



HERITAGE HALTON HILLS COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, June 21, 2023, 4:30 p.m.
Location: Esqueung Room - Halton Hills Town Hall
1 Halton Hills Drive
Members: Councillor C. Somerville, Chair, Councillor J. Racinsky, C. Donaldson, L. Quinlan, M. Rowe, R. Denny, A. Walker, T. Brown

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY/CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
3. **RECEIPT OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - a. **Minutes of the Heritage Halton Hills Committee Meeting held on May 17, 2023.**
4. **SCHEDULED ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**
 - a. **Research and Evaluation Report - 4 Stewarttown Road (Stewarttown)**
 - b. **Research and Evaluation Report - 533 Main Street (Glen Williams)**
 - c. **Research and Evaluation Report - 10996 Trafalgar Road (Stewarttown)**
 - d. **Heritage Property Grant Program 2022 - Application Review (76 Bower Street, 98 Confederation Street)**
 - e. **Recognition of Cox Family Contribution at 98 Confederation Street**
 - f. **2023 Cultural Heritage Assistant - Madison Hendricks**
5. **ITEMS TO BE SCHEDULED FOR NEXT MEETING**
6. **ADJOURNMENT**



HERITAGE HALTON HILLS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Minutes of the Heritage Halton Hills Committee meeting held on Wednesday May 17, 2023 Via Zoom

Members Present: Councillor C. Somerville, Chair, Councillor J. Racinsky, C. Donaldson, L. Quinlan, M. Rowe, R. Denny, T. Brown

Regrets: A. Walker

Staff Present: L. Loney, Senior Heritage Planner, L. Bateson, Senior Administrative & Heritage Planning Coordinator, B. Parker, Director of Planning Policy, R. Brown, Deputy Clerk - Administration

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor C. Somerville, Chair called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary or conflict of interest.

3. RECEIPT OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

3.a Minutes of the Heritage Halton Hills Committee Meeting held on April 19, 2023.

Recommendation No. HHH-2023-0016

THAT the Minutes of the Heritage Halton Hills Committee Meeting held on April 19, 2023 be received.

CARRIED

4. SCHEDULED ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

4.a Barrett Barn – Request for Extension - 2022 Heritage Property Grant Program

L. Loney advised that the owners have been working hard on the barn restoration but have had delays and are requesting a 6-month extension to complete the work from the 2022 Heritage Grant Program. The owners are expected to continue working on the property and will likely apply for the 2023 and 2024 Heritage Grant Program.

L. Loney also noted that this property has garnered some media attention, which is great for Heritage in Halton Hills.

Recommendation No. HHH-2023-0017

THAT Heritage Halton Hills grant a 6-month extension for the property at 98 Confederation Street for the completion of the work related to the 2022 Heritage Property Grant Program, and that the related work be completed prior to funds issued for a 2023 Heritage Property Grant Program application, if applicable.

CARRIED

4.b Halton Hills 50th Anniversary

Councillor J. Racinsky let the committee know that there is a lot of interest from Council and the community in celebrating Halton Hills 50th Anniversary.

Councillor J. Racinsky asked for volunteers from the committee to join a subcommittee to work on initiatives related to celebrating Halton Hills 50th Anniversary and to work on Doors Open which is anticipated to take place in the fall. M. Rowe and L. Quinlan volunteered. Councillor J. Racinsky will coordinate a meeting for the subcommittee.

5. ITEMS TO BE SCHEDULED FOR NEXT MEETING

Designation Reports for Review

Next Meeting will be in person at the Brown Family Farm on June 21, 2023 @ 4:30 pm.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Research and Evaluation Report



(Town of Halton Hills 2023)

Harrison-Brown House

4 Stewarttown Road, Stewarttown, Town of Halton Hills

June 2023

Prepared by:

Laura Loney, Manager of Heritage Planning – Town of Halton Hills

with

Mark Rowe, Heritage Halton Hills

Ray Denny, Heritage Halton Hills

Table of Contents

1.0 Property Description	4
2.0 Background	4
2.1 Historical Background	5
3.0 Description of Heritage Attributes and Evaluation Checklist.....	14
4.0 Summary	15
5.0 Sources	16

Table of Figures

Figure 1: Location Map - 4 Stewarttown Road	4
Figure 2: Aerial Photograph - 4 Stewarttown Road (2021).....	4
Figure 3: 1822 Patent Plan.....	5
Figure 4: 1858 <i>Tremaine's Map of Halton County</i>	5
Figure 5: Gravestone for John and Catherine Harrison (Courtesy of findagrave.com, SD Cowan 2018)	5
Figure 6: 1877 Halton County Atlas	6
Figure 7: 1909 National Topographic Map	6
Figure 8: Officer's Documents for Major Gordon Oliver Brown (WWI CEF Personnel Files, 1914-1918)	6
Figure 9: Gordon Oliver Brown Officer's Declaration Paper (Library and Archives Canada).....	6
Figure 10: Halton County Council c. 1925, Colonel Brown identified in red (EHS 20858).....	7
Figure 11: Georgetown Baseball team, 1920 - Champions of Peel-Halton Baseball league; Major G.O. Brown in the second row from the top, right side (EHS p84f).....	7
Figure 12: Willoughby Farm Agency appoints a new agent at Georgetown (<i>Georgetown Herald</i> October 22, 1924, p. 3)	7
Figure 13: 1929 National Topographic Map	8
Figure 14: 1942 National Topographic Map	8
Figure 15: 1946 Aerial Photograph	8
Figure 16: 1952 Aerial Photograph	8
Figure 17: 1960 Aerial Photograph	8
Figure 18: 1974 National Topographic Map	8
Figure 19: 1990 Aerial Photograph	9
Figure 20: 2015 Aerial Photograph	9
Figure 22: Looking towards the rear of the property, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023) ...	9
Figure 23: Looking towards the rear elevation of the garage addition, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023).....	9
Figure 24: Swimming pool within the northwest portion of the property (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	10
Figure 21: Front (southwest) elevation of existing residential buildings at 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023).....	10
Figure 25: Partial front (northeast) elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	11
Figure 26: Partial front (northeast) elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	11

Figure 27: Partial side (southeast) elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	11
Figure 28: Looking north towards the original house and side wing, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	11
Figure 29: Looking towards the southeast elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)..	12
Figure 30: Looking towards the northwest corner of the building, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	12
Figure 31: Looking towards the northwest elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023).	12
Figure 32: Partial northwest elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	12
Figure 33: Detail of brick on northeast elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	13
Figure 34: Detail of brickwork on front (southeast) elevation of original structure, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	13
Figure 35: Detail of front (southeast) elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023).....	13

1.0 Property Description

4 Stewarttown Road	
Municipality	Town of Halton Hills
County or Region	Region of Halton
Legal Description	PT LT 17, CON 7 ESQ, AS IN 581967; S/T 107884 HALTON HILLS/ESQUESING
Construction Date	c. 1850s
Original Use	Residential
Current Use	Residential
Architect/Building/Designer	Unknown
Architectural Style	Neo-Classical
Additions/Alterations	Rear addition; interior alterations
Heritage Status	Listed on the Town's Heritage Register
Recorder(s)	Laura Loney with Ray Denny and Mark Rowe
Report Date	June 2023

2.0 Background

This research and evaluation report describes the history, context, and physical characteristics of the property at 4 Stewarttown Road in Halton Hills, Ontario (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The report includes an evaluation of the property's cultural heritage value as prescribed by the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

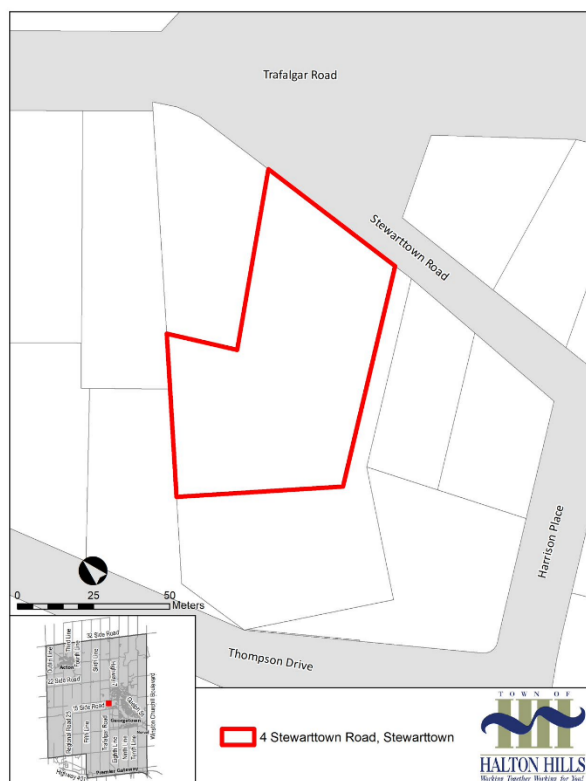


Figure 1: Location Map - 4 Stewarttown Road



Figure 2: Aerial Photograph - 4 Stewarttown Road (2021)

2.1 Historical Background

Members of the Harrison family settled on Lot 17, Concession 7 in 1819, and received the Crown patent in 1846. The Harrison family were some of the earliest settlers in the area who were predominantly Protestant Irish immigrants. The 1822 Patent Plan (Figure 9) and 1858 *Tremaine's Map of Halton County* (Figure 10) identify John Harrison as the owner of the subject lot.

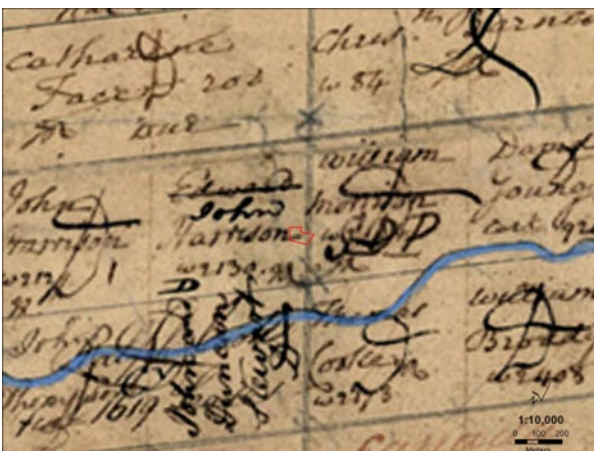


Figure 3: 1822 Patent Plan



Figure 4: 1858 *Tremaine's Map of Halton County*

The existing house at 4 Stewarttown Road was likely constructed circa 1858 when a mortgage was taken out on the property by John Harrison. John Harrison was born in Ireland in 1794, married to Catherine Harrison (nee Lamb) and with children Margaret, Sarah, James, Maria, John, Fanny, and William. According to the 1861 Census, Harrison was then a yeoman, or farmer, living in a brick, one-and-a-half storey residence. Harrison was also involved in the community and was a Trustee of the Mount Pleasant Methodist Church. Harrison died in 1874 at 80 years old and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery with wife Catherine (Figure 3). The house is believed to have been constructed of hand-pressed bricks, made locally in Stewarttown.



Figure 5: Gravestone for John and Catherine Harrison
(Courtesy of findagrave.com, SD Cowan 2018)

The 1877 *Halton County Atlas* (Figure 11) shows the property owner as the Estate of John Harrison. The 1909 National Topographic Map (Figure 12) identifies a brick or stone building in this location within a primarily rural context along Trafalgar Road.



Figure 6: 1877 Halton County Atlas

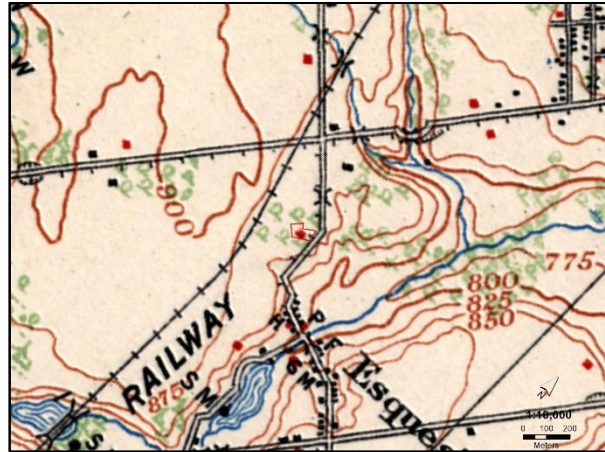


Figure 7: 1909 National Topographic Map

In 1916, the property was sold by the Harrison family to Charles Greensides, who then sold the property two years later to Gordon Oliver Brown in 1918.

Brown was born September 8, 1888. Brown's Officers' Declaration Paper for the Canada Over-seas Expeditionary Force, dated April 10, 1916, identifies Brown as a Captain of the 20th Regiment, with former military service for nine-and-a-half months with the 4th Battalion (Figure 4 and Figure 5). Brown married his wife Mary in 1916.

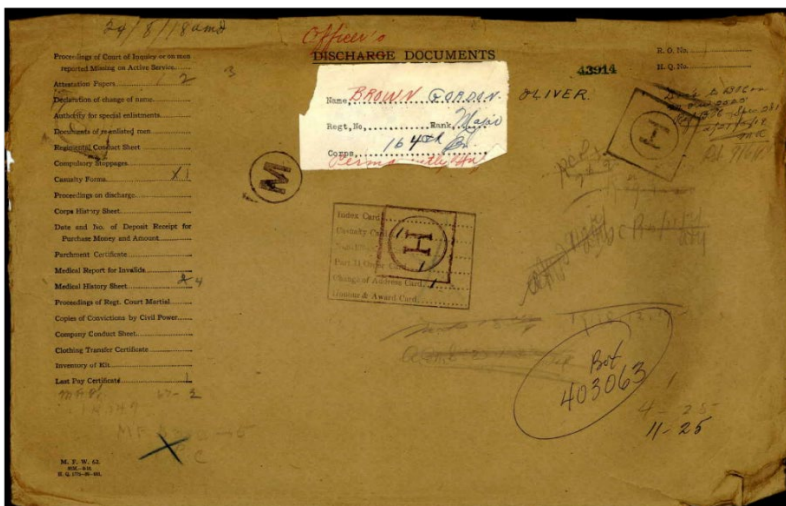


Figure 8: Officer's Documents for Major Gordon Oliver Brown (WWI CEF Personnel Files, 1914-1918)

Unit 104th Bn Rank Capt Name Gordon Oliver Brown ORIGINAL

OFFICERS' DECLARATION PAPER
CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED BY OFFICER (ANSWERED)

- (a) What is your Surname? Brown
- (b) What are your Christian Names? Gordon Oliver
- (c) Where were you born? (State place and country) Knoxville Ont
- (d) What is your present address? Georgetown Ont
- (e) What is the date of your birth? Sept 8th 1888
- (f) What is (a) the name of your next-of-kin? Mrs J. J. Brown
(b) the address of your next-of-kin? Ashvale Ont
(c) the relationship of your next-of-kin? Mother
- (g) What is your profession or occupation? Farmer
- (h) What is your religion? Church of England
- (i) Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated and inoculated? Yes
- (j) To what Unit of the Active Militia do you belong? 20th Regt
- (k) State particulars of any former Military Service. 9 1/2 months 4th Bn CEF
- (l) Are you willing to serve in the CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE? Yes

The undersigned hereby declares that the above answers made by him to the above questions are true.

G. O. Brown Capt (Signature of Officer)

CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION

I have examined the above-named Officer in accordance with the Regulations for Army Medical Services.

I consider him Fit for the CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

Date Apr 10 1916.

Place Georgetown

J. H. Brown Medical Officer

M. F. W. H. (Signature)

Figure 9: Gordon Oliver Brown Officer's Declaration Paper (Library and Archives Canada)

A Peace Celebration in July 1919 included Major Brown leading the 20th Battalion Band and over a hundred local veterans. Brown was actively involved in the local community, including a position as

manager of the Georgetown Baseball Team in the Halton-Peel Baseball League in 1920 (Figure 7). In 1924, Brown was appointed as agent for Georgetown, Acton, Erin, and vicinity for the Willoughby Farm Agency (Figure 8). Brown was also a member of Halton County Council, and in 1925 was the Deputy Reeve of Esquesing (Figure 6). Between 1927 and 1935, Brown also served as Sheriff for Halton. Voter's lists between 1935 and 1958 identify him as a farmer. Brown also was on active duty during the Second World War, identified as Major G.O. Brown with the Veteran Guards of Canada. In 1962, Brown, then 74, is identified as a gentleman.



Figure 10: Halton County Council c. 1925, Colonel Brown identified in red (EHS 20858)



Figure 11: Georgetown Baseball team, 1920 - Champions of Peel-Halton Baseball league; Major G.O. Brown in the second row from the top, right side (EHS p84f)

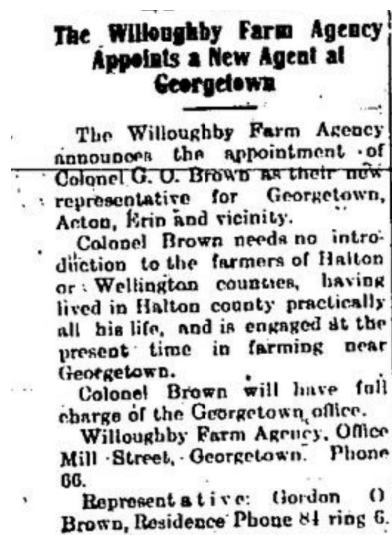


Figure 12: Willoughby Farm Agency appoints a new agent at Georgetown (*Georgetown Herald* October 22, 1924, p. 3)

A review of National Topographic Mapping and aerial photographs between 1929 and 1974 (Figure 13 through Figure 19) show a largely unchanged context surrounding the subject property.



Figure 13: 1929 National Topographic Map



Figure 14: 1942 National Topographic Map



Figure 15: 1946 Aerial Photograph



Figure 16: 1952 Aerial Photograph



Figure 17: 1960 Aerial Photograph

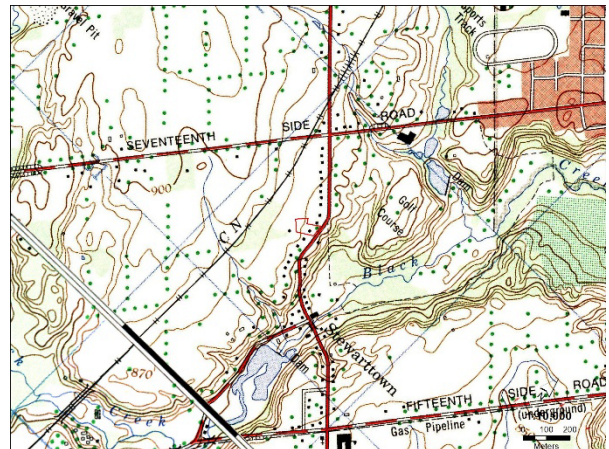


Figure 18: 1974 National Topographic Map

Aerial photography from 1990 to 2015 (Figure 20 through Figure 21) shows the development new residential buildings to the west of the subject property and a changing context along the east side of Trafalgar Road north of 15 Side Road.



Figure 19: 1990 Aerial Photograph



Figure 20: 2015 Aerial Photograph

Brown sold the subject property to Oscar and Lottie Robb in 1961, who in 1972 sold the property to David and Beryl Godden. The property changed hands again from the late 1970s and is currently owned by Joseph Krebs.

2.3 Property & Architectural Description

The subject property is located along the northwest side of Stewarttown Road in Stewarttown to the west of Trafalgar Road. The property is an irregularly shaped parcel, and the existing house is situated on a rise above Stewarttown Road, surrounded by mature trees and soft landscaping. The property is accessed via a driveway from Stewarttown Road. The property features a large grassed lawn, mature trees, and a fenced swimming pool area (Figure 22 through Figure 24).



Figure 21: Looking towards the rear of the property, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 22: Looking towards the rear elevation of the garage addition, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 23: Swimming pool within the northwest portion of the property (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The primary structure within the subject property is the existing residential building, which includes the original mid-nineteenth century structure and later additions to the rear of the property. The front (southwest) elevation of the building includes the one-and-a-half storey building with one-storey side wing, with a single entrance within the one-and-a-half storey portion as well as an additional entrance within a recess on the one-storey wing (Figure 21).



Figure 24: Front (southwest) elevation of existing residential buildings at 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The one-storey wing (Figure 25), likely an early summer kitchen addition to the original one-and-a-half storey structure, features the same red and buff dichromatic brick pattern, with some variation in colours throughout that would suggest the bricks used were produced at different times. A stone lintel (parged) suggests there was once a window opening on the projecting portion, while the flat-headed window opening and entrance within the recessed portion appear unaltered. Within the one-and-a-half storey portion (Figure 26), now-parged stone lintels are extant above the flat-headed door and window

openings, with stone sills on the lower windows at the first storey. Windows within the openings are not original. A decorative wooden element is located at the gable peak. Evidence of repair or alterations to the dichromatic brick are extant to the side of the entrance, suggesting brick may have been borrowed from other elevations as part of repair or alterations to the building.



Figure 25: Partial front (northeast) elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 26: Partial front (northeast) elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The side elevation of the one-storey wing (Figure 27) features a large rectangular window opening, with clear indications within the brickwork above that the window opening has been altered over time. The rear elevation of the one-storey wing (Figure 28) features a flat-headed window opening and a stone chimney understood to be a more contemporary intervention.



Figure 27: Partial side (southeast) elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 28: Looking north towards the original house and side wing, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

A large gable-roofed addition with rear one-storey garage is located towards the rear of the building and was added to the property in the late twentieth century (Figure 29 and Figure 30) .



Figure 29: Looking towards the southeast elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 30: Looking towards the northwest corner of the building, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The side (northwest) elevation of the original structure (Figure 31 and Figure 32) features the same dichromatic brick as the rest of the structure, with symmetrically-placed flat-headed window openings with stone sills and lintels that have been parged. A small gable-roofed dormer is located on the roof above and the central chimney (re-constructed above the roofline) is visible at the peak of the roof.



Figure 31: Looking towards the northwest elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 32: Partial northwest elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The dichromatic brick in a Flemish bond pattern throughout the original building features some variations in colour and texture, in line with it being hand-pressed and with alterations to the building understood to have taken place over time (Figure 33 through Figure 35).



Figure 33: Detail of brick on northeast elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 34: Detail of brickwork on front (southeast) elevation of original structure, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 35: Detail of front (southeast) elevation, 4 Stewarttown Road (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The interiors of the existing building were not investigated as part of this report.

3.0 Description of Heritage Attributes and Evaluation Checklist

The following evaluation checklist applies to Ontario Regulation 9/06 made under the *Ontario Heritage Act*: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. The criteria are prescribed for municipal designation of Heritage Properties under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The evaluation tables utilize an 'X' to signify applicable criteria and 'N/A' to signify criteria that are not applicable for this property.

Design or Physical Value	
Is rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material, or construction method	X
Displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit	X
Demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement	N/A

The property at 4 Stewarttown Road has physical and design value as a representative example of a mid-nineteenth century vernacular building with Georgian influences within the community of Stewarttown in Halton Hills. Its unique dichromatic, locally hand-pressed brick laid in the Flemish-bond pattern displays a high degree of artistic merit, as evidenced by later alterations which have maintained the Flemish bond pattern and dichromatic brick throughout. While some alterations to select window openings, chimneys, and a rear addition have modified the original structure to a certain extent, the original, simple form of the building remains legible, and with the dichromatic brickwork and symmetrically-placed original door and window openings extant throughout the building, the Harrison-Brown House has maintained its integrity since its construction almost 165 years ago.

Historical or Associative Value	
Has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization, or institution that is significant to a community	X
Yields, or has potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture	N/A
Demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer, or theorist who is significant to a community	N/A

The property at 4 Stewarttown Road has historical and associative value due to its associations with the early development of the community of Stewarttown, its associations with the original owner, farmer John Harrison and his family, who owned a significant portion of the land in this area in the mid-nineteenth century. Additionally, the property is associated with long-time owner, Gordon Oliver Brown, who was a soldier, active community member, agent for the Willoughby Farm Agency, member of Halton County Council, Deputy Reeve of Esquesing, and Sheriff for Halton.

Contextual Value	
Is important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of an area	X
Is physically, functionally, visually, or historically linked to its surroundings	X
Is a landmark	N/A

The property at 4 Stewarttown Road has contextual value as part of the historic community of Stewarttown and helps to define, maintain, and support the heritage character and cultural heritage value of the area as a visible presence along Stewarttown Road. The Harrison-Brown House, in its original location on a rise above Stewarttown Road, is physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings within the residential community within Stewarttown. While not a landmark in terms of size or location, the building's unusual dichromatic brick pattern stands out along the streetscape.

4.0 Summary

Following research and evaluation according to Ontario Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the Harrison-Brown House at 4 Stewarttown Road has physical and design, historical and associative, and contextual value and therefore meets Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest.

The heritage attributes identified for the Harrison-Brown House at 4 Stewarttown Road include the following:

- The setback, placement, and orientation of the c.1850s brick residential building on a rise above Stewarttown Road;
- The scale, form, and massing of the original one-and-a-half storey brick structure with one-storey brick wing on a stone foundation (excluding the rear contemporary addition);
- The materials, including dichromatic (buff and red brick throughout), stone foundation, stone sills, and lintels where extant;
- On the front elevation facing Stewarttown Road,
 - The symmetrically placed door with transom and window openings at the first and second storeys on the one-and-a-half storey portion of the building;
 - The stone lintel, flat-headed window opening with stone sill and lintel and flat-headed entrance within the one-storey wing;
 - Dichromatic brickwork throughout laid in Flemish bond;
- On the side (northwest) elevation, the dichromatic brickwork laid in Flemish bond featured throughout the elevation above the stone foundation;
- On the side (southeast) elevation:
 - The symmetrically placed flat-headed window openings at the first storey; and,
 - Dichromatic brickwork laid in Flemish bond.

The rear addition and any other outbuildings on the property have not been identified as heritage attributes.

5.0 Sources

Primary Sources

Library and Archives Canada; Ottawa, Ontario, Canada; *Census Returns For 1861*; Roll: C-1030-1031.

Accessed at <https://www.ancestry.ca/discoveryui-content/view/795593213:1570>.

Year: 1871; Census Place: *Esquesing, Halton, Ontario*; Roll: C-9956; Page: 1.

<https://www.ancestry.ca/discoveryui-content/view/1161174:1578>.

Ancestry.com. *Canada, City and Area Directories, 1819-1906* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA:

Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2013.

Library and Archives Canada; Ottawa, Ontario, Canada; *Voters Lists, Federal Elections, 1935-1980*

Archives of Ontario; Toronto, Ontario, Canada; *Registrations of Marriages, 1869-1928*; Reel: 383.

Accessed at https://www.ancestry.ca/discoveryui-content/view/2050723:7921?tid=&pid=&queryId=Oba13088bf77ffefac1f98f10fcc3240&_phsrc=bBC7&_phstart=successSource.

Newspapers

Acton Free Press

“Prosperity of Stewarttown Depended a Great Deal on the Village Mill Which Still Operates.”

The Acton Free Press (Acton, ON), March 17, 1955, p. 3.

<https://news.haltonhills.halinet.on.ca/88357/page/273913?q=colonel+brown>.

Georgetown Herald

“The Willoughby Farm Agency Appoints a New Agent at Stewarttown.” *The Georgetown Herald*

(Georgetown, ON), October 22, 1924, p. 3.

<https://news.haltonhills.halinet.on.ca/89695/page/287000?q=colonel+brown>.

Independent & Free Press

“Georgetown – on Active Service During World War II.” *Independent & Free Press* (Georgetown,

ON), 10 Nov 2006, p. 10 - <https://news.haltonhills.halinet.on.ca/details.asp?ID=315394>

Secondary Sources

MHBC. *Cultural Heritage Assessment Report: Stewarttown (Halton Hills), Ontario*. May 2022, on file with the Town of Halton Hills.

Research and Evaluation Report



(J.M. Rowe 2023)

Glen Methodist Church

533 Main Street, Glen Williams, Town of Halton Hills

June 2023

Prepared by:

John Mark Rowe, Heritage Halton Hills

Laura Loney, Manager of Heritage Planning – Town of Halton Hills

Table of Contents

1.0 Property Description	4
2.0 Background.....	4
2.1 Historical Background	5
2.2 Property & Architectural Description	11
3.0 Description of Heritage Attributes and Evaluation Checklist	18
4.0 Summary.....	19
5.0 Sources.....	20

Table of Figures

Figure 1: Location Map, 533 Main Street (Glen Williams).....	4
Figure 2: 2021 Aerial, 533 Main Street (Glen Williams).....	4
Figure 3: Patent Plan for Esqueing Township, c.1819, showing Muirhead's 200-acre property. The location of the subject property within Lot 21, Concession 10 is outlined in red.	5
Figure 4: 1854 survey of Glen Williams showing Methodist Church (EHS - MG12 A3 #23)	6
Figure 5: 1877 Halton Atlas detail showing Lot 48, Glen Williams (EHS - MG12 A2 #3.05)	6
Figure 6: 533 Main Street labelled as Methodist Church on 1898 Fire Insurance map, showing additional structures within the subject property (EHS - MG12 A2 #3.01)	7
Figure 7: Glen Methodist Church c. 1903, showing the wooden sidewalk along Main Street (EHS 21757) ..	8
Figure 8: Interior of Glen Williams Methodist Church c. 1912 (EHS19982).....	8
Figure 9: WWI Veterans service in 1918. Shown left to right are the Church, the woodshed, the driveshed, the outhouse, and St. Alban's Anglican Church beyond (EHS00968)	9
Figure 10: Glen United Church c. 1925. Note the concrete sidewalk. EHS20354	9
Figure 11: Glen United Church congregation c. 1936. EHS20348.....	10
Figure 12: St. John's United Church, Glen Williams in April 1973 (EHS 13561)	10
Figure 13: Site of Georgetown Wesleyan Methodist Chapel on Lindsay Court (1995) (EHS12529)	11
Figure 14: Plaque marking the addition of Williamsburg to the Guelph Methodist Episcopal circuit. (J.M. Rowe June 2023).....	11
Figure 15: Village Montessori & Consulting, 533 Main Street, Glen Williams (J.M. Rowe June 2023)	12
Figure 16: Front door and vestibule (J.M. Rowe June 2023)	12
Figure 17: Looking northeast towards the existing building (Town of Halton Hills 2023).....	13
Figure 18: South-west corner buttress (J.M. Rowe June 2023)	14
Figure 19: South elevation (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	14
Figure 20: 2006 view of north side of the 1962 addition. J.M. Rowe photo	15
Figure 21: Looking towards the rear (east) elevation (Town of Halton Hills 2023).....	15
Figure 22: North elevation of 533 Main Street, Glen Williams, showing rear addition (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	16
Figure 23: North side of the Church during the 2006 Town Hall Shrub Sale (J.M. Rowe June 2023).....	16
Figure 24: Looking south within the property towards the playground (Town of Halton Hills 2023).....	17

Figure 25: Looking southwest along the driveway into the playground (Town of Halton Hills 2023) 17

1.0 Property Description

533 Main Street	
Municipality	Glen Williams, Town of Halton Hills
County or Region	Regional Municipality of Halton
Legal Description	LT 58, RCP 1556; HALTON HILLS
Construction Date	c. 1840
Original Use	Institutional
Current Use	Commercial
Architect/Building/Designer	N/A
Architectural Style	Gothic Revival
Additions/Alterations	Bricked over in 1902; Interior alterations
Heritage Status	Listed on the Town's Heritage Register
Recorder(s)	John Mark Rowe; Laura Loney
Report Date	June 2023

2.0 Background

This research and evaluation report describes the history, context, and physical characteristics of the property at 533 Main Street in Glen Williams, Halton Hills, Ontario (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The report includes an evaluation of the property's cultural heritage value as prescribed by the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

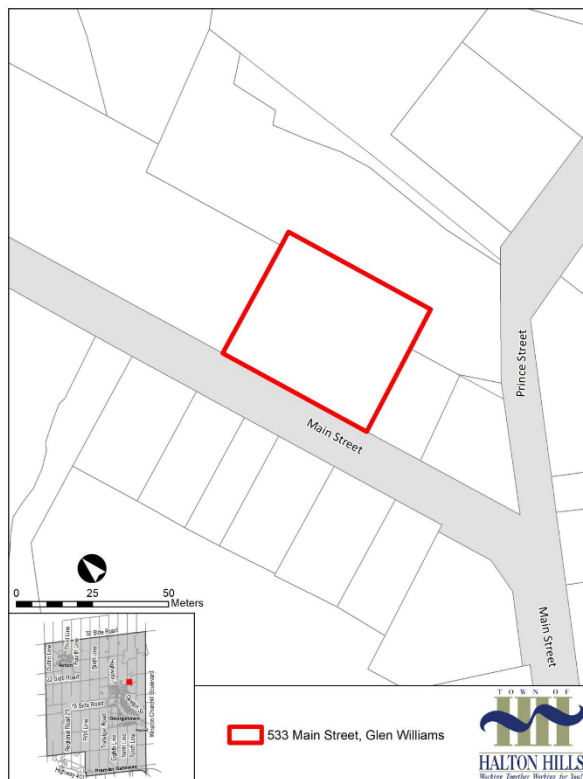


Figure 1: Location Map, 533 Main Street (Glen Williams)



Figure 2: 2021 Aerial, 533 Main Street (Glen Williams)

2.1 Historical Background

John Butler Muirhead (1800-1824) received a location ticket for Lot 21, Concession 10, Esquesing in 1818 (Figure 3). The son of a Loyalist family, Muirhead completed his settlement duties on his 200 acres on 13 June 1823. On 25 September 1824, the Crown patent was issued to Muirhead. However, Muirhead died suddenly on 29 November 1824 and was buried at St. Mark's Church in Niagara.



Figure 3: Patent Plan for Esquesing Township, c.1819, showing Muirhead's 200-acre property. The location of the subject property within Lot 21, Concession 10 is outlined in red.

Benajah Williams (1765-1851) was a clothier in Gainsborough Township, Niagara. Williams moved to Esquesing with his third wife, Elizabeth Kennedy (1788-1842), following the rest of her family. On October 12, 1824, he listed his mill property and Grimsby township property for sale in the *Niagara Gleaner*. Williams purchased Lot 21, Concession 10, Esquesing Township from the heirs of John Butler Muirhead on 9 November 1825, and had the saw mill up and running that same year.

Elizabeth (Kennedy) Williams' brother, Morris Kennedy (1794-1886), lived on the neighbouring farm, as did Charles Kennedy (who surveyed the township) and George Kennedy (after whom Georgetown was named). Elizabeth's nephew, Marris Kennedy Jr. (1824-1896), was licensed as a preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1833. Marris Kennedy Jr. began holding meetings in Williamsburg (later Glen Williams), since Charles Kennedy supported the Wesleyan Methodists who met in a chapel on Trafalgar Road (Lindsay Court Pumping Station). Williamsburg was put on the Methodist Episcopal Guelph circuit in 1836, ensuring regular visits from a preacher.

David Culp, the presiding elder of the Methodist Episcopal Church, proposed a building committee to build a church in Williamsburg, consisting of Benajah Williams, Peter Fox, and Joel Williams. The first Trustees of the church were Robert Lyman (son-in-law of Morris), Charles Williams, Morris Kennedy, Henry Grass, and George Kennedy (son of Morris).

In 1840, Reverend Luther Rice and Reverend Egerton Ryerson began a series of special services which was credited with inspiring a great spiritual revival. Also in 1840, Benajah Williams sold the land which became Village Lot 48 to the Trustees for five shillings.

The church was constructed in 1840 from wood sawn at the Williams' sawmill around the corner. There are no extant images of the original building, but it occupied the same footprint as the existing building.

The quarterly meeting of the Methodist Episcopal circuit was being held 'in Williams Meeting House' as early as November 1841. The 1854 survey of Glen Williams shows the church in its current location (Figure 4). In his writings, Reverend Richard Ruggle described a service with women sitting on one side and men on the other. There was no organ, however it is noted that Brother Culp sung a solo before preaching when he visited. Massive pillars supported the roof of the Church, and the pulpit was a huge structure rising six feet from the floor.

The Williamsburg Church was part of the Nelson circuit until 1843, when it was transferred to the Toronto circuit in Churchville. In 1852, the village name was changed from Williamsburg to Glen Williams.

In 1868, the frame church building was repaired, and a stone foundation was put in. The interior was renovated, removing the pillars, and renewing the wooden ceiling.

Benajah Williams' third son, Jacob (1816-1853), married Frances Huestis Beek (1822-1887). While they both supported the Williamsburg Church, Frances also supported the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary society.

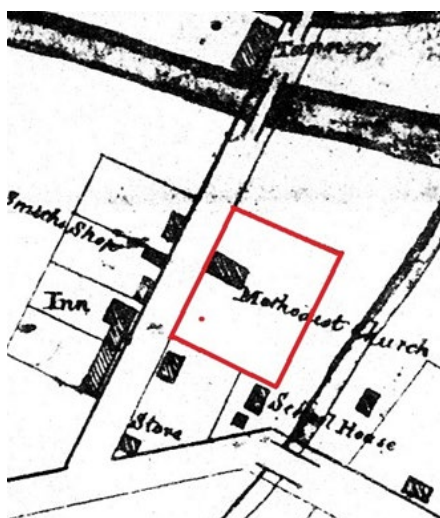


Figure 4: 1854 survey of Glen Williams showing Methodist Church (EHS - MG12 A3 #23)

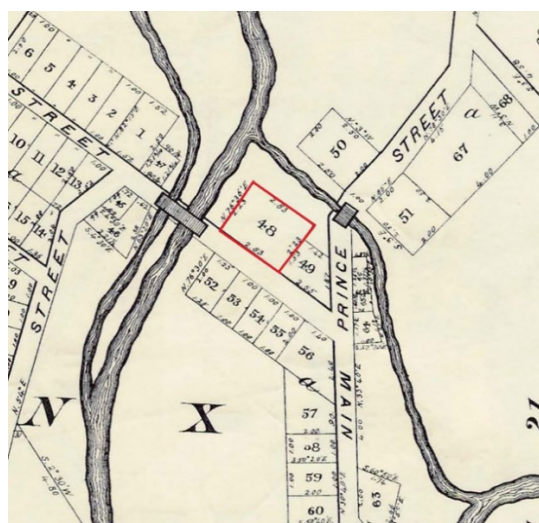


Figure 5: 1877 Halton Atlas detail showing Lot 48, Glen Williams (EHS - MG12 A2 #3.05)

In 1874, the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada and the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of Eastern British America united, annexing the Methodist New Connexion Church in Canada as well. In 1884, the Episcopal and Wesleyan Methodist Churches joined to form the Methodist Church of Canada.

In 1902, the Anglicans laid the cornerstone for a new stone church across the river from the Glen Methodist Church. The frame Methodist Church was showing its age, so Rev. G. Smitherman and the congregation decided to renew the original building in its existing location.

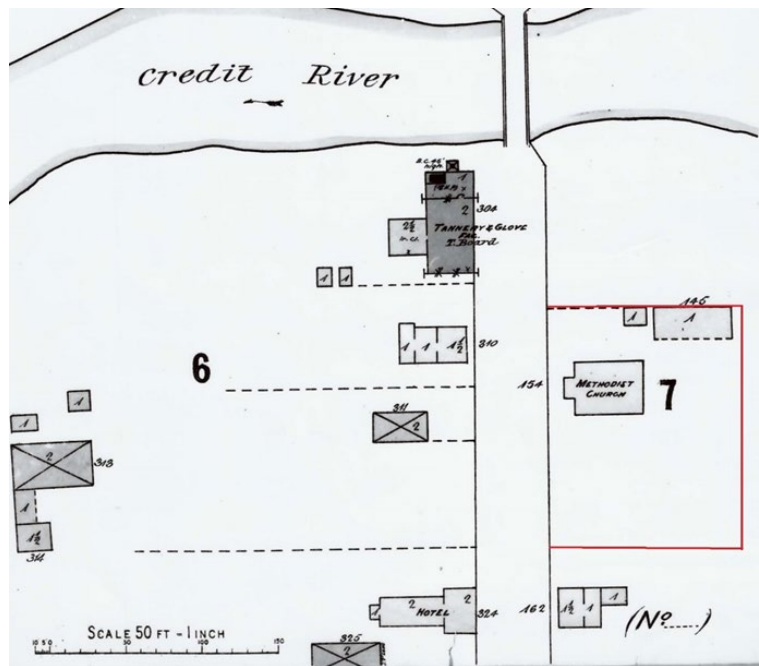


Figure 6: 533 Main Street labelled as Methodist Church on 1898 Fire Insurance map, showing additional structures within the subject property (EHS - MG12 A2 #3.01)

The November 19, 1902, edition of *The Georgetown Herald* reported the reopening of the church:

"Sunday and Monday were historic days in the Glen Williams Methodist Church. Early in the present year the Trustees decided that the old building which had done many a years' good service in the past, was not good enough for the advancing future, and so it was decided to make practically a new building of it. The workers in connection with the organization fell in with the proposal and all united to make the effort a success. The result is most gratifying. The building has been transformed inside and out: the old frame chapel is now a handsome brick one; the old uncomfortable seats are replaced by those of latest design; the coal lamps are out and electricity now does the lighting. It is a through transformation and all are pleased that the change made has been so radical and complete."

Photographs of the church from the early 20th century show its transformation from its more humble origin as a simple frame structure to a brick-clad structure with associated outbuildings (Figure 7 through Figure 9). The 1903 renovation maintained the "rectangular box" shape and was influenced by the Commissioner's Gothic Revival style introduced to England in response to the French Revolution. The vernacular box design emphasized simplicity with simple pine strip slightly vaulted ceiling and the altar at the east end of the building. Descriptions of the interior are suggestive of the Nova Scotian neo-classical influence brought by the Loyalists. The influence of Frances Huestis Williams and her strong Wesleyan Methodist views can be suggested.



Figure 7: Glen Methodist Church c. 1903, showing the wooden sidewalk along Main Street (EHS 21757)



Figure 8: Interior of Glen Williams Methodist Church c. 1912 (EHS19982)

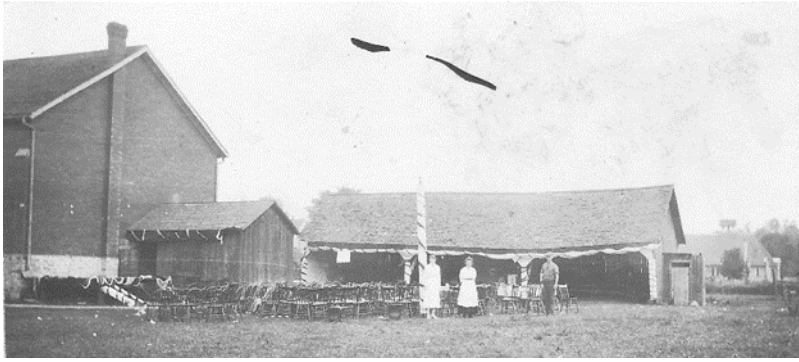


Figure 9: WWI Veterans service in 1918. Shown left to right are the Church, the woodshed, the driveshed, the outhouse, and St. Alban's Anglican Church beyond (EHS00968)

The Glen Williams Methodist Church was part of the Norval-Terra Cotta circuit from 1902 until 1925. Then it became part of the Limehouse and Churchill circuit. In 1925, a further union of the remaining Methodist churches and some Presbyterians created the United Church of Canada. In 1937, Limehouse United Church was closed, and the parsonage was moved to Glen Williams, in a cottage owned by Joseph Beaumont, opposite the woolen mill.

A 1925 photograph shows continued change to the landscape surrounding the church property, including a new concrete sidewalk along Main Street (Figure 10). Figure 11 shows the large church congregation in 1936.



Figure 10: Glen United Church c. 1925. Note the concrete sidewalk. EHS20354



Figure 11: Glen United Church congregation c. 1936. EHS20348

As with many churches, updates continued to be made throughout the years to the church building. In 1954, the old pump organ was replaced by an electric organ. A two-story brick addition was later made to the back of the church, officially opening on 1st April 1962. In 1967, as a Centennial project, the sanctuary was completely renovated. In keeping with the times, a suspended ceiling was installed, and all evidence of the original frame building was then hidden.

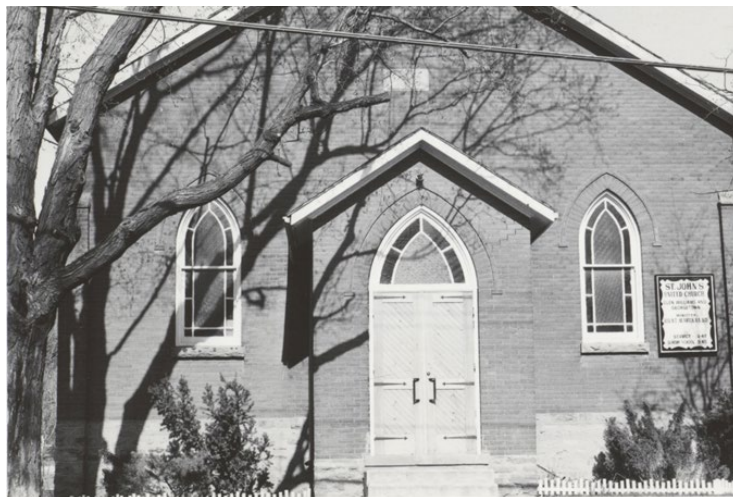


Figure 12: St. John's United Church, Glen Williams in April 1973 (EHS 13561)

In 1971, the Glen Williams United Church left Norval United and amalgamated with St. John's United Church, Georgetown. The church was then re-christened St. John's United Church, Glen Williams.

In 1986, the Fellowship Room within the 1960s addition was renovated and the exterior was landscaped. In the early 2000s, several improvements were made to the Glen Williams building. In 2004, the drop ceiling in the sanctuary was removed to expose the original vaulted ceiling of pine strips, dating from 1868. The basement and kitchen were fully renovated, a second exterior door was added accessing a rebuilt stairwell and new property fencing was installed, all in the hope of attracting a Montessori school as a tenant. In 2007, a main floor washroom was installed in the Fellowship Room to support their program.

During 2011 to 2014, St. John's celebrated its 175th anniversary in both locations. In 2011, the Glen Williams sanctuary was repainted, and the exterior landscaping removed and replanted. In 2012, the pews in Glen Williams were removed and replaced with stackable chairs.

As church attendance dropped, services were reduced at the Glen Williams church. Eventually, only summer services were held, and the building soon attracted a Montessori School. The advent of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 accelerated the decline of church attendance, and the decision to close Glen Williams was made. The final service was held on 14 November 2021 and the church was then decommissioned.

On January 6, 2022, the congregation sold its Glen Williams church property to its long-term tenant, The Village Montessori School. Since January 2022, Village Montessori and Consulting have owned the property.

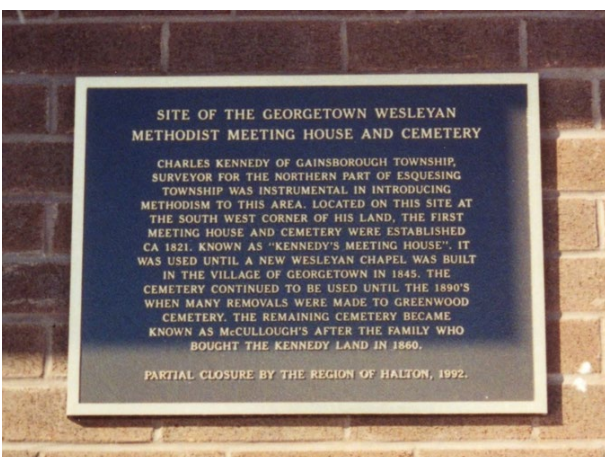


Figure 13: Site of Georgetown Wesleyan Methodist Chapel on Lindsay Court (1995) (EHS12529)

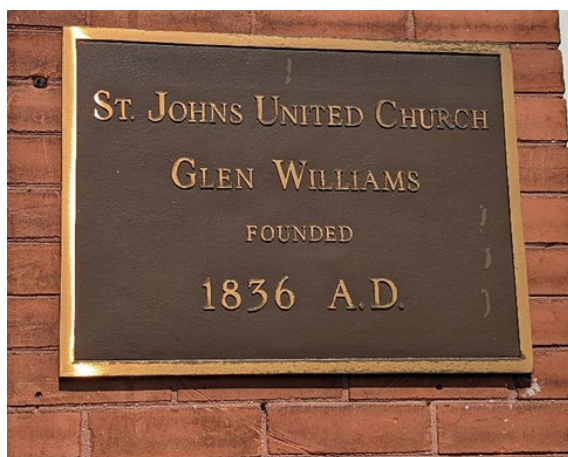


Figure 14: Plaque marking the addition of Williamsburg to the Guelph Methodist Episcopal circuit. (J.M. Rowe June 2023)

2.2 Property & Architectural Description

Village Montessori property is located at 533 Main Street, Glen Williams, Halton Hills, and is a rectangular village lot #48, situated on the east side of Main Street, between Prince Street and the Credit River Williams Bridge. The property is legally known as LT 58, RCP 1556; HALTON HILLS.

The subject property contains a two-storey Gothic Revival frame Methodist Church built in 1840 and bricked over in 1903. The building functioned as a church from 1840 until 2021.



Figure 15: Village Montessori & Consulting, 533 Main Street, Glen Williams (J.M. Rowe June 2023)



Figure 16: Front door and vestibule (J.M. Rowe June 2023)

Today, the building has a low pitch asphalt shingle roof, a single step raised chancel, lancet windows and decorative buttresses, all elements characteristic of Ontario Gothic Revival churches.

The red brick façade has a tiny brick vestibule containing steps leading to the interior doors of the nave of the church. Exterior steps lead to the raised lancet arch entranceway with double wood strip rectangular doors. The top of the arch contains a transom in a simple tracery window, containing a central white pebbled glass and four outline sections of yellow pebbled glass. Above the frame of the arch doorway is a brick hood mould with straight label stops. A simple black lamp sits at the apex of the lancet arch doorway. A bronze plaque to the right of the doorway states, “St. John’s United Church, Glen Williams, Founded 1836 A.D.” A commemorative stone is set into the brickwork above the peak of the vestibule. It reads, “Glen Methodist Church A.D. 1837 & 1902.” (Figure 17)



Figure 17: Looking northeast towards the existing building (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

Symmetrical lancet arch windows flank the vestibule. They are single hung sash windows with an interior framing of rectangular sash bars, forming squares in the two bottom corners. The rectangular glazing is tinted either yellow or red. The interior glazing is clear. The window framing is original wood, painted white. A sandstone sill with a rough front edging supports each window.

On each corner is a brick buttress, capped with rough sandstone. The buttress continues in mortared field stone at the basement level.



Figure 18: South-west corner buttress (J.M. Rowe June 2023)

On the south side of the building (Figure 19) are four arched lancet windows that match the front two. Four corresponding single hung sash windows are at ground level, for the basement. Each basement window is topped with a rough-finished sandstone header. Three brick and stone buttresses, matching the corners separate each window. The back corner of the original building also has a corner brick and stone buttress.



Figure 19: South elevation (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

A modern steel door is set in a doorway cut into the south-west corner of the original church, up against the corner buttress. Sympathetic red brick forms a brick header for the doorway. It was installed to improve fire safety for the Montessori school when they were tenants.

The 1962 red brick addition (Figure 20 and Figure 21) has two basement sash windows with a concrete block basement. The windows are topped by smooth stone headers. There is a single upper storey sash window. A modern steel door is fitted in the south-east corner, topped with a shingled wooden gable overhang.

The 1962 addition avoids the rear corner buttresses on both sides. The rear of the addition has three upper storey four-pane sash windows, while two windows serve at the basement level. The north-east side of the addition has two upper windows with two corresponding lower-level windows.



Figure 20: 2006 view of north side of the 1962 addition. J.M. Rowe photo



Figure 21: Looking towards the rear (east) elevation (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The north side of the original church has the same four arched lancet windows with four corresponding lower windows as the south side. The buttress placement – each corner and three between the windows, matches the south side (Figure 22).



Figure 22: North elevation of 533 Main Street, Glen Williams, showing rear addition (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The low-pitch roof is asphalt shingled with narrow fascia boards. They have been covered in white siding with matching gutters and downspouts. A single rectangular brick chimney sits at the rear of the original building.



Figure 23: North side of the Church during the 2006 Town Hall Shrub Sale (J.M. Rowe June 2023)

A stone driveway encircles the building expanding into a rear parking lot. To the south of the building and driveway is a large rectangular lawn. This is now enclosed as a children's playground (Figure 24 and Figure 25).



Figure 24: Looking south within the property towards the playground (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 25: Looking southwest along the driveway into the playground (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

3.0 Description of Heritage Attributes and Evaluation Checklist

The following evaluation checklist applies to Ontario Regulation 9/06 made under the *Ontario Heritage Act*: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. The criteria are prescribed for municipal designation of Heritage Properties under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The evaluation tables utilize an 'X' to signify applicable criteria and 'N/A' to signify criteria that are not applicable for this property.

Design or Physical Value	
Is rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material, or construction method	X
Displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit	N/A
Demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement	N/A

The Glen Methodist Church at 533 Main Street has physical and design value as a representative example of a Gothic Revival church. Constructed originally as a simple frame church in 1840, sympathetic alterations to clad the structure in brick in the early 20th century retained its original rectangular form and contributed to its Gothic Revival aesthetic, including its gable roof, single-step raised chancel, lancet, or Gothic-arched, windows and decorative buttresses, all elements of Ontario Gothic Revival churches.

Historical or Associative Value	
Has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization, or institution that is significant to a community	X
Yields, or has potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture	N/A
Demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer, or theorist who is significant to a community	N/A

The Glen Methodist Church at 533 Main Street has historical and associative value as it is directly associated with the establishment and evolution of the Episcopal Methodist Church, and later United Church, within the Province, as well as the associative value with the religious community within Glen Williams for over 80 years. The property, and in particular the church building, demonstrate the historical significance of religious institutions as community hubs within hamlets like Glen Williams, while also reflecting the investments, alterations and improvements that are typically made in such institutions by their congregations over the lifetime of the church.

Contextual Value	
Is important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of an area	X
Is physically, functionally, visually, or historically linked to its surroundings	X
Is a landmark	X

The Glen Methodist Church at 533 Main Street has contextual value as a landmark along Main Street in Glen Williams since its construction almost two hundred years ago. Located along a largely unaltered streetscape of nineteenth-century buildings, the former church building helps to define, maintain, and

support the historic character of Glen Williams and is, in its original location, is physically, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings.

4.0 Summary

Following research and evaluation according to Ontario Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the Glen Methodist Church at 533 Main Street in Glen Williams has physical and design, historical and associative, and contextual value and therefore meets Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest.

The heritage attributes of the Glen Methodist Church at 533 Main Street are identified as follows:

- The setback, placement, and orientation of the mid-nineteenth century Gothic Revival Glen Methodist Church along Main Street in Glen Williams;
- The scale, form, and massing of the one-storey brick-clad frame structure with gable roof;
- Materials throughout, including red brick cladding and detailing, stone foundations, stone sills, and lintels;
- On the front (west) elevation,
 - o The one-storey brick-clad vestibule with gable roof, raised central Gothic-arched entrance with stained glass transom, and brick hood mould;
 - o Symmetrically-placed lancet window openings on either side of the main entrance with brick hood moulds;
 - o Brick buttresses at the corner of the front and side elevations; and
 - o Centered above the front elevation, the commemorative stone reading “Glen Methodist Church A.D. 1837 & 1902”; and,
- On the side (north and south) elevations,
 - o Four symmetrically placed lancet window openings with brick buttresses between, above flat-headed window openings at the basement level with stone lintels within the stone foundation.

The 1960s addition and interiors of the existing church building have not been identified as part of this report.

5.0 Sources

Primary Sources

Archival Photographs, Esquesing Historical Society Archives and Halton Images (individual citations in-text)

Ontario Land Registry Records

"History of St. John's," <https://www.stjohnsuc.ca/history-of-st-john-s> Accessed 3 June 2023

Historic Mapping and Aerials:

Credit Valley Conservation Authority, Contour map of Glen Williams, 1965

Fire Insurance Map of Glen Williams, Sept. 1898 -EHS Archives MG12 A2 3.01

Phillips, George W, "Plan of Town Lots in George Town," May 1854 -EHS Archives MG12 A3 01

Pope, J.H., *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton*, Toronto: 1877

Tremaine, Rev. J., *Map of Halton County*, 1858

Ancestry.ca Records

Newspapers

Georgetown Herald, Georgetown, ON:

"Historical Sketch of Glen Williams United Church," 2 October 1940

"Methodists' Day at Glen Williams," 19 November 1902

<https://news.haltonhills.halinet.on.ca/89289/page/2>

Independent, Georgetown, ON

Barth, Dorothy, "St. John's in Glen celebrates 140 years in village," 28 April 1976

Secondary Sources

McDonald, John, *Halton Sketches Revisited*, Norval:1996

Rowe, J.M.B., *Bicentennial Directory of Glen Williams*, Glen Williams: 1984

Rowe, J.M.B., *Glen Williams on the Credit River*, Esquesing Historical Society, Georgetown: 1993

Rowe, J.M.B., *Glen Williams: An Oasis in the Credit Valley*, Esquesing Historical Society, Georgetown: 2014

Ruggle, Richard E., "Methodists of Glen Williams," 10 May 1986, *Halton Hills This Week*

Research and Evaluation Report



(Town of Halton Hills 2023)

St. John's Anglican Church

10996 Trafalgar Road, Stewarttown Town of Halton Hills

June 2023

Prepared by:

Laura Loney, Senior Heritage Planner – Town of Halton Hills
with
Mark Rowe, Vice-chair – Heritage Halton Hills
Ray Denny, Heritage Halton Hills

Table of Contents

1.0 Property Description.....	4
2.0 Background	4
2.1 Historical Background	5
3.0 Description of Heritage Attributes and Evaluation Checklist	15
4.0 Summary	16
5.0 Sources.....	17

Table of Figures

Figure 1: Location Map, 10996 Trafalgar Road	4
Figure 2: 2021 Aerial Photo, 10996 Trafalgar Road.....	4
Figure 3: 1822 Patent Plan, subject property identified in red outline	5
Figure 4: 1858 <i>Tremaine's Map of the County of Halton</i> , subject property identified in red outline	5
Figure 5: 1877 <i>Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton</i> , subject property identified in red outline	5
Figure 6: Former Stewarttown School on the southeast side of 15 Side Road, built c.1873 (William Morrison 1897, courtesy of The Georgetown Vault)	6
Figure 7: Archbishop John Strachan (Library and Archives Canada via Parks Canada Directory of Federal Designations)	6
Figure 8: St. John's Anglican Cemetery, 11091 Trafalgar Road (Town of Halton Hills 2016)	7
Figure 9: St. John's Anglican Church, prior to 1908 (Courtesy of the Georgetown Vault)	7
Figure 10: Rear of St. John's Anglican Church and driving sheds, which were removed in 1958, c.1948. As evidenced in the photograph, the church building has been stuccoed (EHS 475f).	7
Figure 11: St. John's Anglican c.1958 during the basement construction (Courtesy of The Georgetown Vault).....	8
Figure 12: St. John's Anglican after basement construction (Courtesy of The Georgetown Vault).....	8
Figure 13: Pen and ink sketch of St. John's Anglican Church, c. 1978 (EHS 16879)	8
Figure 14: St. John's Anglican Church, c.1995 (EHS 16799.2).....	9
Figure 15: St. John's Anglican Church, c. 1995 (EHS 16798.2).....	9
Figure 16: 1909 National Topographic Map	9
Figure 17: 1929 National Topographic Map	9
Figure 18: 1942 National Topographic Map	9
Figure 19: 1954 Aerial Photograph.....	9
Figure 20: 1960 Aerial Photograph	10
Figure 21: 1974 NTS Map.....	10
Figure 22: 1999 Aerial Photograph.....	10
Figure 23: 2005 Aerial Photograph	10
Figure 24: Looking north along Trafalgar Road towards the subject property (Google Streetview 2021) .	11

Figure 25: Looking south along Trafalgar Road towards the subject property (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	11
Figure 26: Front elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	12
Figure 27: Front elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	12
Figure 28: Detail of front elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	12
Figure 29: Side (south) elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	13
Figure 30: Northwest corner of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	13
Figure 31: Side (north) elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	13
Figure 32: Rear (west) elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Google Streetview 2021)	14
Figure 33: Rear (west) elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)	14

1.0 Property Description

10996 Trafalgar Road	
Municipality	Town of Halton Hills
County or Region	Regional Municipality of Halton
Legal Description	PT LT 15, CON 7, AS IN EW4112 & EW4113; HALTON HILLS/ESQUESING
Construction Date	c.1840s
Original Use	Religious
Current Use	Religious
Architect/Building/Designer	N/A
Architectural Style	Vernacular with Gothic Revival Influences
Additions/Alterations	Basement (1950s); Interior Alterations
Heritage Status	Listed on the Town's Heritage Register
Recorder(s)	Laura Loney with Mark Rowe and Ray Denny
Report Date	June 2023

2.0 Background

This research and evaluation report describes the history, context, and physical characteristics of the property at 10996 Trafalgar Road in Stewarttown, Halton Hills, Ontario (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The report includes an evaluation of the property's cultural heritage value as prescribed by the *Ontario Heritage Act*.



Figure 1: Location Map, 10996 Trafalgar Road



Figure 2: 2021 Aerial Photo, 10996 Trafalgar Road

2.1 Historical Background

The earliest settlement in Esquesing Township, Stewarttown was first settled by Protestant Irish immigrants in 1819, later named for Irish brothers John and Duncan Stewart who settled here in 1842 and took advantage of Black Creek for its waterpower for the construction of mills. Stewarttown was located in an advantageous position along Trafalgar Road, the principal north-south trade route between the 1820s and 1850s to the ports in Oakville, and in 1849 became the site for the permanent Township hall, which has since been demolished. With the advent of the Grand Trunk Railway, Georgetown overtook Stewarttown as the principal village in the area and the community began to decline.

The 1822 Patent Plan (Figure 3) and 1858 *Tremaine's Map of the County of Halton* (Figure 4) show Thomas Thompson as the owner of Lot 15, Concession 7 within Esquesing Township. The 1877 *Illustrated Atlas of the County of Halton* (Figure 5) shows John W. Reid as the owner of the majority of Lot 15 and shows the former schoolhouse in the vicinity of the subject property, pictured in Figure 6.

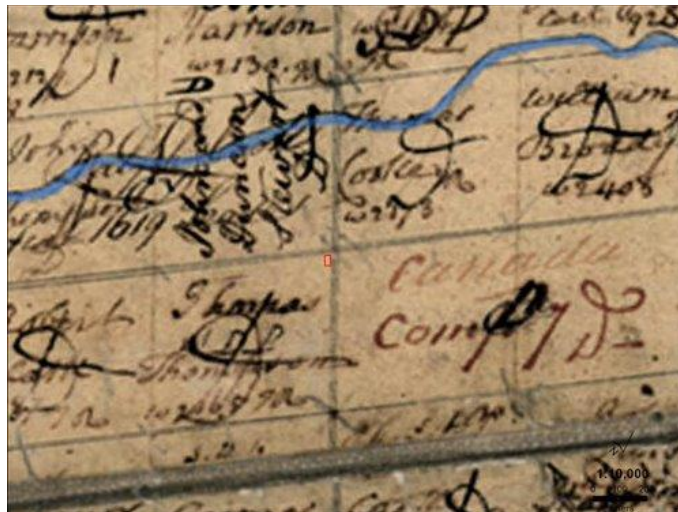


Figure 3: 1822 Patent Plan, subject property identified in red outline

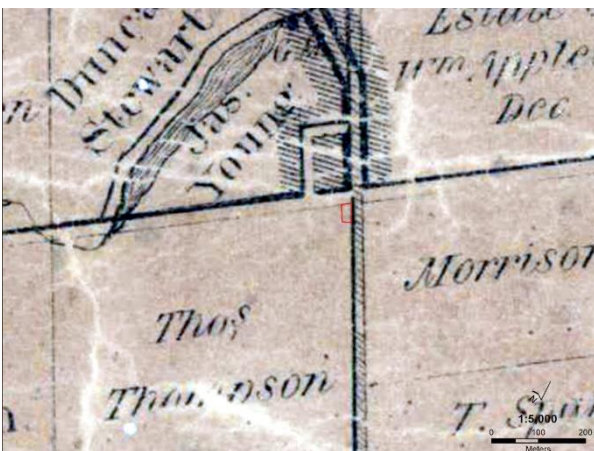


Figure 4: 1858 *Tremaine's Map of the County of Halton*, subject property identified in red outline



Figure 5: 1877 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton*, subject property identified in red outline



Figure 6: Former Stewarttown School on the southeast side of 15 Side Road, built c.1873 (William Morrison 1897, courtesy of The Georgetown Vault)

St. John's Anglican parish is one of the oldest in Halton Region. Although the existing building did not yet exist on the site in 1834, the parish was officially established that year and services took place in the home of Mr. Thompson by the first missionary priest assigned to St. John's, Reverend Adam Elliot. Elliott was one of many travelling missionaries through the area who served the community, and he also served the Anglican parish in Acton at St. Alban's church.

The first confirmation ceremony for the church was held in July 1846 by Archbishop Strachan, who had travelled from York for the ceremony. John Strachan (Figure 7) was the first Anglican bishop of Toronto and organized the Anglican church in Canada as a self-governing denomination.



Figure 7: Archbishop John Strachan
(Library and Archives Canada via Parks
Canada Directory of Federal Designations)

A cemetery for the congregation was established further along 7th Line (now Trafalgar Road) on land given by William Morrison and formally deeded in 1849, and this is where the first Church of England was established. A frame church was originally planned for the site, however the site was hard to access and a building was never completed on the site (Figure 8).



Figure 8: St. John's Anglican Cemetery, 11091 Trafalgar Road (Town of Halton Hills 2016)

In 1833, Thomas Thompson had donated land to the Wesleyan Methodist Church congregation in Stewarttown in 1833, provided that it was used as a graveyard and a schoolhouse or Methodist Meeting House. The church building at this location, a mile south of Stewarttown along Trafalgar Road, was in use by 1840. Following the building of the “New Connexion” Methodist Church in Ashgrove in 1860, the Stewarttown Methodist congregation closed. The existing church building was moved to this site in 1880 after it was purchased by the Church of England from the Wesleyan Methodists. The church added a chancel and vestry to the building after its relocation in 1884. Prior to 1908, the building was clad with wood clapboard and featured a brick chimney towards the rear (Figure 9). Additionally, a wooden driving shed was located adjacent to the church building (**Error! Reference source not found.**).



Figure 9: St. John's Anglican Church, prior to 1908 (Courtesy of the Georgetown Vault)



Figure 10: Rear of St. John's Anglican Church and driving sheds, which were removed in 1958, c.1948. As evidenced in the photograph, the church building has been stuccoed (EHS 475f).

Early records for the church, including parish registers, were destroyed by fire at the home of Colonel Murray in the 1880s, and as a result little information is available about the congregation before this time. However, significant work was undertaken by Lucy Emslie to piece its history together as part of her work *A History of St. John's Anglican Church, Stewarttown, Ontario (Town of Esquesing 1821)*. Emslie identifies the physical changes to the church overtime, including: recladding of the exterior with stucco (prior to 1908); modification to a centre-aisle plan (between 1923 and 1926); introduction of hydroelectricity (1949); removal of the c.1858 driving shed (1955); raising of the church for a new basement (1958); new panelling, hardwood flooring and furnace; and, new choir rails (1972). Despite these changes, the church has remained largely unaltered on its exterior over time and has remained a landmark at 15 Side Road and Trafalgar Road since its relocation to this corner in the late nineteenth century.



Figure 11: St. John's Anglican c.1958 during the basement construction (Courtesy of The Georgetown Vault)



Figure 12: St. John's Anglican after basement construction (Courtesy of The Georgetown Vault)

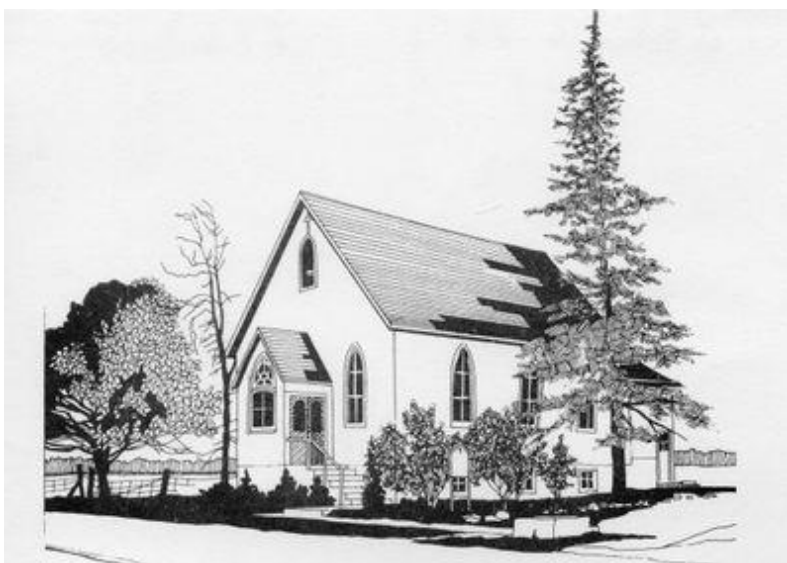


Figure 13: Pen and ink sketch of St. John's Anglican Church, c. 1978 (EHS 16879)



Figure 14: St. John's Anglican Church, c.1995 (EHS 16799.2)



Figure 15: St. John's Anglican Church, c. 1995 (EHS 16798.2)

A review of National Topographic Maps from the first half of the twentieth century (Figure 16 through Figure 18) shows the church at this location, with the school identified to the west of the church and the development of Stewarttown to the north. 1954 aerial photography (Figure 19) shows the church within a rural context to the south and residential development along Trafalgar Road to the north.

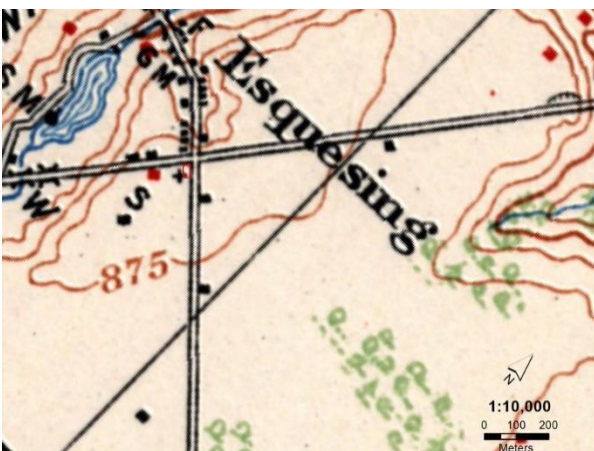


Figure 16: 1909 National Topographic Map

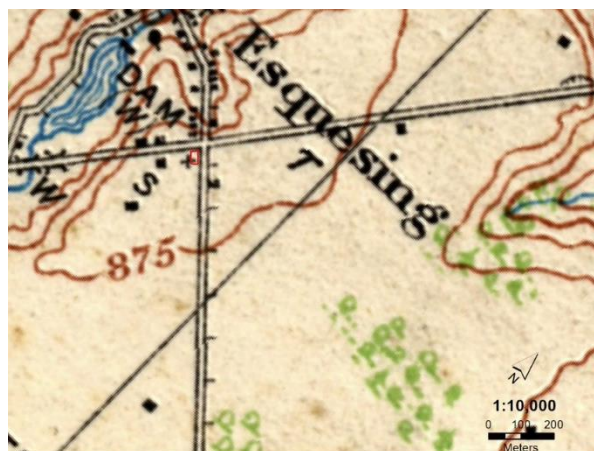


Figure 17: 1929 National Topographic Map

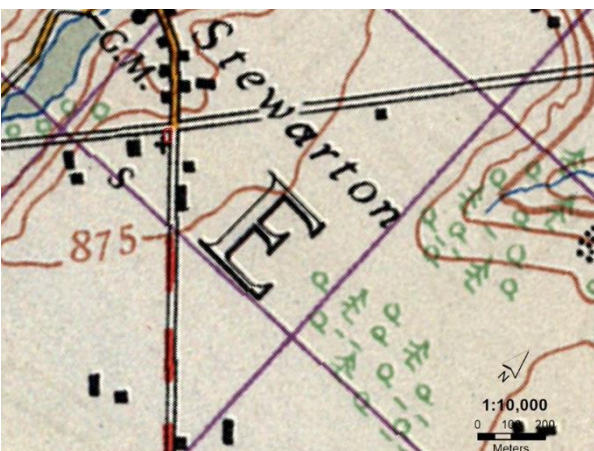


Figure 18: 1942 National Topographic Map

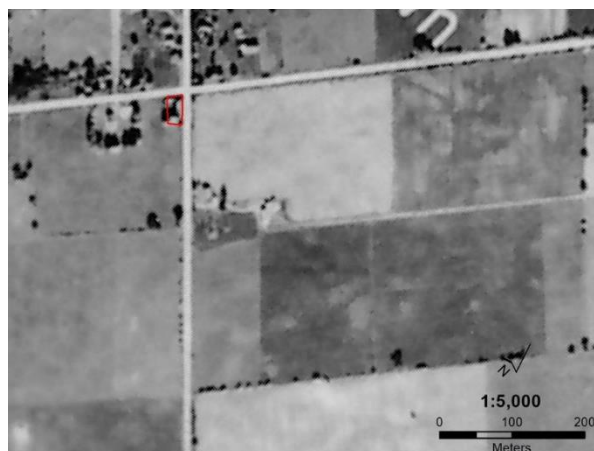


Figure 19: 1954 Aerial Photograph

The 1960 aerial photograph (Figure 20) shows the beginnings of the new Stewarttown Public School on the southeast corner of 15 Side Road and Trafalgar Road, and the 1974 National Topographic Map (Figure 21) also clearly identifies the school along Trafalgar Road to the east.



Figure 20: 1960 Aerial Photograph

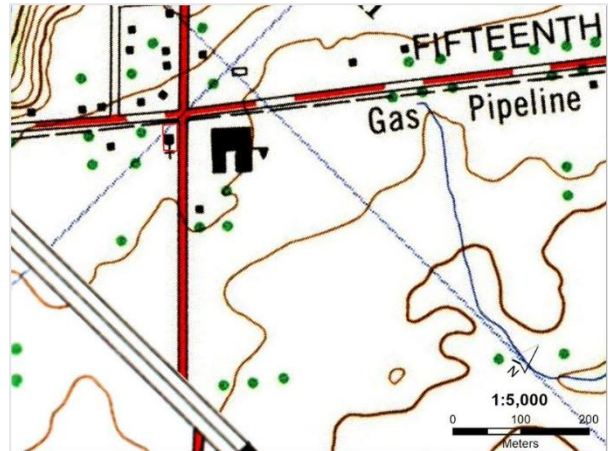


Figure 21: 1974 NTS Map

Aerial photography from 1999 and 2005 (Figure 22 and Figure 23) show the church located at the northeast corner of Lot 15 surrounded by fields, while new residential development is evident to the northeast off of 15 Side Road as the area has developed further north of 15 Side Road.



Figure 22: 1999 Aerial Photograph



Figure 23: 2005 Aerial Photograph

2.2 Property & Architectural Description

The property at 10996 Trafalgar Road is located at the southwest corner of 15 Side Road and Trafalgar Road. The property includes a one-storey frame church building with a gravel parking lot, paved walkway to the front entrance, and features several mature deciduous trees along the property line (Figure 24 and Figure 25).

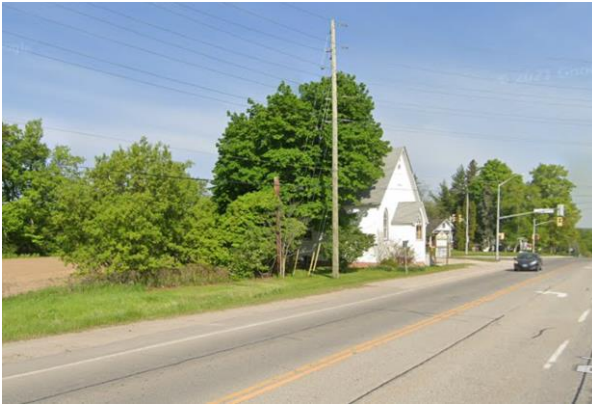


Figure 24: Looking north along Trafalgar Road towards the subject property (Google Streetview 2021)



Figure 25: Looking south along Trafalgar Road towards the subject property (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The existing one-storey structure is a wood frame building clad with stucco, with a front gable roof. Each side elevation features three symmetrically placed Gothic-arched windows. On the front elevation along Trafalgar Road, a window opening is located on either side of the entrance vestibule which features a side double-door entrance above a flight of concrete steps. The entrance was previously centered within the vestibule along Trafalgar Road according to historic photographs. Above the vestibule and beneath the gable roof is the church bell within a recess on the front elevation. (Figure 26 through Figure 28)



Figure 26: Front elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 27: Front elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 28: Detail of front elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The south elevation of the church features three symmetrically placed lancet windows and flat-headed window openings at the basement level. A rear one-storey addition is visible on the west side of the original church building (Figure 29).



Figure 29: Side (south) elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The side elevation along 15 Side Road features the same symmetrically placed Gothic-arched window openings with basement windows located below, and a gable-roofed entrance within the rear one-storey addition. The entrance within the rear addition is located beneath a gable roofed open porch structure (Figure 30 and Figure 31)



Figure 30: Northwest corner of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 31: Side (north) elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The rear elevation of the main church building is a blank wall with no openings, while the one-storey addition features a single round-arched window and a tripartite round window opening. A small metal chimney is located above the roof of the addition (Figure 32).



Figure 32: Rear (west) elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Google Streetview 2021)



Figure 33: Rear (west) elevation of St. John's Anglican Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

2.3 Architectural Style and Analysis

The steeply-pitched gable roof of St. John's Anglican Church is characteristic of the Gothic Revival style, as are its pointed lancet windows. Aside from those features, however, the church itself is a vernacular box shape and features no other significant ornamentation on the exterior, apart from the central stained glass window within the front vestibule.

Thomas McIlwraith notes in *Looking for Old Ontario* that "[t]he pointed gothic window is a universal architectural signal of the Christian church. The revival of Gothicism in the Western world in the 1830s was just one more upswing in the cyclical way styles rise and fall in favour. By chance, it coincided with Upper Canada's first widespread demand for church building" (p. 150). McIlwraith goes on to note that a small Gothic Revival building was the choice of many Methodist congregations and that hundreds were built across Ontario. By the 1870s merged congregations were sharing and disposing of their buildings as consolidation amongst Protestant denominations in the late nineteenth century continued, and this is reflected in the Anglican congregation's purchase of the Methodist's church building.

3.0 Description of Heritage Attributes and Evaluation Checklist

The following evaluation checklist applies to Ontario Regulation 9/06 made under the *Ontario Heritage Act*: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. The criteria are prescribed for municipal designation of Heritage Properties under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The evaluation tables utilize an 'X' to signify applicable criteria and 'N/A' to signify criteria that is not applicable for this property.

The following evaluation checklist applies to Ontario Regulation 9/06 made under the *Ontario Heritage Act*: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. The criteria are prescribed for municipal designation of Heritage Properties under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The evaluation tables utilize an 'X' to signify applicable criteria and 'N/A' to signify criteria that is not applicable for this property.

Design or Physical Value	
Is rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material, or construction method	X
Displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit	N/A
Demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement	N/A

The property at 10996 Trafalgar Road has physical and design value as an early, representative example of a rural, vernacular church building with Gothic Revival influences within the community of Stewarttown. Constructed c. 1840, the frame church building has had few modifications on the exterior apart from the stucco which has been extant for over a century and which as such has acquired value as an attribute of the building. Gothic Revival influences within the structure include the lancet windows and steep gabled roof.

Historical or Associative Value	
Has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization, or institution that is significant to a community	X
Yields, or has potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture	N/A
Demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer, or theorist who is significant to a community	N/A

The property at 10996 Trafalgar Road has significant historical and associative value. The church building is associated with the early Protestant Christian communities in Stewarttown and the surrounding area, with early associations with the Methodist church and later Anglican congregation. Located at the corner of Trafalgar Road and 15 Side Road, the church has a long association with the Stewarttown community

Contextual Value	
Is important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of an area	X
Is physically, functionally, visually, or historically linked to its surroundings	X
Is a landmark	X

In its existing location since the late 19th century, St. John's Anglican Church has long served as a landmark at 15 Side Road and Trafalgar Road. Located at the southern terminus of the community of Stewarttown, the stuccoed church building is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to its surroundings at the edge of the residential community of Stewarttown.

4.0 Summary

Following research and evaluation according to Ontario Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the property at 10996 Trafalgar Road has physical and design, historical and associative, and contextual value and therefore meets Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest.

The heritage attributes of the property at 10996 Trafalgar Road are identified as follows:

- The setback, placement, and orientation of the c.1840s frame church building at the southwest corner of 15 Side Road and Trafalgar Road
- The scale, form and massing of the one-storey stuccoed frame structure with gable roof with front vestibule;
- The materials, including stuccoed exterior;
- On the front (east) elevation:
 - The central vestibule with wooden lancet stained-glass window with wood surround;
 - Beneath the centre gable, the recessed alcove with bell; and,
- On the side (north and south) elevations, the three symmetrically placed lancet window openings with wood surrounds.

The interiors of the church building, rear one-storey addition and raised entrance within the front vestibule have not been included as part of the heritage attributes of the property. These modifications to the original church building, while complimentary to the structure, should remain flexible to accommodate future uses for the building as well as accessibility as may be required.

5.0 Sources

Primary Sources

Newspapers

Georgetown Herald

"Historic St. Alban's parish: Church resisted bids to replace it". *The Georgetown Herald*, August 26, 1981, p. 1. <https://news.haltonhills.halinet.on.ca/2325658/page/1001344?q=adam+elliott>.

Acton Free Press

"Centennial year for St. Alban's parish". *The Acton Free Press*, March 15, 1972, p. 16. <https://news.haltonhills.halinet.on.ca/2313775/page/938599?q=adam+elliott>

Secondary Sources

Blumenson, John. *Ontario Architecture: A Guide to Styles and Building Terms 1784 to the present*. Fitzhenry & Whiteside: Canada, 1990.

Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia. "John Strachan." *Encyclopedia Britannica*, April 8, 2023. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/John-Strachan>.

Diocesan Communications. (2022, March 7). *Historic Anglican church marks 185 years of ministry*. Niagara Anglican. <https://niagaraanglican.news/historic-anglican-church-marks-185-years-of-ministry/>

Emslie, Lucy. *A History of St. John's Anglican Church, Stewarttown, Ontario (Town of Esquesing 1821)*. Lucy E. Emslie: MS 1992.

Esquesing Historical Society. "St. John's Anglican Church, Stewarttown Celebrates 170 Years". Esquesing Historical Society Newsletter, Vo. 29, No. 3 (September – October 2004): p. 4.

Esquesing Historical Society. "Stewarttown". Esquesing Historical Society Newsletter, Vol. 30, No. 3 (September – October 2005): p. 1-4.

Halton-Peel Branch. St John's Anglican – Stewarttown, 2023. <https://haltonpeel.ogs.on.ca/st-johns-anglican-stewarttown/>.

McIlwraith, Thomas. *Looking for Old Ontario*. University of London Press: Toronto, 1997.

MHBC. (2022, May). *Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (revised): Stewarttown (Halton Hills), Ontario*.

Rowe, Mark. *Historic Stewarttown: Capital of Esquesing Township*. Esquesing Historical Society: 1999.

Unterman McPhail Associates. (2016, March). *Cultural Heritage Assessment Report – Cultural Heritage Landscapes & Built Heritage Resources: Class Environmental Assessment Study for Trafalgar Road (Regional Road 3), Transportation Corridor Improvements from Steeles Avenue (Regional Road 8) to Highway 7, Town of Halton Hills, Regional Municipality of Halton, Ontario*. <https://www.halton.ca/For-Residents/Roads-Construction/Municipal-Class-Environmental-Assessment-Studies/Trafalgar-Road-Corridor-Study-Steeles-Avenue-to/Environmental-Study-Report-Appendix-F-Trafalgar>.