

Town of Oakville

Heritage Update

2021 edition

Greetings from the Chair of Heritage Oakville

2020. A year many of us would like to forget. But despite all the many difficulties, property owners still want to make improvements to their homes, town initiatives have to go ahead, and that has happened.

Our Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee meetings have been held virtually. They are live streamed and if you want to watch, go to the town website for details and instructions. Members of the public can participate too and I am happy to say some have taken that opportunity.

Heritage applications have still been approved, and in the past two years, the Heritage Grant Program awarded 63 grants totalling \$205,175. Our Cultural Heritage Landscape designations have included the Oakville Harbour, St. Jude's Cemetery, Gairloch Gardens and Knox Presbyterian Church Sixteen and Cemetery. These designations protect important elements of what makes Oakville so special, to be enjoyed and appreciated by residents and visitors alike.

In this newsletter you will find information about many other projects, all of which add to our understanding and appreciation of our past. This is especially true of the Burnet Park plaque commemorating Oakville's Black community, something we could all learn more about.

Walking is something we have all been doing more of lately, as we are able. Many of the places listed in this newsletter are worth a visit. Gairloch Gardens and Edgemere Estate have been significantly upgraded, especially along the shoreline where exceptionally high water levels were causing a lot of damage. When summer weather comes, the new shade structure at Featherstone Parkette will be appreciated and our new Cultural Heritage Landscapes are there for you to appreciate.

I want to thank all the committee members and staff for helping to get so much done this past year.

Keep well.



Drew Bucknall
Chair, Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee

Town Unveils Heritage Plaque Honouring Oakville's Black Community

On November 24, 2019, town councillors Ray Chisholm, Cathy Duddeck, and Natalia Lishchyna joined Andrew Tyrrell of the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton and Lorraine Unett and Arlene Duncan, descendants of Jeremiah Adams. They gathered in Burnet Park for the unveiling of a heritage plaque entitled, 'Burnet Street and Oakville's Black Community'.

The plaque commemorates Oakville's Black history and community members. As an official Port of Entry into Canada, Oakville was one of the major destinations along the Underground Railroad and the first glimpse of freedom for many enslaved African-Americans who had escaped or been freed. The Underground Railroad saw over 40,000 African-American people migrating from the United States to Canada between 1850 and 1860 alone.

"It is an honour to celebrate Oakville's vibrant Black history and the legacy of the many African-

American individuals who have contributed so much to the fabric of our community," said Councillor Cathy Duddeck.

The plaque tells the story of Samuel Adams, who became a prominent member of Oakville's Black community after settling here in the early 1850s, and the history of the home that once sat at 104 Burnet Street, owned by Jeremiah Adams (Samuel's son).

Samuel had been freed from slavery and moved to the Oakville area from Baltimore with his family in 1851. He established a successful blacksmith practice in Bronte and used his wealth to help other refugees from slavery make a home for themselves in Upper Canada. He was also integral in the creation of the Turner African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1891, which was a large part of Oakville's Black faith community and a hub of social activity.

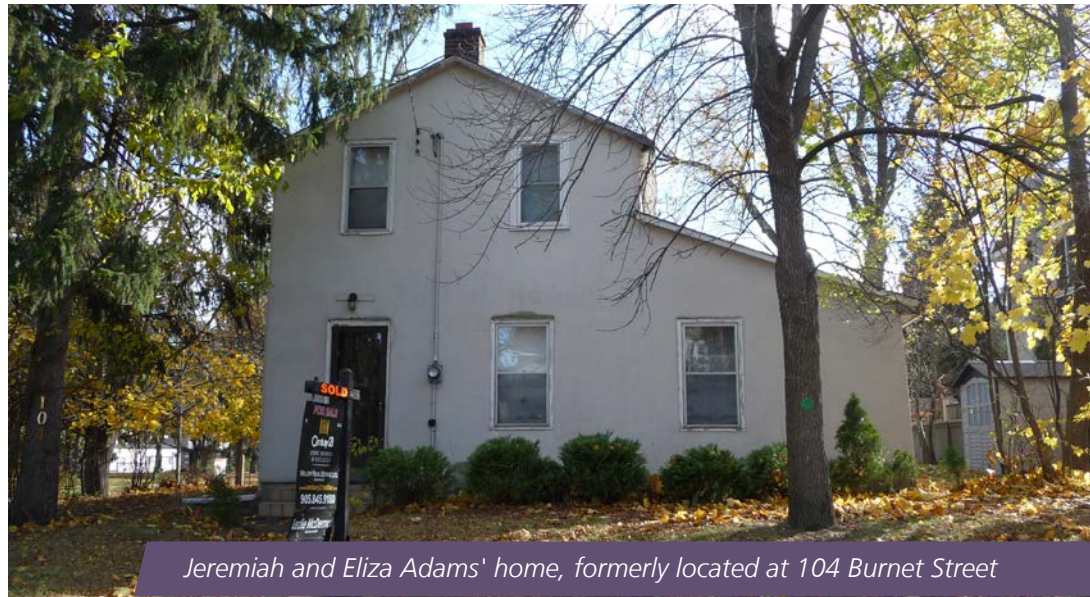
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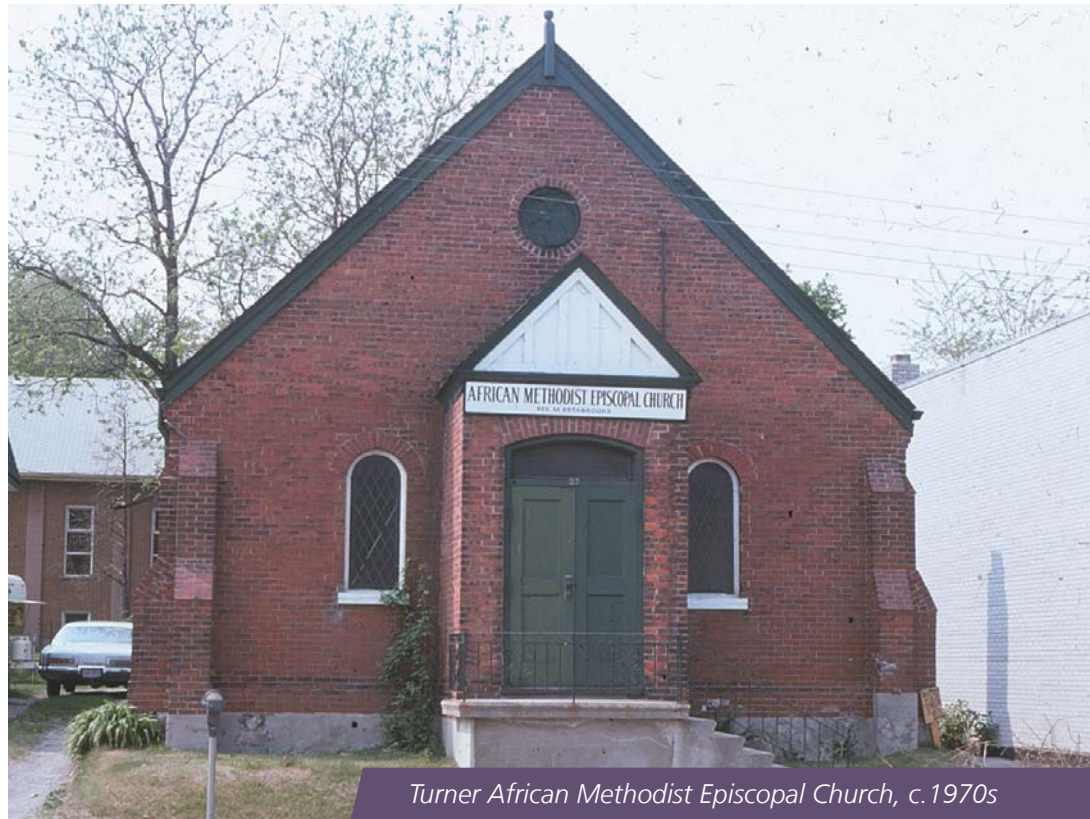
Descendants of Samuel Adams at the plaque unveiling

Jeremiah was a dedicated member of the community who worked at the Chisholm family's mill and volunteered at the church. In 1909, Jeremiah and his wife Eliza purchased the home at 104 Burnet Street and lived there for nearly 40 years, raising five children together. Shortly after celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary, Jeremiah and Eliza both passed away in 1948. The home was left to one of their daughters, Nina Adams, and was then passed onto other members of the Wayner, Duncan and Skeete families — descendants of Jeremiah. The home remained in possession of Jeremiah's family and descendants for over 100 years before it was demolished in 2016.

In addition to the heritage plaque at Burnet Park, Oakville's Black history is also showcased through several permanent exhibitions at the Oakville Museum. Text from the Museum's display panels can also be viewed on the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton's website. ♦



Jeremiah and Eliza Adams' home, formerly located at 104 Burnet Street



Turner African Methodist Episcopal Church, c.1970s

“It is an honour to celebrate Oakville’s vibrant Black history and the legacy of the many African-American individuals who have contributed so much to the fabric of our community.”

– Councillor Cathy Duddeck

Heritage Grant Program

Every year, the Town of Oakville awards grants to owners of heritage properties for improvements to their heritage buildings and properties. Since the program's inception in 2014, approximately \$535,000 has been awarded to assist with over 105 restoration and conservation projects worth more than \$2.5 million. Thanks to the support of Oakville Town Council and the Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee, this successful program continues in 2021.

Below are just a few of the projects that received grant money in the past two years. ♦



Before

Before upgrades to the exterior at 304 Reynolds Street



After

After new wood siding, front door and shutters were installed at 304 Reynolds Street



Before

Before restoration at 337 Douglas Avenue



After

During restoration of the wood windows and stucco cladding at 337 Douglas Avenue



Before

Porch overgrown by vines before restoration at 87 Reynolds Street



After

Restoration of porch railings and installation of new wood lattice at 87 Reynolds Street



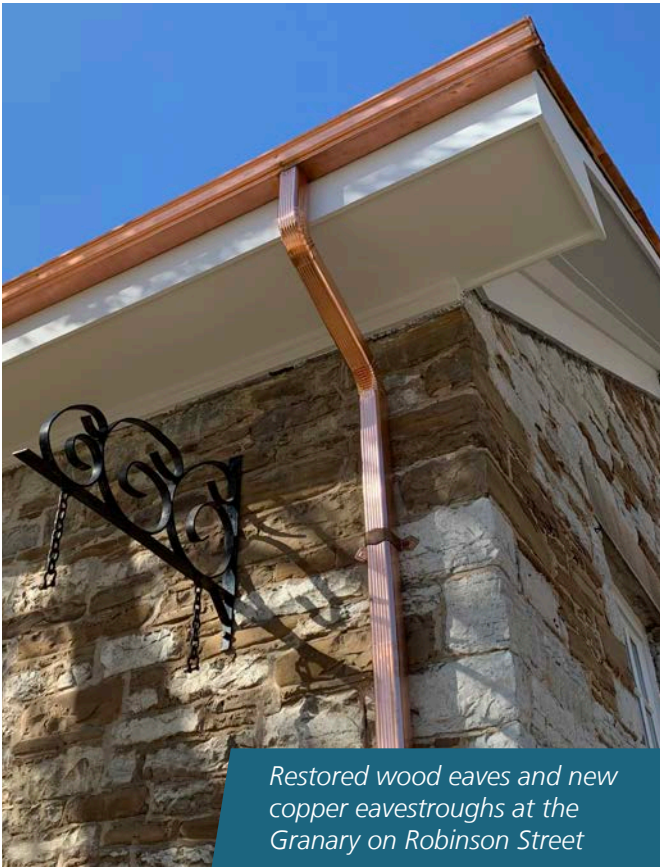
Restoration of driveway at 53 Navy Street



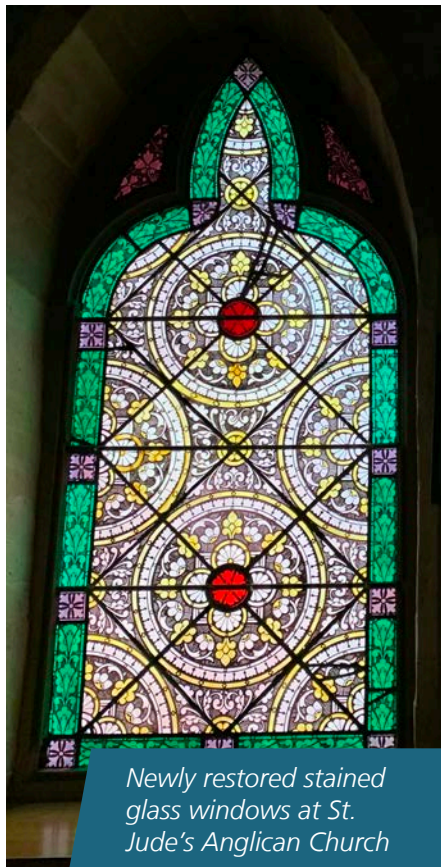
Restored front door and trimwork at Knox Presbyterian Church



Repairs to the bell tower at St. Andrew's Catholic Church



Restored wood eaves and new copper eavestroughs at the Granary on Robinson Street



Newly restored stained glass windows at St. Jude's Anglican Church



New accessible door installed at St. Jude's Anglican Church

New Featherstone Parkette



Shade structure at Featherstone Parkette

As new communities in north Oakville continue to develop, new parks are being completed to support these new neighbourhoods. Last year, Featherstone Parkette was one of them. Located at 307 Ironside Drive, the park is located east of George Savage Avenue and north of North Park Boulevard. In addition to the standard park amenities, the park includes a unique shade structure that is a reminder of the area's agricultural past.

In 2012, the Featherstone barn, located at 145 Burnhamthorpe Road West at the time, was dismantled and the materials were salvaged for re-use. An agreement was made between the town and the owner to salvage and store the materials until such time that they could be used to construct a new shade structure in a future town park.

In 2020, the shade structure was completed using the salvaged materials. The stone from the barn foundation was used in the construction of the stone wall on the north end of the structure. The vertical barn board cladding on the barn was restored and installed on the roof. A historical plaque was installed and describes the history of the Featherstone barn and the cultural heritage significance of the shade structure and its salvaged materials. The park was named Featherstone Parkette in commemoration of the family associated with the barn remnants.

Originally located on the Featherstone family farm on the southern half of Lot 17, Concession 2 NDS, the barn was likely built in the late 19th century under John and Marion Featherstone's ownership. The gable-roofed barn had a 3 bay by

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Featherstone Barn prior to dismantling



Salvaged wood and stones being stored after dismantling of barn

3 bay plan with two circular hoists in the centre bay to provide a mechanism for lifting hay to the upper level. The framing was of sawn lumber, combined with hand-hewn timbers salvaged from earlier barns. The foundation walls were constructed of local lake stone and the walls were clad in painted vertical barn board. Typical of bank barns, the upper level contained an open space for straw and hay storage and a granary, and the lower level contained stables and pens for the livestock.

The Featherstones farmed the land on Lot 17 from 1844 until the early 21st century. In addition to farming the land, they set up a saw mill and cut and sold lumber on the property. William Featherstone, who owned the farm from 1899 to 1934, served as Mayor of Oakville, local councillor and as Worshipful Master of the Oakville Masonic Lodge.

Town staff are proposing to designate the town-owned park under the *Ontario Heritage Act* to ensure that these salvaged remnants are recognized for their cultural heritage value and protected for the future. ♦

Jordan Munn House Restored

In 2012, Heritage Planning staff began working with the owners of the Jordan Munn House, which at the time was located at 41 Dundas Street West, just east of the intersection of Sixth Line and Dundas Street. The goal was to conserve the 19th century house within the new subdivision proposed for the site. Town approval was given to conserve the brick portion of the house and relocate it onto a new residential lot nearby.

Six years later, the house was relocated 200 metres to the northeast to its final location at 3020 Post Road, within the new residential subdivision. The house was restored and a new addition was constructed onto the rear of the house. Located adjacent to a public pathway and pond, the house still remains easily visible from Dundas Street.

The house is an early to mid-19th century brick house built in the Classic Revival style and is a good example of a vernacular interpretation of the style, designed and built by early pioneers

using local materials. The house contains a gabled front façade, medium pitched roof with deep returned eaves, symmetrical window placement, off-centre entrance and a wide cornice, all signature features of the Classic Revival style.

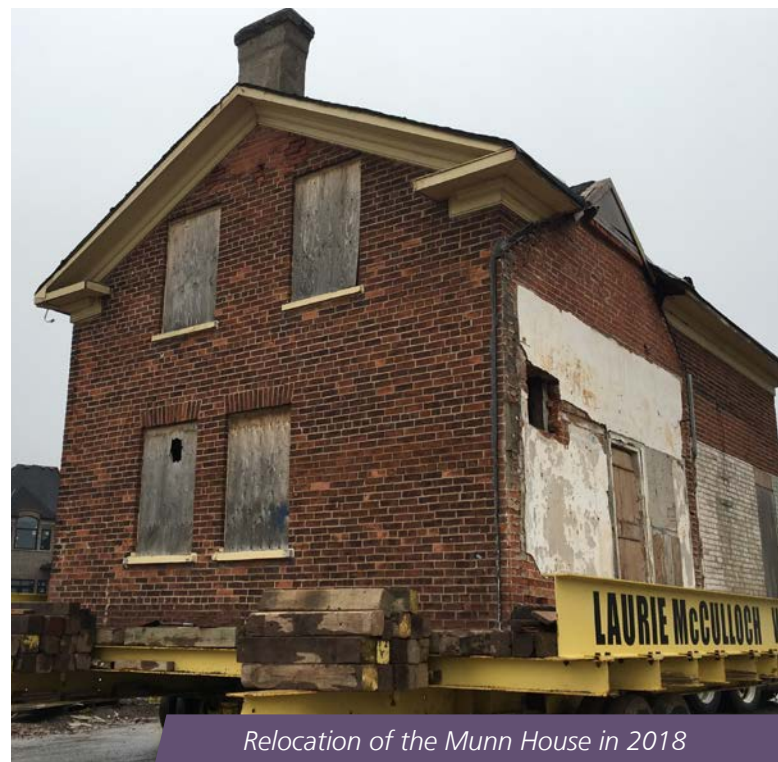
The house also has heritage value for its unique timber frame construction. This type of construction was common for barns, but was very unique for a house in 19th century Upper Canada. Large vertical and horizontal squared timbers are connected with mortise and tenon joints and the spaces between the timbers are filled with layers of brick, leaning against the exterior bricks.

The house is associated with the Munn family who founded the former hamlet of Munn's Corners, and was likely constructed by Jordan Munn. The inn and most of the houses associated with Munn's Corners have disappeared, but the church, cemetery and Munn House still stand as reminders of this community and the significant contributions of the Munn family.

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Munn House in 2012, before relocation and restoration



Relocation of the Munn House in 2018

The Munn House is also a reminder of the former agricultural landscape of Trafalgar Township and the significant route of Dundas Street. The property also has contextual associations with the ancestors of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation who used the land prior to European settlement of this area.

In 2019, the property was designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* to ensure the long term conservation of the home. A historical plaque was installed in front of the home so that passersby can better understand the history of the house as well as the agricultural past of the former Trafalgar Township. ♦



Original timber frame structure exposed during restoration



Munn House in 2021

Reconstruction of a Sixth Line Landmark

Over the past year, those travelling up Sixth Line north of Dundas Street would have seen what appeared to be a heritage house rising from the ground, brick by brick. The house, now completed, is known as the Bowbeer House, and is a reconstruction of the original house located on the same site, just 30 metres to the east of where the current house sits.

The original c.1850s Bowbeer House was designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* in 2011. At the time, it sat on a large agricultural parcel which was being developed as a new plan of subdivision. Because of significant structural issues, heritage approval was given for the house to be dismantled, stored and reconstructed on the site. The house was dismantled in 2012 and both exterior and interior materials were stored until the house could be reconstructed, starting in 2019.

The 1 ½ storey brick farmhouse has dichromatic red and buff brickwork laid in a combination of Flemish Bond and common bond with decorative

brick 'quoins' at the corners of the building, ornamental horizontal bands of brick 'roses', and vertical brick headers above the windows and doors. The new 6/6 wood windows and wood panelled front door were designed to replicate what would have existed historically. On the interior, the historic mantelpiece has been reinstated and the original wood baseboards, trim, and moulded panels have been replicated.

The Bowbeer House is associated with the Bowbeer and Biggar families, both early settler families in Trafalgar Township. The property was originally owned as an investment property by D'Arcy Boulton, a prominent lawyer and politician and Auditor General of Upper Canada. William and Mevira Bowbeer purchased the property in 1824 and likely constructed the house around the 1850s. Their son William Somerset Biggar built the existing house at 1086 Burnhamthorpe Road and the two homes are similar in age, design, material, and architectural details.

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Bowbeer House in 2021 after restoration

The property was later owned by the Biggars, a Loyalist family who were among the first settlers in Trafalgar Township and contributed greatly to the early settlement and development of Trafalgar Township.

The house is a landmark along Sixth Line, a historic side road, and is one of the last remaining historic structures associated with Munn's Corners at Sixth Line and Dundas Street. This historic settlement was once home to taverns, a stagehouse, church, parsonage, cemetery, school, and multiple residences. The Bowbeer House still faces Sixth Line as it always did and retains its contextual associations with the original farm property. The house continues to be a significant reminder of the former agricultural landscape of this area of Oakville.

The property is also associated with the ancestors of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. The property is contextually significant as a reminder of not only the development of the area by early settlers like the Bowbeer family, but also of the land's association with Indigenous peoples for centuries prior to European settlement. ♦



Original brick with former resident's signature (James Halloran) reinstalled on the interior



Salvaged brick in storage awaiting reconstruction



Bowbeer House in 2008 prior to dismantling



Before

Fireplace in original house



After

Fireplace in reconstructed house

Remnants of Historic Estate Restored

Located at 1502 Lakeshore Road East, the Edgemere Estate property was originally designated in 2009 for its historic gates and stone and metal fence along Lakeshore Road East. Since that time, the property has been developed in two stages with 10 new residential buildings, each containing condominium units. As part of the second stage by Nexus Developments, the remaining heritage features on the property were restored.

The property was originally purchased in 1906 by James Ryrie, a famous Toronto jeweller, who named it “Edgemere”, meaning the ‘edge of the sea’. Ryrie commissioned Edmund Burke and John Horwood of the Burke & Horwood firm in Toronto to design the estate mansion. At the time, Burke & Horwood were considered “society’s architects of choice” for creating lavishing mansions in the latest trends. Three years later, Ryrie commissioned renowned Canadian landscape architect Charles Ernest Woolverton to complete the landscape plan for the estate.

The house was completed in 1909 and served as Ryrie’s country home for many years, and later as a residence to other prominent Oakville families. Soon after the completion of Edgemere,

nearby lakeside properties were purchased and developed with large summer homes by wealthy Toronto families. This began the creation of what became known as ‘Canada’s Newport’.

The original estate house was demolished in 1992 and replaced with a much larger mansion in 1996, which in turn was demolished to allow for the most recent redevelopment of the property. While the estate house was gone, much of the accessory structures and landscape elements remained, including: stone wall and entry gates along Lakeshore Road, groundskeeper’s lodge, carriage house, greenhouse, sunken rose garden, aviary, teahouse, pergola, rockery and grotto, stone walls along Wedgewood Creek, and the woodland.

Over the past few years, these elements have all been beautifully restored after many years of neglect. While most of these features will be for private use by the residents and guests of the condominium units, a town-owned pathway runs along Wedgewood Creek from Lakeshore Road down to the lake. This pathway leads to the Edgemere Promenade, the public lands along the waterfront for all to enjoy.

The town is currently working with the owners to create a new designation by-law for the property which will include all of these significant landscape features and structures that have been so carefully restored. When Edgemere was originally built, Ryrie likely didn’t anticipate his estate house being demolished. And a century later, many were surprised when its replacement was demolished after less than two decades of use. If and when the next development occurs, these heritage features will remain as beautiful and important reminders of the original estate. ♦



Early photograph of the teahouse and pergola



The restored teahouse and pergola



Close-up view of the entrance gates



The restored boiler room for the attached greenhouse



Sunken rose garden with the restored greenhouse in the background



The Carriage House after restoration

Oakville's Newest Cultural Heritage Landscapes

Since Spring 2020, the Town of Oakville has formally designated four new cultural heritage landscapes (CHLs) under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, continuing to demonstrate Council's strong commitment to the conservation of Oakville's irreplaceable cultural heritage resources.

In addition to the Glen Abbey Golf Course Cultural Heritage Landscape designated in 2017, the Joshua Creek Heritage Art Centre/William Bowbeer Farm designated in 2018, and the Erchless Estate designated in 2019, the following special areas have been recognized:



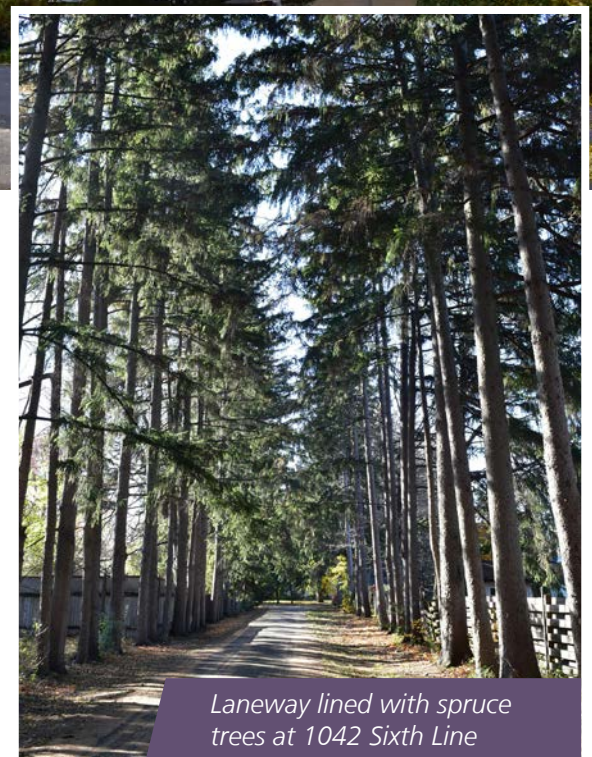
Arts and Crafts style house at 1042 Sixth Line

1042 Sixth Line – designated May 2020

The cultural heritage landscape of 1042 Sixth Line has value as a representative example of a designed landscape composed of both formal and informal planting schemes within a picturesque landscape plan reflective of the Arts and Crafts movement.

The three-storey residence is constructed in an Arts and Crafts style. The location, orientation, and relationship of the residence with other key features of the landscape (i.e., the long, spruce-lined lane-way, formal circle, the Sixteen Mile Creek Valley, mature specimen plantings, and stone gate posts and walls) are characteristic of the movement, which embodied a respect for traditional building forms and design meant to be harmonious with the natural setting.

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Lane-way lined with spruce trees at 1042 Sixth Line



Early 20th century postcard of Oakville Harbour

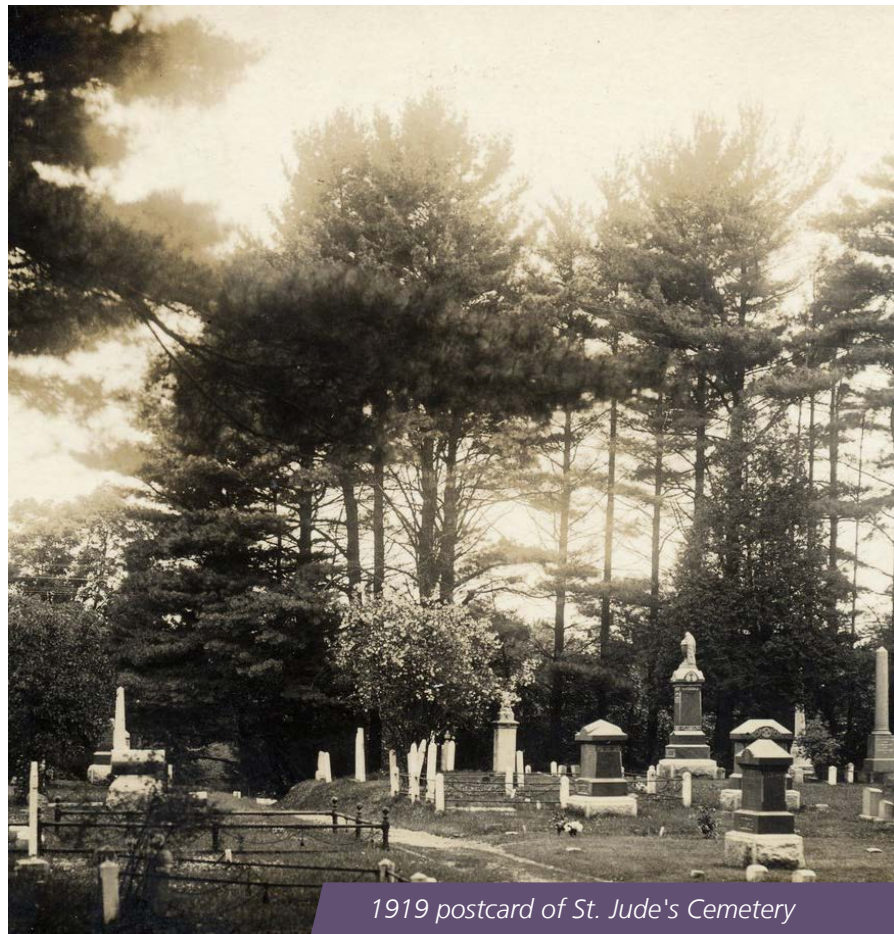
Oakville Harbour – designated November 2020

The Oakville Harbour is an organically evolved and associative landscape located at the mouth of Sixteen Mile Creek in downtown Oakville. The CHL is bounded generally by Lakeshore Road to north, Forsythe Street and private dwellings to the west, Lake Ontario to the south, and residential areas to the east. Oakville Harbour was established in the late 1820s and quickly developed into a busy commercial port with industries, shipyards, warehouses, and commercial schooners crowding its banks. By the 1880s, the harbour was transitioning to recreational usage characterized by water-based activities, something that continues to define the area. Comprised largely of parkland, the CHL is characterized by open spaces, both manicured and semi natural and intimately connected to water with trees and planting, grass, paths and trails, slips and harbour infrastructure, historic buildings, recreational facilities, and clubhouses.

St. Jude’s Cemetery – designated November 2020

St. Jude’s Cemetery is a representative example of a 19th century cemetery designed in the rural cemetery style. The original cemetery has been expanded and adapted over many decades as it changed from a private church cemetery to a public cemetery. The cemetery is inextricably linked to the 19th and 20th century history of St. Jude’s Anglican Church and of Oakville itself. Many of the individuals buried in the cemetery were significant local individuals who contributed greatly to the early development of Oakville and Trafalgar Township. The property holds significant religious, spiritual and emotional value to residents of Oakville whose family members have been interred, and continue to be interred, within the cemetery. As a place of memory, the cemetery provides a physical connection to the past and to loved ones on both a personal and community level.

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1919 postcard of St. Jude's Cemetery

Gairloch Gardens – designated January 2021

Gairloch Gardens is a designed cultural heritage landscape with several structures including Chestnut Point, the Teahouse, and the Studio. The property has significance as a rare and representative example of an early 20th century lakefront estate; because it is historically linked to Lt. Col. William Gordon MacKendrick and James Arthur Gairdner; and, as a public park that is physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings. The property is a landmark in the Town of Oakville.



Gardens and estate house at Gairloch Gardens



Interior of the Studio at Gairloch Gardens

In addition to passing designation by-laws and adopting conservation plans for those four CHLs, the Town has also issued a notice of intention to designate the Bronte Harbour and Bluffs as a CHL, which has been appealed to the Conservation Review Board; a hearing is pending for 2021.

The town has also identified Knox Presbyterian Church Sixteen and Cemetery as a significant cultural heritage landscape and is working together with the congregation on a conservation plan and designation by-law. ♦

Severances and Heritage Properties: Building New Homes and Restoring Old Ones

Many of the heritage buildings in residential neighbourhoods across Oakville were built on what originally were large rural or estate lots. As Oakville developed, large estates and farms were subdivided and new residential lots created. This trend continues today as we find ways of providing new homes and increasing the density of some neighbourhoods to meet population growth demands and provincial, regional, and municipal planning policies.

While severances and the creation of new lots are not always appropriate for a property or neighbourhood, there are some cases where the character of the area can be retained while allowing for new development. Below are three cases in which historic homes were protected and new lots created, with consideration for the local zoning and residential character of the neighbourhoods.



Site plans for Balsam Lawn showing before and after the severance

Balsam Lawn at 114 Balsam Drive

This 1878 two-storey frame house is located at the northwest corner of Balsam Drive and Lakeshore Road East. It was built in the Italianate style by master builder William Lee and constructed for William and Mary Wass who purchased the original 100 acre farm property in 1860. The farm property was severed numerous times over the years until it became an approximately one-acre parcel containing only the original house.

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The Balsam Lawn house on its new foundation, prior to restoration

In 2018, the owners of the designated heritage property received approval from the town to sever the property to allow for one additional lot, to be located at the rear of the site. The approval also included the relocation of the house within its lot, approximately 11.2 metres south towards Lakeshore Road. The relocation of the house allowed for the rear of the lot to be freed up for the new lot. Conditions of approval included: a heritage easement agreement between the town and the owners to ensure the work was done properly; financial securities posted by the owner until the work was complete; heritage permit approval for the work; and restoration of the house.

To accommodate the move, a non-historic rear wing of the house was demolished and the contemporary garage was rebuilt within the new lot. The historic house retains its orientation to Lakeshore Road and the new setback still provides for a considerable sized front lawn, retaining the prominence of this important property. The new foundation has allowed for a large usable basement and updated utilities. The owners received a heritage grant to paint and restore the wood cladding and trim on the property and the house has a new lease on life.

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Rebecca Wass, former owner of Balsam Lawn



Balsam Lawn in 1897

Pullen House at 420 Randall Street

The Pullen House is located on the south side of Randall Street east of Watson Avenue. Built c.1911, the 2 ½ storey house was designed in the Arts and Crafts style and was one of the first houses to be built in the new Brantwood Survey. The house was built for the Pullen family, well known for their multi-generational connection to the Royal Canadian Navy, and remained in the family for over six decades. Originally, the house occupied a much larger lot but over the years, the property was severed until about half an acre of land remained.

In 2016, the owner approached the town about severing the property to add two additional residential lots to the west of the house, facing Watson Avenue. The town and the owner subsequently entered into an agreement to permit the creation of two new lots, subject to the heritage designation of the property and the creation of a view corridor.

The intention of the view corridor was to retain a clear view of the historic house from the corner of Watson Avenue and Randall Street so that the historic house would retain its prominence and visibility at this intersection, as it had for over 100 years. In order to do this, a view easement was registered on the lot containing the heritage house and on the northerly new lot at the intersection.

Within this triangular area of land, the two properties are to be free of structures and landscaping that would impede the view from the intersection. On the new lot, a new house was constructed but set back from Randall Street with low fencing between the two properties to allow for the open view. In the future, no new fences or structures will be permitted in this protected area, and any landscaping will be required to be trimmed down to a certain height.

The historic house remains on its original site and the owner has taken advantage of the Heritage Grant Program to restore elements of the house. A heritage designation by-law was passed in 2018 to protect the house for the long term.

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View of the Pullen House from the corner of Randall and Watson



Site plan for the Pullen House showing the proposed severances and new homes, and the view corridor in blue



Early 20th century photo of the Pullen House and front orchard



The Morden House with new addition and reconstruction of front porch

Morden House at 489 Lakeshore Road West

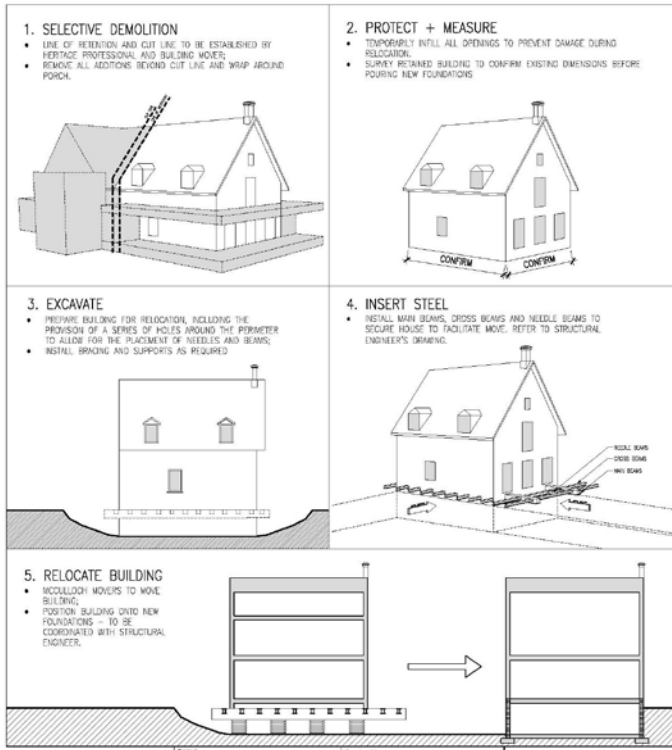
The Captain G.E. Morden House is a 2 ½ storey masonry structure built c.1858 for John and Hannah Howell. It was later owned by Captain Morden, a local businessman who owned and operated several lake schooners and founded the Morden Line of steamers. Over many decades, the building was added to and altered significantly but the original portion of the house remained as a landmark along Lakeshore Road.

In 2015, the owners submitted a consent application to permit the creation of one additional lot and to enlarge a second adjacent lot under their ownership. As part of this application, a heritage impact assessment was completed for the property and the document concluded that the site had cultural heritage value for the original historic portion of the house.

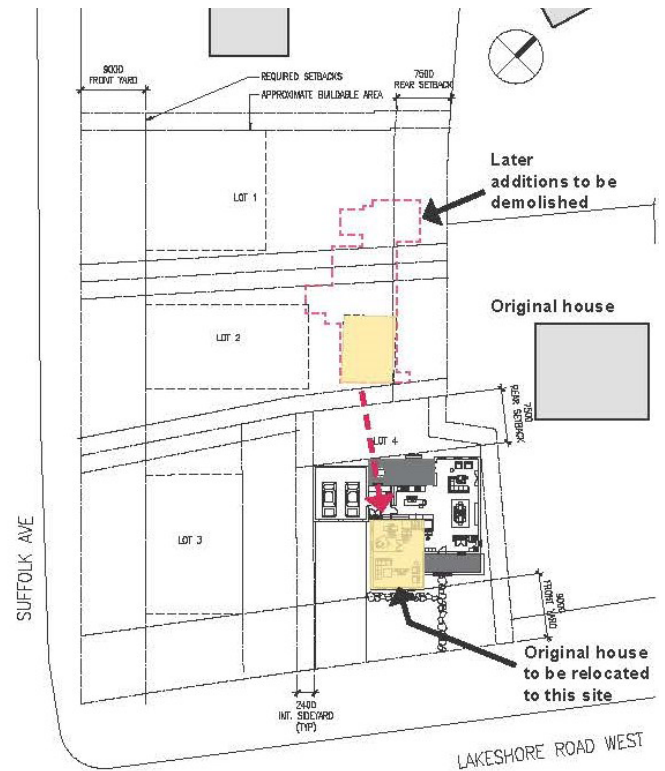
As part of the approval to sever the property, an agreement was made between the town

and the owners to permit the removal of several contemporary additions on the historic house and to relocate the house closer to Lakeshore Road. The severance was conditional upon the house being restored and designated. Financial securities were also posted by the owner to ensure that the work was completed in accordance with heritage guidelines and best practices.

In 2018, the house was moved approximately 30 metres towards Lakeshore Road, keeping its original orientation. A contemporary new addition was added to the rear and sides of the house. The original house was restored and materials replicated where they had been damaged. In 2019, the property was designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* for the original c.1858 portion of the house. ♦



Relocation proposal for the Morden House



Severance and relocation proposal for the Morden House



Reconstruction of damaged roof on the Morden House

The Morden House in 2016 prior to relocation and restoration

Outreach and training

While most conferences and events were cancelled in 2020, or held virtually, Heritage Planning staff were still able to attend conferences and other learning experiences in 2019. Here are a few of the events in which staff participated.



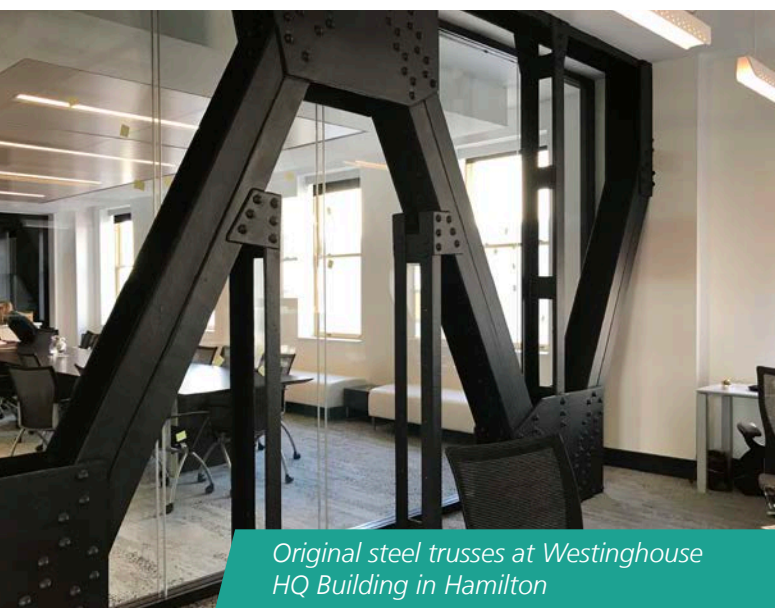
Old meets new in the St. Lawrence area in Toronto

Heritage Planners Meetings

Heritage Planners throughout Ontario typically gather twice a year for a one-day meeting to discuss the more pressing issues of heritage conservation at the municipal planning level. In 2019, meetings were held in both Hamilton and Toronto. Each meeting included presentations and discussions on hot topic issues, such as the Province's proposed updates to the *Ontario Heritage Act*. They also included walking tours of local heritage buildings and neighbourhoods.

CHAP Symposium 2019

Heritage Planners Susan Schappert and Carolyn Van Slightenhorst were invited to the 2019 Cultural Heritage, Archaeology, and Planning Symposium held at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington, Ontario. The theme was "Perspectives on Cemeteries and Burials in Ontario". Workshops and presentations focused on issues surrounding burial sites, including their protection and conservation, as well as the importance of burial sites to the communities they represent. This was especially relevant for us in Oakville with our recent work on protecting burial sites such as St. Jude's Cemetery.



Original steel trusses at Westinghouse HQ Building in Hamilton

Ontario Heritage Conference, May 2019

The 2019 Ontario conference for heritage conservation was held in Bluewater and Goderich. The theme was "Understanding the Economic Impacts of Heritage". Heritage Planner Carolyn Van Slightenhorst delivered a presentation entitled "Design Guidelines: A Tool to Protect Heritage Character". The presentation was part of a workshop that explored the various tools municipalities can use to retain the character of mature and historic neighbourhoods. Carolyn provided an overview of Oakville's urban design guidelines and heritage conservation district policies and offered a comparison of the two different approaches for consideration.

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Ontario Association of Committees of Adjustment & Consent Authorities, June 2019

While this conference does not solely focus on heritage conservation, it was a great opportunity for Heritage Planning staff to share heritage requirements and opportunities with municipal staff and Committee of Adjustment members from across Ontario. Carolyn Van Sligtenhorst presented a workshop entitled “Uh-oh, It’s a Heritage Property!”. The presentation discussed why heritage conservation is important and provided guidance on how to find a balance between retaining heritage value and allowing for new development and change. The workshop explored the role of zoning, heritage, urban design, owner preferences, and neighbourhood concerns, and provided recent examples from Oakville for discussion.

National Trust for Canada Conference, October 2019

The 2019 national conference for heritage conservation was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba with the theme: “Heritage Delivers: Impact, Authenticity, and Catalytic Change”. Heritage Planner Susan Schappert attended, representing the Town of Oakville and the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals. The conference explored ways that heritage conservation projects can engage stakeholders and galvanize communities to ensure that all voices are heard. The program touched on property development, community advocacy, museums and historic sites, engineering and technology, and much more. The diverse roster of speakers and unique locations offered an opportunity for delegates to learn more about Indigenous Peoples and their stories, expertise and traditional wisdom. ♦



Rehabilitated heritage buildings at Red River College at the 2019 National Trust Conference



Vacant army building in Vanastra, Ontario

Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee

The mandate of the Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee is to advise Council on the identification, conservation and promotion of heritage resources in Oakville. The committee reviews and makes recommendations on planning and development applications for heritage properties, including alterations, removal, and demolition. The committee also promotes heritage conservation through the support of heritage designations, heritage policy matters, and public awareness of Oakville's history and heritage resources.

The committee is currently made up of the following members:

Drew Bucknall, Chair	Councillor Dave Gittings
Geri Tino, Vice-Chair	George Gordon
Russell Buckland	Susan Hobson
Kerry Colborne	Daniela Hampton-Davies
Councillor Cathy Duddeck	Brenda Sweeney
Robert Ferguson	

Heritage Planning Staff

This newsletter was developed by the town's Heritage Planning staff, in collaboration with other town staff and members of the Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee. For more information on any of these articles, please contact:

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*Palermo Garage in Palermo Village,
c. 1950s (since demolished)*

Heritage Planning Online

For more information on Heritage Planning in Oakville, visit our website at oakville.ca and search "heritage planning" to find information on the following:

Heritage Grant Program

Information on how to apply for a heritage grant

Heritage Register

Outline of the different types of heritage properties, including links to the town's Heritage Register

Heritage Conservation Districts

Information on Oakville's four heritage conservation districts

Heritage Permits

Information and application forms for heritage permits

Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee

Overview of the committee, its members and meeting information

Heritage and Environmental Sustainability

Information and resources on heritage and the environment

Heritage and History

Information on heritage trails, memorials, cairns and resources for completing historical research

Heritage Planning Studies

Various heritage studies and policies

Heritage Mapping

Link to heritage layers in GIS mapping system