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**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWN OF WASAGA BEACH**

BY-LAW #2007- 60

**A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE "BECK SQUARE"
AS A PROPERTY OF CULTURAL HERITAGE,
VALUE AND INTEREST**

WHEREAS the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O., 1990, Section 29, authorizes that the Council of a Municipality may, by By-Law, designate a property within the Municipality to be of cultural heritage value or interest provided that the property meets the prescribed criteria;

AND WHEREAS if such a designation is to be made, the Municipality shall cause Notice of Intention to be carried out, and such Notice of Intention as approved by Resolution, was posted on the Town's Website for a two (2) week period, as well as being posted in the Wasaga Sun for two (2) consecutive weeks, this being a newspaper having general circulation within the Town of Wasaga Beach;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Wasaga Beach is the owner of the said lands therefore no further Notice of Intention is required;

AND WHEREAS no objections to the proposed designation were received;

NOW THEREFORE this Council of the Corporation of the Town of Wasaga Beach enacts as follows:

1. **THAT** the lands known as "**BECK SQUARE**" and as described in Schedule "A" attached hereto, be and are hereby designated as a Municipal Heritage Property.
2. **THAT** the reason for the designation, including a description of the heritage attributes of the property are as set out in Schedule "B" attached hereto;
3. **THAT** a copy of this By-Law be registered on title of the said land in the Land Registry Office.

4. **THAT** this By-Law shall come into force and effect upon final reading hereof.

Read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 22 day of May, 2007


MAYOR


CLERK

Legal Description of the Lands known as "BECK SQUARE":

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land, situate lying and being in the Town of Wasaga Beach, in the County of Simcoe, and being composed of Part of Lot 27 and Part of Georgian Avenue, Registered Plan 525, now described as Part 1, 51R-32220, deposited at Land Titles Division of Simcoe (No.51), September 2nd, 2003.

Reasons for designation of "BECK SQUARE" as a Heritage Property:

The property known as "Beck Square" has been recommended for designation because of its cultural heritage value and interest.

Statement of Cultural Heritage – Value/Interest:

Beck Square was always known as the historical centre of Town and is located off Mosley Street beside the Liquor Control Board. Beck Square boasts a landscaped park-like setting with solid seating structures, flower beds, shrubbery and even commemorative plaques telling a brief history.

Beck Square was the location of the first municipal buildings and was known historically as the centre of Town. The Town hall was formerly located on these lands as well as the Police Station, the Chamber of Commerce, Post Office and some classes for the Wasaga Beach School were also held there during 1953/1954 and even in 1968. After relocation of these services and demolition of the buildings, the lands were dedicated to the Memory of Anthony Beck, the first Reeve. Over many years the huge pine tree on the property was the site of the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, the location for the Judges podiums for parades, etc., however, over the years the area fell into disrepair and was earmarked to become part of the existing parking lot. Because of the historical value to the Town, the site was designated as the Town's Millennium Project and a Committee was formed to preserve the site and the Square was rejuvenated as a parkette where residents and visitors could celebrate the history of the Town. The Committee Chair actually won Ontario Heritage Foundation Recognition for her work on the project.

Description of Heritage Attributes

The restoration of Beck Square included the erection of a memorial monument which honours the contributions of past and present residents, a wall mural, and several other artifacts. Beck Square is also the location of the Town's Millennium Capsule.

Beck Square today features commemorative plaques, solid seating structures, a wall mural, flower beds and shrubbery, as well as a nice big spruce tree. It is a shady and cool place in which to sit and the informative plaques tell a bit of the local history.

