

CITY OF HAMILTON

Notice of Intention to Designate
1099 King Street East, Hamilton
(Jimmy Thompson Memorial Pool)

The City of Hamilton intends to designate 1099 King Street East, Hamilton, under Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, as being a property of cultural heritage value.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The Jimmy Thompson Memorial Pool at 1099 King Street East is situated on a 0.16 ha lot at the southwest corner of the intersection of King Street East and Balsam Avenue North in Ward 3 of the City of Hamilton.

Conceived as a municipal pool in 1928, the Jimmy Thompson Memorial Pool opened in January of 1930 and later that year served as the swimming events venue for the inaugural British Empire Games, later Commonwealth Games. After the Games it reverted to use as a municipal pool and home to the Hamilton Aquatic Club, and in 1971 was named for Jimmy Thompson, a former Olympic athlete and swimming coach and instructor.

The Jimmy Thompson Memorial Pool is of cultural heritage value as a rare example of a pre-1950 indoor pool, and one built to a high degree of craftsmanship and incorporating the latest engineering, safety, and international competition standards of its time. It is associated with, and the last surviving structure of, the 1930 British Empire Games, and the swimming events of those games, which additionally were the only ones open to female competitors. It is also associated with James ‘Jimmy’ Thompson who from 1932 to 1965 is estimated to have taught 60,000 children to swim at the pool and coached many individuals and teams to regional, national, and international titles.

Through its siting, massing, and orientation the Pool is a visual landmark, but its contextual value also extends to its Edwardian Classicism style and construction in textured red brick, which contributes to the local architectural character. It is also physically and historically linked to use of the area to the north for recreation and sport, a land use that continues today.

The Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest, Description of Heritage Attributes and supporting Cultural Heritage Assessment may be found online via www.hamilton.ca or viewed at the Office of the City Clerk, 71 Main Street West, 1st Floor, City Hall, Hamilton, Ontario, L8P 4Y5, during regular business hours.

Any person may, within 30 days after the date of the publication of the Notice, serve written notice of their objections to the proposed designation, together with a statement for the objection and relevant facts.

Dated at Hamilton, this [REDACTED] day of [REDACTED], 2021.

Andrea Holland
City Clerk
Hamilton, Ontario

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