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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, CHAPTER O.18

**AND IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 295 AINSLIE STREET SOUTH,
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO**

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of the Corporation of the City of Cambridge intends to designate the property municipally known as 295 Ainslie Street South under Section 29, Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest.

Legal Description

LT 20-24 PL 457 CAMBRIDGE; PT STATE ST PL 457 CAMBRIDGE AS CLOSED BY 21473 AS IN D23006 & D25704 EXCEPT PT 3, 67R3749 & PT 43 & 45, 58R13587; CAMBRIDGE

Description of Property

The property at 295 Ainslie Street South is located at the southeast corner of Ainslie Street South and Birch Street in the historic Galt area. It contains a one-storey red-brick industrial building constructed circa 1890, positioned close to the street edge and backing onto the Grand River valley bluff.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The property is of cultural heritage value for its design, historical, and contextual significance. Built circa 1890, the building is a strong representative example of vernacular industrial architecture from the late nineteenth century. Its simple rectangular form, red-brick construction, and flat roof with a central gable are characteristic of early Galt manufacturing structures.

Historically, the property is directly associated with the Galt Knife Company Limited, which operated on-site from 1913 into the early 2000s, manufacturing precision industrial blades used across North America. The company was a key employer and contributor to Galt's industrial economy. Following its closure, the building was adaptively reused as Grand River Brewing

(2007) and now as Farm League Brewing (2021)—continuing its long tradition of productive, community-focused industry.

Contextually, the property supports and maintains the historic industrial character of South Galt, with its siting, materials, and massing contributing to the early industrial landscape along Ainslie Street South. The building remains physically and historically linked to the adjacent Grand River industrial corridor.

Description of Heritage Attributes

The following attributes contribute to the property's cultural heritage value:

Building Attributes

- One-storey, red-brick industrial building constructed circa 1890
- Rectangular plan and low-profile flat roof with a central gable peak
- Red-brick exterior walls laid in common bond
- Regular rhythm of rectangular window openings with multi-pane industrial sash windows and concrete sills
- Modest door openings on the west and south elevations, reflective of utilitarian industrial design
- Overall massing, scale, and form representative of late-nineteenth-century vernacular factory architecture

Site and Landscape Attributes

- Shallow setbacks from Ainslie Street South and Birch Street, typical of early industrial siting patterns
- Mature trees and vegetated bluff to the east, providing a natural backdrop associated with the Grand River industrial corridor

Objection

Any person may, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice, serve on the City Clerk of the City of Cambridge a Notice of Objection to the proposed designation. The notice must set out the reason(s) for the objection and all relevant facts.

Notice of Objection should be addressed to: City Clerk, The Corporation of the City of Cambridge 50 Dickson Street, P.O. Box 669, Cambridge, Ontario N1R 5W8 Email: clerks@cambridge.ca

Further information regarding the proposed designation may be obtained from the Policy Planning Division (Heritage Planning) at heritageinfo@cambridge.ca.