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THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT

BY-LAW NO. 2008-27

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Ontario Heritage Trust

**BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS
THE NEW DUNDEE BANDSHELL, LOCATED IN NEW DUNDEE COMMUNITY PARK,
NEW DUNDEE, TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT, REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF
WATERLOO, BEING PART LOT 5, PART LOT 6, BLOCK A, CONCESSION 3 UNDER
THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT**

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, as amended, authorizes the Council of a municipality to designate property within the municipality to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wilmot deems it desirable to designate the New Dundee Bandshell as having historic, social and contextual value and interest;

AND WHEREAS the Clerk of the Township of Wilmot has caused Notice of Intention to Designate to be given in accordance with Section 29 (3 & 4) of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990;

AND WHEREAS no Notice of Objection has been served on the Clerk within the meaning of Section 29 (5) of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990.

**THEREFORE THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That the property described in Schedule "A" attached hereto is hereby designated to be of historic, social and contextual value. The Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest is set out in Schedule "B" attached hereto.
2. This By-law shall come into effect on the final passing thereof by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wilmot.

READ a first and second time this 26th day of May, 2008

READ a third time and finally approved in Open Council this 26th day of May, 2008



Mayor



Clerk

SCHEDULE "A"

to

BY-LAW NO. 2008-25⁷

Legal Description of Property to be designated:

**PART LOT 5, PART LOT 6, BLOCK A, CONCESSION 3, NEW DUNDEE, TOWNSHIP
OF WILMOT, REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERLOO**

SCHEDULE "B" to By-law 2008-25⁷

**HERITAGE WILMOT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PROPOSED HERITAGE DESIGNATION
NEW DUNDEE BANDSHELL**

Definition of a Bandshell:

A covered platform usually used by a musical group for outdoor performances.

A bandshell with a concave, almost hemispheric wall at the rear that serves as a sounding board.

A bandshell is a large, outdoor performing venue typically used by bands and orchestras. The roof and the back half of the shell protect musicians from the elements and reflect sound through the open side and out towards the audience.

History of the New Dundee Bandshell

The Bandshell is located in the New Dundee Community Park (Block A, Concession 3, Part Lot 5, Part Lot 6 on the corner of Bridge and Main Streets, New Dundee) and is owned and maintained by the Township of Wilmot today. It was built in 1944 by local tradespersons.

The New Dundee Musical Society Band provided music for the town at the band stand on Main Street. This was later moved to Alderside Park and a portable band stand was used for Sunday evening concerts in the 20's and 30's. Soon, a new need was presented to provide more suitable accommodation for the Sunday evening band concerts.

In 1944, the planning of erecting a bandshell came to a head when Warden Gordon Hallman gave a talk in front of the New Dundee Hotel to give a boost to the support of the building. Regrettably, he was to die before the year was out.

Description of Heritage Attributes

The Bandshell is a wooden structure, square in shape with a wide, open, semi circular front facing west. It was constructed of rock finish cinder blocks, covering an area of 28 feet square with a platform 28 feet wide and 18 feet deep. It has two large dressing rooms at the rear and a finished basement. There is a decorative front façade on this one storey wooden structure. The asphalt shingle roof would appear to be a 3-sided medium hip shape that is joined at the top by a horizontal ridge: the pitch rises thirty-five to fifty-five degrees. A chimney is located offset to the right of the building. An exterior set of steps on the right front of the building leads to the stage front.

Albert Feiderlein was put in charge of the building. Ed Krehler helped, as he was a carpenter. These two men toiled diligently and almost single handedly erected it during the years 1944-45. For his work, Albert received but \$200. Much credit is due these men for their devoted service. Much of the other labour was donated by over 75 other citizens of the community. Trucking was provided by local firms and tractors and trucks were loaned by many people. E.A.Poth did the Band Sawing and Garfield Cressman donated the Hydro Pole. Harry Goettling donated and planted and cared for the maintenance of trees around the park area. A list of people who made cash donations was listed in the official opening booklet.

The Official opening of the New Dundee Band shell took place on Thursday May 24, 1945. At that time, Queen Victoria's birthday was celebrated on May 24, and not on the Monday preceding the date as is the present custom.

An afternoon and evening program was held and each program commenced with a parade and ball game. There also was a pet show, a doll show, bicycle and novelty racing as well as singing by school children. A variety show was the evening feature entertainment.

Five Bands participated in the 7:30 parade including the New Dundee Musical Society Band with 22 members under the leadership of Ira H.Toman. The other bands were the Tavistock Citizens Band, the New Hamburg Band, The Stratford Boys Band, The Elmira Bugle Band and the Wellesley Band. The New Dundee Little German Band was only beginning then.

Speakers included Waterloo County Warden Simon Ditner, P.C. Federal Member of Parliament Karl Homuth and Grieve Robinson, C.C.F. member of the Provincial Legislature.

The school children sang a number of songs and a few comedy numbers were given as well as a number of comedy skits. A booklet was printed for the official opening with a picture of the band shell on the cover page and contained a history of the community park which dates back to 1934.

Following the official opening of the bandshell, the New Dundee Musical Society Band gave many Sunday evening concerts as well as playing at the annual Garden Parties for many years until finally disbanding.

Washrooms were added as the Golden Centennial project. The basement of the Band Shell was improved by installing a heater in 1958 and cementing of the floor in 1959.

Cultural/Heritage Value or Interest

Over the years, this lovely band shell has provided the citizens of New Dundee with a perfect venue for many celebrations. The Bandshell was a place where the community gathered for many functions which included; music concerts, stage performances and outdoor church function by the local citizens. It is still a major part of the park for the annual Victoria Day celebrations, still happening this year.

Recommendation:

THAT the request from the Heritage Wilmot Advisory Committee to designate the New Dundee Bandshell for historical, social and contextual value be initiated.

April 14, 2008