

City of Hamilton HAMILTON MUNICIPAL HERITAGE COMMITTEE ADDENDUM

Meeting #: 25-005

Date: April 25, 2025

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Room 264, 2nd Floor, City Hall (hybrid) (RM)

71 Main Street West

Matt Gauthier, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 6437

6. DELEGATIONS

- *6.1 Dr. Richard Douglass-Chin, Afro Canadian Caribbean Association, respecting the Importance to Hamilton-Dundas history of commemorating Sophia Pooley in the 2 Hatt Street Heritage Designation
- *6.2 Cathy Calvin, Trinity Lutheran Church Hamilton Inc, and Holland Young, Invizij
 Architects Inc., respecting Item 8.5 PED25139, Notice of Intention to Demolish the
 Building Located at 39 Wilson Street, Hamilton, being a Non-Designated Property
 Listed on

the Municipal Heritage Register (Ward 2)

8. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

*8.1 PED25107

Recommendation to Designate 2 Hatt Street, Dundas under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Ward 13)

This item will be preceded by a staff presentation.

NOTE: The staff presentation have been uploaded.

*8.3 PED25102

Recommendation to Designate 54 King Street East, Hamilton, (Former Bank of Nova Scotia) under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Ward 2)

This item will be preceded by a staff presentation.

NOTE: The staff presentation have been uploaded.

10. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

*10.1 Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee's Heritage Recognition Award Nominees (2024-2025)

A request to suspend the rules will be introduced.

*10.2 Hamilton Wentworth Heritage Association Volunteer Recognition

A request to suspend the rules will be introduced.

From: City of Hamilton < hello@hamilton.ca>

Sent: April 4, 2025 4:00 PM To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Webform submission from: Request to Speak to a Committee of Council

Submitted on Fri, 04/04/2025 - 16:00

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Committee Requested

Committee Hamilton Heritage Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually? In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video? No

Requestor Information

Requestor Information
Dr. Richard Douglass-Chin
Afro Canadian Caribbean Association



Preferred Pronoun he/him

Reason(s) for delegation request Importance to Hamilton-Dundas history of commemorating Sophia Pooley in the 2 Hatt Street Heritage Designation.

Will you be requesting funds from the City?

Will you be submitting a formal presentation? Yes



2 Hatt Street est. 1804 Richard Hatt



Canadian Military History, Bruce Forsyth, January 2021

The historic building was originally as a storage and office building next to his business, Dundas Mills.

During the War of 1812, it served as a temporary barracks for some 7,000 British soldiers and their native warrior allies who descended upon the town in the fall of 1813.

Hatt had previously hosted Major-General Isaac Brock, commander of British Forces in Upper Canada, who stayed in the building on 9 August 1812, while en route to the Battle of Queenston Heights.



Parks Canada's 2019 Whole City Approach & "Framework for History and Commemoration: National Historic Sites System Plan" outlines ten key practices for engaging and connecting with audiences, capturing their imaginations and sparking their curiosity:

- 1. Craft big stories.
- 2. Address conflict and controversy.
- 3. Seek opportunities for Indigenous peoples to share and communicate their history, on their own terms.
- 4. Realize that history is written from a worldview.
- 5. Share authority.
- 6. Emphasize a full range of voices, perspectives and experiences.
- 7. Acknowledge that humans have touched all heritage places, including parks and natural areas.
- 8. Recognize that power dynamics affect understandings of heritage places.
- 9. Explore the spectrum of powerful memories and meanings attached to heritage places.
- 10. Appreciate that interpretations of the past are constantly evolving.

https://hamiltoncivicmuseums.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Hamilton-Civic-Museum-Strategy.pdf



https://hamiltoncivicmuseums.ca/wpcontent/uploads/2021/12/Hamilton-Civic-Museum-Strategy.pdf

MacNab's Kitchen

In the 19th century servants were employed in large homes like Dundurn to do a variety of tasks such as cleaning, polishing and cooking. Assisted by Dundurn's Cook Demonstrators, guests will work together to make a traditional recipe in our historic kitchen.

Visitors will also have the opportunity to explore with costumed staff over 40 rooms and discover the history of the MacNab family and the servants who lived and worked below stairs.

https://hamiltoncivicmuseums.ca/learning/

Black Presence in Hamilton-Dundas

- Black people have been in Hamilton-Dundas since the 1700s
 https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/black-history-1.4543788
- Coloured Corps in War of 1812 numbered about 40 Black men who trained at Fort George, Niagara on the Lake, and fought at Queenston Heights. Alongside the 41st foot regiment, they "fired a single volley with considerable execution, and then charged with a tremendous tumult," bringing about the Americans' surrender
- approximately 120 Black soldiers, of the Coloured Corps, fought alongside the government forces to suppress the 1837-8 Upper Canada rebellion. Sir Allan MacNab, a prominent figure in the loyalist movement, commanded the government volunteers that included these Black soldiers.
- The Canadian Encyclopedia

Beasley Family Builders Of Fine Homes In Hamilton One Fine Example Stands In Constant Use Today

Lived First On Dundurn Castle Site Devoted Slave Settled In Cottage

By Mabel Burkholder

ilton that could be called architec- in trade with the Indians. ture. An old newspaper report Richard Beasley was also an agwhich lies before me says that there riculturist of no mean ability, for in were five brick houses in Hamilton almost a magical way, as it would month, are working for the Ford

Looking at the subject of dom-grounds of Dundurn, a large white estic and industrial building in Ham- frame house on King Street East, ilton from the point of time, it might ily homestead. There are reports to be well to start in the 1820's, al- the effect that Richard Beasley also though at that time there were few had a store on King Street East, not houses other than the log structures far from Ferguson Avenue. Miss of the first settlers. Wood was abun- Margaret Beasley, who gave me much dant, cheap and of excellent qual- of the material for this article, does ity, and gradually it became easier not feel very clear about her greatto get the boards sawn and planed. grandfather's venture in store keep-Also some people learned to make ing. She doesn't feel sure that he bricks from the clay of their own even ran a store, although she knows farms. Gradually the settlers wished there are reports to that effect and to register their growing prosperity has seen newspaper clippings on the It sounds like heavy paper being David lived until his death in 1849. by building better dwellings than subject in the public library. She their parents had been forced to put thinks the place might have been up with. A few noteworthy homes rather a depot for the receiving struggled into existence, though there and selling of furs, for Richard Beaswas nothing in the 1820's in Ham-ley for a long time was interested

sixth mayor of the city.

Mary Sarah married Patrick Ham-

It is interesting to know of a slave. named Wilson, owned by Henry Beasley, who when slavery was abolished would not leave his master. Thomas Beasley, son of Henry (who for many years was city clerk), gave Wilson a cottage at the Delta. Here, after his working days were over.

Silk Worms Make Sufficient Thread For Few Hose

Dearborn, Mich., Sept. 13, (UP)crinkled as the thousands of silk His wife (Eliza Ryckman) died in worms eat their weight in mulberry 1845 aged 25 years. David and his

The scene is not Japan, however. Church Cathedral. The 84,000 white worms, which devour two tons of mulberry leaves a the state of the James were Motor Commons at famed Com

Keziah married Nehemiah Ford, the devoted servitor lived until his death in 1874.

The Fountain

But for our purpose in studying the buildings erected by the Beasley family in early days, we are glad to note that one fine example is still standing and in constant use. According to Colonel Richard Beasley's plan to provide each of his sons with a home, he caused to be erected for his second son, David Clement, a fine residence on King Street west, south side, at Margaret Street, and opposite the present Victoria Park. It has been known in modern times as the Fountain, because of the little statuette on the lawn, representing two children holding an umbrella over which the water of the fountain drips, Here wife were buried beneath tombs in the graveyard in the rear of Christ's

This fine old house is in colonial style, comprising a second storey development of the cupola, a New England feature called a 'monitor' To the Colored Inhabitants of Hamilton and its vicinity:

I receive, my friends, with feelings of greatest pleasure the address you were so good as to present to me on the occasion of my return to my family and friends, and I beg you will allow me to assure you of the high sense I entertain of the honor you have done me in the sentiments expressed therein, respecting my public service in this colony generally, and also towards yourselves in particular, in haring your address, in conjunction with your zealous, sincere, and excellent friend, Dr. Rolph, to the foot of the throne of our beloved sovereign.

It affords me great satisfaction to state to you, that Her Majesty and His Royal Highness Prince Albert, were pleased to receive your address most graciously: and I have it in command from His Royal Highness to assure you, that Her Majesty will ever bear in mind the just claims you possess on her gracious protection and care. both as respects your well tried lovalty and devotion to her person and sovernment, in a season of great peril and difficulty, and as freemen seeking the enjoyment of that liberty, which can only exist in a country with a constitutional like our own, which not only proclaims in theory that all men are free and equal under the law, but actually strikes the chain and the fetter from the limbs of the slave, and makes him "free indeed."

The kind and hospitable reception I have med with from all ranks and conditions of men, in the land of my fathers, has made a deep and lasting impression on my heart; and as you rejoice with me in this, I am proud to acknowledge, that to your faithful adherence to me, at the period of our civil troubles and public invasions from a neighboring States, I am in some respects indebted for that regard with which I have been personally honored, during my absence from this country.

The case of Nelson Hacket, to which you allude, has already been known to me, and I am happy to say, has been brought under the notice of her Majesty's government and the Imperial Parliament, where I am sure it will receive all of the attention its great importance demands. I shall, however, be most happy to peruse the papers you have prepared on the subject, and you may rely on my using every exertion in my power to procure a full measure of justice for the injured parties.

For the expression of your good wishes for the welfare of myself and family, as well as for the tender of your support and confidence, I beg you will accept my warmest thanks. I hope I may ever continue to deserve these marks of your regard and esteem, and you may rest assured that you will at all times find me ready to advocate for your cause, and maintain your rights and liberties against "the injustices of slave claimers," and any who may seek to oppress you. In the meantime, wishing you all every happiness you can desire.

I am, your faithful friend,

And obedient servant,

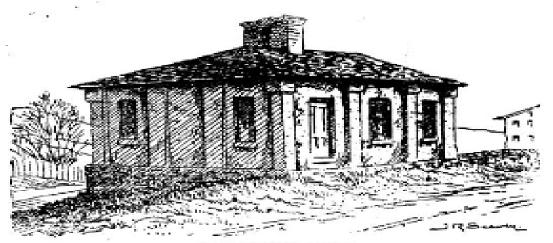
MACNAB 1841-2

richer in wealth of climbing branching, flowering things, a medity and a network of trailing vines and blossoming shrubs through which the sun peeped taughing.

There were liles, liles, sweeter sweetest, many tinted, everywhere, and the bonnie hawthornes rested their trays of snow on the tottering fence's old grey heads, while the plentiful sprinkling of grave, stately forest frees whispered softly in the rising wind to each other of what different times they could recall if they wished

old gentleman showed excellent taste in his selection of a building site on which to place his, then, handsome house. A more charming spot of the kind could hardly be imagined, cheerful to a degree, and possessing many beautiful peops away to blue distance above Dundas, or Flamboro, with prettiest imaginable foreground of home scenery.

A house set on a hill and surrounded with fine old trees has still infilnite capabilities even when neglect and ago have started in to do their worst.



THE OLD TOLL HOUSE

of what was, before change and death and mutability wrought havos with , the old house on the hill,

Early in the thirties an English gentleman of the name of Symonds. who, had made a considerable fortune in the West Indies, happened strangely enough, to settle for a time at Ancaster, where he became the possessor of a very beautiful estate, about 500 acres in all, extending north to the brow of the mountain, including the land on and around the present lime kilns, and the farms of Dougherty and MacNiven abutting on the Lovers' Lane. Abundantly watered, richly wooded, close to the haunts of man, and yet practically miles away, it must have been a goodly heritage. The

Though empty now, not swept nor garnished, still a riance at the elient rooms with their high ceilings, goodly proportions and well-bixed windows reveals underlably the fact that the old place was designed and built by a gentleman, for gentlefolk to live inand here, sui juris, the West Indian gentleman and his wife and sons, and his friend Dr. Roigh, who had a house close by, spent several years in lavish style, with all that heart could desire, including blood horses in the stable. and a black Pompey in the house, brought from the West Indian home. until the time came that their act on the Ancastrian stage being finished, they passed into the wings, and the house changed hards, although its decadence did not begin for many years after. The largest room, which runs

Blacks in Ancaster in 1830s: Pen and Pencil Sketches of Wentworth Landmarks, Alma Dick Lauder, 1897

5.1.2 Historical/Associative Value of 2 Hatt Street

The New Dundas Mills (so named for its proximity to Dundas Street) was a mill complex which first began as a sawmill in 1799 and was expanded upon in 1800, before being purchased by Samuel Hatt (1776-1842), Richard Hatt (1769-1819), and Manuel Overfield (1773-1839) in 1804. Together, these three men, likely using the labour of indentured servants and enslaved persons, had the mill complex further expanded, constructing additional buildings including 2 Hatt Street, which served as a store. A NORTH-SIDE VIEW OF SLAVERY

THE REFUGEE:

OR THE

NARRATIVES OF FUGITIVE SLAVES IN CANADA.

RELATED BY THEMSELVES,

ALL WILL

AN ACCOUNT OF THE HISTORY AND CONDITION OF THE COLORED POPULATION OF UPPER CANADA.

BY

BENJAMIN DREW.

BOSTON:

PUBLISHED BY JOHN P. JEWETT AND COMPANY.

CLEVELAND, OHIO:

JEWETT, PROCTOR AND WORTHINGTON.

NEW YORK: SHELDON, LAMPORT AND BLAKEMAN.

LONDON: TRÜBNER AND CO.

1856.

I am now more than ninety years old. . . At twelve years old [1807] I was sold by [Chief Joseph] Brant to an Englishman in Ancaster, for 100 dollars—his name was Samuel Hatt, and I lived with him seven years: then the white people said I was free, and put me up to running away. He did not stop me — he said he could not take the law into his own hands.

Drew, Benjamin. *The Refugee: Narratives of Fugitive Slaves in Canada* (Voyageur Classics Book 11) (p. 186). Dundurn. Kindle Edition.

Seaces, of the township yetheas ton afores aid, Gentleman of the other parts - withefilth that the said Town warding, by and with the consent land Approbation of Samuel Matty Liquin sno Henry Hagle, lequiso, Two of His majerty's Justice Sunshing of whoester Mane, according to an every of the Legestaturo of sais province, passed in the thirty runte Tean of His present Majesty's reign, but places and bound and by these presents Do but, place and bino lle Brackens is go, an orphan sugro child of the Ago of Sive Heart to be an exp prentice with him the said Elijah deacord to develo from the Date of theso presents until the sais Eli Brachenrity shall come to the edge of Twenty one Teast, according to the



Recommendation To Designate 2 Hatt Street, Dundas

April 25, 2025
Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee

2 Hatt Street





Background

1970s, 1994

Surveyed

2004

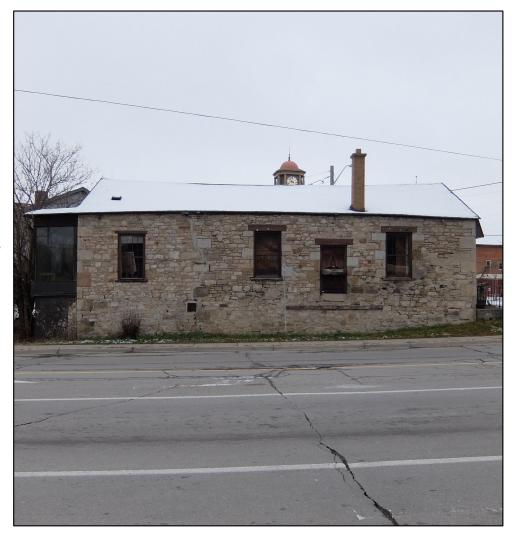
Requested for designation

2006-2009

List of Buildings and Landscapes of concern

2008

Heritage Property Conservation Award





Background

2013

Municipal Law Enforcement Complaint

2017

HMHC requested review for designation, Council added the property to the heritage register and designation workplan





Background

2021

Signs were posted on the property regarding the history of slavery

2022

Property added to high priority designation workplan

February 2023

Inventory and research working group supported a draft CHAR

SOPHIA BURTHEN (POOLEY) The pass and residence of the pass of the

May 2023

Staff received feedback that the property's connections to Sophia Burthen Pooley needed to be revised and better addressed in the existing CHAR

2024

Staff consulted with ACCA on the property's designation and revised the CHAR report which has been reviewed the Dundas Museum and Archives



Recommendation for Designation Under Part IV of the OHA

2 Hatt Street

Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria (6 of 9)

- Design / Physical (Criteria #1)
- Historical / Associative (Criteria #4, #5)
- Contextual (Criteria #7, #8, #9)





Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

Design / Physical Value

- The property is a rare, unique, and early example of pre-Confederation architecture in Upper Canada.
- The property does not display a high degree of craftsmanship.
- 3. The property is not considered to demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.









Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

Historical / Associative Value

- 4. The property has historical value for its association with significant Dundas figures, events, and institutions, including the Hatt family, the New Dundas Mills, the founding of the Town of Dundas and the history of slavery in Ontario.
- 5. The property has the potential to yield information that contributes to an understanding of the history of slavery in Upper Canada, Black communities and their history in Dundas, early Dundas settlement and industry, and the nuanced intersections between them.
- 6. The property does not demonstrate or reflect the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant in the community.

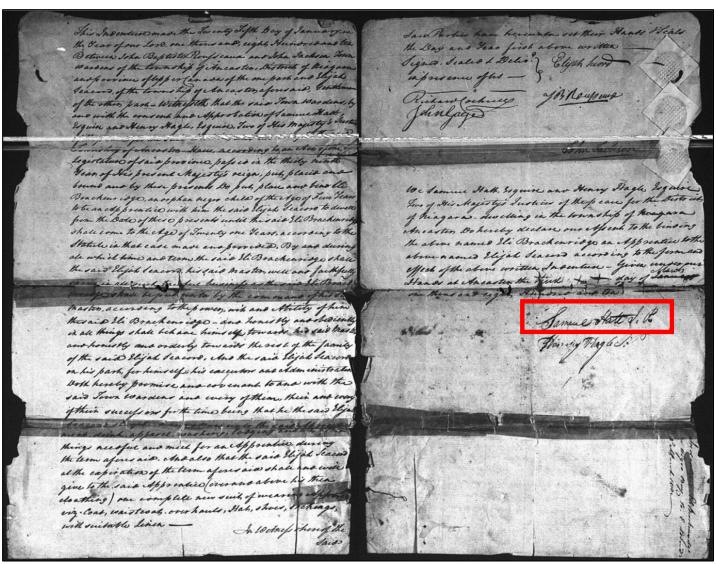






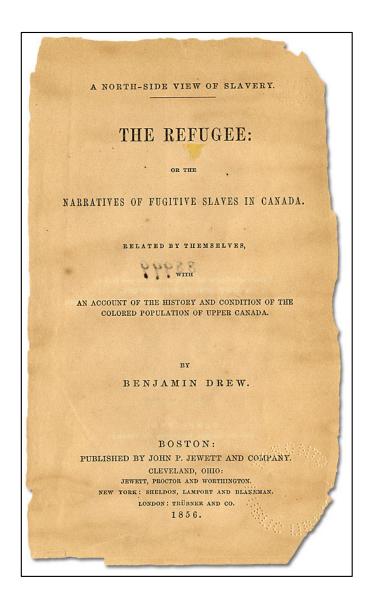


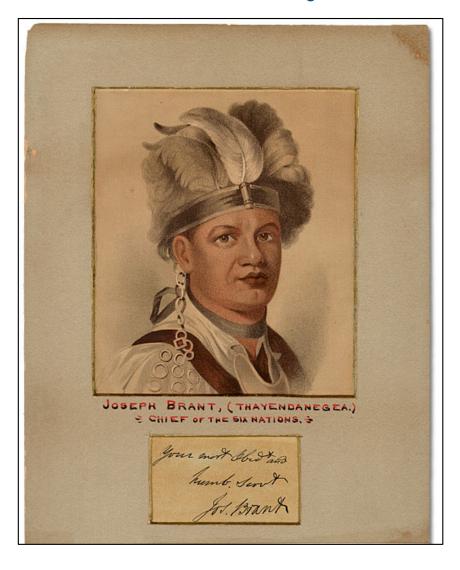
Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



Document of Indenture of Eli Brackenridge with Samuel Hatt's signature.













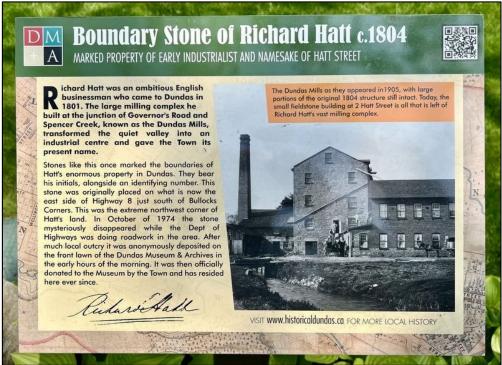
Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

In obedience to your Excelleneys order of reference to us to report upon the of Richard, Hatt Esq werespectfully states to your Excelling that the Ochitioners and his Brother Samuel Hatt Ergs on the 30 December 1800, received each of them an order in Council, for a Coots Paradiser, which order remain unlocated





Heritage Evaluation Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



Images taken by Tim Boyd, https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=246745

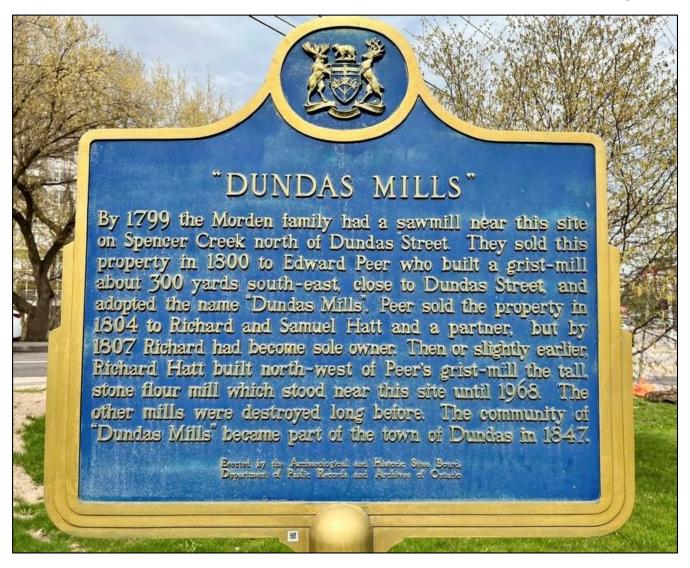








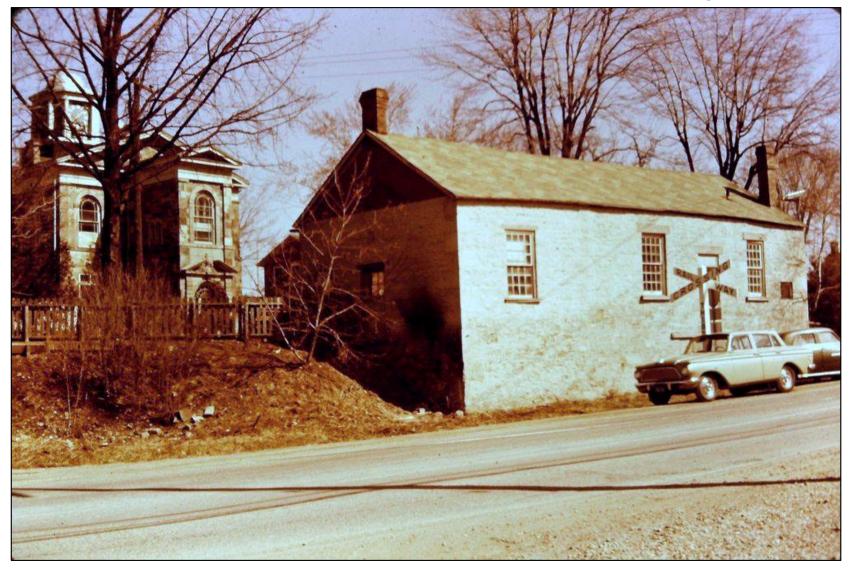














Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

Contextual Value

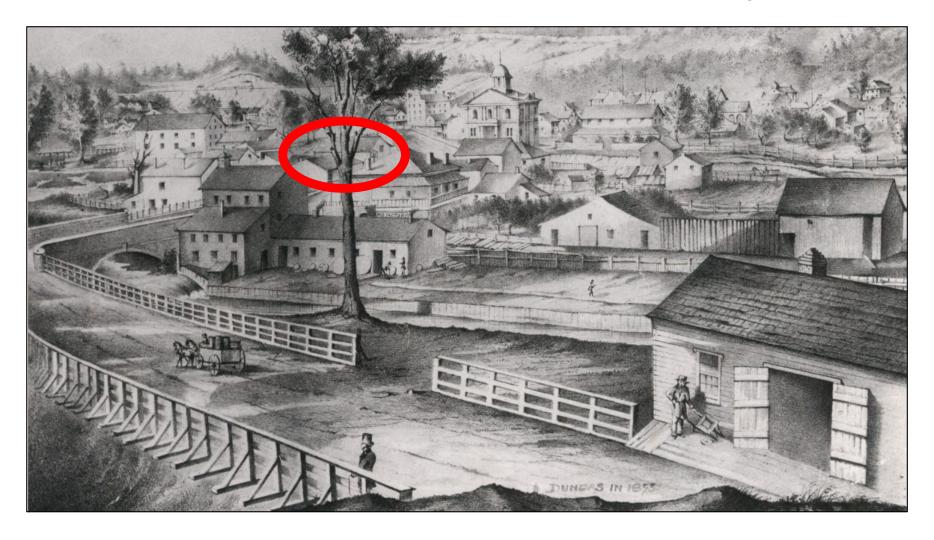
- 7. The property is important in **defining** the historic character of the area.
- 8. The property is visually and historically linked to its surroundings.
- 9. The property is considered to be a **local landmark**.





Heritage Evaluation

Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria





Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (Summary)

The property at 2 Hatt Street is comprised of a rare, unique, and early example of pre-Confederation architecture in Upper Canada.

The property has historical value for its association with significant Dundas figures, events, and institutions, including the Hatt family, the New Dundas Mills, the founding of the Town of Dundas and the history of slavery in Ontario, and has the potential to yield information that contributes to an understanding of the history of slavery in Upper Canada, Black communities and their history in Dundas, early Dundas settlement and industry, and the nuanced intersections between them.

The property is important in **defining** the character of the area, is **historically** and visually linked to its surroundings, and is a landmark.



Description of Heritage Attributes (Summary)

Key attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the property as a **rare and unique** example of pre-Confederation architecture and **its association with** the former New Dundas Mills and its owner Richard Hatt, and **potential to yield an understanding of** the history of slavery in Upper Canada and its connections to early Dundas settlement and industry include:

- All four elevations and the roofline of the one-storey stone building, including its:
 - Coursed rubblestone façade constructed from dolostone;
 - Cut sandstone quoins; and
 - Wood lintels and sills;

Key attributes that embodies the contextual value of the property as a **defining feature** of the historic character of Hatt Street, Governors Road, the community of Dundas, and Dundas' role in establishing economic networks across the Head-of-the-Lake region which land prospectors and industrialists depended on to assert and expand their influence, and as a **local landmark** include its:

 Location at the terminus of Hatt Street at the intersection of Governors Road and Main Street.



Staff Recommendation

That the City Clerk be directed to give **notice of Council's intention to designate 2 Hatt Street**, **Dundas**, shown in Appendix "A" attached to Report PED25107, as a property of cultural heritage value pursuant to the provisions of Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, in accordance with the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of Heritage Attributes, attached as Appendix "B" to Report PED25107, subject to the following:

- (a) If no objections are received to the notice of intention to designate in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act, City Council directs staff to introduce the necessary by-law to designate the property to be of cultural heritage value or interest to City Council;
- (a) If an objection to the notice of intention to designate is received in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*, City Council directs staff to report back to Planning Committee to allow Council to consider the objection and decide whether or not to withdraw the notice of intention to designate the property.





QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU



City of Hamilton Report for Consideration

To: Chair and Members

Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee

Date: April 25, 2025

Report No: PED25107

Subject/Title: Recommendation to Designate 2 Hatt Street,

Dundas, under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act

Ward(s) Affected: Ward 13

Recommendations

- That the City Clerk **BE DIRECTED** to give notice of Council's intention to designate 2 Hatt Street, Dundas, shown in Appendix A attached to Report PED25107, as a property of cultural heritage value pursuant to the provisions of Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, in accordance with the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of Heritage Attributes, attached as Appendix B to Report PED25107, subject to the following:
 - (i) If no objections are received to the notice of intention to designate in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*, City Council directs staff to introduce the necessary by-law to designate the property to be of cultural heritage value or interest to City Council;
 - (ii) If an objection to the notice of intention to designate is received in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*, City Council directs staff to report back to Planning Committee to allow Council to consider the objection and decide whether or not to withdraw the notice of intention to designate the property.
- 2) That Tourism and Culture staff **BE DIRECTED** to continue discussions with representatives from Hamilton's Black communities in the development of a strategy for interpreting the history of Sophia Burthen Pooley.

Key Facts

- This Report recommends designation of the significant built heritage resource located at 2 Hatt Street, Dundas, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- The subject property is currently listed on the City's Municipal Heritage Register and is a high priority on the City's list of candidates for designation, as directed by Council.
- Staff have completed an evaluation of the subject property using Ontario Regulation 9/06 and determined that it has sufficient cultural heritage value or interest to warrant designation, as per the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of Heritage Attributes attached as Appendix B to Report PED25107.
- The cultural heritage value of the property includes its associations with the Hatt family and the founding of Dundas, as well as its potential to yield an understanding of Sophia Burthen Pooley, the history of slavery in Upper Canada, Black communities, and their history in Dundas.
- The Afro-Caribbean Canadian Association, Hamilton Black History Council, Dundas Museum and Archives, and the City of Hamilton's Indigenous Relations staff have been consulted in the preparation of this Report.
- Tourism and Culture staff continue to collaborate with representatives from Hamilton's Black communities (coordinated through the Afro-Caribbean Canadian Association) on how to interpret and share the property's potential to yield information on Sophia Burthen Pooley's story who was enslaved by the Hatt family.

Financial Considerations

N/A

Background

The subject property located at 2 Hatt Street, Dundas, shown in Appendix A attached to Report PED25107, is comprised of a one-storey single-detached stone commercial building constructed circa 1804. The subject property was first surveyed for potential heritage interest in the 1970s as part of the former Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee's inventory of historic buildings and was again surveyed by this same group in 1994. The property received a Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee Heritage Property Conservation Award in 2008.

Property Standards

In May 2013, Municipal Law Enforcement staff received a complaint that the subject property had been vacated, and the property was added to the Vacant Building Registry, resulting in ongoing proactive monitoring of the building. In February 2019, Municipal Law Enforcement staff noted that the building had utilities connected with

minimal usage and, as a result, the property was removed from the Vacant Building Registry. In 2022, the building was again declared vacant, though it is currently an unregistered vacant building.

Designation Request

In 2017, the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee raised concerns about the status of the building, having been vacant since 2013 and listed for sale in June of 2017, and requested that staff review the property for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. On October 19, 2017, Heritage Committee considered staff Report PED17187 recommending the property be listed on the Municipal Heritage Register and added to staff's designation workplan for more comprehensive review for designation at a later date. These recommendations were approved by City Council on November 8, 2017, as part of Planning Committee Report 17-013.

As a result of the recent *Bill 23* changes to the *Ontario Heritage Act*, the former staff workplan for designation was rescinded and replaced with a new public list of Candidates for Designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (see Report PED22211(a)), at which time 2 Hatt Street, Dundas was reprioritized for review for designation by January 1, 2025. At its meeting on February 27, 2023, the Inventory and Research Working Group of the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee considered a draft Cultural Heritage Assessment Report for the property and confirmed its support for designation. In a letter dated March 31, 2023, Cultural Heritage Planning staff notified the property owner of staff's recommendation to designate the property under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Consultation and Engagement

In 2021, a private citizen posted signs around Dundas bringing attention to the town's history with slavery, including signs on the building at 2 Hatt Street. In May 2023, staff was in contact with a community member who has published works and curated an exhibit on Sophia Burthen Pooley (circa 1775/78- circa 1860) - a Black woman enslaved by members of the Hatt family for approximately seven years in the Ancaster and Dundas areas - with the intention of better understanding the connections between the property, Black history, and the history of slavery. As a result of this meeting staff sought out additional feedback from Hamilton's Black community. Following extended consultation with representatives from the Afro-Caribbean Canadian Association and Hamilton Black History Council in 2024, staff's Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (attached as Appendix C to this Report) was revised to incorporate their feedback and finalized in March 2025.

Tourism and Culture staff have also been engaged in ongoing discussions with the Afro-Canadian Caribbean Association on how to interpret and share Sophia Burthen Pooley's story. The Honouring Sophia Burthen Pooley Advisory Committee was formed in 2023 and Hamilton Civic Museums staff continue to engage with the Advisory Committee to develop a strategy for interpretation.

Analysis

The intent of municipal designation, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, is to enable a process for the management and conservation of significant cultural heritage resources. Once a property is designated, the municipality can manage change to a property through the Heritage Permit process to ensure that the significant features of the property are maintained. Designated properties are also considered to be "protected heritage property" under the Provincial Planning Statement (2024), which shall be conserved through the *Planning Act* development application process.

Section 29(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* permits the Council of a municipality to designate property to be of cultural heritage value or interest where property meets two or more of the Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest prescribed in Ontario Regulation 9/06, as amended by Ontario Regulation 569/22, which identifies nine criteria in three broad categories: Design / Physical Value; Historical / Associative Value; and Contextual Value.

The evaluation of cultural heritage value or interest of the subject property was completed by Cultural Heritage Planning staff based on site visits to view the exterior of the property, available primary and secondary research sources, and consultation with key stakeholders. The full Cultural Heritage Assessment Report for 2 Hatt Street is attached as Appendix B to Report PED25107. As outlined below, based on staff's cultural heritage evaluation, it was determined that the subject property meets six of the nine criteria contained in Ontario Regulation 9/06 in all three categories.

Design / Physical Value

- 1. The property has physical value as a rare, unique, and early example of pre-Confederation architecture in Upper Canada. 2 Hatt Street is one of the oldest buildings in Dundas, is the only extant structure from Richard Hatt's New Dundas Mill complex and is an early example of the use of dolostone from the nearby Niagara Escarpment in the construction of Dundas buildings. Features of the circa 1804 one-storey vernacular stone building representative of its value include its: one-storey massing; rectangular footprint; low side-gable roof; and coursed rubblestone elevations, with local dolostone.
- 2. The property does not display a high degree of craftsmanship.
- 3. The property does not demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.

Historical / Associative Value

4. The property has historical value for its association with significant Dundas figures, events, and institutions, including the Hatt family, the New Dundas Mills, the founding of the Town of Dundas and the history of slavery in Ontario. As the last remaining building of the New Dundas Mills, 2 Hatt Street is an important relic of the town's early colonial settlement and industrial history. The New Dundas Mills (so named for its proximity to Dundas Street) was a mill complex which first began as a sawmill in 1799 and was expanded upon in 1800, before being purchased by Samuel Hatt (1776-1842), Richard Hatt (1769-1819), and Manuel Overfield (1773-1839) in 1804. Together, these three men, likely using the labour of indentured servants and enslaved persons, had the mill complex further expanded, constructing additional buildings including 2 Hatt Street, which served as a store. The mill quickly became a commercial success, having an irrevocable impact on the built form of Dundas - attracting American and European settlers westwards towards Spencer Creek and away from the 1792 Coote's Paradise town plan closer to where the Desjardins Canal sits today. Building on the town's rapid growth, 2 Hatt Street served as its very first informal post office, where letters would be addressed to the New Dundas Mills. In 1814 this would influence the Crown's official opening of the town's first post office, called the Dundas Post Office, at which point the name of Dundas officially superseded that of Coote's Paradise.

Of the three men who expanded the mills in 1804, Richard Hatt has historically been credited as the primary owner and operator of the mill after having purchased Samuel and Manuel's shares by 1808 – but all three men are attributed to its founding. Having originally started their business in Ancaster, Samuel and Richard worked to find ways in which to expand their business and influence, including by having roadways constructed to support their economic networks and expansion. This continued after they had purchased the New Dundas Mills, where Richard platted Dundas' early streets and established a town plot which would guide the growth of the town. Elsewhere, Richard expanded his political influence by serving as Justice of the Peace in 1800, establishing the Upper Canada Phoenix newspaper (the first newspaper west of York), entering the House of Assembly in 1817, and serving as a major during the War of 1812. Although Samuel stopped being co-owner of the mill by 1808, he remained closely involved in business with his brother, and was a key player in local political and economic networks similarly growing his influence and power before he eventually moved to Quebec following the War of 1812.

While historic records rarely include details on the people whose labour helped produce the wealth, influence, and power of early-nineteenth century industrialists like the Hatts, it is known that both Hatt brothers were complicit in institutions of slavery and oppression. Of the two, historic evidence has shown that Samuel enslaved at least one Black woman, named Sophia Burthen Pooley

(circa 1775/78- circa 1860), and was involved in the indenture (forced labour) of a Black orphaned child. While no evidence had been found to date showing Richard directly involving himself with slavery, he was responsible for the indenture of at least six individuals, and his continued business relationship with his brother, and other known slaveowners in the region, is evidence that he nonetheless profited from and supported these institutions.

5. The property has the potential to yield information that contributes to an understanding of the history of slavery in Upper Canada, Black communities, and their history in Dundas, early Dundas settlement and industry, and the nuanced intersections between them.

Historic documentation is biased towards remembering wealthy, elite, literate classes of landowners like the Hatts, which makes it difficult to identify the histories of the people whose labour, constructing and operating mills and farms, supported the financial success of the Hatt estate. In the case of 2 Hatt Street, an 1856 interview with Sophia Burthen Pooley (circa 1775/78- circa 1860) - a Black woman enslaved by members of the Hatt family for approximately seven years in the Ancaster and Dundas areas – provided a rare and valuable glimpse of the overlooked lives of indentured and enslaved people whose labour built the wealth and power of Upper Canada's elite in the early-nineteenth century. Little is known about Sophia's life, other than that she was born into slavery in Fishkill, New York, circa 1775-1778, before her and her sister were kidnapped and brought to Niagara as small children. In Niagara Sophia was sold to, and enslaved by, the notable Mohawk figure Joseph Brant (1743-1807), with whom she reportedly lived for 12 years. While under Brant's captivity, Sophia spent a large portion of her time in the Dundas area, and reported a childhood spent hunting with Brant's own young children, as well as instances of cruelty and abuse from Brant's wife Catherine (1759-1837) whose physical attacks left her with permanent scars. Sometime after Samuel and Richard Hatt arrived in Ancaster, they developed a business relationship with Joseph Brant which would culminate in Samuel Hatt purchasing Sophia from Brant for \$100, likely circa 1798-1799.

While there is no surviving historical documentation physically tying Sophia Burthen Pooley to the building at 2 Hatt Street, she was likely already enslaved by Samuel Hatt when he was involved in purchasing the New Dundas Mills. This means that it is likely that Sophia would have at the very least witnessed the construction of 2 Hatt Street while enslaved by the partial owner of the Mills. It is also reasonable to presume Richard Hatt was complicit in the enslavement of Sophia, as the brother and close business partner of Samuel at the time of his purchase of Sophia from such an important political and business figure such as Joseph Brant. Sophia's exchange between Brant and the Hatts was representative of the ways in which economic networks at the time were built, in part, on the trade of people who were captive, whether through slavery or

indenture. Further to this, the local political and economic conditions of the time mean that it would have been very likely that she would have interacted with the property at 2 Hatt Street, or else contributed to the wealth which allowed for its construction and commercial success. As an enslaved person, Sophia was part of the Hatt family's estate, and would have actively contributed to the growth of their wealth and power. Sophia's skills as a Kanien'kéha (Mohawk) speaker and her knowledge of Kanien'kéha culture would have had value to the Hatts, and it is likely that her contribution of these skills had positive impact on the growth of their businesses and wealth, which she would not have benefitted from.

The absence of direct documentary evidence tying Sophia to places where she lived and worked is a feature of the dispossession of enslaved people in Upper Canada. However, the existence of the industry building at 2 Hatt is attributable in part to the contributions of Sophia and the six unnamed indentured servants brought by the Hatts. In this context, 2 Hatt Street's significance is tied to its perseverance as the last remains of a property and industry whose success was tied to the labour of enslaved people like Sophia - the ambiguity of Sophia's relationship with the building also speaking to the deliberate erasure of Black histories from historic documentation.

6. The property does not demonstrate or reflect the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer, or theorist who is significant in the community

Contextual Value

- 7. The property is important in defining the historic character of the area as an early-nineteenth century single-detached building located prominently along an important and historic transportation corridor at the terminus of Hatt Street, near the northwest corner of Main Street and Governors Road. As the last remaining building of the New Dundas Mills complex, 2 Hatt Street is a relic of the areas historic industrial past which stands out in its immediate landscape, which is now primarily residential and commercial. The property's close proximity to major landmarks like the Dundas Town Hall at 60 Main Street helps define the area's continued use as an administrative centre throughout the nineteenth century, which arguably began with 2 Hatt Street's service as an informal post office.
- 8. The property is visually and historically linked to its surroundings. The property's visual relationship and proximity to the Dundas Town Hall speaks to the immediate area's historic status as the governing and administrative centre of Dundas. Its presence as the last remaining building of the New Dundas Mills complex also speaks to Dundas' early industrial roots. The property's location along Hatt Street, and on a plot included in the earliest town plans for Dundas, also speak to its relationship with early local urban development and the historic economic networks across the Head-of-the-Lake region, which wealthy land prospectors and early industrialists like the Hatts depended on to assert and

expand their influence. Roads and routes that connected places like Ancaster and York (Toronto) to the New Dundas Mills commemorate those networks of influence. 2 Hatt Street is representative of the historical relationships of power that both depended on the control, and even enslavement, of people to support the rapid early economic growth.

9. The property is considered to be a local landmark. Its location at the terminus of Hatt Street, proximity to Dundas Town Hall, the triangular shape of the plot, its squat rectangular shape, and its unique rubblestone dolostone exterior allow it to stand out in its now primarily residential immediate landscape.

Staff have determined that 2 Hatt Street, Dundas is of cultural heritage value or interest sufficient to warrant designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and recommend designation according to the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of Heritage Attributes, attached as Appendix B to Report PED25107.

This Report also recommends that Tourism and Culture staff be directed to continue their collaboration and engagement with the Honouring Sophia Burthen Pooley Advisory Committee to develop a strategy for interpreting and sharing Sophia Burthen Pooley's story, which can be informed by the Cultural Heritage Assessment Report prepared as part of this designation process, attached as Appendix C to this Report.

The Recommendations of this Report are consistent with Provincial and Municipal legislation, policy, and direction, including:

- Determining the cultural heritage value or interest of a property based on design / physical value, historical / associative value, and contextual value criteria (*Ontario Heritage Act*, Ontario Regulation 9/06);
- Implementing proactive strategies for conserving significant built heritage resources (Provincial Planning Statement, 2024, Sub-section 4.6.4(b)); and,
- Designating properties of cultural heritage value under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (Urban Hamilton Official Plan, Section B.3.4.2.3).

Alternatives

Under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, the designation of property is a discretionary activity on the part of Council. Council, as advised by its Municipal Heritage Committee, may decide to designate property, or decline to designate property.

Decline to Designate

By declining to designate, the municipality would be unable to provide long-term, legal protection to this significant cultural heritage resource (designation provides protection

against inappropriate alterations and demolition) and would not fulfil the expectations established by existing municipal and provincial policies.

Without designation, the property would not be eligible for the City's financial incentives for heritage properties, including development charge exemption and grant and loan programs. Designation alone does not restrict the legal use of property, prohibit alterations and additions, nor does it restrict the sale of a property, or been demonstrated to affect its resale value. However, designation does allow the municipality to manage change to the heritage attributes of a property through the Heritage Permit process. Staff does not consider declining to designate any of the properties to be an appropriate conservation alternative.

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

- Priority 1: Sustainable Economic & Ecological Development
 - 1.2: Facilitate the growth of key sectors.
- Priority 3: Responsiveness & Transparency
 - o 3.2: Get more people involved in decision making and problem solving.

Previous Reports Submitted

 PED17187 - Preliminary Screening for the Request to Designate 2 Hatt Street, Dundas, Under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act (Ward 13). A copy of this report can be obtained by contacting the Office of the City Clerk.

Consultation

At its meeting on February 27, 2023, the Inventory and Research Working Group of the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee considered staff's initial draft Cultural Heritage Assessment Report for the property and supported its designation.

In May 2023, staff contacted a local community member and author who has published works and curated an exhibit on Sophia Burthen Pooley with the intention of better understanding the connections between the subject property and the histories of slavery and Black people in Dundas. On May 25, 2023, staff met with the community member, whose feedback indicated that staff should revise their existing draft documents. Following this meeting, staff identified a need to conduct further consultation with Hamilton's Black communities.

On June 3, 2024, staff circulated a draft Cultural Heritage Assessment Report to representatives of the Afro-Caribbean Canadian Association for feedback. On July 9, 2024, staff met with the group to discuss the draft heritage evaluation and recommendation to designate the property. Following this consultation, staff completed major revisions to the Cultural Heritage Assessment Report and circulated a revised draft on November 21, 2024. A second consultation meeting was held on December 2,

2024, where staff presented the revised report to representatives from the Afro-Caribbean Canadian Association and the Hamilton Black History Council. A final revised draft of the report was produced using this additional feedback, which was again circulated to the group by email on January 20, 2025.

On November 21, 2024, Planning staff circulated a draft Cultural Heritage Assessment Report to the City of Hamilton Indigenous Relations staff for feedback.

On February 21, 2025, staff circulated a draft Cultural Heritage Assessment Report to the Dundas Museum and Archives for feedback.

On February 21, 2025, staff advised the Ward Councillor (Councillor A. Wilson) for Ward 13 of the recommendations of this report and provided them with a copy of the Cultural Heritage Assessment Report for their information.

In a letter dated March 31, 2023, staff advised the property owner that staff were moving forward with the recommendation to designate the property. The initial timeline indicated in this letter was revised following staff's previously noted consultation in May 2023. In both a letter and email dated February 6, 2025, staff provided the property owner with a copy of the proposed Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and advised them of the Heritage Committee meeting date that the recommendation would be considered. In an email dated February 26, 2025, staff provided the property owner with additional instructions on how they could participate in meeting.

Appendices and Schedules Attached

Appendix A: Location Map

Appendix B: Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of

Heritage Attributes.

Appendix C: Cultural Heritage Assessment Report

Prepared by: Maryssa Barras, Cultural Heritage Planning Technician II

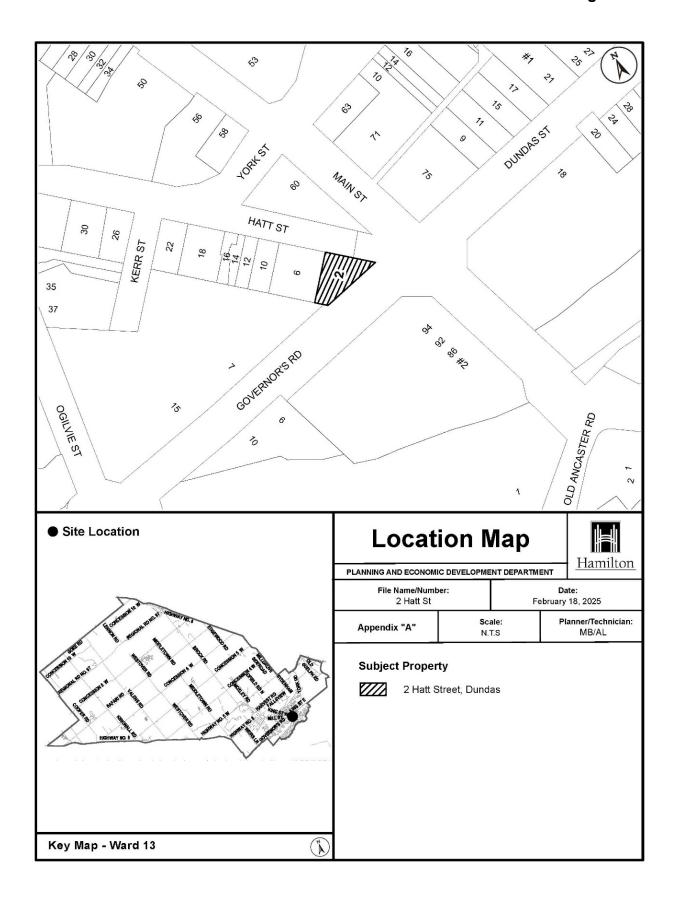
Planning and Economic Development, Planning Division

Meg Oldfield, Cultural Heritage Planner

Planning and Economic Development, Planning Division

Submitted and Anita Fabac, Acting Director of Planning and Chief Planner recommended by:

Planning and Economic Development, Planning Division



STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST AND DESCRIPTION OF HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES

Description of Property

The 0.056-hectare property at 2 Hatt Street is comprised of a one-storey single-detached stone commercial building, situated at the terminus of Hatt Street, near the northwest corner of Main Street and Governors Road, in the historic core of Dundas, in the former Town of Dundas within the City of Hamilton.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The property located at 2 Hatt Street is comprised of a one-storey stone commercial building constructed circa 1804. As a rare, unique, and early example of pre-Confederation architecture in Upper Canada, the property has physical value as one of the oldest buildings in Dundas, the only extant structure from the New Dundas Mills, and as an early example of the use of dolostone from the Niagara Escarpment in the construction of Dundas buildings.

The property has historical value for its associations with significant Dundas figures, events, and institutions, including the New Dundas Mills, the founding of the Town of Dundas and the Hatt family. The property's early history is primarily associated with Richard Hatt (1769-1819) a local businessman, judge, politician, militia officer and recognized "founder" of the Town of Dundas. Richard, along with his brother Samuel Hatt (1776-1842) and their business partner Manuel Overfield (1773-1839), had 2 Hatt Street constructed circa 1804 after they had jointly purchased and expanded the New Dundas Mills. By 1808, Richard had become the sole proprietor of the complex, but he continued to maintain strong business relations with Samuel who operated a store nearby in Ancaster. The New Dundas Mills were critical to the growth of the town, leading to its prominence as a manufacturing and shipping centre in the nineteenth century.

The historical value of the property also lies in its potential to yield information that contributes to an understanding of the history of slavery in Upper Canada, Black communities, and their history in Dundas, early Dundas settlement and industry, and the nuanced intersections between them. Sophia Burthen Pooley (circa 1775/78- circa 1860) is an important and early figure in Ontario's Black History, with her life account being one of very few for which first-hand records of slavery as an enslaved person in Upper Canada (Ontario) in the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries that exists. Sophia was born into slavery in New York, and arrived in Upper Canada as a young child where she was sold and enslaved by the notable Mohawk leader Joseph Brant (1743-1807). During her time with Brant she lived in the Dundas area, and after approximately 12 years, circa 1798-99, she was sold to Samuel Hatt who would enslave her for 7 more years. While no direct documentation confirms her presence at 2 Hatt Street, Sophia was enslaved by Samuel while he was a co-owner of the New Dundas

Mills, and her labour, local knowledge, and skills as a Kanien'kéha (Mohawk) speaker would have been invaluable to the success of the New Dundas Mills, having a positive impact on the growth of the Hatts' businesses and wealth, which she would not have benefitted from. 2 Hatt Street's significance is tied to its perseverance as the last remains of a property and industry whose success was dependent on the contributions of enslaved people like Sophia - the ambiguity of Sophia's relationship with the building also speaking to the deliberate erasure of Black histories from historic documentation.

The property has contextual value as a defining feature of Hatt Street, Governors Road, and the Town of Dundas' historic character. Its location on its original plot along Hatt Street also speak to its relationship with historic urban development and economic networks across the Head-of-the-Lake region, which wealthy land prospectors and early industrialists like the Hatts depended on to assert and expand their influence. The property's location near the northwest corner of Main Street and Governors Road and the Town of Dundas, and proximity to Dundas Town Hall, visually connect it to its surroundings and contribute to its status as a local landmark.

Description of Heritage Attributes

The key attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the property as a rare and unique example of pre-Confederation architecture, its association with the former New Dundas Mills and its owner Richard Hatt, and potential to yield an understanding of the history of slavery in Upper Canada and its connections to early Dundas settlement and industry include:

- All four elevations and the roofline of the one-storey stone building, including its:
 - Rectangular footprint;
 - Low side gable roof:
 - o Coursed rubblestone façade constructed from dolostone;
 - Cut sandstone quoins;
 - Wood lintels and sills;
 - Rectangular door opening;
 - o Three 12-over-12 wood windows on the south façade;
 - One 8-over-12 wood window on the north façade; and,
 - Stone foundation

The key attribute that embodies the contextual value of the property as a defining feature of the historic character of Hatt Street, Governors Road, the community of Dundas, and Dundas' role in establishing economic networks across the Head-of-the-Lake region which land prospectors and industrialists, including slaveholders, depended on to assert and expand their influence, and as a local landmark, is its:

 Location at the terminus of Hatt Street at the intersection of Governors Road and Main Street.

CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT



2 Hatt Street, Dundas City of Hamilton

Prepared by
Heritage and Urban Design Section
Planning Division
Planning and Economic Development Department
City of Hamilton

Research and Evaluation by
Maryssa Barras, Cultural Heritage Planning Technician II
with assistance from Meg Oldfield, Cultural Heritage Planner and
Alissa Golden, Cultural Heritage Program Lead

March 3, 2025 (FINAL DRAFT)

CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT: A READER'S GUIDE

This cultural heritage assessment report is prepared as part of a standard process that assists in determining the cultural heritage value of properties and their prospective merit for protection, including designation and/or a heritage conservation easement agreement, under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

This report is divided into five sections:

Section 1 comprises an introduction including a description of the property location.

Section 2, *Physiographic Context*, contains a description of the physiographic region in which the subject property is located.

Section 3, *Settlement Context*, contains a description of the broad historical development of the settlement in which the subject property is located as well as the development of the subject property itself. A range of secondary sources such as local histories and a variety of historical and topographical maps are used to determine settlement history.

Section 4, *Property Description*, describes the subject property's key heritage characteristics that provide the base information to be used in Section 5.

Section 5, *Cultural Heritage Assessment*, provides a summary of *Ontario Regulation* 9/06, the criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest for designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, an evaluation of the which criteria the subject property satisfies and a recommendation as to whether or not the subject property should be protected under the *Ontario Heritage Act* through designation and/or a heritage conservation easement agreement, including a Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of Heritage Attributes.

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1. Introduction

This cultural heritage assessment report examines the cultural heritage value or interest of the property located at 2 Hatt Street in Dundas, historically part of the New Dundas Mills industrial complex. The property is comprised of a one-storey stone commercial building constructed circa 1804 that has been modified over time.

The subject property was listed on the City's Municipal Heritage Register on August 15, 2017 (Planning Committee Report 17-013). On July 20, 2017, the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee requested that staff report on the potential for designation of 2 Hatt Street resulting in the preliminary evaluation of the property and the recommendation to add this property to the City's designation workplan. The staff report (PED17187) was carried by Planning Committee on October 31, 2017 and by City Council on November 8, 2017.

In 2020, the subject property was added to staff's designation workplan for further research and assessment of the property. As a result of the recent *Bill 23* changes to the *Ontario Heritage Act*, the former staff workplan for designation was rescinded and replaced with a new public list of Candidates for Designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (see Report PED22211(a)), at which time 2 Hatt Street, Dundas was reprioritized for review for designation by January 1, 2025.

On May 25, 2023 staff held a consultation session with Andrew Hunter, the author of a book on Sophia Burthen Pooley. Following this meeting, staff identified a need to conduct further consultation with Hamilton's Black community. On June 3, 2024, staff circulated a draft Cultural Heritage Assessment Report to the Afro-Caribbean Canadian Association (ACCA) for feedback. On July 9, 2024, staff held a consultation meeting with ACCA for additional feedback on the evaluation of the property. Following this consultation, staff completed major revisions to the report, and recirculated a revised copy on November 21, 2024, followed by an additional consultation meeting with ACCA and the Hamilton Black History Council (HBHC) on December 2, 2024.

1.1 Potential Designation and Next Steps

Extensive research has been conducted to determine the cultural heritage value of the property, which is outlined in this document, and, and having met designation criteria, the property is worthy of designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

1.2 Property Location

The 0.056-hectare subject property, comprised of a one-storey stone commercial building, is located in the historic downtown core of Dundas at the terminus of Hatt Street, near the northwest corner of Main Street and Governors Road, just south of Dundas Town Hall.

2. Physiographic Context

The subject property is located in the Westlands, a sub-region of the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Lowlands physiographic region. Dundas lies within the Dundas Valley, the only major pre-glacial valley east of the Niagara Escarpment. The Valley was created by pre-glacial erosion, which cut deep into the Escarpment and then filled the Valley with 160 metres of silt loam, a type of topsoil considered to be ideal for agriculture. The Escarpment walls are composed of 450 million-year-old shale and dolomitic limestone (also called dolostone), which served as the building material for many of Dundas' early structures and was also used in steel production. The area's topography is largely defined by its proximity to major water bodies, including waterfalls and streams, such as Spencer Creek, which permitted the development of many of Dundas' early industries, including its historic mills, and Cootes Paradise, a wetland that connected Dundas to the western head of Lake Ontario.

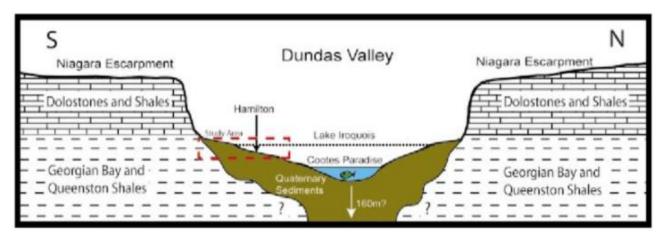


Figure 1: Schematic cross-section of Dundas Valley showing bedrock, sediment infill, and the prehistoric post-glacial Lake Iroquois and contemporary Cootes Paradise (Source: https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Schematic-cross-section-of-Dundas-Valley-showing-bed)

Cultural Heritage Assessment Report: 2 Hatt Street, Dundas (January 2025)

¹ Marilyn Miller & Joe Bucovetsky, "The Valley Town: Surveying the Urban Heritage in Dundas," in Continuity with Change ed. Mark Fram & John Weiler (Toronto: Dundurn Press, 1984), 112
² Ibid., 114

3. Settlement Context

3.1 Early Human Occupation to the Seventeenth Century

The area encompassing the former Town of Dundas has attracted human settlement since time immemorial, with archaeological evidence indicating Indigenous peoples had settled in the area at least 13,000 years ago.³ Historically, the Dundas Valley has been home to multiple overlapping First Nations as part of the traditional territories of the Neutral Nation (called Attawandaron by the Huron-Wendat meaning "peoples of a slightly different language"),⁴ as well as Anishinaabe, Huron-Wendat, and Haudenosaunee peoples. Indigenous oral traditions and histories tell us that, prior to the sixteenth century, the area was primarily occupied by the Neutral Nation, called Neutral

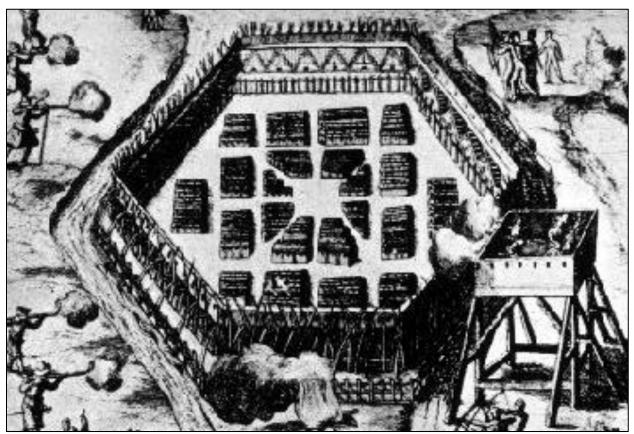


Figure 2: Drawing of a Haudenosaunee village circa 1632, by Samuel de Champlain. (Source: Les voyages de la Nouvelle France occidentale, dicte Canada, faits par le Sr de Champlain, AGO.98836, Art Gallery of Ontario, https://ago.ca/collection/object/ago.9)

Cultural Heritage Assessment Report: 2 Hatt Street, Dundas (January 2025)

³ Ronald F. Williamson, Peter L. Storck, Danielle A. Macdonald, Cam Walker, John L. Fagan, Andrea Carnevale, Andrew Stewart, Peter H. von Bitter, & Robert I. MacDonald, "New insights into early paleoindian (Gainey) associations with proboscideans and canids in the Niagara Peninsula, Southern Ontario, Canada," *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*, 47, (2023); Cara Nickerson & Aicha Smith-Belghaba, "Early Indigenous People Hunted Mammoth in Hamilton area, 'unprecedented' study suggests," *CBC News*, (2022), https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/evidence-mammoth-butcher-in-ontario-1.6693736.

⁴ William C. Noble, "The Neutral Confederacy," *The Canadian Encyclopedia*, November 20, 2015.

by early French arrivals for their relatively neutral position in the wars between neighbouring Huron-Wendat Nations and Haudenosaunee Confederacies.⁵

The Neutral Nation's primary territory extended in the area between the Grand River and Lake Ontario. Their geo-political influence extended through far-ranging trade networks that spanned as far as Chesapeake Bay and the Carolinas.⁶ The trails and trade routes established by the Neutral Nation and other First Nations continued to play crucial roles in the movement of both Indigenous peoples and settler arrivals during the early colonial period, and still exist today in the form of highways and main roads, including Governor's Road, Highway 8, and Osler Drive.

The Neutral Nation were close relatives of the Huron-Wendat, whose primary territory was just north of their own. Like many of their contemporaries, the Nation consisted of a well-established and organized confederacy of horticultural longhouse communities, led by elected chiefs. While it is not clear when exactly conflict began in the area between Nations, First Nation oral traditions share that it had been a major disrupting force in the period prior to the sixteenth and seventeenth century when the earliest surviving written records related to the conflict were written. In reaction to this conflict, the Neutral Nation moved many of their established settlements towards the area between the Great Lakes, including the areas around what is now known as Dundas.

3.2 Seventeenth Century to the 1763 Royal Proclamation

The seventeenth century was a period of major change and instability in the area, with pre-existing conflict between Nations intensifying because of European influence and incursion. At this early stage of European incursion into Indigenous territories, European powers were still a (rapidly growing) minority, in the early stages of establishing permanent settlements. The introduction of European diseases and commodities, however, had devastating consequences in an already unstable geo-political landscape, playing a major role in the success and proliferation of European settler colonies and the further destabilization of an area already experiencing conflict.

In addition to Europeans, the first People of African Descent arrived in North America at this time. In 1604, the very first recorded Black person to have passed through Canada was an African explorer and interpreter named Mathieu Da Costa. His story is a unique one, as the overwhelming majority of People of African Descent were brought to North America against their will as the property of wealthy European settlers through the

⁵ *Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents*, ed. Reuben Gold Thwaites (Cleveland: Burrows Brothers Company, 1896), 193, https://digitalarchive.tpl.ca/objects/346028/the-jesuit-relations-and-allied-document#.

⁶ William C. Noble, "Tsouharissen's Chiefdom: An Early Historic 17th Century Neutral Iroquoian Ranked Society," *Canadian Journal of Archeology* 9, no. 2 (1985): 139.

⁷ Alan McMillan & Eldon Yellowhorn, *First Peoples in Canada* (Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre, 2004), 72-73.

⁸ Ibid.; Noble, William C. "The Neutral Confederacy."

⁹ McMillan & Yellowhorn, First Peoples in Canada, 86-88.

¹⁰ Dominique Millette, Maude-Emmanuelle Lambert, & Jessica Poulin, "Mathieu Da Costa," *The Canadian Encyclopedia*, Feb 7 2023, https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/mathieu-da-costa

transatlantic slave trade. In 1628, only 24 years after Da Costa arrived, the earliest known instance of chattel slavery to have taken place in Canada occurred when a child (taken from Guinea or Madagascar) was purchased and enslaved by a French priest and re-named Olivier LeJeune. During this time, when European slavers establishing themselves in Africa were still beginning the cruel kidnapping, sale, and transport of Black people to North America, Indigenous peoples were also enslaved to meet the demands of both French and British colonisers. In the period from 1628 to 1700 the number of enslaved peoples in New France, which included the sparsely settled Ontario, included at least 4,092 people (2,692 Indigenous and 1,400 African people). 12

At this time, the fur trade intensified as First Nations peoples increased their harvest of beaver furs to obtain European trade goods, and Europeans increased their beaver harvest activities as well. The result was decreased supply and increased demand for beaver furs, which spurred a series of conflicts, known as the Beaver Wars, between the Haudenosaunee and surrounding Nations. The Haudenosaunee's presence in Southern Ontario between Neutral Nation and Huron-Wendat territories (where the Haudenosaunee's traditional beaver hunting grounds were located), also increased pressures on a range of resources. He by the mid-seventeenth century, these Beaver Wars, combined with the spread of European diseases and famine, had destabilized the once thriving Neutral Nation. Following the death of Tsouharissen, an important Neutral Nation leader, in 1646, the Nation became even more vulnerable. In 1651, the remaining members of the Neutral Nation were taken captive by the Seneca of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy or dispersed and reabsorbed into surrounding Nations.

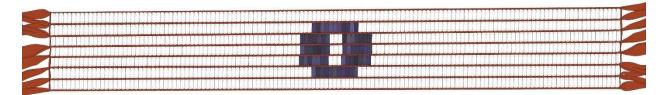


Figure 3: Representation of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt. (Source: The Dish with One Spoon, A Treaty Guide for Torontonians, accessed September 30 2024, https://talkingtreaties.ca/treaties-for-torontonians/dish-with-one-spoon/)

Following the Beaver Wars, the Mississaugas, an Anishinaabe Nation who had inhabited the lands east of the Neutrals, moved into the area. In the late-seventeenth century, the Anishinaabe, Mississauga, and Haudenosaunee Nations established peace with the "Dish with One Spoon" Wampum promising that each Nation would share the

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¹¹ Daniel G. Hill, *The Freedom-Seekers: Blacks in Early Canada,* (Toronto: Stoddart Publishing Co. Limited, 1992), 3.

¹² Adrienne Shadd, *The Journey from Tollgate to Parkway* (Toronto: Dundurn Press, 2010), 29; Hill, *The Freedom-Seekers: Blacks in Early Canada*, 9.

¹³ McMillan & Yellowhorn, *First Peoples in Canada*, 84-91.

¹⁴ Noble, William C. "The Neutral Confederacy"; Alan McMillan & Eldon Yellowhorn, *First Peoples in Canada*, 84-90.

¹⁵ McMillan & Yellowhorn, First Peoples in Canada, 88.

bounty of the land (the dish) together (using one spoon). This was confirmed again in 1701 during the Great Peace of Montreal, with over 1,300 First Nations delegates actively participating in discussions. In this same year the Seneca, Cayugas, and Onondagas of the then Five Nations of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy signed the Nanfan Treaty as a covenant chain agreement with the British Colonial Government, which the Haudenosaunee understood as an agreement to share and protect the Beaver Hunting Grounds territory (spanning from the Great Lakes to the Ohio River Valley) from incursion between Nations participating in the Treaty. The title of the Mississaugas to the land, however, was not considered in this British Deed despite this territory being occupied by the Mississauga.

Following this period, which had established relative peace between the French and First Nations in the Great Lakes Region, the area began to experience a modest influx of French settlers (of which there were less than 100,000 across Canada) who established and/or re-established trade posts and fortifications in Southern Ontario and surrounding lands, like Detroit and Niagara. 19 While often overlooked, the early infrastructure European settlers depended on required a substantial amount of labour often sourced from enslaved Indigenous, and later Black, people.²⁰ Records referencing the extent to which enslaved people were forced to build European landmarks. strongholds, and economic ventures are unfortunately sparse, but their impact can be seen in the discourse on labour or the lack of available labour upper and merchantclass settlers required and requested for their economic ventures.²¹ Under the expanding pre-industrial capitalist economic regime of the time, the direct relationship between economic prosperity and labour was solidifying, meaning that control and access to labour was an important means through which individual wealth was grown. As a result, while accurate records pertaining to the presence of enslaved people are sparse, we can see the impact and presence of enslaved people through the financial prosperity of wealthy slave-owning classes.²² At this same time, tensions and conflict grew between the Haudenosaunee and the British as British settlers continued to encroach on the Haudenosaunee's territories to the southeast of the Great Lakes, especially in the area known as the Mohawk Valley.

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¹⁶ Victor P. Lytwyn, "A Dish with One Spoon: The Shared Hunting Grounds Agreement in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Valley Region." *Papers of the 28th Algonquin Conference* 28 (1997): 211.

¹⁷ Susan Hill, *The Clay We Are Made OF: Haudenosaunee Land Tenure on the Grand River,* (University of Manitoba Press, 2016); Jim Windle and Paul Williams, "What About that 1701 Nanfan Treaty?," *Two Row Times*, December 28 2016, https://tworowtimes.com/historical/1701-nanfan-treaty/.

¹⁸ The Rouge River Valley Tract Unsurrendered Traditional Lands: Statement of Claim, Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, submitted to The Government of Canada, March 31, 2015, https://mncfn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/SOC-MNC-RRV-March-31-2015-KAFBS.pdf. https://soc-mncfn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/SOC-MNC-RRV-March-31-2015-KAFBS.pdf. https://soc-mnc-nc-al-english.gov/SOC-MNC-RRV-March-31-2015-KAFBS.pdf.

¹⁹ Shadd, *The Journey from Tollgate to Parkway;* Afua Cooper, "The Enslavement of Africans in Canada," *The Canadian Historical Association: Immigration and Ethnicity in Canada Series* 39 (2022).

²⁰ Hill, The Freedom-Seekers: Blacks in Early Canada, 4.

²¹ Shadd, The Journey from Tollgate to Parkway, 34, 50-54.

²² Shadd, *The Journey from Tollgate to Parkway,* 50; "Enslaved Labour," Ontario Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Accessed August 26, 2024,

3.3 1763 to 1800

1763 marked the end of most French claims to land in Canada, harkening the beginning of a new phase of British colonial incursion into Southern Ontario. It also marked the creation of the Royal Proclamation of 1763, which, in an effort to reduce settler/Indigenous conflict, promised to protect the lands west of the Appalachian Mountains as Indigenous territory. The immediate impact of this was instability and conflict as colonial government officials, military figures, and British settlers in New England pressured the British Crown to permit expansion towards the Great Lakes, an action which would actively violate both existing Treaties and the Proclamation. In fact, many settlers at this time continued to encroach on Indigenous territories to the West despite the British Crown's efforts to control expansion and limit the potential for expensive conflicts like Pontiac's War, led by Odawa Chief Obwandiyag (known in English as Pontiac). Complicating matters, while few records speak to the presence of enslaved people or free Black people prior to the 1780s, slavery proliferated at this time, meaning that there were additional displaced and migrating populations of Black people as well.²³



Figure 4: Eighteenth-century depiction of two enslaved women working. (Source: "An Overseer doing His Duty", near Fredericksburg, Virginia, ca. 1798. Watercolour by Benjamin Henry Latrobe. Image ID 1960.108.1.3.21, Courtesy of The Maryland Historical Society)

²³ See Shadd, *The Journey from Tollgate to Parkway*, 30.

The American War of Independence (1775-1783) caused the Crown to refocus its colonial settlement efforts to its remaining colonies in Upper and Lower Canada, as tens of thousands of displaced people sought to leave the newly created United States. ²⁴ It is at this time that European settlement in Southern Ontario began to supersede that of Indigenous peoples as Loyalists, Late-Loyalists, and British Immigrants, among others, overwhelmed the territory. This was exacerbated by a need to quickly and cheaply construct mass amounts of infrastructure across the territory to sustain the new population, and further intensified by settler desires to capitalise on the new industry opportunities the land presented. ²⁵ While Upper Canada did not develop the same type of plantation economies which defined the use of slavery in the American south, the conditions for enslaved people were just as harsh. ²⁶

During the American War of Independence, as part of a military strategy, the British Army offered enslaved persons emancipation in exchange for their military service, attracting the support of up to tens of thousands of Black people.²⁷ After the war, many of these people made use of the policy to become what are known as Black Loyalists, obtaining their freedom and triggering the first major wave of voluntary immigration of Black people into Canada. While free, these Black Loyalists had been enslaved under British law by people who were British settlers at the time – and who were still not substantially distinct in either culture or identity from British given that American identity had not yet solidified - complicating the relationships which Black Loyalists had with the British colonial government in Canada. It is also worth considering that those Loyalist and European migrants who arrived during this time were socio-economic beneficiaries of slavery even if they were not directly slave-owners, given that existing trade and economic networks – especially for the upper-class – obtained and invested in products, industries, and social norms which supported slavery. Black Loyalists who made their way to Upper Canada, even in the face of prejudice against them, organized and exercised their rights to land promised to them by the British government, establishing communities in Southern Ontario.²⁸ The continued prevalence of slavery at this time also posed substantial dangers to Black people, who were at risk of being kidnapped and re-enslaved in spite of abolitionist legislation which came to be enacted in the following decades.²⁹

Critically, the British Colonial government did not have pre-existing land agreements with First Nations for the majority of what is now Ontario, and lacked the necessary data, capacity, and presence to actively regulate and control the mass arrival of Loyalist and immigrant settlers, creating an atmosphere in which settler land prospectors and squatters were able to illegally encroach on untreatied Indigenous lands. In addition, a

²⁴ Miller & Bucovetsky, "The Valley Town," 115.

²⁵ Hill, *The Freedom-Seekers: Blacks in Early Canada,* 15; Shadd, *The Journey from Tollgate to Parkway,* 34, 52-53.

²⁶ Cooper, "The Enslavement of Africans in Canada," 7.

²⁷ "Timeline: Black History," *The Canadian Encyclopedia*, accessed July 10, 2024, https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/timeline/black-history; see also Channon Oyeniran, "Black Loyalists in British North America," *The Canadian Encyclopedia*, March 25, 2019, https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/black-loyalists-in-british-north-america.

²⁸ Shadd, *The Journey from Tollgate to Parkway;* Cooper, "The Enslavement of Africans in Canada."

²⁹ Shadd, *The Journey from Tollgate to Parkway*, 27-29, 61.

large wave of Haudenosaunee peoples also migrated to Southern Ontario, having been promised rights to protected land in exchange for their support during the War, in part through the Nanfan Treaty. These Haudenosaunee people would eventually obtain a promise of unimpeded rights to what is known today as the Haldimand Tract, establishing the Six Nations of the Grand River. While both Mississauga of the Credit (Anishinaabe) and Haudenosaunee people have used and occupied land in Southern Ontario over time in history, the Mississauga became the primary Indigenous occupants of the Greater Golden Horseshoe area following the Neutral Nation in the eighteenth century. The Mississauga however, had a smaller population than the Haudenosaunee who were migrating to Southern Ontario as a result of two centuries of colonial dispossession, war, and conflict, limiting their abilities to push back the mass wave of settler migrants. As a result of this, the Mississauga signed a series of important and binding treaties during this time, including the Between the Lakes Treaty, first negotiated in 1784 but updated in 1792, which mediated the arrival of both settlers and Haudenosaunee people.³⁰ Ultimately, from 1783-1812, the Crown negotiated 15

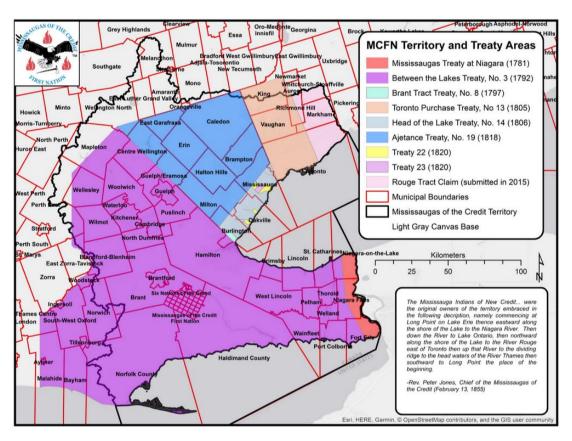


Figure 5: Map showing territories subject to treaties with the Mississaugas of the Credit, including the Between the Lakes Treaty, in purple. (Source: Municipalities within Mississaugas of the Credit First

³⁰ Between the Lakes Purchase and Collins Purchase, No. 3, 1792, *Government of Canada*, https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1370372152585/1581293792285#ucls5; Between the Lakes Treaty, No. 3 (1792), Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Accessed July 10, 2024, https://mncfn.ca/between-the-lakes-treaty-no-3-1792/; The Rouge River Valley Tract Unsurrendered Traditional Lands: Statement of Claim, Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation.

treaties with Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples in Southern Ontario, which would eventually be broken by Upper Canadian government and settlers.³¹

3.4 The Founding of Dundas and the Nineteenth Century

Beginning in 1791, Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe (1752-1806) appointed Augustus Jones (1757-1836) as Provincial Land Surveyor, directing him to lay out Townships from the Niagara River.³² Jones' initial survey included the Township of Geneva, made up of four concessions along the broken front of Lake Geneva, now known as Hamilton Harbour. An additional ten concessions were surveyed to the north of Geneva and amalgamated with the Township and lands surrounding the Dundas area to form the Township of Flamborough in 1793.³³ At this time a highway, which would follow pre-existing and long-established First Nations route running through Dundas from York (now Toronto) to London, first known as Governors Road but eventually named Dundas Street,³⁴ was also opened. Dundas' location at the intersection of this road and others leading to important settlements, like Niagara, lent it strategic importance during this time. As a result, 60-acres were reserved for the development of a garrison town which was surveyed in 1803, although the town's centre would eventually materialise around budding industry along Spencer Creek.

The earliest documented Euro-Canadian settler in Dundas was Anne Morden (1743-1832), a Loyalist Quaker widow from Pennsylvania who travelled to Fort Niagara in 1786 with her nine children. Additional settlers soon followed with several more Loyalist families living in the area by 1787. Early settlers in the Dundas area were concerned with building basic infrastructure, clearing and cultivating land, and selling grain to nearby mills in Grimsby or Ancaster. While records related to Black and enslaved people are sparse, there were Black enslaved people in the Dundas area at this time whose labour played a critical role in the construction of local infrastructure and contributing to the growth of Euro-Canadian Loyalist wealth. For example, Samuel Hatt, who is known to have enslaved Sophia Burthen Pooley (see **Section 3.5.2** below), and signed on the indenture of Eli Brakenbridge, a Black orphaned child, after it had been

³¹ "Map of Ontario Treaties and Reserves," Ontario, Webpage, 2018, https://www.ontario.ca/page/map-ontario-treaties-and-reserves.

³² Miller & Bucovetsky, "The Valley Town," 115.

³³ Miller & Bucovetsky, "The Valley Town," 115.

³⁴ In 2021, the City of Toronto Council voted to rename the section of Dundas Street that runs through Toronto, due to Henry Dundas' 1792 amendment to a motion to abolish the slave trade in Britain and its colonies. Instead of immediately abolishing the slave trade as initially proposed Dundas suggested the word 'gradually' be added, arguing the immediate abolition of slavery would force the trade underground or allow merchants from other countries to fill the gap. He later proposed a plan to gradual abolition by the end of 1799, though the motion eventually deferred and finally dropped from the House of Lords due to the French Revolutionary Wars. The slave trade was not outlawed in the British Empire until 1807, and slavery was not completely abolished until 1834. In 2020, former Dundas ward Councillor Arlene VanderBeek received three requests from two individuals in the community to rename Dundas, though nothing has come of these requests thus far.

³⁵ T. Roy Woodhouse, *The History of the Town of Dundas Volume 1* (Dundas: Dundas Historical Society, 1968), 7-8.

made illegal to enter into an indenture without consent in 1810.³⁶ Other early Dundas and Head-of-Lake families known to have enslaved Black people include the Beasleys, Mordens, Durands and Chryslers,³⁷ with the success of early settlers and the construction of many buildings and much infrastructure at this time being directly attributable to the labour of these enslaved people.

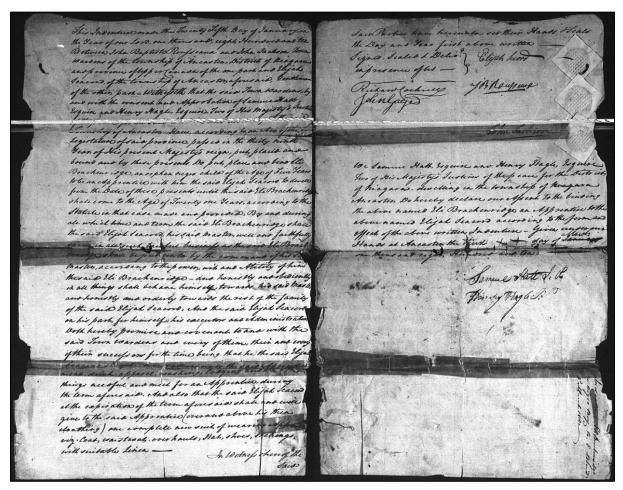


Figure 6: Indenture of Eli Brakenbridge, a Black boy, as an apprentice into the service of Elijah Secord, signed by Samuel Hatt. (Source: Indenture of Apprenticeship of Eli Brackenbridge, File F 493-1-0-102, Microfilm MS 7294, part of Jean Baptiste Rousseau Family Personal and Business Correspondence, Archives of Ontario)

3.4.1 The New Dundas Mills

While there were settlers in the area as early as the late 1780s, the founding of the Town of Dundas is often accredited to the opening of the New Dundas Mills in 1804 when Richard Hatt (1769-1819) and his brother Samuel Hatt (1776-1842) jointly purchased the mill with Manuel Overfield (1773-1839).³⁸ Richard Hatt immigrated to Upper Canada from England in 1792, and in 1794 was working as a mercantile clerk in

³⁶ Shadd, The Journey from Tollgate to Parkway, 50-52.

³⁷ Ibid, 33-38.

³⁸ Robert L. Fraser, "Richard Hatt," in *Dictionary of Hamilton Biography, Volume 1,* ed. T. Melville Bailey (Canada: W.L. Griffin, 1981), 96.

Niagara-on-the-Lake. While there, Richard petitioned local government on behalf of his father for a substantial tract of land, stating in his petition that the family's wealth and English origins made them more desirable than unscrupulous American born people of European descent (American national identity had yet to solidify). By 1796, Richard's family including his father, brother Samuel, and six indentured servants, had joined him in Upper Canada, and by 1798 the Hatts had settled in Ancaster and opened a gristmill, called the Red Mill. The Hatt brothers actively worked to influence the geography of the area, widening an Indigenous trail that ran northeast of the village to attract more business by providing increased access to the mill, today known as Old Dundas Road.

The Red Mill, however, was unsuccessful, as much of the area's business was monopolized by nearby Jean Baptist Rousseaux (1758-1812). Part of Rousseaux's success can be attributed to his far-reaching network, being fluent in the Kanien'kéha (Mohawk) language and having built a close relationship with influential persons like Thayendanegea (Tie-end-a-nay-guh), also known as Joseph Brant (1743-1807). Rousseaux's own mill had also been founded several years earlier, in 1791, in partnership with Richard Beasley (1761-1842).⁴⁰ Beasley is also known to have enslaved people, and while there is no clear evidence that this mill was built using the labour of enslaved Black people, the funds Beasley used to finance the construction of the mill had certainly been accrued in part as a result of the exploitation of Black labour.⁴¹ While often only included as a footnote in the history of the region, it is important to remember that the accomplishments of those early individuals, speculators, and founders of settlements in the Head-of-the-Lake region were not achieved in a vacuum. Wealthy upper-class men, for example, did not build mills and roads themselves – they used their financial and socio-political influence to obtain land, and had indentured workers, servants, or enslaved people build on the land for them. Their wealth itself in many cases was built partly on investments and engagements with Americans, where slavery defined the economy. The resulting products, infrastructure, and buildings then generated wealth for these individuals as they were operated by working people – with the sale of these properties and their outputs to Loyalists who may not have been directly involved in slavery still supporting and sustaining existing economic networks which depended on it.

In 1799, while the Hatts were struggling to find the financial success they had hoped for, Anne Morden's son Jonathan constructed a sawmill along Spencer Creek, to which a gristmill was later added by Edward Peer.⁴² The mill was known as the Dundas Mill for its proximity to Dundas Street.⁴³ In 1801 and 1802, brothers Richard and Samuel Hatt, petitioned the government for milling rights at the head of Coote's Paradise.⁴⁴ Once granted, they, along with Manuel Overfield, jointly purchased the Dundas Mill property

39 Ibid.

W.L. Griffin, 1981), 96.

⁴⁰ *Ancaster's Heritage*, ed. Paul Grimwood (Ancaster Township Historical Society, 1973), 13; Robert L. Fraser, "Richard Hatt," in *Dictionary of Hamilton Biography, Volume 1*, ed. T. Melville Bailey (Canada:

⁴¹ Shadd, *The Journey from Tollgate to Parkway*, 36-37.

⁴² Edward Peer was a blacksmith who was known to be hostile to Indigenous peoples – having reportedly shot an Indigenous man for taking one of his blankets. See *Ancaster's Heritage*, ed. Grimwood, 18.

⁴³ T. Roy Woodhouse, *The History of the Town of Dundas Volume 1*, 14.

⁴⁴ Ibid., 17.

including water rights, the saw mill, and a dam, and had a new, larger mill, potashery, stills, pig sties, a general store (believed to be present day 2 Hatt Street) built on the property – calling it the New Dundas Mills. By 1807, this mill had become an industrial success, which in turn attracted new settlers and industry to the area. It is not known who the labourers were in the construction of the New Dundas Mill, but it likely included the labour of the six white indentured servants which the Hatts brought to North America, alongside that of enslaved Black people like Sophia Burthen Pooley, who is unlikely to be the only person to have been enslaved by the Hatt family.

Likely around the time that the New Dundas Mill was opened, the area became known as Anonhwarore'tsherakoyòn:ne in the Kanien'kéha language, meaning the place of the old hat – possibly in reference to Richard Hatt, who was the eldest of the Hatt brothers.⁴⁵ If this is the case, this term reflects the relationship the Hatts developed with



Figure 7: The New Dundas Mills circa 1900. (Source: Dundas Mill, P-2223, Photograph Collection, Dundas Museum and Archives)

⁴⁵ This word and translation for Anonhwarore'tsherakoyòn:ne was obtained from Brian Maracle during a session on Mohawk Language in July 2024 held by the Two Row on the Grand. While the term may reference the elder Hatt brother given that Kanien'kéha place names often reference the relationship between people and that place, the original story behind the naming of Anonhwarore'tsherakoyòn:ne (Dundas) is not recorded in any reference materials found to date.

Kanien'kéha speakers, including but not limited to Sophia Burthen Pooley, Joseph Brant, Teyoninhokarawen (John Norton, c. 1784-1825), and Rousseaux. ⁴⁶ In English the town would not become known as Dundas until 1814, when the Crown opened the Dundas Post Office, so named for its proximity to Dundas Street.

In 1806, Samuel Hatt sold his share of the New Dundas Mill to Richard, having remained in Ancaster to operate the existing general store, maintaining a position of wealth and authority. During the War of 1812 Samuel served as a captain in the British forces, and by 1816 he was in Chambly, Quebec, where he became a powerful and wealthy (having purchased a mansion and land for 13,000 pounds) member of the Legislative Council.⁴⁷ By 1808, Manuel Overfield's share of the mill had also been purchased by Richard Hatt, turning him into the mill's sole proprietor.⁴⁸ Richard Hatt's reputation and influence in Upper Canada continued to grow during this time, as he was appointed a Justice of Peace in 1800, petitioned Dundas to become the administrative centre for the area in 1810, served as a Major in the War of 1812, and was elected to the House of Assembly in 1817.⁴⁹ Simultaneously, Richard Hatt strategically expanded his milling industry, attracting and employing new settlers, developing a concentrated core of settlement in what is now Dundas. Hatt improved water and road corridors, clearing and deepening Spencer Creek, and opened several businesses to support the mill's expansion, including a cooperage (which made barrels in which to ship the processed flour in), two storehouses, a blacksmith shop, and a farm.⁵⁰

After Richard Hatt's death in 1819, James Bell Ewart (1801-1853) began leasing the industrial complex, eventually purchasing the property in 1838, subleasing the buildings to other individuals. This included 2 Hatt Street, which had been converted into a blacksmith's shop circa 1818 and continued to operate as such for 125 years.⁵¹

3.4.2 Sophia Burthen Pooley and Enslaved People in Dundas

Sophia Burthen Pooley (circa 1775/78 – circa 1860) was an enslaved Black woman who arrived in Ontario during the Loyalist migration wave into Upper Canada. In 1856, Sophia was interviewed about her life by a Quaker abolitionist, who published the interview that provides a rare firsthand account from an enslaved person in Upper Canada in the eighteenth century.

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⁴⁶ In collaboration with Bruce A. Parker, "HATT, RICHARD," in *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, vol. 5. University of Toronto/Université Laval, 2003. Accessed August 1, 2024, https://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/hatt_richard_5E.html.

⁴⁷ Collaboration with Parker, "HATT, RICHARD," https://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/hatt_richard_5E.html; Fraser, "Richard Hatt," 96; "Samuel Hatt," Assemblée Nationale du Québec, 2009, https://www.assnat.qc.ca/fr/patrimoine/anciens-parlementaires/hatt-samuel-209.html; Paul-Henri Hudon, "Un Personnage Historique de Chambly Mal Connu, Samuel Hatt," *Journal le Montérégien*, April 21, 2020, https://journallemonteregien.com/un-personnage-historique-de-chambly-mal-connu-samuel-hatt/.

⁴⁸ T. Roy Woodhouse, *The History of the Town of Dundas Volume 1*, 15-16.

⁴⁹ Collaboration with Parker, "HATT, RICHARD," https://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/hatt_richard_5E.html.

⁵⁰ Sophia Burthen Pooley in Benjamin Drew, *A Northside View of Slavery* (Boston: John P. Jewett & Co., 1856), https://docsouth.unc.edu/neh/drew/drew.html.

⁵¹ T. Roy Woodhouse, *The History of the Town of Dundas Volume 3* (Dundas: Dundas Historical Society, 1968), 16.

Sophia was born into slavery in Fishkill, New York, circa 1775-78. At this time, slavery of Black people by way of the Dutch slave trade was a defining feature of New England colonial settlement, and Fishkill was no exception with Black enslaved people making up a substantial portion of its population.⁵² While little is known about her early childhood, Sophia reported that she was violently stolen from her parents Dinah and Oliver when she was seven years old by her 'master's sons-in-law,' Daniel Outwaters (1755-1827) and Simon Knox (1732-1832).53 Outwaters and Knox (also spelled Noakes, Naks, Naxon, and Noxon) took her up the Genessee River to Lake Ontario, before bringing her to Niagara where she was sold. While both men are listed in American registers during the War of Independence, they both also became Late-Loyalists by the early 1800s.⁵⁴ Knox is first recorded in Canada in 1799 before filing a Loyalist land petition in 1800 in Potton, Quebec. Outwaters similarly likely left Fishkill in 1800 after a warrant for his arrest was issued,55 settling with his family in Canada in Adolphustown by 1803, eventually filing Loyalist land petition in 1810.56 The immigration and involvement of these two men in the settlement of Ontario during this time speaks to the direct and complicit ties between the colonial development of early Ontario and slave economies – the money these men used to build their reputations and purchase land and goods came from the sale of humans and the labour of enslaved people in the slave-dependent industries which defined their hometowns. Sophia's likely first slaver was Joseph Harris (1727- circa 1785), Outwater's father-in-law by Joseph's first wife and Knox's father-in-law by his second wife, and a marked 'Tory' (Loyalist) during the American War of Independence.⁵⁷ These details highlight the direct involvement of people who would become Canadians in the cruel institutions of slavery in North America.

It is not precisely known when Sophia was brought to Niagara. Her account offers some information into approximate timelines, but these are only estimates rather than precise dates. Historic records show that this event may have taken place circa 1785, supported by the facts that Simon Knox did not become Joseph Harris's son-in-law until 1780 and that Joseph Harris died circa 1785. Upon her arrival in Niagara Sophia was purchased by Joseph Brant, who would have also been returning to Niagara from Cataraqui near the mouth of the Genesee River around the same time in early 1785. 58 Joseph Brant was an important Haudenosaunee military leader and wealthy political

⁵² Michael E. Groth, *Slavery and Freedom in the Mid-Hudson* Valley, (New York: SUNY Press, 2017), 6.

⁵³ Pooley in Drew. A Northside View of Slavery.

⁵⁴ Andrew Hunter, *It Was Dark There All the Time: Sophia Burthen and the Legacy of Slavery in Canada,* (New Brunswick: Goose Lane Editions, 2022); Patricia A. Wardell, "Outwater," *Early Bergen County Families, compiled by Pat Wardell,* Accessed July 10, 2024, https://silo.tips/download/early-bergen-county-families-compiled-by-pat-wardell-130-crestview-drive-englewo; "Simon Naxon," Reference RG 1 L3L, Microfilm Reel C-2493, Item Number 64637, Pages 708-711 (1800).

⁵⁵ Arrest Warrant for Daniel Outwater, Dutchess County, NY Ancient Documents, Document number 58515, (1800), https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/County-Clerk/Ancient-Document-Search.html ⁵⁶ Wardell, "Outwater," *Early Bergen County Families*.

Kathlyne Knickerbacker Viele, Viele Records 1613-1913, (New York: Tobias A. Wright, 1913), 112;
 DeWitt, Mary, Harris Family Group Sheets, GSBC, (Ridgewood Public Library, Ridgewood, NJ.)
 Accessed July 10, 2024, https://dutchgenie.net/GSBC-familyfiles/familyfiles/g0/p505.htm#i38175.
 Isabel Thompson Kelsay, Joseph Brant 1743-1807: Man of Two Worlds (Syracuse, New York: Syracuse University Press, 1984), 364-367.

player who, unlike many of his contemporaries, spoke, read, and wrote English fluently. In 1780, Joseph Brant married his third wife Catherine Croghan/Adonwentishon (1759-1837), who was either the sister or niece to Johannes Tekarihoga, an appointed leader by the Mohawk hereditary council, furthering his political status.⁵⁹ While it is difficult to understand Catherine's role as a slaver herself, her mixed background as the daughter of a Kanien'kéha woman and a wealthy white British agent, major landowner, and slaver in New York can help inform an understanding of her complacency with slavery.⁶⁰

In her 1855 account, Sophia noted the rapidly changing demographics in the late 1700s, remarking that she thought she was "the first colored girl brought to Canada" and that "there were hardly any white people in Canada then - nothing here but Indians and wild beasts." She also remarked that she only knew of two other 'colored men' enslaved by Brant – Simon Ganseville and the 'father of John Patten' (Prince Von Patter). This contradicts some publications which indicate that Brant may have enslaved as many as 20 to 40 Black people over his life, but the original source which quantifies this figure is presently unclear. The legal status of Black people was complex at this time, making it difficult to confirm precisely how many Black people there were in Upper Canada at all, and of them how many were enslaved.



Figure 8: Painting of what may be Coote's Paradise, circa 1860. (Source: John Herbert Caddy, Three men fishing, possibly in Coote's Paradise, near Hamilton, C.W, Item 2838090, R9266, Library and Archives Canada)

⁵⁹ Ibid., 272-279.

⁶⁰ Nicholas B. Wainright, *George Croghan: Wilderness Diplomat*, (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1959).

⁶¹ Pooley & Drew, A Northside View of Slavery.

⁶² Ibid; 'Prince Van Patter's Will,' National Archives of Canada, MG19, Vol. F19, # R2912-0-5-E, The Brown Collection.

⁶³ See Shadd, The Journey from Tollgate to Parkway; Hill, The Freedom-Seekers: Blacks in Early Canada; Kelsay, Joseph Brant 1743-1807: Man of Two Worlds; Hunter, It Was Dark There All the Time.

This is further complicated by assumptions both in law and in practice that to be Black was to be a slave and that terms like 'servant' were used as euphemisms for enslaved people. Additionally, Brant held a number of prisoners and captives who were not free, and were neither enslaved, making it difficult to precisely differentiate and tally people held under Brant's authority as either slaves, prisoners, or captives. Furthermore, free and enslaved Black people lived and worked together for the same slave-owners, complicating our understanding of the historical landscape and narrative of freedom. In any case, while the precise number of Black people enslaved by Brant over his life is unknown, it is likely that number was higher than what Sophia recounted. Regardless, Sophia's account reflecting an experience of isolation from other Black people and communities brings complexity to our understanding of Brant's status as a slaver and participation in slavery in the last decades of his life in Upper Canada.

Sophia described Brant as peacemaker and diplomat (possibly in reference to his position as an honorary Pine Tree Chief – a distinct title from royaner⁶⁷ - in the Haudenosaunee council), and she recalled sharing the latter part of her childhood with the children of Joseph and Catharine Brant (the eldest of which was born in 1784) around Dundas and Ancaster, meaning that she would have been present in Dundas prior to Samuel Hatt and may have known the Hatts before she was sold and enslaved by them. However, Sophia also remarked that she received cruel treatment by Brant's third wife, Catherine, who would beat her for not understanding the Kanien'kéha language and permanently scarred her face on two separate occasions with a hatchet and a knife, respectively. When Brant learned what his wife had done, Sophia said that he "was very angry...and punished her as if she had been a child...[He said] you know I adopted her as one of the family, and now you're trying to put all the work on her."68 While Sophia did not recount ill-will towards Brant, her experience suffering at the hands of his wife is an important reminder of the cruel realities of her legal position as property rather than as an adopted daughter. Further, the implications of Brant's involvement on any scale in chattel slavery via the purchase and sale of human lives remains an important reality to acknowledge, with sources reliably indicating he did not oppose slavery.69

In all, Sophia's recounted story reflects the nuanced complexities of the lived experiences of People of African Descent who were enslaved, having built real relationships with Brant and his family members throughout her time with them but being harshly reminded of her status as chattel rather than a person in the eyes of her enslavers. Comparatively, in addition to enslaving Black people like Sophia, Brant held white prisoners captive like Margaret Cline (circa 1759 – 1823), a woman who had been

⁶⁴ Shadd, The Journey from Tollgate to Parkway, 42.

⁶⁵ Cooper, "The Enslavement of Africans in Canada," 25-26; see also 'Prince Van Patter's Will.'

⁶⁶ Cooper, "The Enslavement of Africans in Canada."

⁶⁷ Royaner is the Kanien'kéha position in Haudenosaunee governance often translated into English as either chief or hereditary chief. Rick Monture, *We Share our Matters: Two Centuries of Writing and Resistance at Six Nations of the Grand River*, (University of Manitoba Press, 2014), 32-34.

⁶⁸ Pooley & Drew, *A Northside View of Slavery*: Catherine was also reportedly remembered as an unpleasant woman by Margaret Cline, a white woman taken as a war prisoner by Joseph Brant. *Ancaster's Heritage*, ed. Grimwood, 23.

⁶⁹ Kelsay, Joseph Brant 1743-1807: Man of Two Worlds, 533.

taken as a prisoner in her youth in New York's Mohawk Valley (not far from Dutchess County where Sophia was born). While Margaret was a captive she was given freedoms which Sophia was not, marrying Jean Baptiste Rousseaux (another local figure who had been complicit in slavery) the miller in Ancaster in 1787 with Brant's blessing. While this context sets a precedent for Brant's political motives through the transfer of people in the area, the treatment of Margaret as an individual with agency and choice compared to that of Sophia, who was sold, reflects the clear difference in status and agency afforded to Sophia as a Black, enslaved person.

Sophia reported that she remained with Brant for 12 to 13 years, likely spending a substantial portion of that time around Ancaster and Dundas, before she was sold to Samuel Hatt for \$100.⁷² The date of this transaction is, again, unclear in the historic record, but it would have likely taken place circa 1798-1799, given that Samuel Hatt did not arrive in Upper Canada until 1796, and that the Hatt family did not settle in Ancaster until 1798. An important issue to note is that, unlike her first enslavers who would become Loyalists in Fishkill, the Hatts were recent immigrants, showing that settlers in Upper Canada at the time, regardless of their origins, were complicit in slavery.

While Samuel is the Hatt brother attributed to the purchase of Sophia, he is not the only person complicit in her captivity. At this time Richard and Samuel were still firmly in a business partnership and both hand interests in building a relationship with Brant, meaning that Richard would have certainly known Sophia and would have likely been involved in the decision to purchase and, by extension, enslave her. What is certain is that Richard knew Sophia, did not prevent her enslavement, and would have directly benefited from her labour through his brother as a business partner. While Sophia did not discuss the reason for her sale to the Hatts in her 1855 account, it is possible that she may have been of particular interest to the Hatts as part of broader strategic business and political decisions. As recent immigrants, Samuel and Richard did not speak any Indigenous languages, which would have been a disadvantage in a time when First Nations were important players in the local landscape as customers, trading partners, and political allies.⁷³ No doubt a major reason for Jean Baptiste Rousseaux's success at his nearby mill was his bilingualism, speaking Kanien'kéha fluently and maintaining a positive relationship with Brant after they fought together in the American War of Independence.⁷⁴ We know that Sophia spoke Kanien'kéha fluently, was familiar with the local geography of Ancaster and Dundas and, through her time enslaved by Brant, had an understanding of Haudenosaunee lifeways and governance. Furthermore. seeing Brant's influence and affluence, the Hatts likely sought him as an important business connection. Given these circumstances, Sophia's sale may have been influenced by her skills and knowledge alongside the business and political circumstances and aspirations of both the Hatts and Brant.

⁷⁰ Ancaster's Heritage, ed. Grimwood, 22-23.

⁷¹ Ibid

⁷² Pooley & Drew, A Northside View of Slavery.

⁷³ Axtell, *Natives and Newcomers*, 46-75.

⁷⁴ Ancaster's Heritage, ed. Grimwood, 22.



Figure 9: The New Dundas Mills circa 1890, 2 Hatt Street is highlighted. (Source: Kerr Milling Company, GN-0148, Glass Negative Collection, Dundas Museum and Archives)

Besides noting her sale and the name of the man who enslaved her, Sophia did not remark on her time with the Hatts in 1855, and as a result the circumstances of her captivity at this time are not known. It is known that the Hatts did have active interests in provincial and local politics, which required building business relationships with Haudenosaunee peoples. One such example of the Hatt's interests in political and business negotiations comes from 1808, when Richard and Samuel Hatt tried to negotiate the purchase of land along the Grand River from John Norton (1770-1827), a Haudenosaunee man who was born to a Scottish mother, for which Sophia's language skills, cultural knowledge, and familiarity with the Brant family may have been useful. In addition, Sophia's sale can be partly attributed to her gender. During this time women played important roles in relationship building between Indigenous peoples and settlers. The marriage of Margaret Cline to Jean Baptiste Rousseaux is an example of this, an event which would have formalized Brant and Rousseaux's relationship.

While there are obvious differences between Margaret and Sophia, in that Sophia had no agency in decisions made around her future, her sale to Samuel Hatt parallels similar relationship building themes in Margaret's story⁷⁶. Further to this, Sophia and Samuel would have been of similar ages, and Samuel was not married until 1807 – likely around the same time or shortly after Sophia was freed. Without more information

⁷⁵ Collaboration with Parker, "HATT, RICHARD," https://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/hatt_richard_5E.html; see also Axtell, *Natives and Newcomers*, 42-44.

⁷⁶ It is worth noting that at this time it was usual for European men and Indigenous women to marry 'in the custom of the country' as a means of furthering their economic and political relationships. While Sophia's enslavement means that the role she played was forced upon her while Indigenous women who entered into these relationships often held considerable agency, the prevalence of marriages in the custom of the country as a means of formalizing business relations and as a means for European Settlers to acquire local knowledge and translations may have informed the motivations behind Sophia's sale by Brant and purchase by the Hatts. For more information on the roles of women as translators and economic players during this time see Sylvia Van Kirk, *Many Tender Ties: Women in Fur-Trade Society, 1670-1870,* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1983), 28-29, 50, 54, 66-68, 89.

it is impossible to confirm the type of treatment Sophia received, but her gender and the known circumstances of her enslavement mean that it would be likely for Sophia to have experienced sexual violence. The gendered particularities of Sophia's experience as an enslaved person can also be seen when comparing her with her male contemporaries. For example, the will of Prince Van Patter, one of the men Sophie identified as being enslaved by Brant, shows that he was granted title to land by the Brants.

In all, Sophia remained enslaved by Samuel Hatt for approximately seven years "until the white people said [she] was free, and put [her] up to running away," further elaborating that they "could not take the law into [their] own hands." What exactly is meant by this is unclear, given that slavery would not be abolished until 1833 and that the earlier abolitionist acts from 1793 and 1807 did not free persons like Sophia who were enslaved prior to the passing of these Acts. The exact time at which Sophia gained her freedom is, as a result, unclear, but it took place prior to the War of 1812, likely sometime between 1801-1807.

After her time in Dundas and Ancaster Sophia found her way to the Queen's Bush, a Black settlement near present-day Waterloo. Sophia's decision as a free person to move to a Black majority community is significant, as this would be the first time since she was stolen as a child from her parents that she would be living in a community of people like her. Sophia's choice to live among Black people in a Black community once she was freed speaks to her understanding of belonging and community as a person with agency and autonomy. While there, Sophia married a Black farmer named Robert Pooley, although this marriage was short lived when Robert left Sophia for a white woman. Little is known about Robert besides that he was recorded in censuses for Waterloo in the 1820s, but it is possible for him to have been a Black Loyalist or to have otherwise escaped slavery given that there are several Black Loyalists with the last name Pooley recorded in Nova Scotia's records.⁸¹ Following her separation from Robert, Sophia moved to the Queen's Bush, likely sometime in the 1830s,⁸² as a free woman for the rest of her life until her death circa 1860.

3.5 Site History

As part of the New Dundas Mill complex, the one-storey stone building was likely built in 1804 as a general store during its initial expansion. Circa 1818, the building was converted into a blacksmith shop, and it would continue to operate as such for the next 125 years, changing owners several times (see **Appendix E: Ownership History**) before being converted into a residential property in 1943.⁸³ It is worth noting that while

⁷⁷ Cooper, "The Enslavement of Africans in Canada"; Wilson, "Sexual Exploitation of Black Women from the Years 1619-2020," *Journal of Race, Gender, and Ethnicity 10,* (2021): 122-129.

⁷⁸ 'Prince Van Patter's Will,' National Archives of Canada.

⁷⁹ Pooley & Drew, A Northside View of Slavery.

⁸⁰ Cooper, "The Enslavement of Africans in Canada."

⁸¹ Book of N

⁸² Linda Brown-Kubisch, *The Queen's Bush Settlement: Black Pioneers* 1839-1865, (Toronto: Natural Heritage Books, 2004).

⁸³ T. Roy Woodhouse, *The History of the Town of Dundas Volume 3* (Dundas: Dundas Historical Society, 1968), 16.

the 1827 map of Dundas (*Figure 10*) shows a structure located on the property of 2 Hatt Street, a more detailed 1851 map by Marcus Smith (*Figure 11*) does not show a structure being located on the property. This is likely an error on Smith's part, as an engraving from 1853 shows a roofline similar to that of the property located at 2 Hatt Street in the same approximate location, and there is no record of the building being moved to or from a different location.

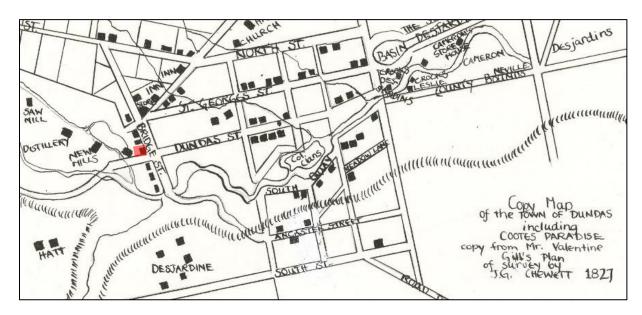


Figure 10: Copy Map of the Town of Dundas, including Cootes Paradise, 1827. Subject property highlighted in red (Source: Dundas Museum & Archives, https://collections.dundasmuseum.ca/index.php/Detail/objects/27279)



Figure 11: Map of the Town of Dundas, Marcus Smith, 1851. Closeup of 2 Hatt Street. Location of subject property highlighted in red. (Source: McMaster University, http://digitalarchive.mcmaster.ca/islandora/object/macrepo%3A61445)



Figure 12: 2 Hatt Street c. 1950s, prior to renovations (Source: Dundas Museum & Archives, "The Way We Were in the Nineteen Sixties" Slide Collection)



Figure 13: 2 Hatt Street, 1964, following renovations (Source: Dundas Museum & Archives, "The Way We Were in the Nineteen Sixties" Slide Collection)

In 1961, the property was sold to Robert Folkes of R. Folkes Ent. Ltd., who opened R. Folkes House of Lights and Shades.⁸⁴ It was during this time that a large portion of the east wall and approximately 9 feet of the north wall were demolished and converted into a display window (*Figure 13*). In the early 2000s, access to Main Street from Hatt Street was cut off and the terminus of Hatt Street was converted into a parking lot for Town Hall. In 2004, the property was sold again and converted into a private art gallery called Cairn Gorm Studio Artworks, which operated until 2013.⁸⁵ The building is currently vacant.

Recent initiatives, like signage installed on the building in 2021, has brought into question the relationship between the building at 2 Hatt Street, the success and growth of the Town of Dundas and the life and role of Sophia Burthen Pooley and other enslaved peoples in its development.

3.6 Contemporary Context

The subject property is located at the terminus of Hatt Street, near the northwest corner of Main Street and Governors Road. The areas immediately south and west feature variably sized commercial buildings that possess various setbacks, heights, and styles, constructed in the mid- to late-twentieth century, whereas the areas north and east are mostly residential buildings with the same varying details, save for Dundas Town Hall immediately northeast of the subject property. The streetscape is largely characterized by commercial driveways, parking lots, and businesses set back from the road with some tree cover and front-facing landscaping.

⁸⁴ Craig Campbell, "Dundas' 2 Hatt Street Approved for High Priority Heritage Assessment," *Dundas Star News*, October 20, 2017, https://www.insideottawavalley.com/news-story/7664794-dundas-2-hatt-st-approved-for-high-priority-heritage-assessment/.

⁸⁵ Craig Campbell, "Dundas' 2 Hatt St. will get Preliminary Heritage Screening this Year," *Dundas Star News*, August 25, 2017, https://www.hamiltonnews.com/news-story/7521039-dundas-2-hatt-st-will-get-preliminary-heritage-screening-this-year/.



Figure 14: Looking north from 2 Hatt Street, 2 Hatt Street seen at left and Dundas Town Hall at right (January 2023)



Figure 15: Twentieth century residential buildings south and east of 2 Hatt Street (at right), looking southeast from terminus of Hatt Street towards Main Street and Governors Road (January 2023)



Figure 16: Twentieth century commercial buildings and driveways west of 2 Hatt Street, looking west up Governors Road (January 2023)



Figure 17: Twentieth century commercial buildings south of 2 Hatt Street (January 2023)

4. Property Description

The 0.056-hectare subject property, comprised of a one-storey stone commercial building, is located in the historic downtown core of Dundas at the terminus of Hatt Street, north of the intersection of Governors Road and Main Street, and just south of Dundas Town Hall.



Figure 18: Map of subject property and surrounding area, City of Hamilton, GISNet

4.1 Evolution of the Buildings and Landscape

The one-storey building has undergone several alterations since it was first constructed circa 1804. The most notable alterations that have taken place to the stone building, and its surroundings, include:

- Conversion from general store to blacksmith shop (c.1818)
- Conversion from blacksmith shop to residence (c.1943)
- Conversion from residence to commercial storefront (1961), including:
 - The demolition of a large portion of east wall and approximately nine feet of the north wall to accommodate the addition of a display window
 - Relocation of chimney from the east gable to the southeast roofline to accommodate the addition of the display window
 - Patching of a crack in the mortar along the south wall with concrete
 Note: Bowing of south wall evident at this time
- Addition of verandah to west end (c.1974-1994)
- Addition of bay window to north wall, (c.1974-1994)
- Sandblasting of exterior rubblestone façade (c.1982)
- Removal of door or opening (perhaps a service entrance) on the north wall that was filled in with rubble stone and replacement with smaller entrance (date unknown)

4.2 Building Description

The property is comprised of a one-storey, single-detached stone building, believed to have been constructed circa 1804 in a vernacular style. Its features include:

- Rectangular footprint;
- Coursed rubblestone facades with cut sandstone quoins;
- Side gable roof; and,
- Wood lintels.

5. Cultural Heritage Assessment

The following is an evaluation of the cultural heritage value or interest of the subject property, in accordance with *Ontario Regulation 9/06:*

5.1 Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

According to Subsection 1 (2) of *Ontario Regulation 9/06*, Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest, a property may be designated under Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* if it meets two or more of the following 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.
- 2. The property has design value or physical value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.
- 3. The property has design value or physical value because it demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.
- 4. The property has historical value or associative value because it has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to the community.
- 5. The property has historical value or associative value because it yields or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to the understanding of a community or culture.
- 6. The property has historical value or associative value because it demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.
- 7. The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area.
- 8. The property has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings.
- 9. The property has contextual value because it is a landmark.

The following is a summary of the cultural heritage value of the subject property according to *Ontario Regulation 9/06:*

5.1.1 Design/Physical Value

1. The property has physical value as a rare, unique, and early example of pre-Confederation architecture in Upper Canada. 2 Hatt Street is one of the oldest buildings in Dundas, is the only extant structure from Richard Hatt's New Dundas Mill complex and is an early example of the use of dolostone from the nearby Niagara Escarpment in the construction of Dundas buildings. Features of the circa 1804 one-storey vernacular stone building representative of its value include its: one-storey massing; rectangular footprint; low side-gable roof; and

coursed rubblestone elevations, with local dolostone.

- 2. The property does not display a high degree of craftsmanship.
- The property does not demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.

5.1.2 Historical/Associative Value

4. The property has historical value for its association with significant Dundas figures, events, and institutions, including the Hatt family, the New Dundas Mills, the founding of the Town of Dundas and the history of slavery in Ontario. As the last remaining building of the New Dundas Mills, 2 Hatt Street is an important relic of the town's early colonial settlement and industrial history. The New Dundas Mills (so named for its proximity to Dundas Street) was a mill complex which first began as a sawmill in 1799 and was expanded upon in 1800, before being purchased by Samuel Hatt (1776-1842), Richard Hatt (1769-1819), and Manuel Overfield (1773-1839) in 1804. Together, these three men, likely using the labour of indentured servants and enslaved persons, had the mill complex further expanded, constructing additional buildings including 2 Hatt Street, which served as a store. The mill quickly became a commercial success, having an irrevocable impact on the built form of Dundas - attracting American and European settlers westwards towards Spencer Creek and away from the 1792 Coote's Paradise town plan closer to where the Designations Canal sits today. Building on the town's rapid growth, 2 Hatt Street served as its very first informal post office, where letters would be addressed to the New Dundas Mills. In 1814 this would influence the Crown's official opening of the town's first post office, called the Dundas Post Office, at which point the name of Dundas officially superseded that of Coote's Paradise.

Of the three men who expanded the mills in 1804, Richard Hatt has historically been credited as the primary owner and operator of the mill after having purchased Samuel and Manuel's shares by 1808 – but all three men are attributed to its founding. Having originally started their business in Ancaster, Samuel and Richard worked to find ways in which to expand their business and influence, including by having roadways constructed to support their economic networks and expansion. This continued after they had purchased the New Dundas Mills, where Richard platted⁸⁶ Dundas' early streets and established a town plot which would guide the growth of the town. Elsewhere, Richard expanded his political influence by serving as Justice of the Peace in 1800, establishing the *Upper Canada Phoenix* newspaper (the first newspaper west of York), entering the House of Assembly in 1817, and serving as a major during the War of 1812. Although Samuel stopped being co-owner of the mill by 1808, he remained closely involved in business with his brother, and was a key player in local political and economic networks similarly growing his influence and power

⁸⁶ Platting is the process of planning out or mapping an area, usually for the purpose of development.

before he eventually moved to Quebec following the War of 1812. While historic records rarely include details on the people whose labour helped produce the wealth, influence and power of early-nineteenth century industrialists like the Hatts, we know that both Hatt brothers were complicit in institutions of slavery and oppression. Of the two, historic evidence has shown that Samuel enslaved at least one Black woman, named Sophia Burthen Pooley (circa 1775/78- circa 1860), and was involved in the indenture (forced labour) of a Black orphaned child. While no evidence had been found to date showing Richard directly involving himself with slavery, he was responsible for the indenture of at least six individuals, and his continued business relationship with his brother, and other known slaveowners in the region, is evidence that he nonetheless profited from and supported these institutions.

5. The property has the potential to yield information that contributes to an understanding of the history of slavery in Upper Canada, Black communities and their history in Dundas, early Dundas settlement and industry, and the nuanced intersections between them.

Historic documentation is biased towards remembering wealthy, elite, literate classes of landowners like the Hatts, which makes it difficult to identify the histories of the people whose labour, constructing and operating mills and farms, supported the financial success of the Hatt estate. In the case of 2 Hatt Street, an 1856 interview with Sophia Burthen Pooley (circa 1775/78- circa 1860) - a Black woman enslaved by members of the Hatt family for approximately seven years in the Ancaster and Dundas areas – provided a rare and valuable glimpse of the overlooked lives of indentured and enslaved people whose labour built the wealth and power of Upper Canada's elite in the early-nineteenth century. Little is known about Sophia's life, other than that she was born into slavery in Fishkill, New York, circa 1775-1778, before her and her sister were kidnapped and brought to Niagara as small children. In Niagara Sophia was sold to, and enslaved by, the notable Mohawk figure Joseph Brant (1743-1807), with whom she reportedly lived for 12 years. While under Brant's captivity, Sophia spent a large portion of her time in the Dundas area, and reported a childhood spent hunting with Brant's own young children, as well as instances of cruelty and abuse from Brant's wife Catherine (1759-1837) whose physical attacks left her with permanent scars. Sometime after Samuel and Richard Hatt arrived in Ancaster, they developed a business relationship with Joseph Brant which would culminate in Samuel Hatt purchasing Sophia from Brant for \$100, likely circa 1798-1799.

While there is no surviving historical documentation physically tying Sophia Burthen Pooley to the building at 2 Hatt Street, she was likely already enslaved by Samuel Hatt when he was involved in purchasing the New Dundas Mills. This means that it is likely that Sophia would have at the very least witnessed the construction of 2 Hatt Street while enslaved by the partial owner of the Mills. It is also reasonable to presume Richard Hatt was complicit in the enslavement of

Sophia, as the brother and close business partner of Samuel at the time of his purchase of Sophia from such an important political and business figure such as Joseph Brant. Sophia's exchange between Brant and the Hatts was representative of the ways in which economic networks at the time were built, in part, on the trade of people who were captive, whether through slavery or indenture. Further to this, the local political and economic conditions of the time mean that it would have been very likely that she would have interacted with the property at 2 Hatt Street, or else contributed to the wealth which allowed for its construction and commercial success. As an enslaved person, Sophia was part of the Hatt family's estate, and would have actively contributed to the growth of their wealth and power. Sophia's skills as a Kanien'kéha (Mohawk) speaker and her knowledge of Kanien'kéha culture would have had value to the Hatts, and it is likely that her contribution of these skills had positive impact on the growth of their businesses and wealth, which she would not have benefitted from.

The absence of direct documentary evidence tying Sophia to places where she lived and worked is a feature of the dispossession of enslaved people in Upper Canada. However, the existence of the industry building at 2 Hatt is attributable in part to the contributions of Sophia and the six unnamed indentured servants brought by the Hatts. In this context, 2 Hatt Street's significance is tied to its perseverance as the last remains of a property and industry whose success was tied to the labour of enslaved people like Sophia - the ambiguity of Sophia's relationship with the building also speaking to the deliberate erasure of Black histories from historic documentation.

6. The property does not demonstrate or reflect the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant in the community.

5.1.2 Contextual Value

- 7. The property is important in defining the historic character of the area as an early-nineteenth century single-detached building located prominently along an important and historic transportation corridor at the terminus of Hatt Street, near the northwest corner of Main Street and Governors Road. As the last remaining building of the New Dundas Mills complex, 2 Hatt Street is a relic of the areas historic industrial past which stands out in its immediate landscape, which is now primarily residential and commercial. The property's close proximity to major landmarks like the Dundas Town Hall at 60 Main Street helps define the area's continued use as an administrative center throughout the nineteenth century, which arguably began with 2 Hatt Street's service as an informal post office.
- 8. The property is visually and historically linked to its surroundings. The property's visual relationship and proximity to the Dundas Town Hall speaks to the immediate area's historic status as the governing and administrative center of Dundas. Its presence as the last remaining building of the New Dundas Mills complex also speaks to Dundas' early industrial roots. The property's location

along Hatt Street, and on a plot included in the earliest town plans for Dundas, also speak to its relationship with early local urban development and the historic economic networks across the Head-of-the-Lake region, which wealthy land prospectors and early industrialists like the Hatts depended on to assert and expand their influence. Roads and routes that connected places like Ancaster and York (Toronto) to the New Dundas Mills commemorate those networks of influence. 2 Hatt Street is representative of the historical relationships of power that both depended on the control, and even enslavement, of people to support the rapid early economic growth.

9. The property is considered to be a local landmark. Its location at the terminus of Hatt Street, proximity to Dundas Town Hall, the triangular shape of the plot, its squat rectangular shape, and its unique rubblestone dolostone exterior allow it to stand out in its now primarily residential immediate landscape.

9.1 Recommendation

The property located at 2 Hatt Street, Dundas satisfies the criteria established in *Ontario Regulation 9/06*. The subject property has design value because it is an early and unique example of an architectural style and use of material; it has historical value because it has direct associations with significant events, institutions and people to the community; and it has contextual value because it is important in defining the character of the area, is visually and historically linked to it surroundings, and is considered to be a local landmark. Therefore, the subject property warrants protection under the *Ontario Heritage Act* through designation and/or the negotiation of a heritage conservation easement agreement, in accordance with the following Description of Property, Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest, and Description of Heritage Attributes:

Description of Property

The 0.056-hectare property at 2 Hatt Street is comprised of a one-storey single-detached stone commercial building, situated at the terminus of Hatt Street, near the northwest corner of Main Street and Governors Road, in the historic core of Dundas, in the former Town of Dundas within the City of Hamilton.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The property located at 2 Hatt Street is comprised of a one-storey stone commercial building constructed circa 1804. As a rare, unique and early example of pre-Confederation architecture in Upper Canada, the property has physical value as one of the oldest buildings in Dundas, the only extant structure from the New Dundas Mills, and as an early example of the use of dolostone from the Niagara Escarpment in the construction of Dundas buildings.

The property has historical value for its associations with significant Dundas figures, events, and institutions, including the New Dundas Mills, the founding of the Town of Dundas and the Hatt family. The property's early history is primarily associated with Richard Hatt (1769-1819) a local businessman, judge, politician, militia officer and

recognized "founder" of the Town of Dundas. Richard, along with his brother Samuel Hatt (1776-1842) and their business partner Manuel Overfield (1773-1839), had 2 Hatt Street constructed circa 1804 after they had jointly purchased and expanded the New Dundas Mills. By 1808, Richard had become the sole proprietor of the complex, but he continued to maintain strong business relations with Samuel who operated a store nearby in Ancaster. The New Dundas Mills were critical to the growth of the town, leading to its prominence as a manufacturing and shipping centre in the nineteenth century.

The historical value of the property also lies in its potential to yield information that contributes to an understanding of the history of slavery in Upper Canada, Black communities and their history in Dundas, early Dundas settlement and industry, and the nuanced intersections between them. Sophia Burthen Pooley (circa 1775/78- circa 1860) is an important and early figure in Ontario's Black History, with her life account being one of very few for which first-hand records of slavery as an enslaved person in Upper Canada (Ontario) in the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries exist. Sophia was born into slavery in New York, and arrived in Upper Canada as a young child where she was sold and enslaved by the notable Mohawk leader Joseph Brant (1743-1807). During her time with Brant she lived in the Dundas area, and after approximately 12 years, likely circa 1798-99, she was sold to Samuel Hatt who would enslave her for 7 more years. While no direct documentation confirms her presence at 2 Hatt Street, Sophia was enslaved by Samuel while he was a co-owner of the New Dundas Mills, and her labour, local knowledge, and skills as a Kanien'kéha (Mohawk) speaker would have been invaluable to the success of the New Dundas Mills, having a positive impact on the growth of the Hatts' businesses and wealth, which she would not have benefitted from. 2 Hatt Street's significance is tied to its perseverance as the last remains of a property and industry whose success was dependent on the contributions of enslaved people like Sophia - the ambiguity of Sophia's relationship with the building also speaking to the deliberate erasure of Black histories from historic documentation.

The property has contextual value as a defining feature of Hatt Street, Governors Road and the Town of Dundas' historic character. Its location on its original plot along Hatt Street also speak to its relationship with historic urban development and economic networks across the Head-of-the-Lake region, which wealthy land prospectors and early industrialists like the Hatts depended on to assert and expand their influence. The property's location near the northwest corner of Main Street and Governors Road and the Town of Dundas, and proximity to Dundas Town Hall, visually connect it to its surroundings and contribute to its status as a local landmark.

Description of Heritage Attributes

The key attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the property as a rare and unique example of pre-Confederation architecture and its association with the former New Dundas Mills and its owner Richard Hatt, and potential to yield an understanding of the history of slavery in Upper Canada and its connections to early Dundas settlement and industry include:

- All four elevations and the roofline of the one-storey stone building, including its:
 - Rectangular footprint;

- Low side gable roof;
- o Coursed rubblestone façade constructed from dolostone;
- Cut sandstone quoins;
- Wood lintels and sills;
- Rectangular door opening;
- Three 12-over-12 wood windows on the south façade;
- One 8-over-12 wood window on the north façade; and,
 - Stone foundation

The key attribute that embodies the contextual value of the property as a defining feature of the historic character of Hatt Street, Governors Road, the community of Dundas, and Dundas' role in establishing economic networks across the Head-of-the-Lake region which land prospectors and industrialists, including slaveholders, depended on to assert and expand their influence, and as a local landmark include its:

 Location at the terminus of Hatt Street at the intersection of Governors Road and Main Street.

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Appendix A: Location Map



Image 1: Map of subject property and surrounding area, City of Hamilton, GISNet



Image 2: Aerial view of subject property and immediate vicinity, City of Hamilton, GISNet

Appendix B: Photographs



Image 3: Northern Elevation (December 2022)



Image 4: Eastern Elevation (December 2022)



Image 5: Southern Elevation (December 2022)



Image 6: Western Elevation (December 2022)



Image 7: 2 Hatt Street looking west down Governors Road (December 2022)



Image 8: 2 Hatt Street looking north up Hatt Street. Town Hall seen at right (January 2023)



Image 9: 2 Hatt Street looking south to intersection of Governors Road and Main Street (January 2023)

Appendix C: Historical Photographs

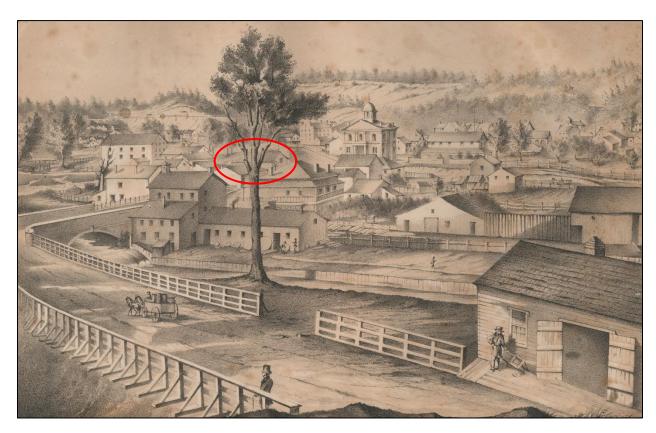


Image 10: 1853 view of Dundas from Osler Drive. Subject property circled in red. (Source: Dundas Museum and Archives)

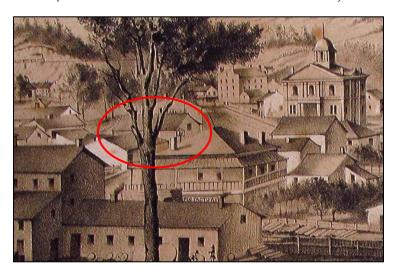


Image 11: Closeup of subject property, circled in red (Source: Dundas Museum and Archives)

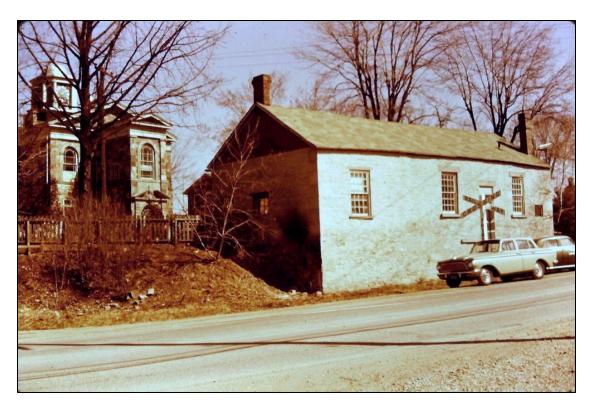


Image 12: 2 Hatt Street, c. 1950s, prior to renovations (Source: Dundas Museum & Archives, "The Way We Were in the Nineteen Sixties" Slide Collection)



Image 13: 2 Hatt Street after renovations were complete, 1964 (Source: Dundas Museum & Archives, "The Way We Were in the Nineteen Sixties" Slide Collection)

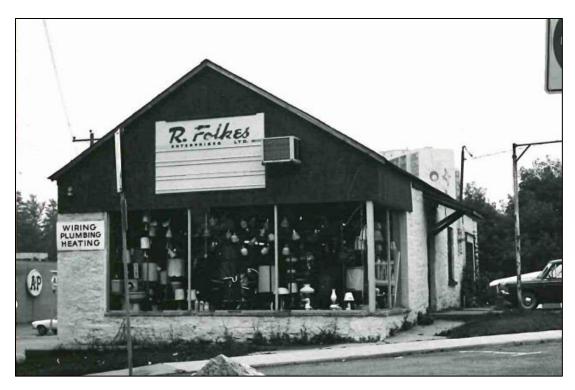


Image 14: 2 Hatt Street, September 1974 (Source: Dundas Central Business District Photography Survey by the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Planning Department)

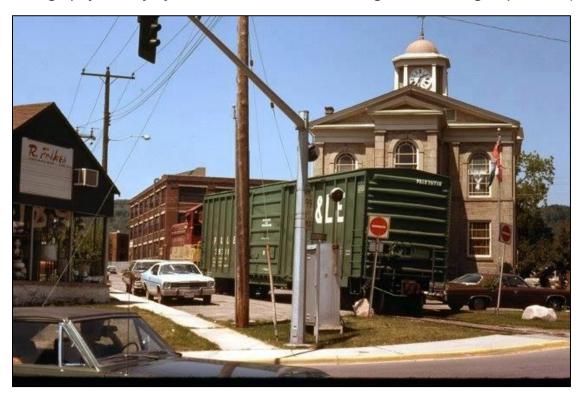


Image 15: 2 Hatt Street at left, c. 1970s, Dundas Town Hall at left, and a Toronto, Hamilton & Buffalo Railway Engine and Box Car at centre (Source: Vintage Hamilton, https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1616060068412280&set=a.482033535148278)



Image 16: Governor's Road, looking left from Main Street, 2 Hatt Street at left, 1981 (Source: Dundas Museum & Archives, https://collections.dundasmuseum.ca/index.php/Detail/objects/19259)

Appendix D: Plans and Mapping

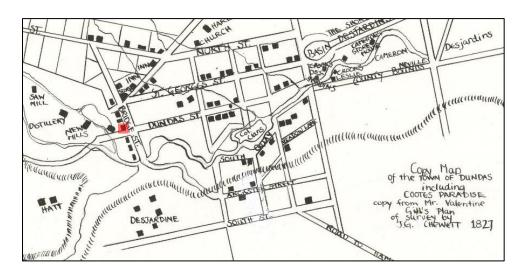


Image 17: Map of the Town of Dundas, 1827. 2 Hatt Street circled in red. (Source: Dundas Museum & Archives,

https://collections.dundasmuseum.ca/index.php/Detail/objects/27279)



Image 18: Map of the Town of Dundas in the Counties of Wentworth and Halton, Canada West, Marcus Smith, 1851. NOTE: 2 Hatt Street should be located plot of land highlighted in red above. There is no explanation for this discrepancy (Source: McMaster University,

http://digitalarchive.mcmaster.ca/islandora/object/macrepo%3A61445)

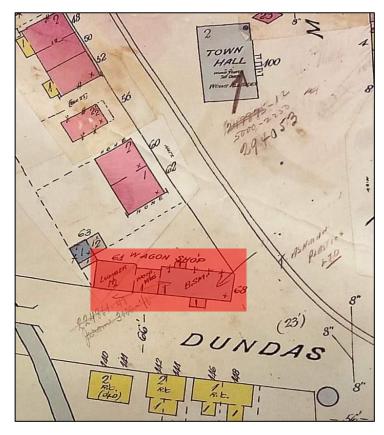


Image 19: 1914 Charles E. Goad Fire Insurance Plan for the Town of Dundas. Subject property highlighted in red.

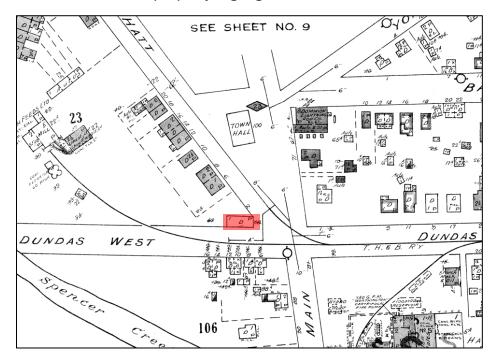


Image 20: 1951 Underwriters' Survey Bureau Fire Insurance Plan for the Town of Dundas, Sheet 10. Subject property highlighted in red.

Appendix E: Property Ownership History

Year	Name of Owner	Number of Hectares
1799	Jonathan Morden	
1800	Edward Peer	
1804	Richard Hatt, Samuel Hatt,	
	Manuel Overfield	
1808	Richard Hatt	
1819	John Ogilvy Hatt	
1840	Robert Heslop	0.056
1850	George Leavitt	0.056
1850	Alfred Wilbur	0.056
1850	George Leavitt	0.056
1855	Robert Hatt	0.056
1858	John Ogilvy Hatt	0.056
1858	Edward Lyons	0.056
1861	Joseph Wright	0.056
1862	Shubael Eleazor Randall`	0.056
1863	Joseph Wright	0.056
1890	William Lawson	0.056
1945	Ferdinand & Matilda Lowe	0.056
1948	Joseph LeRuez	0.056
1955	William & Anne Knapp	0.056
1961	R. Folkes Enterprises Ltd.	0.056
2004	Andrew & Janet Galbreath	0.056



City of Hamilton Report for Consideration

To: Chair and Members

Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee

Date: April 25, 2025

Report No: PED25102

Subject/Title: Recommendation to Designate 54 King Street East,

Hamilton (Former Bank of Nova Scotia), under Part

IV of the Ontario Heritage Act

Ward(s) Affected: Ward 2

Recommendations

- 1) That the City Clerk **BE DIRECTED** to give notice of Council's intention to designate 54 King Street East, Hamilton (Former Bank of Nova Scotia), shown in Appendix A attached to Report PED25102, as a property of cultural heritage value pursuant to the provisions of Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, in accordance with the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of Heritage Attributes, attached as Appendix B to Report PED25102, subject to the following:
 - (i) If no objections are received to the notice of intention to designate in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*, City Council directs staff to introduce the necessary by-law to designate the property to be of cultural heritage value or interest to City Council;
 - (ii) If an objection to the notice of intention to designate is received in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*, City Council directs staff to report back to Planning Committee to allow Council to consider the objection and decide whether or not to withdraw the notice of intention to designate the property.

Key Facts

- This Report recommends designation of the significant built heritage resource located at 54 King Street East, Hamilton, known as the Former Bank of Nova Scotia, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- The subject property is currently listed on the City's Municipal Heritage Register and is a high priority on the City's list of candidates for designation.
- Staff have completed an evaluation of the subject property using Ontario Regulation 9/06 and determined that it has sufficient cultural heritage value or interest to warrant designation, as per the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of Heritage Attributes attached as Appendix B to Report PED25102.
- Members of 2SLGBTQ+ Communities have been consulted in the preparation of this Report and recommendation to designate 54 King Street East.

Financial Considerations

Not applicable.

Background

The subject property located at 54 King Street East, Hamilton, shown in Appendix A attached to Report PED25102, is comprised of a three-storey Beaux-Arts commercial building constructed in 1914, known as the Former Bank of Nova Scotia. The property was first surveyed for potential heritage interest in the 1980s by the former Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee. In 2013, the property was added to the Municipal Heritage Register as a result of a Council motion to list all Inventoried heritage properties facing Gore Park on the City's Register. A preliminary evaluation of the property was prepared in 2014 as part of the Downtown Hamilton Built Heritage Inventory project, at which time the property was identified as a candidate for designation under the *Ontario Heritage* Act and added to staff's designation workplan.

As a result of the recent Bill 23 changes to the *Ontario Heritage Act*, the former staff workplan for designation was rescinded and replaced with a new public list of Candidates for Designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (see Report PED22211(a)), at which time 54 King Street East was reprioritized for review for designation by January 1, 2025. In a letter dated July 26, 2023, staff notified the property owner of the changes to the City's heritage designation process and the reprioritization of staff's review of the property for designation.

Analysis

The intent of municipal designation, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, is to enable a process for the management and conservation of significant cultural heritage resources. Once a property is designated, the municipality can manage change to a property through the Heritage Permit process to ensure that the significant features of the property are maintained. Designated properties are also considered to be "protected heritage property" under the Provincial Planning Statement (2024), which shall be conserved through the *Planning Act* development application process.

Section 29(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* permits the Council of a municipality to designate property to be of cultural heritage value or interest where property meets two or more of the Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest prescribed in Ontario Regulation 9/06, as amended by Ontario Regulation 569/22, which identifies nine criteria in three broad categories: Design / Physical Value; Historical / Associative Value; and Contextual Value.

The evaluation of cultural heritage value or interest of the subject property was completed by Cultural Heritage Planning staff based on site visits to the exterior of the property conducted in December of 2024 and on February 14, 2025 (see photographs attached as Appendix C to Report PED25102) and available primary and secondary research sources (attached as Appendix D to Report PED25102). As outlined below, based on staff's cultural heritage evaluation, it was determined that the subject property meets eight of the nine criteria contained in Ontario Regulation 9/06 in all three categories.

Design / Physical Value

1. The property located at 54 King Street East, Hamilton, known as the former Bank of Nova Scotia, has physical value as a representative example of a commercial bank building designed in the Beaux-Arts Classicism architectural style. Completed in 1914 for the Bank of Nova Scotia, the three-storey high building was constructed with brick, steel, and concrete, and features a symmetrical, and imposing façade faced with Ohio Canyon cut stone with an even-course finish. The property also has physical value for its use of Ohio Canyon sandstone, which was an expensive imported material used in Hamilton as early as the 1870s primarily for detailing and embellishments, with this property being the only known example in the city to use it for a complete façade. Design features typical of the Beaux-Arts Classicism architectural style include the: balustrade; entablature with a dentilated course, a plain frieze, and a moulded cornice; large stone-lined columns with Doric capitals and moulded bases; presence of tall metal-framed windows with decorative grillwork in the upper square panes which span the second and third storeys; and, recessed central entrance with a stone surround, and the presence of a double-leaf door.

Sometime after the 1980s, two stone lions were added as decoration in front of the first storey window bays flanking either side of the front entrance, which have become notable of features the building. While much of the building's exterior features are intact, over time some small modifications and upgrades were completed, including the replacement of the tall second and third storey metal-framed windows with new windows and window casings which replicate the style of the original windows. The first storey windows were also modified and replaced, possibly more than once, elongating them and removing the original carved stone sill. This means that the current windows which are sympathetic to the original design of the façade, mirroring the original tripartite design of the second and third storey windows, are not original to the façade. The current recessed, double leaf door is similarly a replacement, but it is significant that the original recessed double leaf design has been preserved.

In the year 2000, renovations were completed to add a rear first-storey extension to the building, atop which sits a second-storey patio. The extension is not considered to be of heritage value.

- 2. The property displays a high degree of artistic merit. The grand, symmetrical, and detailed design of the façade represents a high degree of design and artistic ability, represented through the: balustrade with four columns topped with metal flashing; the entablature with a dentilated course, a plain frieze, and a moulded cornice; large stone-lined columns with Doric capitals and moulded bases; presence of tall metal-framed windows with decorative grillwork in the upper square panes which span the second and third storeys; and, recessed central entrance with stone surround.
- 3. The property does not demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.

Historical / Associative Value

4. The property has historical and associative value due to its connections with the banking industry and 2SLGBTQ+ communities in Hamilton. The Bank of Nova Scotia (now Scotiabank) was incorporated in 1832 as a public bank. The first Bank of Nova Scotia branch opened in Hamilton in 1902 on the corner of King and John Streets. The continued growth of the bank eventually led to the purchase of the lot at 54 King Street East, on which the extant building would be constructed. First opened in 1914, the Bank of Nova Scotia building was centrally located in what was the city's growing financial centre until 1954 when the branch was consolidated into a new building at 12 King Street East. Throughout the first half of the twentieth century, Gore Park continued to serve as an important economic and social centre for both the wealthy and average Hamiltonian, with manicured gardens and monuments to Canadian nationalist figures symbolizing the city's identity and status. By the 1950s, however, trends in urban renewal

began to change the face of Gore Park as proposals for increased car-centric designs and accommodations, alongside the rise of suburbs, changed the demography of this important area. The subject property was no doubt influenced by these trends, and in 1956 the property was converted into offices for the Royal Trust Company (1956-1964), followed by a real estate office. As Gore Park's demography continued to change, so did that of 54 King Street East. By the mid-1970s, the property transitioned from an office into a restaurant, eventually being converted into an adult entertainment business called Billy Rose Palace in 1980, and in 1983 a trendy nightclub called Club 54 (or The 54). From the 1970s to the early 1990s, these businesses played a role in transforming the reputation from its previous life in white-collar business into one of gathering and nightlife, and more specifically alternative nightlife scenes.

By the 1990s, advocacy and community organizing on national and local scales had transformed Canadian society increasing widespread acceptance of 2SLGBTQ+ people. To this end, some businesspeople began looking towards catering to 2SLGBTQ+ audiences and markets, as was the case of 54 King Street East when, in 1993, the owner of the property opened The Embassy nightclub. As one of very few openly 2SLGBTQ+ friendly spaces at this time, The Embassy would go on to become a cornerstone of the 2SLGBTQ+ landscape in Hamilton until its closure in 2018. Over two decades, The Embassy persisted in a fluctuating landscape that saw many other 2SLGBTQ+ places of gathering and community open and close, and its persistence helped it build a reputation as a central feature of Hamilton's 2SLGBTQ+ landscape. Consequently, The Embassy became the site of important community events coloured by local politics surrounding the 2SLGBTQ+ communities. In the late 1990s, for example, 2SLGBTQ+ Hamiltonians criticized the business for exploiting the community members' money without adopting political risks that come along with open and financial support of 2SLGBTQ+ events. This led to the business attempting to abandon its 2SLGBTQ+ label in the year 2000, reportedly even trying to bar 2SLGBTQ+ patrons from accessing the building. This decision had a negative impact on 2SLGBTQ+ people in the city, who lacked spaces for community building and gathering. While some people chose to boycott the Embassy at this time, the absence of alternative spaces in Hamilton meant that many continued to frequent it, eventually resulting in the business returning to its prior explicitly 2SLGBTQ+ state. By 2003, The Embassy had become more involved in community events - with the very first 'Ms. Pride' drag competition being hosted in the building.

Although it was a well-known 2SLGBTQ+ site, patrons of The Embassy accessed it through the rear entrance rather than the front. This reflects the underground nature of 2SLGBTQ+ communities even as recently as the 2000s and 2010s. This also offered some protection to patrons of this highly visible landmark who were a target for homophobia. One example of the type of homophobic attacks to 2SLGBTQ+ people include a high-profile assault and hate

crime in 2007 where three gay men were attacked after leaving the club, which sparked protest in the community, resulting in a march to 54 King Street East in solidarity. The closure of The Embassy in 2018 had a major impact on Hamilton's 2SLGBTQ+ communities, which has historically had very few longstanding 2SLGBTQ+ spaces. In 2023, the building re-opened as a nightclub but is no longer a 2SLGBTQ+ institution.

- 5. The property yields information that contributes to an understanding of Hamilton's early twentieth-century downtown communities, as well 2SLGBTQ+ communities. The property's transition through history, from a financial institution to nightlife and recreation businesses, provides insight into changes in use and demography in both Gore Park and downtown Hamilton. The property's involvement in important 2SLGBTQ+ events, and as a major 2SLGBTQ+ landmark in Hamilton's downtown core, is a continued tangible reminder of the city's 2SLGBTQ+ urban heritage.
- 6. The property demonstrates and reflects the work and ideas of the nationally prominent firm Bond & Smith architects, which was formed by a partnership between Charles Herbert Acton Bond (1869-1924) and Sanford Fleming Smith (1874-1943). During their 17-year partnership, based in Toronto, Bond & Smith designed many notable buildings across Southern Ontario and the maritime provinces. Among these works were at least three additional buildings for the Bank of Nova Scotia. 54 King Street East is one of only two known examples in Hamilton of the work of architects Bond & Smith, with the only other building in Hamilton being the MacKay Building. The MacKay Building is also located in Gore Park at 66 King Street East, and it bears a clear resemblance to the Hermant Building at 19 Dundas Square in Toronto.

Contextual Value

- 7. The property is important in defining the historic character of the area around Gore Park in downtown Hamilton. Located on the south side of King Street East between Hughson and John Streets opposite Gore Park, fronting directly onto the public right-of-way, 54 King Street East also has access via a rear alley running east-west from Hughson Street South. 54 King Street East is part of the remaining commercial streetscape on the south side of King Street East with a consistent street wall spanning between James and Wellington Streets.
- 8. The property is visually, physically, and historically linked to its surroundings. As one of the remaining historic buildings in the King Street East block between Hughson and John Streets, the property is part of a landmark block facing Gore Park which includes other architecturally significant properties including the Victoria Building (68 King Street East), MacKay Building (66 King Street East), John Sopinka Courthouse (45 Main Street East), and additional early Victorian row buildings (58-64 King Street East), and is also located in the same Gore Park

landscape and viewshed as several other architectural landmarks like the Right House (35-41 King Street East) and Treble Hall (6-12 John Street North).

The property is additionally connected to a landscape of banking and financial buildings in Hamilton's downtown core as one of only two remaining historic banking buildings (the other being the 1928 Bank of Montreal building at 1-5 Main Street West). While most historic banking buildings in the area have been demolished, the area surrounding 54 King Street East is still defined by these buildings, including 12 King Street East (now Scotiabank) which was occupied by banks as early as 1848, and 40-44 King Street East which historically was home to the circa 1840 Gore Bank Building, and is currently home to a 1977 bank.

9. The property is considered to be a landmark. The building's classical influences and shallow setback create an imposing and grand façade, with its thick pilasters and smooth stone finish evoking monumentality which is reminiscent of its original institutional use as a bank. Its attractive façade combined with its highly trafficked location near Gore Park have also helped it become a popular location for television and movie filming. The property's recent history associated with Hamilton's 2SLGBTQ+ communities has also established a well-known and recognized reputation for the property as a historical landmark for the community.

Staff have determined that 54 King Street East, Hamilton is of cultural heritage value or interest sufficient to warrant designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and recommend designation according to the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of Heritage Attributes, attached as Appendix B to Report PED25102.

The Recommendations of this Report are consistent with Provincial and Municipal legislation, policy, and direction, including:

- Determining the cultural heritage value or interest of a property based on design / physical value, historical / associative value, and contextual value criteria (*Ontario Heritage Act*, Ontario Regulation 9/06);
- Implementing proactive strategies for conserving significant built heritage resources (Provincial Planning Statement, 2024, Sub-section 4.6.4(b)); and,
- Designating properties of cultural heritage value under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act (Urban Hamilton Official Plan, Section B.3.4.2.3).

Alternatives

Under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, the designation of property is a discretionary activity on the part of Council. Council, as advised by its Municipal Heritage Committee, may decide to designate property, or decline to designate property.

Decline to Designate

By declining to designate, the municipality would be unable to provide long-term legal protection to this significant cultural heritage resource (designation provides protection against inappropriate alterations and demolition) and would not fulfil the expectations established by existing municipal and provincial policies.

Without designation, the property would not be eligible for the City's financial incentives for heritage properties, including development charge exemption and grant and loan programs. Designation alone does not restrict the legal use of property or prohibit alterations and additions. It does not restrict the sale of a property, nor has it been demonstrated to affect its resale value. However, designation does allow the municipality to manage change to the heritage attributes of a property through the Heritage Permit process. Staff does not consider declining to designate the property to be an appropriate conservation alternative.

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

- Priority 1: Sustainable Economic & Ecological Development
 - 1.2: Facilitate the growth of key sectors.
- Priority 3: Responsiveness & Transparency
 - o 3.2: Get more people involved in decision making and problem solving.

Previous Reports Submitted

- PED22211(a) Response to Bill 23, Schedule 6, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022, and its Changes to the Ontario Heritage Act and its Regulations
- PED14191 Implementation of the Recommendations of the Downtown Built
 Heritage Inventory Project (as amended in Revised Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee Report 14-009(a)

Consultation

In October 2025, following the completion of preliminary research which revealed significant heritage value connected with 2SLGBTQ+ communities, staff identified four individuals for consultation who had connections to the property's history as a 2SLGBTQ+ space. On January 21, 2025, staff circulated a draft evaluation to these individuals for comment by email, which staff later considered and incorporated into the final evaluation.

In a letter dated February 6, 2025, addressed to the property owner sent by registered mail, staff gave notice of staff's intention to present their recommendation to designate the property at the April 25, 2025, Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee meeting. After the registered mail was returned, staff provided additional notice in a letter

delivered by staff to the subject property on February 24, 2025. Staff met with the property owner on March 3, 2025, to discuss the staff recommendation to designate, and on March 4, 5, and 6, 2025 had further phone communication with them.

In an email dated February 6, 2025, planning staff advised the Ward Councillor (Councillor C. Kroetsch) for Ward 2 of this designation and provided an overview of the recommendations of this Report.

Appendices and Schedules Attached

Appendix A: Location Map

Appendix B: Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of

Heritage Attributes.

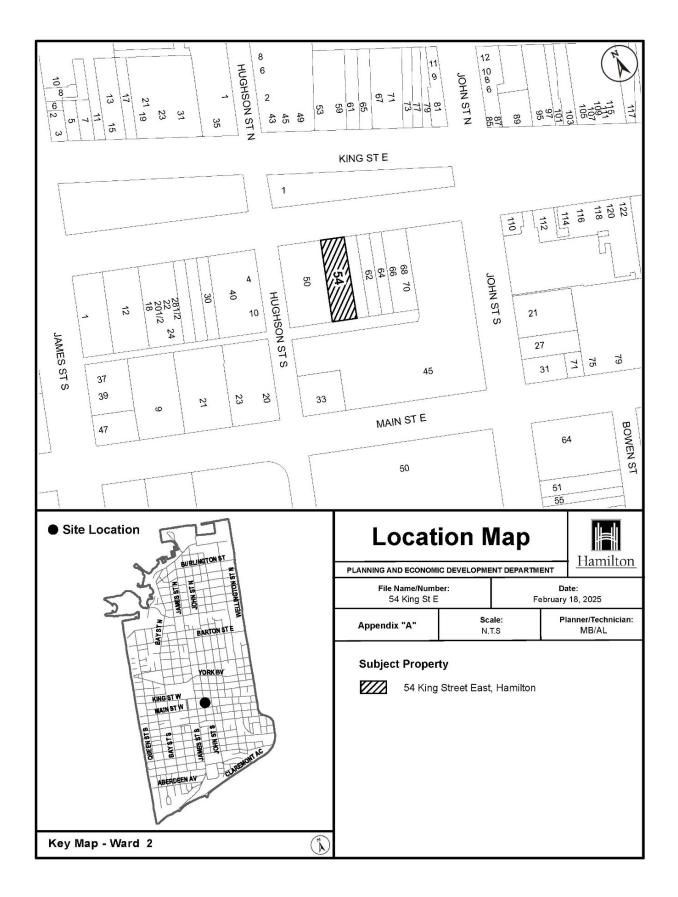
Appendix C: Photographs

Appendix D: Research Sources

Prepared by: Maryssa Barras, Cultural Heritage Planning Technician II

Planning and Economic Development, Planning Division

Submitted and Anita Fabac, Acting Director of Planning and Chief Planner recommended by:Planning and Economic Development, Planning Division



STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST AND DESCRIPTION OF HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES

Description of Property

The 0.05-hectare property municipally addressed as 54 King Street East, Hamilton, known as the former Bank of Nova Scotia Building, is comprised of a three-storey high, stone-faced building constructed in 1914 of brick, steel, and concrete. It is located on the south side of King Street East, near the intersection of Hughson Street South and King Street East, across from Gore Park, in the Beasley Neighbourhood of Downtown Hamilton, in the City of Hamilton.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The property at 54 King Street East has physical value as a representative example of an early-twentieth century Beaux-Arts Classicism commercial building. Completed in 1914, the three-storey high building was constructed with brick, steel, and concrete, and features a symmetrical, and imposing façade faced with Ohio Canyon cut stone, massive pilasters with Doric capitals, and large multi-pane windows, among other notable features. The property also displays a high degree of artistic merit in its grand, symmetrical, and detailed design of the façade, including its balustrade, entablature, stone-lined columns with Doric capitals, the presence of tall metal-framed windows with decorative grillwork, and the recessed central entrance with stone surround.

The property has historical and associative value due to its direct connections with the banking institutions and Hamilton's 2SLGBTQ+ communities and reflects the work and ideas of the nationally prominent firm Bond & Smith Architects. Originally built for the Bank of Nova Scotia (now Scotiabank), the building is centrally located in what was the city's growing financial center surrounding Gore Park. By the 1950s, trends in urban renewal began to change the face of Gore Park and, by the mid-1970s, the property transitioned into a restaurant, and eventually a nightclub by 1983. In 1993, a new nightclub called The Embassy opened its doors as one of very few openly 2SLGBTQ+ friendly spaces and would go on to become a cornerstone of the 2SLGBTQ+ landscape in Hamilton until its closure in 2018. As a high-profile 2SLGBTQ+ place, The Embassy was home to many important community events, including both positive celebratory events and homophobic attacks. The property's involvement in important 2SLGBTQ+ events, and as a major 2SLGBTQ+ landmark in Hamilton's downtown core, is a continued tangible reminder of Hamilton's 2SLGBTQ+ urban heritage.

The former Bank of Nova Scotia building is considered to be an important landmark for 2SLGBTQ+ people, has been widely used in film and visual media, and is important in defining the character of the area around Gore Park in downtown Hamilton. The property is visually, physically, and historically linked to its surroundings as part of the King Street East streetscape adjacent to Gore Park, which includes other architecturally significant buildings.

Description of Heritage Attributes:

The key attributes that embody the physical value of the property as a representative example of a commercial bank building designed in the Beaux-Arts Classicism architectural style displaying a high degree of artistic merit, and the historical value of the property for its associations with early-nineteenth century banking institutions, late-twentieth century 2SLGBTQ+ communities and events, and Bond & Smith architects, include the:

- Front (north) elevation and roofline of the three-storey high building, including its:
 - Symmetrical façade clad with Ohio Canyon cut stone with an even-course finish and decorative details, including its:
 - Stone balustrade:
 - Entablature with a dentilated course, plain frieze, and moulded cornice; and,
 - Four large stone-lined pilasters with Doric capitals and moulded plinths;
 - Flat-headed window openings with:
 - Moulded stone surrounds and trim; and,
 - The presence of multi-pane metal windows with decorative metal Roman lattice window grillwork;
 - Recessed central entrance with:
 - Stone surround with flanking columns with moulded panels and Doric capitals and entablature; and,
 - The presence of a double-leaf door.

The key attributes that embody the contextual value of the property as a landmark and as a defining feature of Gore Park, include its:

Location fronting onto King Street East.

Photographs

All images taken by City of Hamilton Staff unless otherwise stated.

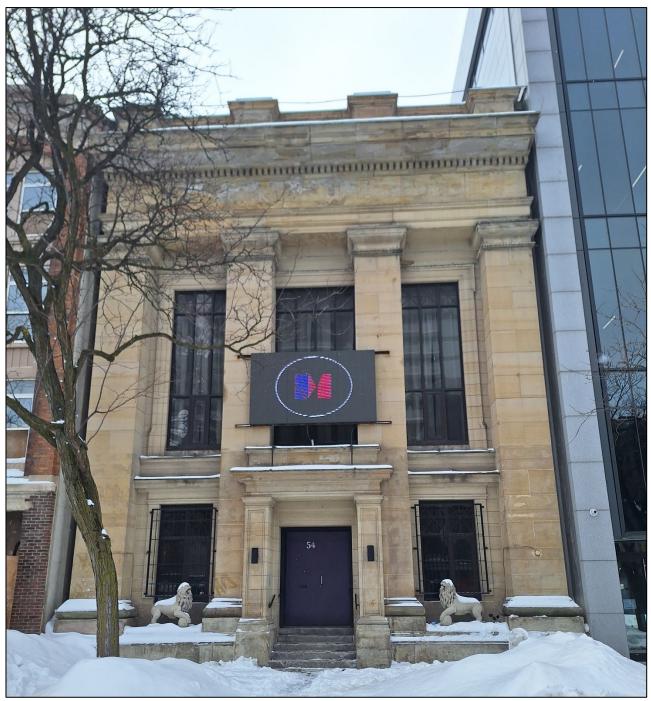


Image 1: Front (north) elevation (February 21, 2025)

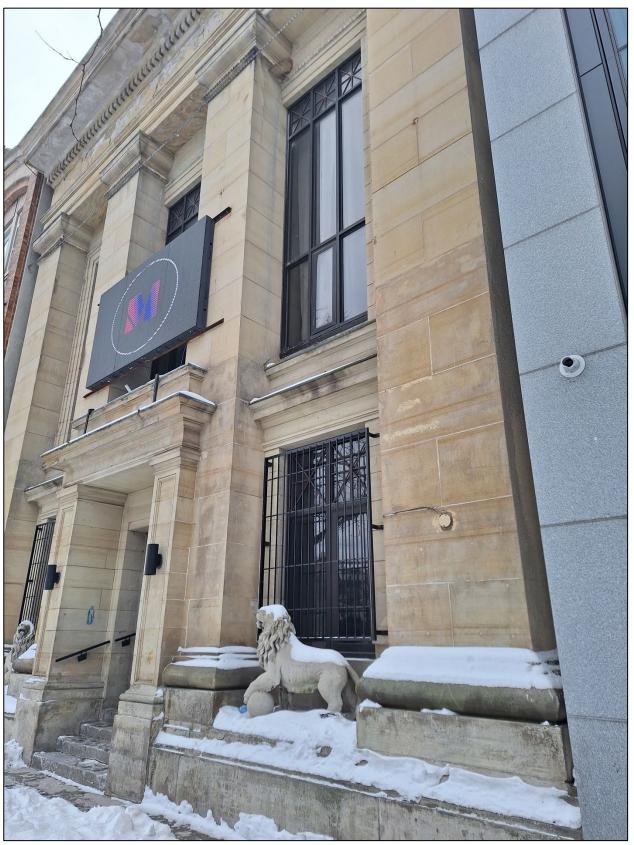


Image 2: Front (north) elevation (February 21, 2025)

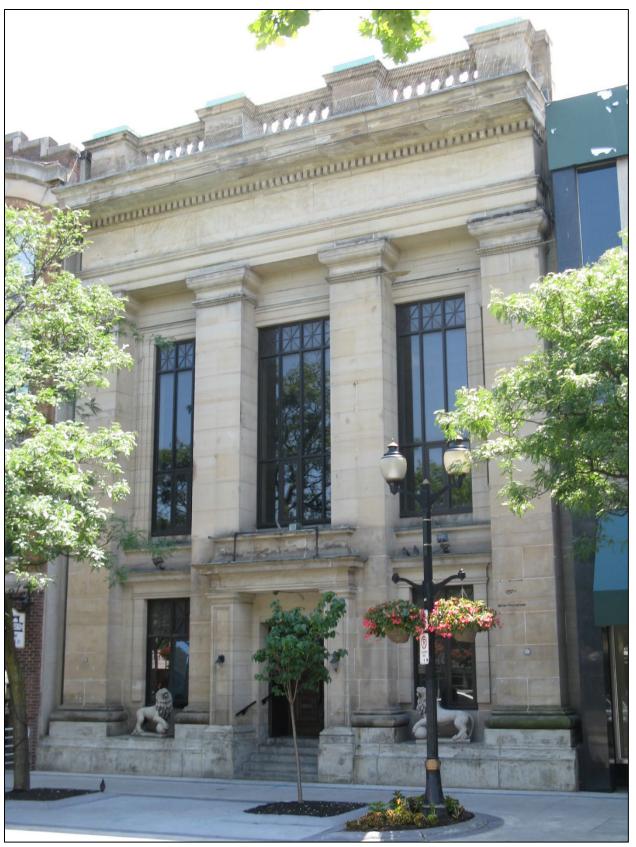


Image 3: Front (north) elevation (July 10, 2012)



Image 4: Close-up of the stone balustrade, entablature, and doric capitals (July 10, 2012)



Image 5: Close-up of the dentilated cornice (July 10, 2012)



Image 6: Close up of multi-pane metal windows with decorative metal Roman lattice window grillwork (July 10, 2012)



Image 7: Close-up of the recessed central entrance with stone surround, flanking columns with moulded panels and Doric capitals and entablature (July 10, 2012)

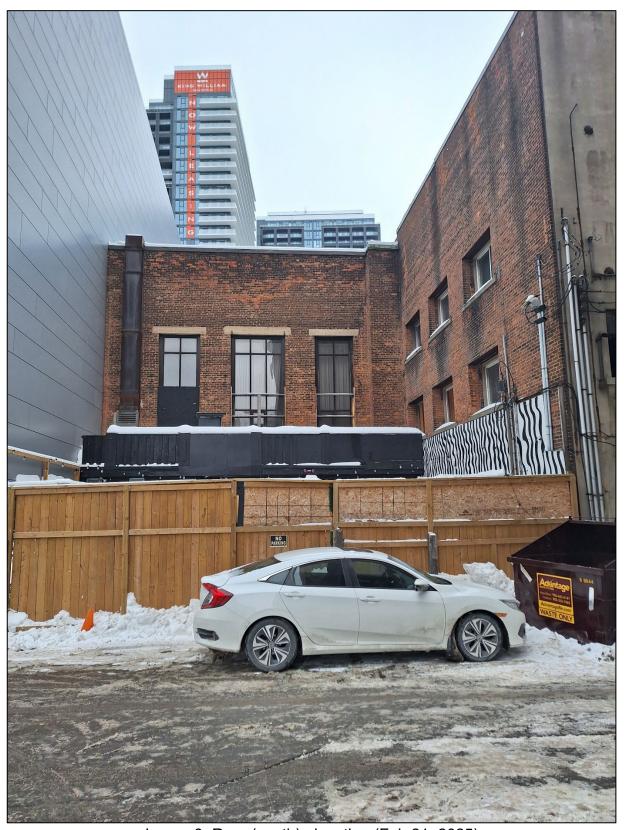


Image 8: Rear (south) elevation (Feb 21, 2025)



Image 9: Historic image of the front (north) elevation, circa 1950. (Hamilton Public Library, Image number 32022189061688, circa 1950)



Image 10: Historic image of the front (north) elevation, circa 1950s. (Hamilton Public Library, Image number 32022189061183, circa 1950s)

Appendix C to Report PED25102 Page 10 of 10



Image 11: Historic image of the front (north) elevation, circa 1973. (Hamilton L.A.C.A.C. Flashcard, circa 1973)

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Recommendation To Designate 54 King Street East, Hamilton

April 25, 2025
Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee

Background

1980s

First surveyed

2013

Addition to Municipal Heritage Register

2013

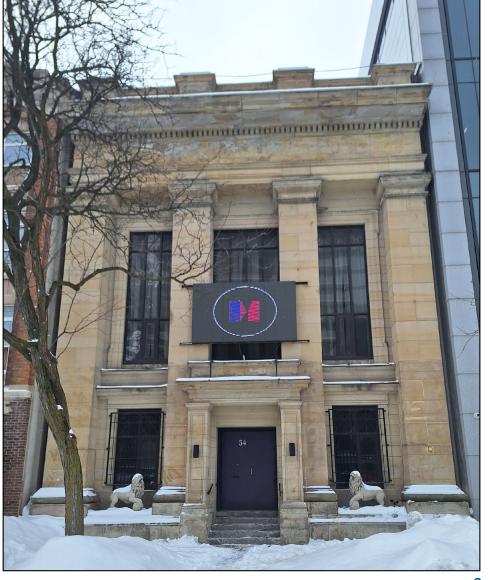
Preliminary heritage evaluation prepared

2022

Identified as a high priority for review for designation

2024

Outreach for consultation and feedback on draft heritage evaluations from 2SLGBTQ+ communities







54 King Street



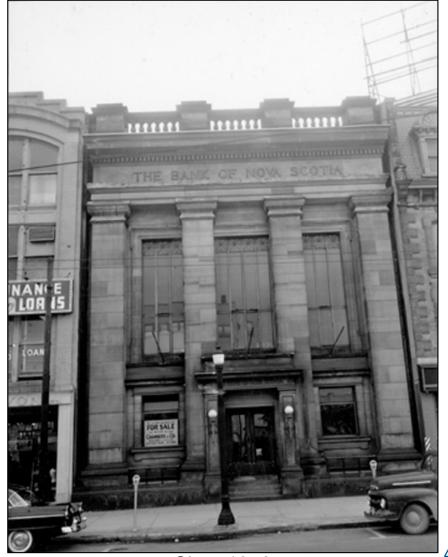


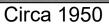
Recommendation for Designation Under Part IV of the OHA

54 King Street East

Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria (8 of 9)

- Design / Physical (Criteria #1, #2)
- Historical / Associative (Criteria #4, #5, #6)
- Contextual (Criteria #7, #8, #9)







Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

Design / Physical Value

- The property is a representative example of a commercial bank building designed in the Beaux-Arts Classicism architectural style.
- 2. The property displays a **high degree** of artistic merit.
- 3. The property is not considered to demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.



Circa 1950



Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

IN NEW QUARTERS

Bank of Nova Scotia Now Occupies Fine Building

The Bank of Nova Scotia, which for many years past has been located in the W. E. Sanford Juilding at the corner of John and King street, moved to its new quarters at 54-56 King street east this morning, and when a few finishing touches have been made, the bank will have one of the handsomest places of business of its kind in the province. When the bank purchased the site, the building which was then there was removed and a new one of modern de-

onities of the kind to be carried and is the first

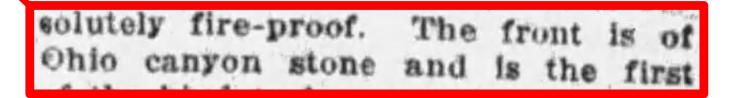
the interior of the building is finished in terra cotta and ornamented with Grecian designs. The customers' and clerks' tables are of terra cotta with French inarble tops and bronze trimmings. The floor of the customers' room is of mosaic marble and the clerks' department of cork and is consequently noiseless. The other finishings of the interior are of mahogany and the whole makes a very pleasing appearance.

On the right of the main entrance is

On the right of the main entrance is the manager's room and this is handsomely fitted and finished in mahogany and to the left is a parlor which has been fitted with all that would make for the comfort and convenience of the ladles who patronize the bank. In the basement are the lunch, cloke and wash rooms and all of these are fitted in keeping with the remainder of the bank.

The structure is about one hundred that in length by forty in width and darity-two in height and the lighting is accomplished by means of long windows in the front and back and from skylights in the roof, the latter also serving as ventilators. One of the features of the furnishing of the bank is the vault, which in all ways is most modern. It is made by the Remington and Sherman Company, of Philadelphis. Pa., and is burglar-proof. Within this is encased a second vault which is also bargiar proof.

The new banking quariers were opened for business to-day and F. W. Ross, the manager, and his staff were busy putting things in shape. The amalgamation of the bank with the Metropolitan bank has been set back until November 16, when it is expected that an announcement will be made as regards the operation of the combined banks in the city.

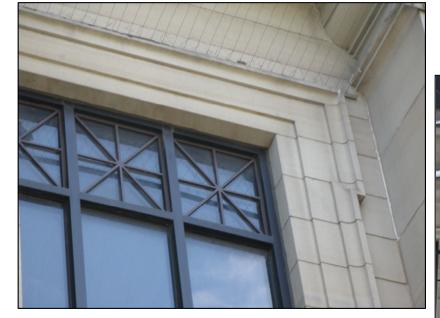


Hamilton Spectator, November 3, 1914





Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria









Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



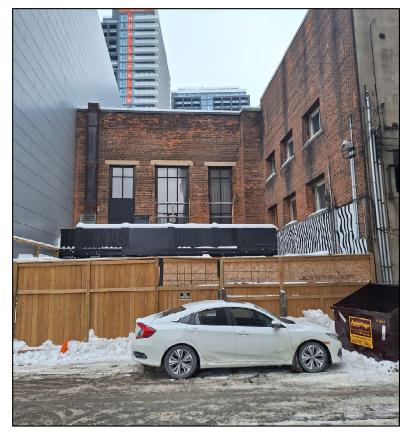
Circa 1950

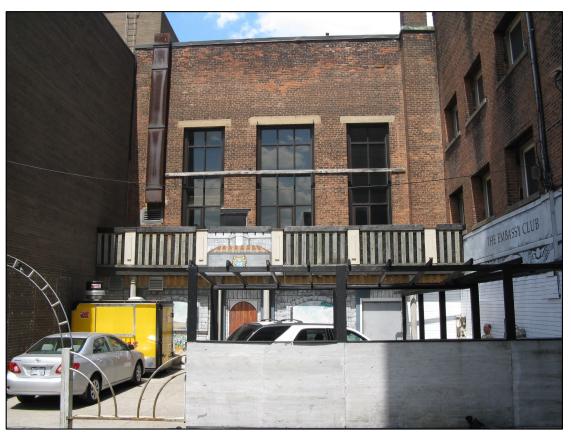


February 2025



Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria





2025 2012



Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

Historical / Associative Value

- 4. The property has historical value for its direct associations with the banking industry and 2SLGBTQ+ communities in Hamilton.
- 5. The property yields information that contributes to an understanding of Hamilton's early twentieth-century downtown communities and 2SLGBTQ+communities.
- 6. The property demonstrates and reflects the work and ideas of the nationally prominent firm Bond & Smith architects.



Post-1954

6 ESTABLISHED 1832 Paid-Up Capital Reserve Fund \$6,500,000 \$12,000,000 TOTAL RESOURCES, OVER \$100,000,000 AFTER THE WAR Since the outbreak of the war Canada has been fearning to depend more and more upon her own resources. This is very commendable, but it can only be done efficiently if each one of us sets aside a part of his income. This will be a patriotic duty as well as a personal benefit, as it will provide the means for the future development of our We invite savings accounts, both large and small. The Bank of Nova Scotia TWO BRANCHES IN HAMILTON Main Office, 54-56 King St. East, F. W. Ross, Manager, Branch, King & Sherman Ave., H. G. Henderson, Manager.

June 1, 1916

Heritage Evaluation

Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



August 6, 1910







Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



MacKay Building, 66 King Street East



Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria





Circa 1980s/90s



Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



2012



Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

Police seek witnesses to 'hate-motivated' assaults

BY RACHEL DE LAZZER

Two unprovoked, "hate-motivated" attacks against gay men on the weekend have left one man with potentially serious head injuries.

Both men, in their early 20s, told police they were attacked after leaving Hamilton's Embassy Night Club, a predominantly gay venue on King Street East near Hughson Street South early Sunday morning.

One man was walking north along John Street with three women when three men, also in their early 20s, approached them around 3 a.m.

"The three males directed anti-gay slurs toward the male and assaulted him," said Acting Detective Sergeant Chris Kiriakopoulos. The victim was then punched and kicked in the head and upper body area even after he had fallen to the ground.

A half hour later, a second gay man walking with two men and a woman in the same location was similarly assaulted, verbally and physically, by three men who police believe may be those responsible for the first attack.

The victims were taken to St. Joseph's Hospital by ambulance and released the same day, but the first victim returned Monday night for further treatment because his head injuries may be more severe than first thought.

"We're concerned obviously because of the motivation. Clearly it appears to be anti-gay," said Kiriakopoulos. "Also the severity of the attack, unprovoked."

Kiriakopoulos said the men could not identify anything that would single them out as gay other than the fact that they had been in the Embassy and the attackers may have seen them there. "It's believed that they (the accused) were seen in the Embassy Club also, prior to the assaults," said Kiriakopoulos.

An assault qualifies as a hate crime when it's a criminal offence against a person or property that is motivated to some degree by bias or prejudice based on that person's race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability group, age or gender.

Charges for a hate crime assault are no different from a regular assault except that in the case of a conviction, police will appeal to the court to increase the penalty because of the hate motivation, said Kiriakopoulos.

Two of the suspects are described as white and a third had a darker complexion. Anyone who may have witnessed the two assaults is asked to call the Victims of Crime Unit at 905-546-4962 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

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December 12, 2007

Marchers condemn recent hate attacks

BY DANA BROWN

They were loud, proud and ready to take back the streets.

On Saturday, Hamilton's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community held a rally and march downtown to condemn two recent hate-motivated attacks.

The attacks were on two men who, at separate times, left Embassy Night Club with friends in the early morning hours of Dec. 9.

The club is frequented by members of Hamilton's GLBT community.

The first victim, a 23-year-old man, was punched and kicked in the head and upper body and subjected to antigay slurs. About an hour later another man was physically and verbally assaulted in a similar way.

Two men have been charged in connection with the incidents.

The march began at Skydragon Centre on King William and wove its way up to Main before coming back down to the Embassy on King Street East.

"We will not live our lives in fear," rally organizer Jamie Blair told a crowd outside the Embassy. "We are fearless ... Never has one word meant so much."

About 35 people carried signs reading No more hate only love and Our security lies in the fight for the rights of all, and intermittently chanting "Hey, hey, ho, ho, homphobia's got to go." When the crowd reached the night-



TED BRELLISFORD, THE HAMILTON SPECTATO

The head of Hamilton's hate crime unit told the GLBT community to stand together and not be afraid.

club, speakers addressed the crowd, including a friend of one of the victims.

Emily Groom, 24, read a statement prepared by friends of the victims, who were not at the rally themselves.

"Based on this experience we affirm that the right of individuals to their own lifestyle, sexual orientation and gender affiliation is a matter of basic human rights," the statement says.

The speech also noted that one of the men who was attacked was not a member of the GLBT community.

"So, as long as such basic rights are

not guaranteed for everybody, then they are guaranteed for no one," the statement continued.

It also said society has failed to educate its members and this has led to hate crimes that "undermine and injure the well-being of whole communities."

Representatives from CUPE Local 3906, the LGBTQ Community Wellness Centre of Hamilton and the GLBT advisory committee for Hamilton, among others, were on hand to show their support.

"These attacks that occurred are the

extreme acts of homophobia that occur every day." Natalie Lazier told the crowd. Lazier is the chair of the community relations and fundraising committee for the wellness centre.

Acting Detective Sergeant Chris Kirlakopoulos, head of Hamilton's hate crime unit, told the crowd he was "appalled as a citizen of this city to hear that type of hatred" was exercised the way it was.

Kiriakopoulos told the community to stand together and not be afraid; the Hamilton Police Service is with them.

In Hamilton last year, there were 61 hate-motivated incidents reported to police, although only 19 qualified as hate crimes. Of those initial 61 complaints, 13 had to do with sexual orientation, including four assaults.

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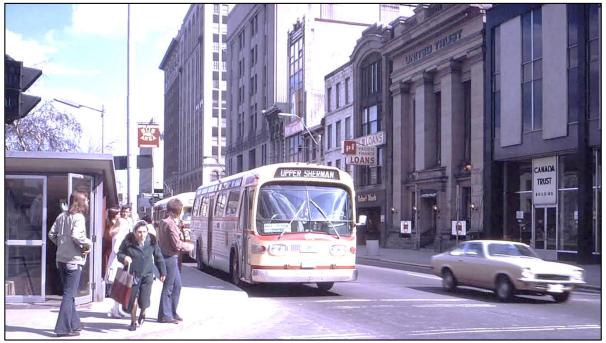
December 17, 2007

Hamilton Hamilton

Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

Contextual Value

- 7. The property is important in **defining** the character of the area.
- 8. The property is visually, historically and physically linked to its surroundings.
- 9. The property is considered to be a **local landmark**.







Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



Circa 1960s



Circa 1930s



Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



Still of 54 King Street East from the Umbrella Academy Netflix TV show



Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (Summary)

The property at 54 King Street East is comprised of a three storey high commercial bank building constructed in 1914, with design value as a representative example of Beaux-Arts Classicism Bank and demonstrates a high degree of artistic merit.

The property has **historical and associative value** for its association with Hamilton's banking industry, 2SLGBTQ+ communities, has the **potential to yield information** about Hamilton's 2SLGBTQ+ and early twentieth century downtown communities, and **is demonstrative of the work** of Bond & Smith architects.

The property is important in **defining** the character of the area, is **historically**, **physically**, **and visually linked to its surroundings**, and is a **landmark**.



Description of Heritage Attributes (Summary)

The key attributes that embody the physical value of the property as a representative example of a commercial bank building designed in the Beaux-Arts Classicism architectural style and is associated with early-nineteenth century banking institutions, late-twentieth century 2SLGBTQ+communities and events, and Bond & Smith architects and which display a high degree of artistic merit includes:

- The front (north) elevation and roofline of the three-storey building, including its:
 - Symmetrical façade clad with Ohio Canyon cut stone with;
 - o an even-course finish, and;
 - carved decorative details;
 - Flat-headed window openings and multi-pane metal windows; and
 - Recessed central entrance.

Key attributes that embody the contextual value of the property include its:

Location fronting onto King Street East.



Staff Recommendation

That the City Clerk be directed to give **notice of Council's intention to designate 54 King Street East, Hamilton**, shown in Appendix "A" attached to Report PED25102, as a property of cultural heritage value pursuant to the provisions of Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, in accordance with the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of Heritage Attributes, attached as Appendix "B" to Report PED25102, subject to the following:

- (a) If no objections are received to the notice of intention to designate in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act, City Council directs staff to introduce the necessary by-law to designate the property to be of cultural heritage value or interest to City Council;
- (a) If an objection to the notice of intention to designate is received in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*, City Council directs staff to report back to Planning Committee to allow Council to consider the objection and decide whether or not to withdraw the notice of intention to designate the property.





QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU

CITY OF HAMILTON NOTICE OF MOTION

Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee: April 25, 2025

MOVED BY K. BURKE.....

Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee's Heritage Recognition Awards (2024-2025)

WHEREAS the mandate of the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee includes advising City staff and Council on programs and activities to increase public awareness and knowledge of heritage conservation issues, and to participate in heritage events and activities, such as the Annual Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee Heritage Recognition Awards; and

WHEREAS the Education and Communication Working Group of the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee has reviewed the nominations for this year's Recognition Awards and have coordinated the proposed awards event date and location.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the list of award nominations for the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee's Heritage Recognition Awards, be approved, as follows:
 - (i) Heritage Property Conservation
 - (1) 58 Wellington Street South, Hamilton
 - (2) 207, 209, 211 Caroline Street South, Hamilton
 - (3) 130 Victoria Ave North, Hamilton
 - (4) 163 Emerald Street North, Hamilton
 - (5) 182 Market Street, Hamilton
 - (6) 239 Park Street North, Hamilton
 - (7) 812 King Street East, Hamilton
 - (8) 1651 King Street East, Hamilton
 - (9) 5 Ravenscliffe Avenue, Hamilton
 - (ii) Heritage Property Developer
 - (1) 414 King Street East, Hamilton
 - (2) 837 King Street East, Hamilton
 - (iii) Adaptive Reuse of Heritage Property
 - (1) 400 King Street East, Hamilton
 - (2) 44 Charlton Avenue West, Hamilton
 - (3) 425 Wilson Street East, Ancaster

- (4) 667 Harvest Road, Dundas
- (iv) Making Heritage Accessible
 - (1) 115 Hunter Street West, Hamilton
- (v) Education in Heritage
 - (1) HSR 150 Campaign
 - (2) Larry Smith Canada's Largest Collection of International Harvester Antiques and Memorabilia
 - (3) Stephen Lechniak Archivist and Collector of Stelco Memorabilia, creator of the Stelco Rod and Bar and Brightside Memories Facebook Pages
- (vi) Art of Heritage
 - (1) All Our Relations Public Art Installation [Collaboration of Angela DeMontigny, Paull Rodrigue, Cobalt Connects and LaFontaine Iron Works]
 - (2) RMC Digital Art Ryan Carpenter
- (vii) Heritage Specialty Group, Society or Specialty Team
 - (1) Beach Canal Lighthouse Group
 - (2) Lady Hamilton Club
 - (3) Women's Canadian Club of Hamilton
- (viii) Heritage Street Scape Revitalization

Augusta Street Business/Entertainment District

- (1) 17 Augusta Street, Hamilton
- (2) 18 Augusta Street, Hamilton
- (3) 19 Augusta Street, Hamilton
- (4) 20 Augusta Street, Hamilton
- (5) 21 Augusta Street, Hamilton
- (6) 23 Augusta Street, Hamilton
- (7) 25 Augusta Street, Hamilton
- (8) 26 Augusta Street, Hamilton
- (9) 29 Augusta Street, Hamilton
- (ix) Specialized Heritage Craft and Trade
 - (1) Truwall for Masonry Restoration at 99 Mountsberg Road, Flamborough
 - (2) EGD Glass for Stained Glass Restoration at Magnolia Hall

CITY OF HAMILTON NOTICE OF MOTION

Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee: April 25, 2025

MOVED BY A. DENHAM-ROBINSON.....

Hamilton Wentworth Heritage Association Volunteer Recognition

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee is a member organization of the Hamilton Wentworth Heritage Association; and

WHEREAS, the Education and Communication Working Group, at its meeting held on March 6, 2025, has suggested that the Hamilton Municipal Heritage nominate Janice Brown to recognize her outstanding dedication and contributions to the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee over her four-year term and her ongoing volunteer efforts.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee submit a Volunteer Recognition nomination to the Hamilton Wentworth Heritage Association for Janice Brown to recognize her volunteer efforts.