heritage Halton Hills.

Heritage Halton Hills reviewed the Research & Evaluation Report for the subject property at the June 18, 2025, meeting and the following motion was carried:

Recommendation No. HHH-2025-0034

THAT Heritage Halton Hills recommend Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property at 32 Stewarttown Road for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act.

The property has been identified as a unique example of a one-and-a-half storey, pre-Confederation, Georgian residential building with Neo-Classical influences within the community of Stewarttown. The property has direct associations with Richard Tracey, the first Clerk and Treasurer of Esquesing, the evolution of the Township of Esquesing and its Council, and with Richard Tracey's son, John Alexander Tracey, who also served as Clerk of Esquesing Township for many years. Additionally, Richard Tracey's widow Flora McNabb later married notable public figure Lieutenant Colonel John Murray, who had connections with John Henry Shepherd who had escaped the United

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.

States through the Underground Railroad. The property has also been identified as being contextually significant.

As described in the Research & Evaluation Report, the heritage attributes of the property at 32 Stewarttown Road that contribute to its design and physical value are identified as follows:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the existing building along Stewarttown Road in the community of Stewarttown in the Town of Halton Hills;
- The scale, form, and massing of the original one-and-a-half storey brick building with gable roof featuring returning eaves and stone foundation;
- The materials, including brick facades laid in Flemish bond, brick detailing, and wooden architectural detailing throughout;
- At the front (northeast) elevation:
 - The asymmetrically located single flatheaded entrance with glass transom above;
 - The bracketed wooden gable roof above the entrance
 - Flatheaded window openings at the first and second storeys with sills;
- Along the side (southeast) elevation:
 - The flatheaded window opening with sill below and brick voussoirs above;
 - The rear wood frame summer kitchen addition;
- At the rear (southwest) elevation, the two symmetrically placed flatheaded window openings at the first storey with sills below and brick voussoirs above, and the flatheaded window opening at the upper storey beneath the gable peak featuring sill and brick voussoirs above;
- Along the side (northwest) elevation, the single flatheaded window opening with brick voussoirs above.

The heritage attribute of the property at 32 Stewarttown Road that contributes to its historical and associative value includes:

- The legibility of the existing house as a mid-nineteenth century Georgian building with Neo-Classical influences along Stewarttown Road within the community of Stewarttown in the Town of Halton Hills.

The heritage attributes of the property at 32 Stewarttown Road that contribute to its contextual value include:

- The legibility of the existing house as a mid-nineteenth century Georgian building with Neo-Classical influences along Stewarttown Road within the community of Stewarttown in the Town of Halton Hills;
- The setback, location, and orientation of the existing building along Stewarttown Road in the community of Stewarttown in the Town of Halton Hills; and,

- The scale, form, and massing of the original one-and-a-half storey brick building with gable roof featuring returning eaves and stone foundation.

Contemporary window and door openings, the side (northwest) one storey addition, roof dormers, and interiors have not been identified as heritage attributes of the subject 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 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