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July 7, 2025

Attn. Provincial Heritage Registrar
Ontario Heritage Trust
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3

RECEIVED
2025/07/25
(YYYY/MM/DD)
Ontario Heritage Trust

Re: Notification of Intent to Designate, through Passage of a By-law, 13029 Steeles Avenue legally described as "PT LT 1, CON 8 ESQ, AS IN 234043; HALTON HILLS/ESQUESING" Regional Municipality of Halton, and known as Hornby School, under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

This letter is to advise you that the Notice of Intention to Designate for the above property under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* was served to the property owner(s), via email, on July 7, 2025.

The Notice of Intention to Designate 13029 Steeles Avenue will be posted on the various Town sites July 4, 2025. A copy of the attached proof for the notice was forwarded to the property owner(s) on July 7, 2025.

Sincerely,



Laura Loney
Manager of Heritage Planning
Planning and Development

UNDER THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT

Notice of Intention to Designate



JULY 4, 2025

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT AND IN THE MATTER OF the lands in the Town of Halton Hills known municipally as 13029 Steeles Avenue, legally described as “PT LT 1, CON 8 ESQ, AS IN 234043; HALTON HILLS/ESQUESING”, Regional Municipality of Halton, and known as the Hornby School.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town of Halton Hills intends to designate the property at 13029 Steeles Ave. under Section 29(1), Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:

The property at 13029 Steeles Avenue has physical and design value as a rare and representative example of an Ontario rural one-room schoolhouse in the Gothic Revival architectural style, in the community of Hornby, within the Town of Halton Hills. The one-and-a-half storey schoolhouse features design elements such as dichromatic brickwork, a gable roof, central entrance, two windows along the front elevation with multiple windows along the side elevations, brick buttresses, dichromatic brickwork, buff-brick quoins, and a date stone inscribed Erected “A.D. 1870”. The building’s design features influence from the Gothic Revival architectural style, as well as The School House; Its Architecture, External and Internal Arrangements and the Canadian Farmer, which published architectural plans and construction methods for grammar, intermediate, and primary schools in Canada. The use of dichromatic brickwork, such as the buff brick quoins, lintels, and brick patterns on the front elevation, displays a high degree of craftsmanship and artistic merit.

The property at 13029 Steeles Avenue has historical and associative value due to its associations with the early educational system in the community of Hornby. The student population began to grow with the establishment of Common School Act and the Ontario School Act, which introduced rates levied to support and construct new schools and later abolished the former fees for public schools and made attendance compulsory for children ages 7 to 12. These legislative changes provided government funds to construct and operate more schools for the growing school populations.

The property has associations with Dr. Frank Oliver Gilbert, who attended Hornby School, and later graduated from the University of Toronto in the early 1890s. Dr. Gilbert briefly established a medical practice in Hornby before dedicating himself to serving impoverished rural communities across Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. In the 1940s, Dr. Gilbert established a travelling medical practice on a houseboat, providing essential medical care to isolated and rural Indigenous communities.



The property also has associations with the Halton Opportunities Enterprise (HOPE) Workshop, who established the Adult Rehabilitation Centre to provide work opportunities and support for individuals with intellectual disabilities. This organization helped individuals become involved in various work programs and encouraged them to participate in community service initiatives.

The property at 13029 Steeles Avenue has contextual value as it is important in defining, maintaining, and supporting the rural character of the community of Hornby. The former Hornby Schoolhouse is physically, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings as an early schoolhouse that serviced School Section No. AE in Hornby until 1962. The property has not been identified as a landmark.

The heritage attributes of the property at 13029 Steeles Avenue are identified as follows:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the schoolhouse along Steeles Avenue in the community of Hornby within the Town of Halton Hills;
- The scale, form, and massing of the c.1870 one-and-a-half storey schoolhouse, running bond brick pattern, buff brick foundation and quoins, gable roof, brick chimney, and dichromatic brick detailing;
- Materials including red and buff brick, and stone;
- Front (southeast) elevation:
 - Projecting former bell tower with datestone inscribed "Erected A.D. 1870";
 - Flatheaded window openings with limestone keystones, soldier course lintels, and projecting limestone sills;
 - Buff brick banding;
- Side (southwest) elevation:
 - Flatheaded window openings with limestone keystones, soldier course lintels, and projecting limestone sills;
 - Four-bay design with three buff brick buttresses;
 - Buff brick banding;
- Side (northeast) elevation:
 - Flatheaded window opening with limestone keystone, soldier course lintel, and projecting limestone sill;
 - Doorway with limestone keystone and soldier course lintel;
 - Two buff brick buttresses; and,
 - Buff brick banding.

The identified heritage attribute of the property at 13029 Steeles Avenue, Hornby, that contributes to its historical and associative value includes:

- The legibility of the existing property as a late-nineteenth-century Ontario rural one-room schoolhouse along Steeles Avenue within the community of Hornby in the Town of Halton Hills.

UNDER THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT

Notice of Intention to Designate

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 13029 Steeles Avenue, Hornby, that contribute to its contextual value include:

- The legibility of the existing property as a late-nineteenth-century Ontario rural one-room schoolhouse along Steeles Avenue within the community of Hornby in the Town of Halton Hills;
- The setback, location, and orientation of the c.1870s Hornby School on the northwest side of Steeles Avenue in the community of Hornby; and,
- The scale, form, and massing of the one-and-a-half-storey Ontario rural one-room schoolhouse.

The rear elevation, interiors, and rear accessory structures were not investigated as part of this report.

Further information respecting the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and proposed designation of 13029 Steeles Avenue (refer to Report PD-2025-028) is available by contacting Laura Loney, Manager of Heritage Planning for the Town of Halton Hills at 905-873-2600 x 2358 or by email at lloney@haltonhills.ca.

Any person may, by August 3, 2025 (within 30 days after the date of the publication of this notice) serve written notice of objection to the proposed designation to Laura Loney together with a statement for the objection and all relevant facts.

Dated at the Town of Halton Hills this 4th day of July 2025.

Laura Loney, Manager of Heritage Planning, Planning and Development, The Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, ON L7G 5G2.

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