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# Notice of Heritage Designation

Paris Plains Cemetery, 705 Paris Plains Church Road, Paris

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The Council of the County of Brant has passed By-law 84-23 to designate the Paris Plains Cemetery, as a property of cultural heritage value and interest under Section 29(1) of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Further information regarding the property at 705 Paris Plains Church Road, is available online at [www.brant.ca/heritage](http://www.brant.ca/heritage).

Any person who objects to the by-law may file an appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal and the clerk of the municipality, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. The appeal must include the objection to the by-law and the reasons in support of the objection, accompanied by the fee charged by the Tribunal. Notice of appeal must be submitted to the Clerk of the County of Brant before 4:30 pm on August 28<sup>th</sup> at [clerks@brant.ca](mailto:clerks@brant.ca) or 66 Grand River Street North, Paris, ON, N3L 2M2.

**BY-LAW NUMBER 84-23**

- of -

**THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF BRANT**

To designate the Paris Plains Cemetery (705 Paris Plains Church Road)  
under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

**WHEREAS** a request was made by the Paris Plains Cemetery Association (“PPCA”) in May 2022 for the County of Brant Heritage Committee to evaluate the Paris Plains Cemetery for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act;

**AND WHEREAS** under the authority of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, as amended, the Council of a municipality may, by by-law, designate any property under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

**AND WHEREAS** an evaluation of the property was completed in July 2022 by the Municipal Heritage Committee in accordance with the criteria established under Ontario Regulation 9/06, to determine cultural heritage value or interest of the property;

**AND WHEREAS** staff report RPT-0524-22, presented to and endorsed by Council in December 2022, confirmed that the property meets the prescribed criteria and directed that notice of intention to designate the property be given;

**AND WHEREAS** notice of intention to designate was served on the property owner, the Ontario Heritage Trust and published in the Brantford Expositor in May 2023, and no objection to the notice of intention to designate have been served within the 30-day period;

**NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF BRANT HEREBY ENACTS** as follows:

1. **THAT** the property municipally known as 705 Paris Plains Church Road and further described in Schedule ‘A’ – “Description of Property” attached hereto, be hereby added to the municipal register, being designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* as a property of cultural heritage value and interest.
2. **AND THAT** the reasons for designation be as set out in Schedule ‘B’ – “Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest” attached hereto.
3. **AND THAT** the key heritage attributes contributing to the property’s cultural heritage value which shall be retained be as set out in Schedule ‘C’ – “Description of Heritage Attributes” and Schedule ‘D’ – “Cemetery Map and Significant Features”

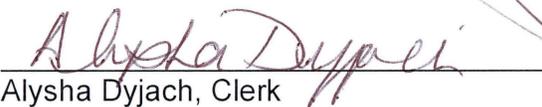
4. **AND THAT** the County of Brant register a copy of this By-Law, together with its schedules, against the title of the subject lands in the Land Registry Office (LRO 2)
5. **AND THAT** this By-Law shall come into force on the day it is passed by the Council of the Corporation of the County of Brant.

**READ** a first and second time, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023.

**READ** a third time and finally passed in Council, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023.

**THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF BRANT**

  
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David Bailey, Mayor

  
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Alysha Dyjach, Clerk

**Schedule 'A' - Description of Property**

Paris Plains Cemetery, 705 Paris Plains Church Road (PIN 320290040)

The Paris Plains Cemetery is an active pioneer cemetery located on a property adjacent to the Maus Schoolhouse (Designating By-Law 24-86A) and the Paris Plains Church (Designating By-Law 24-86A). The 0.61-hectare (1.51 acre) property comprises grave markers, monuments, and mature trees.

The property is legally described as Part of Lot 27, Concession 4, in the geographic township of South Dumfries.

**Schedule B – Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

The Paris Plains Cemetery is a property of cultural heritage value or interest located within the County of Brant. The cemetery is a representative example of a 19th century cemetery designed in the rural cemetery style and is linked to the history of Paris Plains Church and of Paris itself. Many of the individuals buried in the cemetery were significant local individuals who contributed greatly to the early development of the community. The property holds significant religious, spiritual, and emotional value to residents of the County of Brant whose family members have been buried and continue to be buried within the cemetery. As a place of memory, the cemetery provides a physical connection to the past and to loved ones on both a personal and community level. The Paris Plains Cemetery property has been evaluated for its cultural heritage value or interest under the prescribed criteria of Ontario Regulation 9/06, as included below.

**Design and Physical Value**

The Paris Plains Cemetery has design and physical value and, in conjunction with the neighbouring school and church, is a representative example of a designed cultural heritage landscape. The Cemetery itself is a 19th century church cemetery, influenced by the rural cemetery style that originated in England. Typical of Ontario cemeteries of this era, it contains a variety of grave markers and monuments which document the many changes in burial practices from the 19th to 21st centuries. These changes are demonstrated in the material, shape, design, size, construction techniques and location of the markers. The cemetery includes early and examples of headstones, as well as many monuments which display unique craftsmanship. The monuments provide insight into the individuals who are honoured in the cemetery through their inscriptions and symbols which speak to family history, occupation, religion, and affiliations. The size and intricacy of details on the grave markers reveal information about the person’s place and status within the community. These gravestones play a role in the grieving process by providing a tangible connection to those who have passed and the history of the area. The property also has heritage value from its landscape features of mature trees and other plantings that have been intentionally planted or have developed naturally over many decades. These elements contribute to a scenic space that supports the community through the experiences of loss, grief, and commemoration.

**Historical and Associative Value**

The Paris Plains Cemetery has cultural heritage value for its direct associations with the Paris Plains Church, one of the first religious institutions established by European settlers in Paris. The creation of the cemetery was a significant achievement for the growing Church and met an important need for parishioners. The cemetery is also directly associated with the early settlement of the community. Many individuals who played a significant role in the development of the County of Brant are interred in this cemetery, including some of the first European settlers. Key historical burials include:

Name	Description
Maus Family	Interred here are many members of the Maus family who were early settlers of this area, emigrating from New York State, after being displaced by war. Henry Maus (1782-1857) grew up in New York State and married Aurilla Bunnell (1785-1858) and immigrated to Upper Canada in 1817. They had eight children and their son Lewis who died in 1828 has the oldest tombstone at the cemetery. As a leader in the community, Maus would host bible study and community gatherings in his home. He donated the land where today we find Maus (Paris Plains) School, Church, and Cemetery. The settlement was once called Maus Plains.

War of 1812 Veterans	There are three War of 1812 Veterans buried on the property: Solomon Markle, Abraham Markle, and Christian Muma, each has a gravestone accompanied by a granite memorial plaque to help identify them.
LaPierre	Early settlers in the community included the LaPierres. On the grounds, there's a large LaPierre monument with several family members' names listed on it. The LaPierres were well connected with the Maus family, many people in the cemetery can be traced back to these two central families.
Boughton	There is a family member of Levi Boughton, the master mason who brought the cobblestone architecture technique to the County of Brant. Boughton is credited with the work of the 11 houses and 2 churches of cobblestone construction still standing in around Paris, including the Paris Plains Church.

The property holds information about these individuals that contributes to the understanding of the community, as well as the Paris Plains Church. In addition to its historical significance, the property has direct associations with the theme of burial practices in Ontario as well as the religious, spiritual and social beliefs surrounding death and the afterlife. These beliefs and practices are not only personal but are also part of larger cultural traditions and religious institutions.

**Contextual Value**

The property is connected to the Paris Plains Church property, which is a well-known local landmark, easily visible along Paris Plains Road. The properties that house the Paris Plains Church, Maus School, and Paris Plains Cemetery and their surroundings are part of a cultural heritage landscape that remains physically, visually, and historically linked to its rural surroundings. The cemetery is one of the first community cemeteries, as before the practice was to bury loved ones on the family farm.

### **Schedule C – Description of Heritage Attributes**

The key heritage attributes for the property are derived from the values described in Schedule B. These attributes, in addition to the attributes of the of the Paris Plains Church and Maus School contribute to the overall cultural heritage value and significance of the cultural heritage landscape, and include regard to:

- its defined geographical area which has been modified by human activity;
- its placement in a rural setting; and
- the relationship between the property's topography, natural elements, and hardscaping features, including its variety of monuments, markers, and structures.

Key built heritage attributes include the monuments and markers, including fragments of monuments and markers, which contribute to Paris Plains Cemetery's cultural heritage value and significance include:

- age of many of the grave markers;
- range of size and sophistication, from modest to elaborate;
- surviving inscriptions;
- variety of styles, materials and symbolism represented;
- location and orientation;
- shape and form, including decorative elements; and
- various construction methods and techniques.

Key geographic, natural and hardscaping attributes which contribute to Paris Plain Cemetery's overall cultural heritage value and significance include its:

- views and vistas from within the cemetery; and
- placement and variety of mature trees and other vegetation.

### **Implications of the Heritage Designation on the Heritage Attributes**

The heritage designation of this property is intended to provide protection to the listed attributes to ensure that changes to the property are appropriately managed. Such activities as relocation of original markers and removal of mature trees (without replacement) will require heritage permits.

The attributes of the property that are excluded from designation:

- Any past or future interred human remains
- The chain link fence surrounding the property

The attributes of the property that are specifically included in the designation have been illustrated on Schedule D – Cemetery Map and Significant Features to assist with the implementation of the provisions of this By-Law.

The *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act* contains specific procedures for the closure (i.e. removal) of cemeteries if the Registrar of cemeteries determines that the closure is "in the public interest." These provisions apply to all cemeteries in Ontario including those that have been designated under the Ontario Heritage Act. It is not the intent of this designation to impede any requirements of the *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*.

**Schedule D – Cemetery Map and Significant Features**

<p>Significant Natural and Landscape Features</p>	
<p>Significant Monuments</p>	