WATERDOWN VILLAGE BUILT HERITAGE INVENTORY
Report PED21201

Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee (via WebEx)
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What is the Waterdown Inventory?

- Third phase of City’s Built Heritage Inventory Strategy to proactively update the Inventory
- Conducting updated field surveys and preliminary evaluations of the properties in Waterdown
- Project objectives:
  - Determine what we have and where it is located
  - Identify candidates for listing on the Register and designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*
Waterdown Village

Inventoried Properties (683)
Registered Properties (13)
Designated Properties (120)

*Primarily in the Mill Street Heritage Conservation District*
Heritage Inventory Process

**RESEARCH**
- Compile available research and information
- Complete desktop review

**SURVEY**
- Conduct field survey of each property
- Complete standard Inventory Form

**IDENTIFY**
- Prepare Historic Context Statement
- Identify key eras and attributes

**EVALUATE**
- Evaluate and classify each property
- Identify Register and designation candidates

**CONSULT**
- Consult with affected property owners and Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee

**ADVISE**
- Recommend Register and designation work plan additions to Planning Committee and Council

**UPDATE**
- Update the Register and Inventory databases and mapping to reflect Council approved changes
Engagement and Consultation

- Project webpage, online surveys, interactive mapping
- Project E-newsletter updates
- Presentations to the BIA, School Councils, Waterdown-Mill Street Heritage Committee, Flamborough Seniors Centre Discussion Group,
- Information tables at the Waterdown Farmers’ Market, Waterdown Library, Waterdown Ribfest, HMHC Awards, Heritage Day
- Waterdown History Jane’s Walk
- Mail out of open house invitations to affected property owners
- Virtual Open House on draft recommendations
- Meetings, phone calls and emails with individual owners and residents
- Follow-up notices to opposing owners
How were the properties evaluated?

- Contextual approach
  - *Historic Context Statement* developed
  - Heritage value of individual properties evaluated and classified based on their contribution to the character of the village
Historic Context Statement - Eras

Indigenous Presence
(7,500 BCE – Late-17th Century)

Military Influence and Euro-Canadian Settlement
(1700s – 1810s)

Mill Development and Village Establishment
(1820s – 1860s)

Village Incorporation and Stability
(1870s – 1900s)

A Time of Unrest and Great Change
(1910s – 1940s)

Residential Intensification
(1950s – 1960s)

Development, Amalgamation and Identity
(1970s – 2010s)

www.map.hamilton.ca/waterdownhistory
Heritage Attributes Summary

- Natural topography (Escarptment, Grindstone Creek) and human intervention (railway, mill sites)
- Mature tree canopy
- Historic transportation corridors (Dundas, Mill, Main)
- Early surveys and residential areas
- Village landmark buildings and spaces
- Eclectic mix of historic nineteenth and early-twentieth century buildings reflecting the evolution of the village
- Contemporary natural and recreational areas, including Smokey Hollow and the Bruce Trail
How were the properties classified?

**SIGNIFICANT BUILT RESOURCE (SBR)**
A property with considerable historic, aesthetic and/or contextual value that is likely well known to citizens at a local, municipal or regional level.

**CHARACTER-DEFINING RESOURCE (CDR)**
A property that strongly reinforces the historic context and clearly reflects a characteristic pattern of development or activity, property type or attribute of the area.

**CHARACTER-SUPPORTING RESOURCE (CSR)**
A property that maintains or supports the historic context and can be related to a characteristic pattern of development or activity, property type or attribute of the area.

**INVENTORIED PROPERTY (IP)**
A property that is not currently considered to contribute to the historic context, but could acquire value in the future, or has been heavily modified to the point that its heritage value may have been lost (could be confirmed through further research and detailed field investigation).
Recommendation Framework

• All properties identified as Significant Built Resources, Character-Defining Resources and Character-Supporting Resources are recommended for inclusion in the Register.

• All properties identified as Significant Built Resources are candidates for potential designation under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Note: some properties identified as SBRs, CDRs and CSRs are already designated or registered and do not require any further action.
Property Classifications

Classifications
- Significant Built Resources
- Character-Defining Resources
- Character-Supporting Resources
- Inventoried Properties

SBRs (30)
CDRs (75)
CSRs (232)
Inventoried (478)
Recommendations

- **Register additions**: 209 properties of heritage interest (see Appendix “A”)
- **Designation candidates**: 11 properties
  - Almost all already listed on Register
  - Recommendations on designation to be brought forward in separate report
Recommendations
Owner Responses

Formal Opposition Letters (see Appendix “D”)

- 313 Dundas Street East
- 77 Main Street North
- 10 Nelson Street
- 304 Parkside Drive
- 198 Victoria Street
- 100 Wellington Street
Owner Consent

- Owner’s consent or consultation is not required prior to Council adding a property to the Register.

- Public consultation and owner engagement was an important part of this project to:
  - educate about process and community heritage
  - address concerns and clarify the implications
  - ensure that those owners who have voiced concern or opposition are noted for Council’s consideration before they make a final decision

- The Act now requires that an owner be notified after a property is added to the Register
  - Council must consider the owner opposition and decide whether to keep the property on the Register or remove it (see page 7 of Report PED21201)
Conclusions

• Listing the 209 properties in Waterdown Village on the Register:
  • Recognizes the heritage value and interest
  • Provides interim protection from demolition
• Staff do not recommend that any Register additions be removed solely based on owner opposition
  • Any advice to remove a Register recommendation should be based on whether it is believed to be of cultural heritage value or interest
Thank-you!

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Project webpage:
www.hamilton.ca/heritageinventory