



An agency of the Government of Ontario



Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

This document was retrieved from the Ontario Heritage Act Register, which is accessible through the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust at **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.

Ce document est tiré du registre aux fins de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, accessible à partir du site Web de la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien sur **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.



February 3, 2023

Via Registered Mail and Email

Ms. Erin Semande
Ontario Heritage Trust
Heritage Programs and Operation
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3

Dear Ms. Semande,

RE: Notice of Intention to Designate 30 Properties to be of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest in the Town of Aurora

Please find attached the Notices of Intention to Designate for each of the 30 properties that were resolved by the Council of the Town of Aurora on June 21, 2022, to become designated. These Notices include a statement explaining the Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and a description of the heritage attributes for each property.

The 30 properties are as follows with each Notice of Intention to Designate attached:

16 Reuben Street	16-18 Mosley Street	17 Wellington Street East
19 Mosley Street	21 Machell Avenue	21 Victoria Street
31 Tyler Street	33 Mosley Street	35 Metcalfe Street
36 Wells Street	41 Wellington Street East	42 Wellington Street East
50 Mill Street	50 Tyler Street	50 Wellington Street East
53 Mosley Street	53 Wellington Street East	55 Metcalfe Street
56-58 Mosley Street	57 Mosley Street	68 Mosley Street
71 Tyler Street	73 Kennedy Street West	73 Wellington Street East
77 Wellington Street East	79 Victoria Street	81 Tyler Street
1978 Vandorf Sideroad	14314-14378 Yonge Street	15800 Yonge Street

The Town's Heritage Advisory Committee was also consulted, including through the meeting held on Monday, May 2, 2022. The Notices also outline the objection process, and pursuant to Section 29(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, they will be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality (The Auroran) and will also be served to each property owner.

Yours sincerely,

Michael de Rond
Town Clerk

Attach.

- c. Marco Ramunno, Director, Planning and Development Services
- c. Adam Robb, Senior Planner, Planning and Development Services

Corporate Services
Michael de Rond
Town Clerk

905-726-4771
mderond@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
100 John West Way,
Box 1000, Aurora, ON L4G 6J1



NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE 1978 VANDORF SIDEROAD

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Aurora intends to designate the following property as a property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest pursuant to the provisions of Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18, as amended. A statement of reasons is included.

1978 Vandorf Sideroad
The Ransom-Baber House
Pt Lt 16 Con 3 Whitchurch As In R698458; Aurora
PIN: 036420084

Description of Property

The property known municipally as 1978 Vandorf Sideroad is located on the north side of Vandorf Sideroad, east of Leslie Street and west of Highway 404. The property includes a Victorian dwelling constructed circa 1880 - over 140 years ago. The property also has very strong association with two significant local families, being the Ransoms and Babers.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

1978 Vandorf Sideroad is of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest based on its design and physical value, historical and associative value, and contextual value.

Design and Physical Value:

The property is a representative example of a 2-storey dwelling constructed in the Victorian architectural style. The building includes features indicative of its period of construction and high craftsmanship and detail, including the buff/yellow brick, side gabled roof paired with brick chimneys at each gable end, the original window and door openings with a 3-bay façade and central entrance, and the large covered verandah complete with detailed support posts and rails that wrap around both the south and east elevations. These features and details are specifically unique for the streetscape and community area, with the building serving as a rare and well-preserved example of the Victorian style with exceptional design detail and character.

Historical and Associative Value:

The building was constructed circa 1880, over 140 years ago, and has a rich history associated with the early development of Aurora and both the Ransom and Baber families. The parcel itself can be tied back to the original acreage that was granted to Captain William Graham from the Crown in 1798. Captain William Graham's acreage would eventually be subdivided and it was ultimately Frederick Ransom who constructed the building on the property in 1880, the same year he married Annie Jane Robinson, with the new house being a gift for his bride. Frederick Ransom was also known locally as an expert maple syrup maker and each spring he would setup camp in the local forested area for sugaring-off time which in turn became a popular local place to visit for the residents of Aurora and Vandorf village. Frederick Ransom also worked as a local carpenter and was involved in the building of many of Aurora's earliest homes. The Ransoms had two sons, William and Edmund, and they adopted a daughter, Irene. Irene married Albert Baber in 1927 and by 1933 inherited the property. The Baber family is notably significant as Harold Baber, brother of Albert and the first of the family to move to Canada from England, was killed at the World War One battle of Canal du Nord on September 29, 1918, at the age of 20. According to the Canadian War Memorial, Harold Baber was killed by enemy shellfire while mending communication lines for the battle effort. Harold Baber is also memorialized as part of the Aurora War Memorial. Albert moved to Canada because of the association his brother Harold had established. Albert and Irene raised their family at the dwelling. The subject property has strong association with the original development of the Town and its agricultural area. The property

helps contribute to our understanding of the development of the Town post Confederation and during the World War One period.

Contextual Value:

The property defines, maintains and supports the historic character of the rural Aurora area and early development of the community in and around Vandorf / southeast Aurora. The building provides a significant link to the rural character of the Town and is a landmark property as one of the earliest dwellings on the street. The property directly links with the expansion of Vandorf and growth of Aurora post-Confederation and at the turn of the 20th century.

Description of Heritage Attributes

The following provides a description of heritage attributes for the property which contribute to the reasons for which the property is of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. Important to the preservation of the property are the original key attributes of the building that express its value, which include:

Exterior Elements

- Overall 2 storey scale and massing with yellow brick construction
- Side gabled roof and paired chimneys of the original dwelling
- All original window and door openings visible from the public realm
- Front elevation 3-bay façade and central entrance
- Existing verandah

Notice of objection to this notice of intention to designate the property may be served on the Clerk of the Town of Aurora within 30 days after the date of publication of the notice of intention to designate in the local newspaper. This notice of objection must set out the reason for the objection and all relevant facts. If a notice of objection is received, the Council of the Town of Aurora shall consider the objection and make a decision whether to withdraw the notice of intention to designate the property or not.

Michael De Rond
Town Clerk
Town of Aurora, 100 John West Way, Box 1000, Aurora, ON, L4G 6J1
mderrond@aurora.ca

For any other inquiries, please contact:

Adam Robb, MPL, MCIP, RPP, CAHP
Senior Planner, Development/Heritage
Planning and Development Services
arobb@aurora.ca
365-500-3104