



REPORT

TO: Mayor Lawlor and Members of Council

FROM: Laura Loney, Manager of Heritage Planning

DATE: October 31, 2025

REPORT NO.: PD-2025-061

SUBJECT: Intention to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act – 508 Main St (Glen Williams)

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. PD-2025-061, dated October 31, 2025, and titled “Intention to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act – 508 Main St (Glen Williams)” be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council state its intention to designate the property at 508 Main Street, known as the Williams Edge Tool Factory Building, legally described as “LT 52, RCP 1556; 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 as such Staff are recommending that Council state its intention to designate the property; and,
- 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 subject property is an irregularly-shaped parcel located along the west side of Main Street and to the northeast of the Credit River. The property features a two-storey frame building clad in contemporary siding with rear one-storey additions, and features a gable roof and one-storey porch which stretches along the front (east) elevation. The rear of the property abuts the Credit River and mature trees are located at the rear and side property lines. A one-storey detached garage is located at the rear of the existing residence in addition to some smaller outbuildings. The property was listed on the Town's Heritage Register during Phase 1 of the Town's Heritage Register process (2010) and identified as having been used as the "Edge Tool Factory" until 1870 and associated with the nearby cabinet and chair factory.

The subject property 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 September 18, 2025, the Owners were sent a designation information package and notified that the Research and Evaluation Report for the subject property would be reviewed at the October 15, 2025 meeting of Heritage Halton Hills. Staff sent an additional notice on October 15, 2025 that the matter would be considered by Council on November 17, 2025.

Heritage Halton Hills reviewed the Research and Evaluation Report for 508 Main Street, Glen Williams at its October 15, 2025 meeting, where the following motion was carried:

Recommendation No. HHH-2025-0055

THAT Heritage Halton Hills recommend Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property at 508 Main Street (Glen Williams) for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act.

The Williams Edge Tool Factory at 508 Main Street in Glen Williams has been identified as a representative, mid-nineteenth-century Georgian industrial-form building within the community of Glen Williams. The subject property has significant historical and associative value due to its ties to the founding Williams family and to the early

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.

industrial development and entrepreneurial spirit of the area. The property has also been identified as contextually significant and as a landmark.

The heritage attributes of the property at 508 Main Street that contribute to its physical and design value are identified as follows:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the existing Georgian industrial-form building along Main Street in the community of Glen Williams;
- The scale, form, and massing of the two-storey frame building with side gable roof featuring returning eaves;
- The front (east) elevation, including:
 - o At the first storey, the flatheaded entrance centered on the front elevation, and two symmetrically placed, paired flatheaded window openings on either side;
 - o At the second storey, five flatheaded window openings symmetrically placed along the elevation; and,
- The side (north and south) elevations featuring no openings or fenestration.

The heritage attribute of the property at 508 Main Street that contributes to its historical and associative value is identified as follows:

- The legibility of the existing building within the property as a mid-19th century, industrial-form Georgian building adaptively-reused for residential use within the community of Glen Williams in the Town of Halton Hills.

The heritage attributes of the property at 508 Main Street that contribute to its contextual value are identified as follows:

- The legibility of the existing landmark building within the property as a mid-19th century, industrial-form Georgian building adaptively-reused for residential use within the community of Glen Williams in the Town of Halton Hills;
- The setback, location, and orientation of the existing Georgian industrial-form building along Main Street in the community of Glen Williams; and,
- The scale, form, and massing of the two-storey frame building with side gable roof featuring returning eaves.

The rear additions, rear elevation of the original two-storey building, and interiors were not 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 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