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The Corporation of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

BY-LAW 2007-150

Being a By-law to designate a property as being of
Historic and/or Architectural Value or Interest
The Elliott-Watters Log House

WHEREAS Pursuant to Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, the council of a municipality is authorized to enact by-laws to designate a real property, including all or some of the buildings and structures thereon, to be of historic and/or architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises at:



and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to designate the Elliott-Watters Log House, 3762 Line 12 and has caused such notice of intention to be published once in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule 'B' attached hereto and forming part of this by-law;

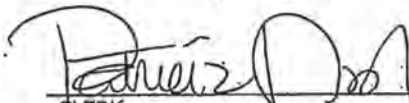
NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF BRADFORD WEST GWILLIMBURY HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. THAT the following real properties, more particularly described in Schedule 'A' attached hereto and forming part of this by-law is hereby designated as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest:

The Elliott-Watters Log House
3762 Line 12
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury
County of Simcoe

2. THAT the town solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the properties described in Schedule 'A' attached hereto in the property Land Registry Office.

BY-LAW READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 11TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2007.


CLERK


MAYOR

SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2007-150

In the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, County of Simcoe, property descriptions as follows:

CON 12 S PT LOT 5, Roll #4312020002102000000
TOWN OF BRADFORD WEST GWILLIMBURY
COUNTY OF SIMCOE

Specifically applies to the log house located approximately 37-metres from the front property line.

SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2007-150

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION – STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE

The Elliott-Watters Log House

3762 Line 12

Circa 1840

The Elliott-Watters house is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as a property of cultural heritage value or interest, as described in the following Statement of Significance.

Description of the property

This circa 1840-log farmhouse is located on the south half lot 5 Concession 12 West Gwillimbury at 3762 Line 12, on a 40-hectare property presently owned by [REDACTED]. The log house survives in company with a heritage bank barn, as well as a modern home where the present owners reside.

Statement of cultural heritage value (history)

The Elliott-Watters log house heritage value lies in it being one of the very few and best preserved log houses in Simcoe County. Typical of this once common form, it is a simple 28x20 foot box in dimension, with end gables, fireplace, front door and usual openings. It was built by Francis Elliott on land purchased from the Canada Company in 1834. There is no record of any other house on this property. Heritage value also lies in the fact that the land was surveyed by Samuel Lount, the blacksmith, who was hanged for treason in the 1837 rebellion. This house is a rare example of the once common pioneer house that provided shelter for our first settlers.

Description of heritage attributes (architecture)

The key exterior attributes that distinguish this house as an outstanding example of the period are:

- Large exposed cedar logs, lapped at the corners, still in excellent condition.
- Original door and window openings with offset front door and side windows.
- Original field stone foundation with full basement headroom.
- Exposed 2nd floor joists showing beaded floorboards.
- 1st floor framing, including round log joists lapped into log sills.
- The original 2nd floor plan with 4 bedrooms.
- The original beaded and battened back door with cast butt hinges.

The Elliott-Watters log house may be typical of many log homes in many ways, however it is atypical because of the full foundation walls and the front door and window arrangement on the façade. This log house is in an excellent state of preservation with most credit due to the present owners. It affords a rare record of the type of pioneer shelter that dominated the rural landscape of early Ontario.

This log building is being recommended for historic designation because of historical significance and architectural merit as described in the statement of cultural heritage value.

This statement is prepared by the BWG Heritage Committee.