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Notice of Intention to Designate under the Ontario Heritage Act

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2025/09/16
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Ontario Heritage Trust



In the matter of the Ontario Heritage Act and in the matter of the lands in the Town of Halton Hills known municipally as 68 Bower Street, legally described as “LT 41, BLK 4, PL 31, also shown on PL 1098; Halton Hills”, Regional Municipality of Halton, and known as Villanore.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:

Villanore is an excellent example of a residential Victorian-era vernacular building with Gothic Revival influences, featuring a high degree of artisanship on both the exterior and interior. Designed by architect J. Francis Brown, Villanore has historical and associative value within the community of Acton. The property is associated with the family of Alexander Secord, great-nephew of Laura Secord and son-in-law of W.H. Storey. The property contributes contextually along Bower Street within the community of Acton.



In the matter of the Ontario Heritage Act and in the matter of the lands in the Town of Halton Hills known municipally as 20 Queen Street, legally described as “PT LTS 8 & 9, PL 37, SE of Queen St. as in 761809; together with an easment as in 761809 Town of Halton Hills”, Regional Municipality of Halton, and known as the George C. Kennedy House.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:

The property has been identified as having physical and design value as an excellent example of a brick, Gothic-Revival residential building in the community of Georgetown. The house is associated with the founding family of Georgetown, the Kennedy family, as well as Edward McCannah. Contextually, the George C. Kennedy House has value as one of several historic properties along Queen Street.



In the matter of the Ontario Heritage Act and in the matter of the lands in the Town of Halton Hills known municipally as 548 Main Street, legally described as “LT 34, RCP 1556; Halton Hills”, Regional Municipality of Halton, and known as the Smith-Thompson House.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:

The property has been identified as having physical and design value as a representative example of simple industrial housing in the Gothic Revival residential style, as one of the few earliest surviving village homes in Glen Williams, and for its associations with the Smith family and context within an historic streetscape.



In the matter of the Ontario Heritage Act and in the matter of the lands in the Town of Halton Hills known municipally as 1 Park Avenue, legally described as “PT LT 18, CON 8 ESQ, PT 1, 20R12058. Town of Halton Hills”, Regional Municipality of Halton, and known as the Old Armoury.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:

The Old Armoury is a rare surviving example of an early drill shed built in the 1860s in Ontario, and a direct example of the Canadian response to the Fenian Raids that occurred in 1866. The property is associated with Georgetown’s military history and the Lorne Scots and is a landmark within the community. The site’s surroundings and plaques further interpret the history within the surrounding public realm.

For more information on the heritage value, interest and designation of these properties, contact Laura Loney, Senior Heritage Planner for the Town of Halton Hills at 905-873-2600, ext. 2358 or by email at lloney@haltonhills.ca. Any person may, within 30 days after the date of the publication of this notice, serve written notice of objection to the proposed designation with Laura Loney together with a statement for the objection and all relevant facts.

Dated at the Town of Halton Hills, May 18, 2023.

Notice of Intention to Designate under the Ontario Heritage Act:

1 Park Street - The Old Armoury



IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT AND IN THE MATTER OF the lands in the Town of Halton Hills known municipally as 1 Park Avenue, legally described as “PT LT 18, CON 8 ESQ, PT 1, 20R12058. TOWN OF HALTON HILLS”, Regional Municipality of Halton, and known as the Old Armoury. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town of Halton Hills intends to designate the property at 1 Park Avenue, Georgetown 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 1 Park Avenue is a rare surviving example of an early drill shed built in the 1860s in Ontario. Very few examples of drill sheds built during this time remain in the area as most were demolished in the latter half of the 20th century, including the Hornby Drill Shed in 2005 and the Norval Drill Shed. The only remaining mid-nineteenth century drill sheds known to be extant in Ontario include the Elora Drill Hall located in Wellington County, the Aurora Drill Shed in Aurora County, and the Acton Drill Shed in Halton County. Drill sheds of the time period were simple and utilitarian in design, making them quick and easy to build. The large spacious interior made them ideal for drilling practices and basic rifle training and were also

an engineering feat of the time period, designed by railway engineer Walter Moberly. Key features of drill sheds built in the mid-19th century included reinforced truss systems and timber framed structure, all of which are reflected in the Georgetown Armoury’s architectural design.

The property at 1 Park Avenue is a direct example of the Canadian response to the Fenian Raids that occurred in 1866. The drill sheds of the time period are a representative example of an early form of this type of building in Ontario and served primarily as training facilities for volunteer regiments in Upper Canada. The Georgetown Armoury is also connected to the Georgetown’s military history and the Lorne Scots. This local battalion served in the 4th Battalion in WWI and various battalions in WWII, taking part in important battles such as the Sicilian Invasion in 1943. The Lorne Scots retains an active presence in the community to this day. The Old Armoury is also still connected to the Battalion, as demonstrated with the plaques located on property. Members of the battalion and Georgetown’s community still remember the Old Armoury’s use as a site for military parades and multiple community events in the 20th and 21st century.

The Old Armoury at 1 Park Avenue is considered a historical landmark of Georgetown and the Fairgrounds due to the structure’s location at the edge of the property. The relocation of the building to the Fairgrounds from the Market Square directly correlated with the community’s growing population; as the population of Georgetown began to grow, so did the number of recruits into the Halton Rifles. As a result, more space was required to train the volunteer regiment. The site’s surroundings and two memorial plaques pay homage to the Armoury’s military history whilst acknowledging the site’s use as a space for public events that brought the community together. Globe Productions continues to provide this space by holding fundraising events to help support their theatre productions and maintaining the Armoury building. The town’s use of the drill shed and the grounds as space for events helped to reinforce the connection that Georgetown’s residents have with the building and its surroundings.

Description of Heritage Attributes:

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 1 Park Avenue that contribute to its physical and design value and historical and associative value include:

- The setback, placement, and orientation of the 19th century drill shed within the Georgetown Fairgrounds;
- The scale, form, and massing of the rectangular, gable-roofed structure;
- On the interior, the large, open space, exposed wooden trusses and original barn-board siding and roof, reflecting its original use and military function;
- On the exterior, the wooden board-and-batten cladding; and,
- Adjacent to the drill shed, the stone memorial and plaques commemorating the military history of the building.

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 1 Park Avenue that contribute to its contextual value include:

- The setback, placement, and orientation of the 19th century drill shed within the Georgetown Fairgrounds;
- The scale, form, and massing of the rectangular, gable-roofed structure;

Further information respecting the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and proposed designation (refer to Report PD-2023-033) is available by contacting Laura Loney, Senior Heritage Planner for the Town of Halton Hills at 905-873-2600, ext. 2358 or by email at lloney@haltonhills.ca. Any person may, by June 17, 2023 (within 30 days after the date of the publication of this notice) serve written notice of objection to the proposed designation together with a statement for the objection and all relevant facts. Dated at the Town of Halton Hills on May 18, 2023.