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Planning and Growth
The City of Cambridge
heritageinfo@cambridge.ca

March 17, 2026

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Ontario Heritage Trust

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

In the matter of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Ch.O.18. And in the matter of lands and premises at the following municipal address in the Province of Ontario.

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Cambridge intends to designate the following property for its cultural heritage value or interest under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, Part IV, Section 29.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

27 Oak Street

The following Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and List of Heritage Attributes was prepared for the property at 27 Oak Street in their Heritage Registry Report, which recommended that the property be designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its design/physical, historical/associative, and contextual value, as defined in Ontario Regulation 9/06 under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Description of the Historic Place

The property known municipally as 27 Oak Street is located on a corner lot on the east side of Oak Street and north of Rich Avenue in the former historic Town of Galt and now within the City of Cambridge with an east rear modern garage addition and driveway in the rear.

Summary of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The property located at 27 Oak Street is a representative example of the Ontario Farmhouse (also known as the Ontario Cottage/Gothic Cottage) is a subset of Gothic Revival Architecture commonly prevalent in Ontario between the 1850s-1880s. Popularized through American pattern books and subsequently picked up by local magazines like *Canadian Farmer* 1860s, Ontario Farmhouses generally incorporate

Gothic Revival elements. Historically, it is usually designed to be one-and-a-half storeys to maximize living space within a lower tax bracket by avoiding a full second storey according to the *Ontario Architectural Style Guide 2009*. These cottages follow a specific pattern and floor plan but vary hugely in its exterior finish and details across the province in Ontario.

The subject property features attributes representative of the style within the City of Cambridge such as one-and-a-half storey plan, gable roof, symmetrical front façade, stone foundation, stone exterior, chimneys, covered front porch, and a cross gable above the front entrance.

Decorative Gothic Revival elements include decorative bargeboard, sills, segmentally arched window openings, stone voussoirs, finial, and covered porch with decorative columns, trim, and balustrades.

The subject property at 27 Oak Street is associated with Mary Gardiner, the spouse of the prominent Peter Waters Gardiner, a local manufacturer of doors, sash, columns, and moldings who owned the well-established P.W. Gardiner & Sons.

The subject property is historically associated with the theme of the development of the East Galt neighbourhood, a well-established residential area with a wide range of architectural styles, large mature trees, and unique globe streetlamps due to the 1890s international movement of city beautification led by J.P. Jaffray, of the Galt Reporter from 1896 onwards. It's location on Oak Street and Gothic Revival Ontario Cottage architectural style reflect the history of the late nineteenth century and wealth of homeowners in the area.

The subject property maintains and supports the historic character of the immediate and broader physical context of the street and the neighbourhood through supporting the late nineteenth century character of the historic Town of Galt. The subject property resides in the East Galt neighborhood which contains a large concentration of late nineteenth century buildings as well as being part of the development history within the historic neighbourhood of East Galt. The property also shares similar massing and form by other buildings on Oak Street which helps to preserve the area's sense of place and visual setting.

The subject property at 27 Oak Street is historically linked to the historical adjacent lot of 35 Oak Street as they were built in consideration of each other in the late nineteenth century as the earliest subject property owner, Mary Gardiner (Mary Wallace), is the spouse of notable figure Peter Waters Gardiner, owner of the neighbouring 35 Oak Street. They were married in November 1895. The property is also visually and historically to the surrounding historic streetscape as it is part of a cohesive group of

residential properties with a shared early development history that has contributed to the early development of the Town of Galt.

Description of Heritage Attributes

The following identified heritage attributes that contribute to the cultural heritage value or interest include:

- Gothic Revival Ontario Cottage architectural style;
- One-and-a-half storey massing and symmetrical front façade;
- Stone foundation;
- Stone exterior;
- Medium-pitch gable roof with overhanging eaves;
- Centred cross-gable over front entrance with decorative bargeboard and finial;
- Centred front entrance with transom and sidelights;
- Brick chimneys;
- Window openings with stone voussoirs
- Sills;
- Centered window opening with arched voussoir above front entrance;
- Covered one-storey front porch with decorative columns, capitals, and balustrade;

The interior of the building and any additions or outbuildings are excluded in this designation.

For more information on the Notice of Intention to Designate or the property, please contact Heritage Staff at heritageinfo@cambridge.ca

ANY PERSON MAY, within thirty days of the publication of this Notice, serve notice of their objection on the City Clerk in accordance with the Section 29(5) and 67 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18. The notice must set out the reason(s) for the objection and all relevant facts, in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

**All objections should be directed to: City Clerk's Office, City of Cambridge
50 Dickson Street, P.O. Box 669
Cambridge, ON N1R 5W8**