

From: Carrie [redacted]

Sent: March 25, 2026 8:15 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Objection to Intention to Designate 460 Concession Street, Hamilton

I would like to document my objection to the intention to designate George L. Armstrong a heritage site.

The designation specifically speaks to “*Deep setback from Concession Street with landscaped lawn with its central walkway to the front entrance.*” The concern of the neighbourhood and parents who drop off children at the school is that when Eastmount school was closed the catchment grew and more students are driven to school. Parents have asked for a drop off loop at the front of the school to minimize the risks of cars parked both ways on the side streets and children and parents darting across the road. I live at 150 Mountville and can attest that it is dangerous crossing both East 18 and East 19 in the morning, even at designated crosswalks due to the volume of vehicle traffic, unpredictable children and a lack of crossing guards. It is not unreasonable to believe that this school will continue to see its catchment grow, and walkability is limited as to the north there is escarpment, meaning growth will continue asymmetrically. It would be a disservice to the community and all current and future students to designate a school for its value in the historical growth of community in the area thus leading to safety risks for the current and future community.

George Loftus Armstrong. The direct quote The historical value of the property lies in its association with the development of Hamilton’s Mountain community following the First and Second World Wars and with its association with George Loftus Armstrong, the school trustee for whom the school was named.” What exactly did Mr. Armstrong do? In a search of Hamilton’s history, all I can find is that he was a long serving trustee. Was he a good person? Who knows. What did he contribute to society beyond having a paid role within a school board? The school itself intended to celebrate its’ origins this past year, but had nothing to celebrate, underscoring that schools should not be named for people.

Multiple points are listed about the attributes of the “main entrance to the north.” A main entrance that is never used or even unlocked as the only people that use the alcove are unhoused persons to sleep or defecate. This designation would preclude a remodel and/or renovation that might see the doors ever be functional again and/or discourage the presence of unhoused persons in the alcove.

“*Grouped windows with stone surround*”

The building is in need of major updates in order to provide any kind of climate control on the second and third floors. Requiring the windows and their surrounds to be mentioned in the current style will mean that those upgrades will be more costly and less likely for the board to complete them. Students swelter in June and September, the windows don't open for safety and disrepair reasons. This designation would prevent OSHA approved windows from being installed.

Please do not make this designation. The community lost its local highschool (Hill Park) and would be devastated to lose its school should the repairs required become out of budget for the school board because of this designation.

Carrie Gerdes