



REPORT

REPORT TO: Mayor Bonnette and Members of Council

REPORT FROM: Laura Loney, Senior Heritage Planner

DATE: July 10, 2020

REPORT NO.: PD-2020-0029

RE: Removal of a Listed Property from the Heritage Register – 59 King Street

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report PD-2020-0029 dated July 10, 2020 regarding “Removal of a Listed Property from the Heritage Register – 59 King Street” be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the property at 59 King Street (Georgetown) not be removed from the Heritage Register until such time as Planning and Development Staff bring forward a Recommendation Report to Council for any proposed development on the subject property that secures a plan for the interpretation and commemoration of the site.

BACKGROUND:

The *Ontario Heritage Act* (OHA) states that a municipality must keep a register of properties situated in the municipality that is of cultural heritage value or interest, and this list must contain properties that have been designated under Parts IV and V of the OHA. The OHA also states that the register may include properties that have not been designated under the Act, but that the council of the municipality believes to be of cultural heritage value or interest. These properties are referred to as being listed. The Town of Halton Hills’ Heritage Register was developed in four Phases between 2007 and 2018, and the property at 59 King Street was added to the Heritage Register during Phase 3.

Section 27 (3) of the OHA requires that an owner of a property listed on a Municipal Heritage Register provide the Town with at least 60 days notice of their intent to demolish a structure, providing time for consideration of options with respect to heritage conservation (e.g. designation).

COMMENTS:

A pre-consultation application has been submitted to the Town for a proposed development involving the properties at 59, 61, and 63 King Street in Georgetown. At the recommendation of staff, the applicant engaged a heritage consultant to prepare a Cultural Heritage Impact Statement (CHIS) for the proposed development in order to evaluate the properties to be developed and to determine whether they met criteria for potential designation under Part IV of the OHA (Appendix A).

The CHIS submitted in support of the proposed development application, prepared by MHBC and dated May 2020, evaluates the listed property at 59 King Street, as well as the other non-listed properties at 61 and 63 King. The HIA finds that the properties at 61 and 63 King Street do not meet criteria for designation under Part IV of the OHA.

The CHIS notes that while the property at 59 King Street has historical and associative value due to former owners Edward and Margaret McWhirter who had many community ties, including Edward's position as superintendent at the Barber Mill, it has limited physical or design value and contextual value. The CHIS recommends that, due to this limited value, the property at 59 King Street is not an ideal candidate for designation under the OHA, and that commemorative measures recognizing the McWhirter family in this location would be appropriate to mitigate impact.

Staff consulted with Heritage Halton Hills via a Zoom meeting on July 8, 2020, to review the CHIS' findings and recommendations for the properties at 59, 61, and 63 King Street. Staff also received comments electronically from one committee member who was unable to attend the meeting who was also supportive of the CHIS' recommendations. The Heritage Halton Hills committee supported the findings of the CHIS, and the following recommendation was passed on July 8, 2020:

Recommendation No. HERITAGE-2020-0010:

THAT the Heritage Halton Hills Committee supports the removal of 59 King Street from the Town of Halton Hills' Heritage Register.

CARRIED

Staff concur with the findings of the CHIS as they relate to the properties at 59, 61, and 63 King Street and do not recommend that any of these three properties should be designated under Part IV of the OHA. However, staff recommend that the property at 59 King Street remain on the Heritage Register until such time as a recommendations report regarding any proposed development on the site is brought forward to Council by the Planning and Development division. This will ensure that conditions relating to interpretive and commemorative strategies to recognize the involvement of the McWhirter family can be tied to the planning approvals process for any future development, prior to the removal of the property from the Heritage Register.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

This report relates to the implementation of the Strategic Direction D. to Preserve, Protect, and Promote Our Distinctive History, the goal of which is to preserve the historical urban and rural character of Halton Hills through the conservation and promotion of our built heritage, cultural heritage landscapes and archaeological resources. This report directly relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

D.1. To require and develop a planning framework for the conservation of significant built heritage, cultural landscapes and archaeological resources.

D.2. To encourage the preservation and enhancement of the historical character of the Town's distinctive neighbourhoods, districts, hamlets and rural settlement areas.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There are no financial impacts associated with this particular report.

CONSULTATION:

Heritage Halton Hills was consulted in the preparation of this report.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

No public consultation was required as part of the preparation of this report.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

The Town is committed to implementing our Community Sustainability Strategy, Imagine Halton Hills. Doing so will lead to a higher quality of life.

The recommendation outlined in this report advances the Strategy's implementation. This report supports the Cultural Vibrancy pillar(s) of Sustainability and the theme of Valued Heritage Legacy. In summary the alignment of this report with the Community Sustainability Strategy is Good.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Should Council approve staff's recommendations within this report, staff will advise the property owner of 59 King Street.

CONCLUSION:

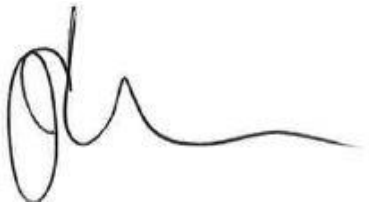
The request to remove the property at 59 King Street has been reviewed by staff in consultation with Heritage Halton Hills. Based on the review of the existing property and the findings of the HIA prepared by MHBC, dated May 2020 and submitted for staff's review by the applicant, the property is not recommended for designation under Part IV of the OHA. Staff recommend that the property be maintained on the Heritage Register until such time as Planning and Development Staff bring forward a Recommendation

Report to Council for any proposed development on the subject property that secures a plan for the interpretation and commemoration of the site.

Reviewed and Approved by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bronwyn Parker".

Bronwyn Parker, Director of Planning Policy

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be "John Linhardt".

John Linhardt, Commissioner of Planning and Development

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brent Marshall".

Brent Marshall, Chief Administrative Officer