

Inventory & Research Working Group

Meeting Notes

Monday, January 27, 2020 (6:00 pm)

Hamilton City Hall, Room 222

Present: Janice Brown (Chair), Ann Gillespie (Secretary), Alissa Denham-Robinson; Graham Carroll, Lyn Lunsted; Chuck Dimitry, Jim Charlton, Rammi Saini

Regrets: Brian Kowalesicz

Also present: David Addington (City of Hamilton Cultural Heritage Planner)

Miranda Brunton (City of Hamilton Cultural Heritage Planner)

Alissa Golden (City of Hamilton Cultural Heritage Planner) Jade

Laird Umenetz (4th Year History Practicum student, McMaster University)

Joachim Brouwer, President, Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society

1. Chair's Remarks

Janice welcomed all present and introduced Jade, a 4th year history student at McMaster University, who has volunteered to assist with the Places of Education Inventory and has been assigned to work on the buildings in Ward 3. Members and staff then introduced themselves. Joachim missed these introductions but was later introduced upon his arrival. Staff noted that Room 222 only has a seating capacity for 9 people. Members were therefore asked to confirm their attendance at the February meeting, to decide if a larger room is needed.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Review of and Approval of Meeting Notes: November 25, 2019

The meeting notes were approved by consensus with minor amendments.

4. Presentation: 323 Rymal Road East - Golder Response to Request for more Background on surviving Gothic Revival Houses on Hamilton Mountain (Miranda and Chuck)

BACKGROUND: A Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (CHIA) for the property at 323 Rymal Road East, which included a circa 1850 1½ storey frame Gothic

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Revival house and detached garage, was completed by Golder Associates in April 2019 for the property owner. Their report concluded that the property did not meet the criteria as prescribed in Ontario Regulation 9/06 for inclusion on the Heritage Register or OHA Part IV designation. The CHIA was first reviewed by the Policy and Design Working Group at its meeting held July 15, 2019. However, the working group identified four points of concern which needed to be addressed before the report could be approved. One of their requests was to provide additional photographic documentation for other Gothic Revival houses on Hamilton Mountain to support this conclusion. Chuck subsequently visited the ten houses in the Glanbrook/ Mount Hope area, identified in the Golder report as being similar in style (Gothic Revival), and took photographs. Based on the Golder Response, dated December 4, 2019, the CHIA was approved by the P & D Working Group at its meeting held January 12, 2020. The Golder Response was subsequently forwarded to the I & R Working Group to determine if any of the other documented examples of Gothic Revival houses on Hamilton Mountain were worthy of inclusion on the Heritage Register.

Miranda presented the Golder Response and Chuck also commented on the architectural integrity and noteworthy features of the houses that he had visited and photographed. After their presentation and some discussion, the list was narrowed down to five properties that warranted further research to determine their eligibility for listing on the Heritage Register. Miranda requested volunteers to complete a Built Heritage Inventory Form and Preliminary Evaluation for each of these five properties, listed below with the volunteer's name:

7105 Twenty Road East (Graham)

623 Miles Road (Graham)

2081 Upper James Street (Chuck)

9751 Twenty Road West (Janice)

9445 Twenty Road West (Alissa D-R)

5. Places of Education, Wards 9 and 10 (Janice)

BACKGROUND: Joachim was invited to this I & R Working Group meeting after expressing interest in assisting with the Places of Education Inventory.

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Janice confirmed that Joachim has volunteered to take on Wards 9 and 10. Chuck then asked to report on a recent finding. As a resident of the central Mountain, living close to the new Education Centre for the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, he had recently noticed and photographed a collection of date stones salvaged from demolished school buildings (dating back to 1889), which are being temporarily stored outdoors on the Board's property. It was speculated that they had been stored at the previous location of the Educational Archives and Heritage Centre, the former Vincent Massey School.* Chuck agreed to send I & R Working Group members his photos and Janice offered to contact the Board to ask if there is any plan to move these salvaged stones to a permanent and secure location.

* NOTE: The Educational Archives are now located at the Hill Park Learning Centre, a newly renovated facility at 465 E 16th Street, Hamilton.

6. More Updates on Volunteer Recruitment for Places of Education Inventory (Janice)

BACKGROUND: See item 6 of Meeting Notes for November 25, 2019, listed in the same order as below.

- Through her contact, Dr. Mary Chatkiris (History Department, McMaster University), Janice was able to recruit Jade, who has been assigned to work on Ward 3.
- Loren Kolar had responded that, due to "privacy issues", she could not contact HMHC applicants, not appointed to this committee, to volunteer for any of its working groups.
- Janice has recruited a grade 9 student, Vivian Tang, from Bernie Custis Secondary School to prepare artwork for a new HMHC kids' colouring book featuring Places of Education, for which she will earn some of her required volunteer hours.
- Megan Hobson has responded that a few of her Willowbank students living in Hamilton might be willing to assist with this inventory work.
- Janice has not yet contacted Walter Furlan as a potential volunteer.

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- Janice contacted Joachim Brouwer (present), who has joined the I & R Working Group and volunteered to work on the Places of Education in Wards 9 and 10.
- Rammi, who volunteered for Ward 8 at our last meeting, met with Ann in December 2019 and since then with Janice and Jade.

7. **New Business: 24 Blake Street** (Jim Charlton)

BACKGROUND: Jim recently discovered the coach house and provided photos of the former residence of the family of Adelaide and John Hoodless, which once stood at the south-west corner of Main Street East and Blake Street. The house was demolished circa 1970 but its coach house is still standing. It is now situated in the rear yard of the property at 24 Blake Street, which is part of an early 20th century residential development. The property has now been added as an *inventoried* property on the Heritage Property Mapping. The property at 24 Blake Street was added to the agenda for this I & R Working Group meeting as a potential candidate for listing on the Heritage Register.

As illustrated by Jim's photos, the coach house, a late 19th century brick masonry structure is noteworthy for its Second Empire style mansard roof and dormers as well as the cast-iron ornaments of a round-arched window (south façade) and several other window surrounds with segmental arches. The Working Group discussed that the coach house could be under threat of demolition but there is no indication that demolition is imminent. It may be noted that heritage staff would be notified if the owner applied for a Demolition Permit to demolish any building on this *inventoried* property. In conclusion, Graham offered to complete the Built Heritage Inventory Form and Preliminary Evaluation.

8. **Staff Presentation: Places of Worship** - Evaluations for Ward 4 (Alissa G. and Jim)

BACKGROUND: Alissa had prepared a spreadsheet listing all of the *inventoried* Places of Worship evaluated by herself and Jim in Ward 4. Recommended actions were also included: no action; add to the Heritage Register; or add to Heritage Register and OHA Designation Work Plan.

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Following Alissa's presentation with input from Jim, the Working Group reviewed and provided input on the recommendations for approximately half of the addresses. The remaining properties will be reviewed at subsequent I & R Working Group meetings.

9. Next Meeting Date: Monday, February 24, 2020, 6 pm

Location to be determined based on confirmed attendance.

10. Announcements and Adjournment

- Alissa G. indicated that volunteers are now being recruited for Doors Open Hamilton sites for the first weekend of May (Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3, 2020).
- HMHC presents: "Preserving Built Heritage" (speaker: Alan Stacey, *Heritage Mill*), Wednesday, February 19th, 2020, 6:30 pm–9:30 pm, Westinghouse HQ, 286 Sanford Avenue North, 1st floor: Woodlands Hall. Free tickets are available through Everbrite.
- On Heritage Day (Saturday February 22nd) HMHC will have a display table at the Heritage Fair, 2nd floor, Hamilton City Hall, 10 am to noon (volunteers: Alissa D-R, Graham and Janice). The Heritage Day Awards Ceremony will take place at 12:15 in the Council Chambers. All are welcome to attend!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10.