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*Northumberland*



# The Corporation of the Township of Hamilton

Office of the  
ADMINISTRATOR, CLERK-TREASURER  
P.O. BOX 1060,  
COBOURG, ONTARIO,  
K9A 4W5  
PHONE 905-342-2810  
FAX 905-342-2818

May 2, 1995

MAY 2 1995

Heritage Administration Branch  
Ministry of Citizenship and Culture  
77 Bloor Street West  
7th Floor  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 2R9

Dear Sir/Madam;

RE: Passing of By-Laws for Designations


Enclosed, please find reasons for designation and a certified copy of By-Law Numbers 95-11 and 95-12, passed by the Hamilton Township Council regarding the The Rowan, [REDACTED] House and The Harstone, [REDACTED] House, Lot 15 Concession 9 and Lot 3, Concession 2 respectively, in the Township of Hamilton.

Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

*for Robin Thomas*  
Peggy Cramp, A.M.C.T.(A)  
Chief Administrative Officer

PC/rt  
encl.



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HAMILTON

BY-LAW NO. 95-12

MAY 4 1995

BEING A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE A LAND AND PREMISES  
UNDER THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT  
FOR [REDACTED] HARSTONE [REDACTED] HOUSE  
LOT 3, CONCESSION 2, HAMILTON TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS Section 29 of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, authorizes Council of a municipality to enact By-Laws to designate real property, including all buildings and/or structures thereon, to be of architectural or historic value or interest, and;

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Hamilton has caused to be served on the owners of lands and premises below, and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and/or buildings and has caused such notice of intention to be published in the Cobourg Star having general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks, and;

WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the Municipality.

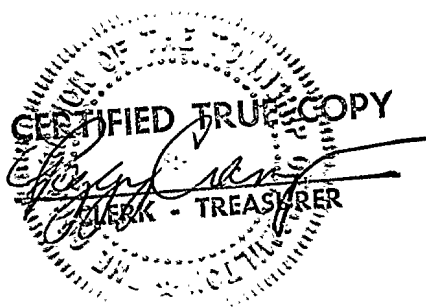
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporation of the Township of Hamilton Council ENACTS as follows:

1. There is designated as being of architectural and historical value or interest the real property as follows:
  - a) The Harstone/[REDACTED] House  
[REDACTED]  
General Delivery  
Baltimore, Ontario  
K0K 1C0  
Lot 3, Concession 2
  - Good example of a neo-classical style with the front and sides of this storey and a half frame structure have six over six windows and returning eaves on the gable ends with the front door has side lights and pilasters.
2. The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of the By-Law to be registered against the property described above in the proper Land Registry Office.
3. The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-Law to be served on the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of the passing of this By-Law to be published in the Cobourg Star having general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks.

This By-Law given a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD READING and FINALLY PASSED this 4th day of April, 1995.

*Charlotte Clay Ireland*  
REEVE

*Kerry Camp*  
CLERK



HARSTONE/[REDACTED] HOUSE

Address: P.O. Box 188,  
Baltimore, Ont. K0K 2C0  
Lot 8, concession 2

Original Owner/Builder: Robert Harstone

Present Owners : [REDACTED]

Date: c. 1850

Historical analysis Dec. 1994

The patent for lot 8, concession 2, was granted to Joseph Keeler in 1820. Keeler, who settled in Cramahe township, along with Asa Danforth (builder of the Danforth Road c. 1800) and Aaron Greeley joined together to bring settlers into Hamilton, Haldimand, Cramahe and Percy townships. As soon as Hamilton Township was surveyed in 1796 they submitted names of 60 persons eligible to receive grants. They also appropriated a number of choice lots for themselves which they soon sold off to settlers and land speculators.

Settlement in Hamilton Township began in the early 1800s along the creek that runs through Baltimore village, where a number of saw and grist mills were soon built. In fact the settlement was first named Valley Mills. Baltimore village, the earliest settled in the township, has spread until it now covers lots 7, 8 and 9 in concessions 2 and 3.

Baltimore was surveyed into village lots by 1840 and during the next decade large numbers of settlers began to move in. By 1841 Robert Weir was the owner of the north one-quarter of lot 8, concession 2, 50 acres. (The Weir family stone house still stands on highway #45 south of Cap Wilson Road) A year later "the travelled road known as the Baltimore Road" was first mentioned in deeds. Cockburn's Hotel was built in 1845 on the south west corner of present Dale Road and Highway #45. The building was demolished when the highway was widened in the 1950s.

In 1846, Robert Weir sold a recent widow, Betsy Philp, a one-acre lot for 25 pounds in the valley across the road from the hotel, east of the Baltimore Road. Extensive research has failed to discover why Mrs. Philp purchased that lot. It is known that she and her husband had emigrated from Cornwall some years earlier and that she had two small sons, John and Joseph. Shortly after this purchase she married her brother-in-law, Alfred Harris of Gore's Landing. Alfred had married Betsy's sister in Cornwall but she died shortly after joining him in Canada. Alfred Harris established an hotel in Gore's Landing in 1845 and Betsy became mother to his three children along with her own two sons. A year later she and Alfred had a daughter of their own. Alfred Harris

became the biggest landowner in Gore's Landing and there are many descendants of the Cornish Harris family still in the village. (Their home, The White House, built 1854, was one of the first designated by LACAC.)

In 1850 Alfred and Betsy sold their Baltimore lot for 60 pounds to a Patrick McDonald who promptly sold it to Robert Harstone, a staunch Presbyterian and the second merchant to locate in Baltimore. Harstone's store was on the north west corner of Dale Road and Highway #45 and it appears that it was he who built the house on Betsy's lot. It is recorded in the 1851 Canada Census that Robert Harstone owned a storey and a half frame house on a one-and-a-quarter acre in lot 8, concession 2, value 150 pounds. He sold the house in 1875. (Harstone had enlarged his store across the road where he also built a house. Both buildings were owned by Reeve George Mitchell when they burned down in 1895.)

The Neo-Classical, storey and a half, white frame house retains many of the features of a house built in the late 1840s with returning eaves, 6 over 6 windows, side lights and pilasters on either side of the panelled front door, still the original. The house has had many owners in 144 years and inevitably some changes have been made. An older portion was added to the rear at some period. Because of its post and beam construction, tiny windows and split lath walls it is evident the addition was a still older house that must have been moved from another site. The Harstone house was purchased [REDACTED] in 1994.