



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](http://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](http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca)**.



## Development Services

The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward  
Office: 280 Picton Main Street, Picton, ON K0K 2T0  
Mailing: 332 Picton Main Street, Picton, ON K0K 2T0  
T: 613.476.2148 Ext. 2025 | F: 613.471.2051  
[mmichaud@pecounty.on.ca](mailto:mmichaud@pecounty.on.ca) | [www.thecounty.ca](http://www.thecounty.ca)

**To:** Ontario Heritage Trust  
County of Prince Edward

**RECEIVED**  
2025/02/27  
(YYYY/MM/DD)  
Ontario Heritage Trust

**From:** Michael Michaud, Manager of Planning

**Date:** February 27, 2025

**RE:** Intention to Designate – 2550 Salem Road (Baldwin Grain Elevator), Ward of Ameliasburgh

---

This letter is to inform you of the intention to designate the property located at 2550 Salem Road (Baldwin Grain Elevator), in the Ward of Ameliasburgh, in the County of Prince Edward. Please see the attached Statement of Cultural Heritage Value for the property, which includes a description of the property, statement explaining the cultural heritage value of the property and a description of the heritage attributes of the property.

Notice of Objection to the proposed designation(s) must be received no later than the **29<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025** by registered mail or delivered to the Municipality's Deputy Clerk, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and relevant facts. When a Notice of Objection has been received, the Council of the County of Prince Edward will refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing and report.

If you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best Regards,

for Michael Michaud, MCIP RPP  
Manager of Planning  
The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward  
MM/pt  
Encl

**Grain Elevator Building - 1949**  
**Millenium Trail/Salem Road Staging Area**  
**Ameliasburgh Ward, Prince Edward County**  
**Formerly Canadian National Railway (at time of Building Construction)**

**Research/written by: E. A. Margetson, December 6, 2024**

**INTRODUCTION AND DESCRIPTION**

The Grain Elevator Building, known as the Baldwin Grain Elevator, was constructed in 1949 by the Baldwin Milling Company Ltd. (Richard E. Baldwin) in association with his purchase of the Grist or Flour Mill in Consecon. Baldwin had relocated from the Eastern Townships of Quebec after purchasing the Consecon Mill. The elevator was constructed adjacent to the primary rail line at the corner of the Fourth Concession of Ameliasburgh Township (now Salem Road) and the King's Highway 33 (now Loyalist Parkway/County Road 33). At the time, Baldwin obtained a 99 year lease to construct and operate the grain elevator and associated weigh scales and weigh house. A rail track siding adjacent to the elevator allowed rail cars to be parked off the main track allowing both unloading to the elevator or loading from elevator to rail cars.

Product could be imported by rail and stored in the elevator to be then moved to the mill in Consecon for processing and sale. The elevator could be used to store harvested grain in the autumn from local farmers for export by rail. The Baldwin Grain Elevator was the only such building of this type in Prince Edward County. The elevator was no longer used by the 1970's. The building was acquired by the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward in 1996 in association with the purchase of the former railbed from Canadian National Railway.

The Baldwin Grain Elevator was constructed with two storage bins per floor at three levels for a total of six bins above basement level. Product was moved within the building with one leg of vertical conveyor chain with attached cups moving grain from the basement or storage bins to the attic. From there it could be directed to the selected bin or to rail cars. The conveyor chain was powered by electric motor. The pit of the grain conveyor chain could be accessed from the basement for product arriving from the County to be stored in elevator, or by an exterior hopper for product arriving by rail to be stored in elevator. The concrete basement of 10 feet height was two bays wide for trucks to access either bay by backing in to load stored product. Trucks unloading for elevator storage also backed into basement in west bay to utilize wood chute to transfer from truck to the pit of vertical chain conveyor.

The building was constructed in crib style with rough saw 2 x 6 plank laid flat continuously around perimeter and for interior wall demising the bins, with corners alternately lapped. Bin floors were of like material, 2 x 6 laid vertical and continuous over solid wood beams. The attic area was accessed by a fixed ladder adjacent to the chain conveyor. The roof is a 12/12 pitch allowing sufficient attic space to allow workers to navigate the transfer of spouts to the various bins after discharge from the chain conveyor to the head spout. The attic had gable windows both sides to light the work area. The building was covered in sheet steel to protect the wood crib. The roof was red and the sides grey and at various times the Baldwin Milling Co. Ltd. or later, Baldwin Milling Co., was painted on the south and west sides.

## **STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE/STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

### **Design or Physical Value**

*CRITERIA: The property has design value or physical value because it is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method.*

The Grain Elevator building is unique to Prince Edward County as the only building of this type and considered a rare example of a grain elevator in the region. The design of the building to reflect the function is readily apparent as a tall standalone structure without decorative detail. The tower like appearance is unique for an agricultural building. The plank crib construction, although concealed by the metal siding, is typical construction method for structural walls subject to lateral pressure, as would be exerted by grain piles, but is a rare type of wood framing.

### **Historical or Associative Value**

*CRITERIA: The property has historical value or associative value because it has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, activity, organization or institution that are significant to the community.*

The grain elevator has value in association with the railway as a once important mode of import/export and supporting the economy of Prince Edward County. The construction of a grain elevator also provides historical context with the significance of the agricultural economy of the County in this era, as post-World War II mechanization of farming allowed for greater production capacity and crop yields, providing for export potential of grain. The construction of a grain elevator was significant as an asset to serve the surrounding agricultural community.

## **Contextual Value**

*CRITERIA: The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area.*

*The property has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings.*

*The property has contextual value because it is a landmark.*

The grain elevator stands as a visual, historic, physical and functional link to the once important railway service in the County and to the importance of agriculture to the culture and economy of the County. Its presence adjacent to the former railbed, now a recreation trail, reinforces these links. Due to the prominence of the building form and the relative isolation from other large or tall buildings, the grain elevator stands out visually at its location and would be considered a landmark building. It is visually prominent to passersby at the location adjacent to the Loyalist Parkway at Salem Road and contributes to the character of the area.

## **Heritage Attributes**

Key elements that contribute to the cultural heritage value include:

- Massing of the building with respect to the height as compared to the area in plan (length or width). The height to length/width ratio is important to defining the building as a grain elevator. The massing and roof pitch of the building to be maintained. Additions only considered at basement level. Roof profile to be maintained without dormers.
- Existing window openings in either gable to be maintained and generally recommended to remain as originally sized. New openings within the bin portion of the structure (above basement and below roof eave) to be considered in the context of adaptive reuse.
- Protective siding for the exterior to protect the plank crib construction to be maintained. Vertical metal siding is preferred with alternate profiles and colours considered in the context of adaptive reuse. Horizontal or vinyl siding would compromise the heritage value.

## **References**

7<sup>th</sup> Town/Ameliasburgh Township Past & Present, 1984, 7<sup>th</sup> Town Historical Society

Information provided by Grace Nyman, Community Services & Programs Coordinator,  
The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward

Staff Report CSP-02-2023 Prince Edward County Committee of the Whole, March 16, 2023

Interview with Mr. Michael Baldwin, nephew of Richard E. Baldwin

Government of Canada Publications, 32-501 Flour Mills and Feed Mills In Canada, 1958

Physical inspection by E. A. Margetson, August 10, 2024, and December 5, 2024