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To Erin.



# TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT

60 Snyder's Road West, Baden, ON N3A 1A1

Clerk's Services Department

T: 519-634-8444

F: 519-634-5044

Email: dawn.mittelholtz@wilmot.ca

September 3, 2019

ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST

Chair  
Ontario Heritage Trust  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5C 1J3

SEP 12 2019

RECEIVED

Dear Ms. Femande,

Re: Notice of Intention to Designate Property

Enclosed is a copy of a resolution of Wilmot Township Council expressing their intent to designate a property within the municipality.

The Notice of Intention to Designate is submitted to you in accordance with Section 29 (4) of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O., 1990, Chapter O.18 and has been published in a local newspaper that has general circulation within the municipality.

Sincerely,

Dawn Mittelholtz

\*\*\*This information is available in accessible formats upon request\*\*\*



## **St. James Lutheran Church**

66 Mill Street, Baden Ontario

### **Description of Property – 66 Mill Street**

The property at 66 Mill Street in the town of Baden, PLAN 627, LOT 180 is recommended for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and meets the criteria for municipal designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the categories of design, historical and contextual value. Located on the west side of Mill Street, St. James Lutheran Church is listed on the Non-Designated Heritage Properties inventory for the Township of Wilmot.

### **Statement of Cultural and Heritage Value**

#### **Historical Value:**

St. James Lutheran Church was built in 1864. The history of the church has remained entwined with the community of Baden for over a 155 years.

Lutheran services began in 1856; the congregation formalized in 1858 purchasing property from Jacob Beck (Sir Adam Beck's father) in 1862. That year the cornerstone for the new church was laid and a frame church was completed c.1864. The original frame church remains in situ, with changes that include: addition of a basement and narthex in 1953.

Historically, the Beck family was closely associated with this church. First, with Jacob Beck who founded Baden and assisted with the building of the church while creating a thriving community. His wife Charlotte Hespeler who was the sister of nearby Jacob Hespeler was intricately involved in the church as well. Their son Adam who would become *Sir Adam Beck* was baptized and confirmed at this church. Adam Beck was a politician and founder of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario and was knighted by King George V in 1914 for his promotion of electricity and development of transmission lines. On December 29, 1911, Beck and his wife returned to Baden and from the Baden Opera House, he officially switched on public hydro-electric power at precisely 6:11 p.m. in the village surrounded by hundreds of excited people and a 20-piece band at the event. Beck addressed the people and paid homage to his boyhood home of Baden followed by a banquet in their honour. The Becks continued to St. James Lutheran Church, where his mother had helped organize the church in its early years. In a more intimate setting while at St. James, Beck briefly addressed the church congregation in German; his first language that he tended not to use often in public. Following this, a set of ornate light fixtures were donated by Beck in memory of his mother and the church was lit at 8:00 p.m. sharp.

### **Contextual Value**

This long-standing church has been a place of spiritual and social gathering since 1864. St. James Lutheran Church has been supported by the community and continues to be today.

### **Physical Value**

St. James Lutheran Church is a representative example of a Vernacular religious building with Gothic Revival styling. Gothic Revival designs are recognized by the use of pointed arches, buttresses, and varied window types. This style diminished after the 1930s, a fact which adds to the architectural importance of the church.

### **Architectural Survey**

#### **Front Façade/ East Façade**

1 storey; light grey vinyl siding covers the original frame church. Front entrance is an addition. The main church has a gable roof facing the street; on the roof is a square base with an eight sided tower with Gothic Revival features with plain tops and louvres in the lower portion; the steeple is 8-sided with a cedar shingle roof topped by decorative finial with a rooster weather vane. The foundation is parged with cement and marked out to look like stone.

#### **West Façade**

West side has a 2-part 2/2 rectangular window towards the left side; the south side has a 2-part 2/2 rectangular window

#### **North/South Façades**

The north side features 3 Gothic Revival stained-glass windows that are evenly spaced. The south façade is the same, featuring 3 Gothic Revival stained-glass windows. There is a small covered entryway towards the rear on the north side of the building.

### **Reasons for Designation:**

St. James Lutheran Church is an example of a Vernacular style church with Gothic Revival features.

The Heritage Designation should include:

- All four exterior façades of St. James Church, including the stained glass windows on the north and south façades.
- The 8-sided tower

### **Recommendation**

The Heritage Wilmot Advisory Committee recommends St. James Lutheran Church for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. This property meets the criteria for municipal designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the categories of design, historical and contextual value. The designation should include all four exterior façades of the church, including the tower.

Respectfully submitted by the Heritage Wilmot Advisory Committee

July 4, 2019



## TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT

IN THE MATTER OF  
THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT,  
R.S.O. 1990 c. O.18

### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of The Corporation of The Township of Wilmot intends to designate the property at the following municipal address as a property of historic, architectural and contextual value under the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990 c.O.18, Section 29.

The subject property, familiarly known as St. James Lutheran Church, located at 66 Mill Street in Baden, Lot 180, Plan 627, Township of Wilmot.

The designation is recommended on design, historical and contextual grounds. Detailed reasons for designation of this property are available at the Office of the Clerk, 60 Snyder's Road West, Baden, On N3A 1A1 during regular business hours (8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, 519 634-8444). Any person who objects to this intended designation must, within thirty (30) days of the publication of this notice, serve on the Clerk, a notice of objection in writing, setting out the reason for the objection and all relevant facts. The Ontario Heritage Trust provides that where a Notice of Objection has been served, the Council shall refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing.

DATED at The Township of Wilmot this 30th day of July, 2019.

Dawn Mittelholtz, Director of Clerk's Services  
Township of Wilmot