



HERITAGE HALTON HILLS COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, January 17, 2024, 4:30 p.m.
Location: Esquesing 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. Minute of the Heritage Halton Hills Committee Meeting held on October 18, 2023.
4. SCHEDULED ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
 - a. Research and Evaluation Report - 46-48 Mill Street East (Acton)
 - b. Research and Evaluation Report - 50-52 Main Street South (Georgetown)
 - c. Research and Evaluation Report - 49-57 Main Street South (Georgetown)
 - d. Research and Evaluation Report - 61-65 Main Street South (Georgetown)
 - e. Research and Evaluation Report - 87 Main Street South (Georgetown)
 - f. Research and Evaluation Report - 14 Main Street South (Georgetown)
 - g. Research and Evaluation Report - 77 Market Street (Georgetown)
 - h. Update - 519-521 Main Street (Glen Williams)
 - i. Proposed Windows - 77 Bower Street
 - j. Farmstead Evaluation Strategy
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
October 18, 2023, in the Esquensing Room at Town Hall, 1 Halton Hills Drive,
Halton Hills, ON.**

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

Regrets: M. Rowe, A. Walker

Staff Present: L. Loney, Manager of Heritage Planning, L. Bateson, Senior
Administrative & Heritage Planning Coordinator, R. Brown,
Deputy Clerk - Administration

Others Present: K. Gastle and I. Jarvie

1. CALL TO ORDER

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
September 13, 2023.**

Recommendation No. HHH-2023-0031

THAT the minutes of the Heritage Halton Hills Committee meeting held on
September 13, 2023, be received.

CARRIED

4. SCHEDULED ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

4.a Properties for Additional Committee Input

L. Loney requested the committee's input on the noted properties below to determine if additional research and evaluation should be undertaken at this time.

1. 19 Mill Street East (Acton)

L. Loney noted that the property has been significantly altered and is not contributing to Acton history at this time and therefore is not sure that further research and evaluation is warranted at this time.

Recommendation No. HHH-2023-0032

THAT staff should not undertake additional research and evaluation for the property at 19 Mill Street East at this time.

CARRIED

2. 45 Queen Street (Georgetown)

L. Loney advised that the property has different brick on the façade, it used to be block, it has been modified over time and therefore is not sure continued research is warranted at this time.

Recommendation No. HHH-2023-0033

THAT staff should not undertake additional research and evaluation for the property at 45 Queen Street at this time.

CARRIED

3. 46-48 Mill Street East (Acton)

L. Loney advised that the building exterior is very close to the original and has contextual significance and therefore may warrant further research and evaluation.

Recommendation No. HHH-2023-0034

THAT Heritage Halton Hills recommend staff finalize the research and evaluation of the property at 46-48 Mill Street East;

CARRIED

4. 77 Market Street (Georgetown)

L. Loney noted that this property has historical and associative value, there have been changes to the façade however those changes have mostly been features overlaying the original façade with many of the original features still being visible.

Recommendation No. HHH-2023-0035

THAT Heritage Halton Hills recommend staff finalize the research and evaluation of the property at 77 Market Street.

CARRIED

5. 9 Mill Pond Drive (Stewarttown)

L. Loney advised the building is vernacular with no obvious architecture style and has been modified significantly. While it is associated with David Cross continued research may not be warranted at this time.

Recommendation No. HHH-2023-0036

THAT staff should not undertake additional research and evaluation for the property at 9 Mill Pond Drive at this time.

CARRIED

4.b Research and Evaluation Report - 55 Mill Street East (Acton) (Sunderland Villa)

L. Loney noted that this property is a Queen Anne Revival style building. It is a landmark in Acton with strong architectural, contextual, and associative value and therefore a strong candidate for designation.

The owners were not present however they have been contacted. A representative from Dignity Memorial contacted staff earlier on October 18th and will participate in continued discussions with staff.

Recommendation No. HHH-2023-0037

THAT Heritage Halton Hills recommend Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property at 55 Mill Street East (Acton) (Sunderland Villa) for designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

CARRIED

4.c Research and Evaluation Report - 12 and 16 Adamson Street South (Norval (St. Paul's Anglican Church))

L. Loney noted that St. Paul's is representative of a rural Gothic Revival with vernacular parish hall, the property has physical, contextual, and associative value and therefore is a strong candidate for designation.

Kathy Gastle was present representing the St. Paul's Congregation who are in support of designation of the property.

Recommendation No. HHH-2023-0038

THAT Heritage Halton Hills recommend Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property at 12 & 16 Adamson Street South (Norval) (St. Paul's Anglican Church) for designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

CARRIED

4.d Research and Evaluation Report - 129 Main Street South (Georgetown) (John Morgan House)

L. Loney noted that the property is a mid-19th Century Gothic Revival frame building with physical/design, contextual and historical value and therefore is a strong candidate for designation.

The owners have been contacted via registered mail however have not reached out to staff.

Recommendation No. HHH-2023-0039

THAT Heritage Halton Hills recommend Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property at 129 Main Street South (Georgetown) (John Morgan House) for designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

CARRIED

4.e Research and Evaluation Report - 14 Tweedle Street (Glen Williams) (Sykes and Ainley Worker's Cottage)

L. Loney noted that the property is a Gothic Revival Ontario Cottage built for workers of the Sykes & Ainley Company, it has physical/design, historical, associative, and contextual value and therefore is a strong candidate for designation.

The owner, Ian Jarvie, was present and expressed some concerns about property value in terms of re-sale and restrictions to work that can be done on the property, however is not against designation in principle.

Recommendation No. HHH-2023-0040

THAT Heritage Halton Hills recommend Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property at 14 Tweedle Street (Glen Williams) (Sykes & Ainley Worker's Cottage) for designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

CARRIED

4.f Council Report Update

- 75 Mill Street Report will be going on a future Council Agenda
- Report on Cedarvale By-law Amendments will be on the October 30, 2023, Council Agenda
- Designation Reports from the October 18, 2023, Heritage Halton Hills Committee Meeting will be on the December Council Meeting Agenda

4.g Upcoming Farmstead Strategy

L. Loney noted that as part of the Cultural Heritage Strategy it is important to have a Farmstead Strategy to establish criteria to review rural and farm properties and that is part of the heritage workplan going forward.

5. ITEMS TO BE SCHEDULED FOR NEXT MEETING

TBD

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Research and Evaluation Report



(Town of Halton Hills, 2023)

Perryman-Mainprize Building

46 Mill Street East, Acton, Town of Halton Hills

December 2023

Project Personnel

Report Authors	Laura Loney, MPlan, MCIP, CAHP, RPP Manager of Heritage Planning
Historical Research	Laura Loney
Field Review	Laura Loney
	Madison Hendricks, MA Cultural Heritage Assistant
Report Preparation	Laura Loney
Mapping Graphics:	Rehan Waheed, MA Planning Data Analyst
Report Reviewers:	Madison Hendricks, MA
	Bronwyn Parker Director of Planning Policy
	John Linhardt Commissioner of Planning & Development

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1.0 Property Description

46 Mill Street East	
Municipality	Acton, Town of Halton Hills
County or Region	Regional Municipality of Halton
Legal Description	PT LT 13, BLK 13, PL 31, AS IN 352765, S/T 352765; HALTON HILLS
Construction Date	c.1895
Original Use	Commercial/Residential
Current Use	Commercial/Residential
Architect/Building/Designer	Thomas Perryman
Architectural Style	Gothic Revival
Additions/Alterations	Rear addition; Alterations at first storey
Heritage Status	Listed on the Town’s Heritage Register
Recorder(s)	Laura Loney
Report Date	December 2023

2.0 Background

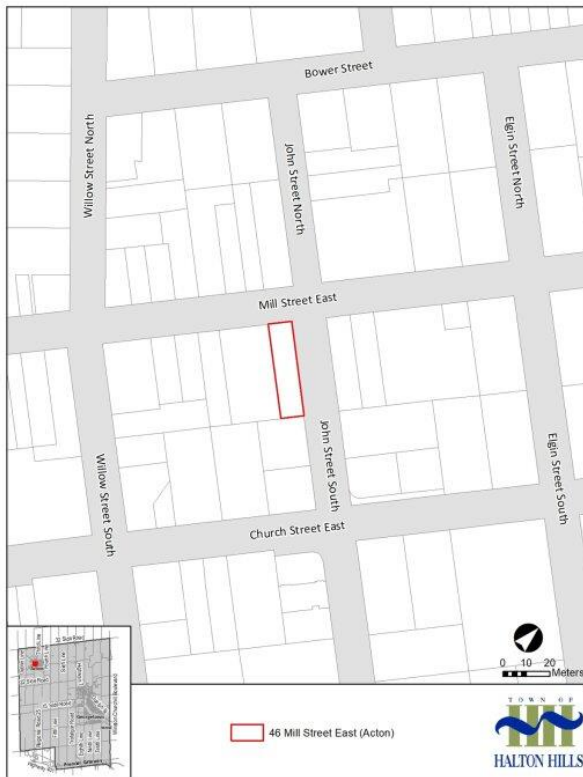


Figure 1: Location Map – 46 Mill Street East



Figure 2: Aerial Photograph – 46 Mill Street East

This research and evaluation report describes the history, context, and physical characteristics of the property at 46 Mill Street East 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*.

2.1 Historical Background

Indigenous History Background

The enduring history of First Nation Peoples in Halton Hills can be traced back through time immemorial before contact with Europeans in the 1600s. Prior to the arrival of European settlers, the Credit River was central to Indigenous ways of life, supporting settlements, fisheries, horticulture, transportation, and trade. Iroquoian-speaking peoples, ancestors of the Wendat, occupied the Credit River Valley for hundreds of years until approximately the mid-1600s, establishing semi-permanent villages. There are numerous archaeological sites in Halton Hills dating from this period, ranging from village sites to burial grounds, which reveal a rich cultural heritage.

The Wendat were displaced by the Haudenosaunee around 1649-50 amid the conflicts that arose between European colonial powers and their First Nation allies. The Mississaugas (part of the Anishinaabe Nation) arrived in southern Ontario in the 1690s, settling in two groups along the north shore of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. The western group, occupying the area between Toronto and Lake Erie, became known as the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Until the early 19th century, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation followed a seasonal cycle of movement and resource harvesting along the Credit River (Missinnihe, meaning “trusting creek”), and other rivers. In the winter months, extended family groups hunted in the Halton Hills area, travelling south towards the mouth of the river in the spring for the salmon run. The Mississaugas’ fisheries and traditional economies were diminished as a result of increased Euro-colonial settlement, leading to a state of impoverishment and dramatic population decline.

In 1818, the British Crown negotiated the purchase of 648,000 acres of land from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, including present-day Halton Hills, under the Ajetance Treaty (No. 19), named after Chief Ajetance. This left the Mississaugas with three small reserves on the Lake Ontario shoreline. The legitimacy of early land “surrenders” to the Crown is questionable when considering the Mississaugas’ traditional understanding of property ownership. Unlike the British, the Mississaugas understood land in spiritual terms, and did not share the idea that access to land and resources could be given up permanently¹.

European Settlement

In 1829, Lot 28, Concession 3 was granted to the Canada Company. Three years later, Rufus Adams, one of the founders of the community of Acton (originally called Adamsville) purchased the lot. The orchard lane within the property later became Bower Avenue. The 1819 Patent Plan (**Error! Reference source not found.**) shows the property within Lot 28, Concession 3, and the 1858 Tremaine’s Map (**Error! Reference source not found.**) and the 1877 Halton County Atlas Map (**Error! Reference source not found.**) shows the location of the property within Acton.

¹ This brief overview of Pre-Treaty Indigenous Territory within the land now known as Halton Hills is taken from the Town of Halton Hills’ 2023 *Cultural Heritage Strategy*. This document includes additional recommendations relating to Truth and Reconciliation in Heritage Planning as part of the Town’s commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation.



Figure 3: Subject property identified on the 1822 Patent Plan



Figure 4: Subject property identified on Tremaine's 1858 Map of the County of Halton, Canada West



Figure 5: Subject property identified on the 1877 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton*

Perryman Shop and Residence

The subject property within Lot 28 was purchased by Agnes Perryman (1852-1933) from Alex Grant in 1892, although the local news reported that it was her father, Thomas Perryman (1816-1909), who owned it (*Acton Free Press*, December 20, 1888, p.3).

Thomas and his wife Eliza (Clark) Perryman (1820-1903) had moved to Acton from Markham, Ontario, where Thomas was a stone mason and plasterer in 1848. Eliza, like her husband, was a long-time member of the Methodist Church and often entertained methodist preachers in their home. As a local contractor, Perryman built the first brick home in Acton as well as the Methodist Church in Ballinafad and did the plaster work at the first Methodist Church in Acton. Perryman was also one of the first contractors to deliver mail from the railway station to the post office.

Perryman, who had previously constructed his residence in Acton's east end in 1885, demolished a stable (previously a blacksmith shop) that had been on the subject property since the mid-19th century. In May 1893, the *Acton Free Press* reported that Thomas was working on the foundation of his new

building at the subject property. Agnes and her sister, Sarah Perryman (1854-1931) sold knitting and embroidery materials from the store, while living on the second floor and taking care of their elderly father, according to reports within the *Acton Free Press*. Sarah, who purportedly was ill throughout her life, was also nursed by her sister at the subject property.



Figure 6: Advertisement in the *Acton Free Press*, May 5, 1887, p.2

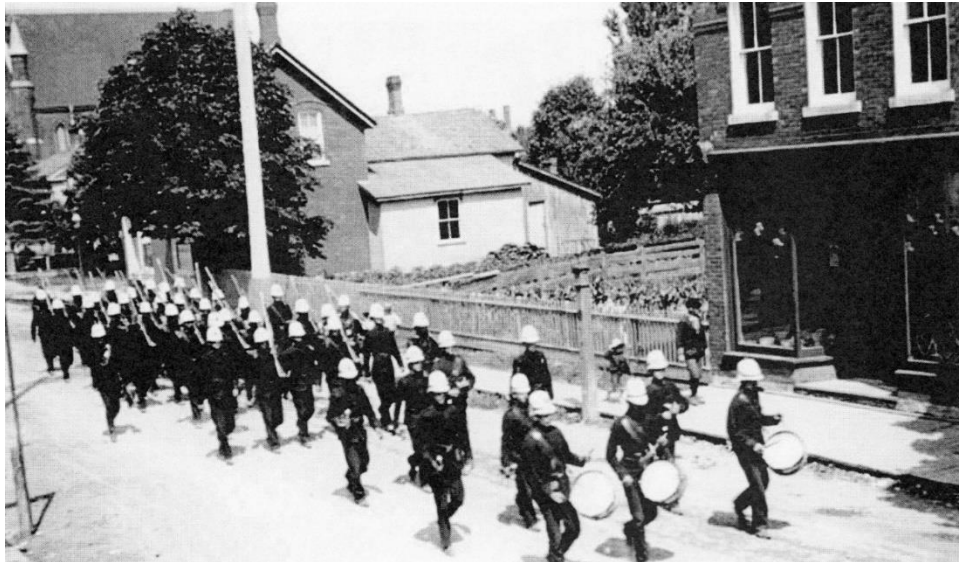


Figure 7: Boys marching along Mill Street East, c.1898 (A.T. Brown/Dills Collection, courtesy of Vintage Acton)

Merchant's Bank

The Merchant's Bank was first established in Montreal in 1817. At the turn of the century, the Acton Branch of the Merchant's Bank was opened at the subject location. However, it was located there for only a year before it was moved to the northeast corner of Mill Street East and Willow Street in Acton. The first bank manager was Mr. Gentiles, and his assistant was Reuben McNabb. Note the purpose-built dual storefronts on the front elevation in Figure 8 for commercial purposes, Merchant's Bank of Canada identified on the right, with living quarters above.



Figure 8: Acton Merchants' Bank (Acton's first bank) at the corner of Mill and John Streets -- April 6th, 1900 (EHS)



Figure 9: Moving Ransom Adams's House along Mill Street; the subject building is shown to the right of the house being moved, c.1905 (Courtesy of Vintage Acton)



Figure 10: Laying the cornerstone for the YMCA on Mill Street East in Acton; the subject property is visible on the right of the photograph, c.1934 (Historic Acton/Scott Brooks, courtesy of Vintage Acton)



Figure 11: Subject property identified on the 1935 National Topographic Map

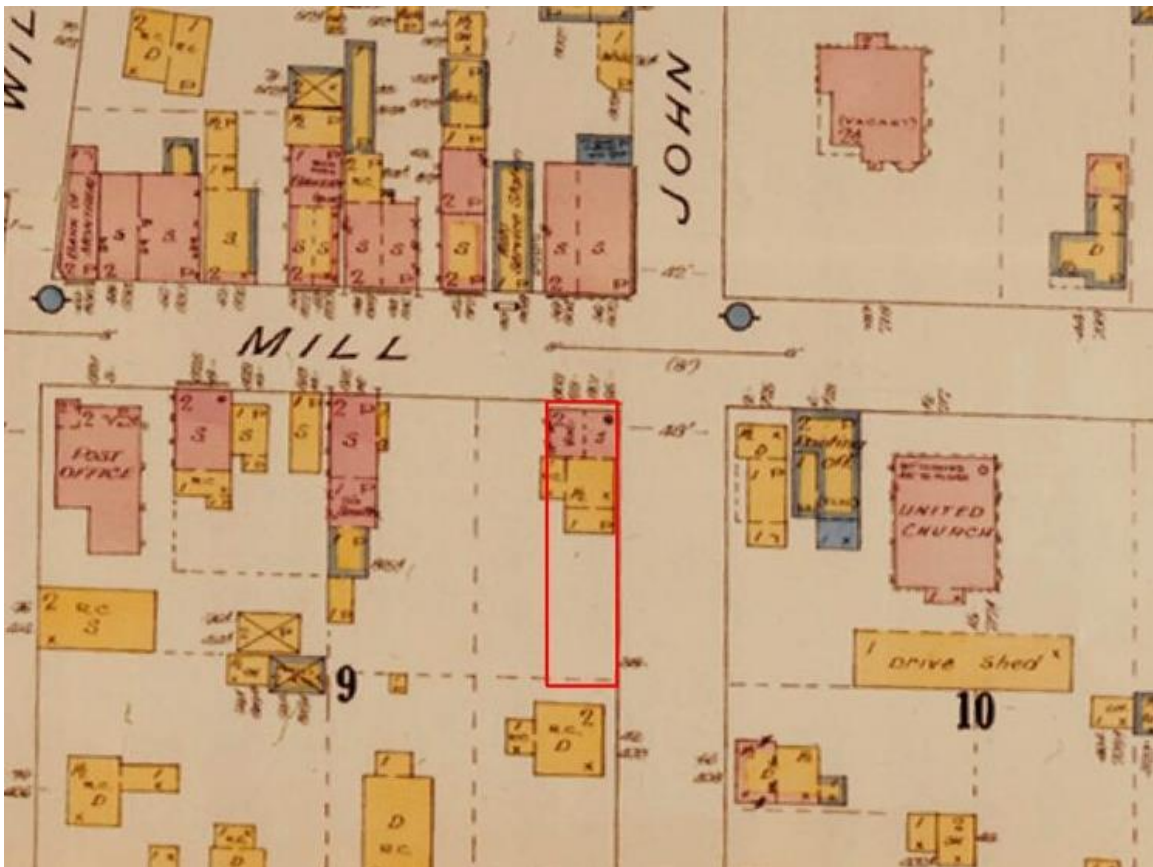


Figure 12: Subject property identified on the 1934 Fire Insurance Plan, showing the two units within the brick building and rear 1 ½ and 1-storey additions. The YMCA, for which construction began in 1934, is not yet identified.

Harry and Martha Mainprize

In 1940, the property was sold to Harry and Martha Mainprize. Harry moved to Acton in 1920 and worked with local barber Sandy McLean. He operated his barber shop in various locations throughout town until he moved his business and residence to the subject property in 1940. Mainprize, also a long-

time elder and usher at Knox Presbyterian Church, retired in 1962 at the age of 74, at which time Joe Hurst took over the business. Martha Mainprize was a teacher and a member of and secretary for the I.O.D.E. (Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire), and a prominent member of the Women's Missionary Society and Daughters of Knox at Knox Presbyterian Church in Acton.



Figure 13: Barbers Sandy McLean (standing left) and Harry Mainprize (standing right) at McLean's Barber Shop, c.1921 (Ray Arbic Collection/Acton Free Press Courtesy of Vintage Acton)



Figure 14: Mill Street East in Acton c.1960s, subject property on the far left; the dual storefronts are extant in this photograph however appear modified based on earlier photographs (Dills Collection Courtesy of Vintage Acton)

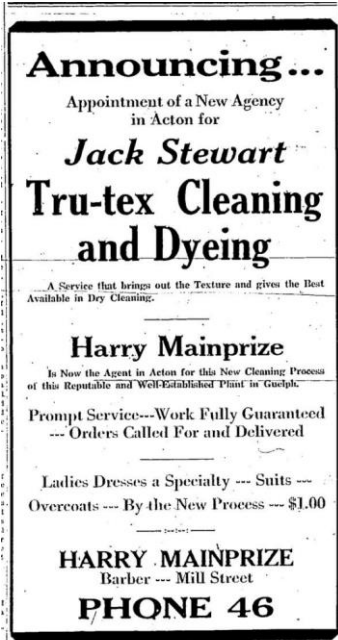


Figure 15: *Acton Free Press*,
November 28, 1935, p.4



The existing building has been home to many different businesses and services over the years, including optometrist E.L. Buchner, the Blue Springs Flower Shop, Wedding Bells home and gift shop, and Off the Wall Youth Centre. In 2014, the property was owned by Corey and Tamara Wilson. Blue Grotto Global Investments has owned the property since 2019, which is currently a dental office.

2.2 Property & Architectural Description

The property is located at 46 Mill Street East along the south side of the roadway in Halton Hills and contains a one-and-a-half storey brick residential building with rear addition (Figure 17). The property is legally known as PT LT 13, BLK 13, PL 31, AS IN 352765, S/T 352765; HALTON HILLS.



Figure 17: Looking towards the subject property along Mill Street East in Acton (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The front (northwest) elevation of the existing one-and-a-half storey building (Figure 18 through Figure 20) faces Mill Street East and features a red-brick façade. Evidence of the original openings pictured in 1900 is extant. One flat-headed entrance remains at the east end of the façade beside a wider single window opening with concrete sill. A wider rectangular window opening with a concrete sill and narrower window beside it sit in the same location as the west side entrance pictured in 1900. A round-headed window opening with stone sill and brick arch above is located at the upper storey beneath the centre gable peak. The stone foundation is not visible at the front elevation due to the existing sidewalk.



Figure 18: Front (northwest) elevation of 46 Mill Street East (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 19: Detail of the front (northwest) elevation of 46 Mill Street East (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 20: Detail of the front (northwest) elevation of 46 Mill Street East (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The side (southwest) elevation of the existing building (Figure 21 and Figure 22) features a contemporary window opening at the first storey. At the second storey are two symmetrically placed, segmentally arched window openings with stone sills below and brick voussoirs above.



Figure 21: Side (southwest) elevation of 46 Mill Street East (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 22: Northwest corner of 46 Mill Street East (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The side (northeast) elevation along John Street South (Figure 23 and Figure 24) includes both the original one-and-a-half storey building as well as a rear one-storey brick exterior addition and one-storey sun porch and entrance at the rear. The stone foundation is partially visible along this elevation. The side elevation of the one-and-a-half storey original building has no openings at the first storey and two window openings at the upper storey, as can be observed on the southwest elevation on the other side of the building. Two contemporary rectangular window openings are located within the rear one-storey portion of the addition with a gable dormer and small brick chimney above.



Figure 23: Side (northeast) elevation of 46 Mill Street East (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 24: Southeast elevation of 46 Mill Street East (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

2.3 Architectural Style & Analysis

The existing one-and-a-half storey building at 46 Mill Street East can best be described as a vernacular variation of the Gothic Revival, or Ontario Cottage form, modified for commercial use at grade with residential use in the upper storey. Gothic Revival architecture was immensely popular in Ontario in the 19th century (it was promoted in *The Canadian Farmer* in the 1860s; see Figure 25) and can be found in communities throughout the province, likely in part due to the cheaper tax rates for one-and-a-half storey structures as opposed to two storeys once constructed.

Early photographic evidence of the existing building reveals a symmetrical front elevation with dual storefronts that reflects the symmetry of more typical examples of this style (namely a central entrance with symmetrically placed window openings on either side). The existing composition, although modified from its original configuration, reflects the original division of the front elevation into two bays at grade. The materials, as well as the scale, form, and massing of the building reflects the characteristics typical of the style (demonstrated in *The Canadian Farmer* in 1865). The extant side gable roof, centre gable with window beneath the gable peak, round-arched and segmentally arched window openings are also typical of this style.

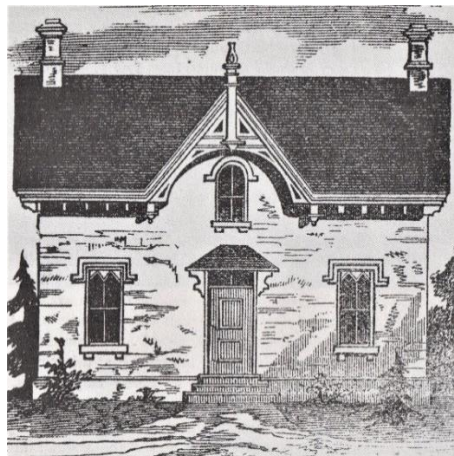


Figure 25: Illustration from *The Canadian Farmer*, vol. 2, 1865, p.244

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 property at 46 Mill Street East has physical and design value as a representative example of a vernacular Gothic Revival building. The existing composition, although modified from its original configuration, reflects the original division of the front elevation into two bays at grade. The materials, as well as the scale, form, and massing of the building reflects the characteristics typical of the style, along with the extant side gable roof, centre gable with window beneath the gable peak, round-arched and segmentally arched window openings. The building, constructed for both commercial and residential use, is a unique interpretation of the style within the community of Acton.

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 46 Mill Street East has historical and associative value due to its associations with Thomas Perryman, a local stone mason and plasterer who built the first brick home in Acton and who also worked on two different Methodist churches in the community. Agnes and Sarah Perryman, Thomas' daughters, operated their business at the first storey of the home while caring for their elderly father. The building was also briefly home to the first branch of the Merchant's Bank in Acton. The property is also associated with long-term local barber Harry Mainprize and his wife Martha, a teacher and prominent community member. The existing building has been used for both residential and commercial purposes since its construction c.1895.

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 46 Mill Street East has contextual value as it serves to help define, maintain, and support the character of the area in its original location at the intersection of Mill Street East and John Street

South in the community of Acton. The existing building is physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings, with photographic evidence demonstrating its continued presence at this corner despite changes along Mill Street East, including the adjacent former YMCA building next door. The existing building has formed an important part of the built evolution and growth of the Acton community for over 128 years.

4.0 Summary

Following research and evaluation according to Ontario Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the property at 46 Mill Street East 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 46 Mill Street East are identified as follows:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the Perryman-Mainprize Building along Mill Street East in Acton;
- The scale, form, and massing of the existing one-and-a-half storey brick building, including its side gable roof and centre gable at the front elevation;
- Materials, including the stone foundation and red brick exterior in running bond;
- On the front elevation, the centrally located round-headed window openings beneath the centre gable peak; and,
- Segmentally arched window openings on the side elevations with brick voussoirs and stone sills.

The modified first storey of the front elevation has not been identified as an attribute, however photographic evidence of the building c.1900 provides an opportunity to restore the original configuration in future. The interiors, rear elevation of the original one-and-a-half storey building, and rear additions are not identified as heritage attributes as part of this report.

5.0 Sources

Primary Sources

Newspapers

The Acton Free Press

“A Landmark Removed”. (April 6, 1893). *Acton Free Press*, p.3.

<https://news.haltonhills.halinet.on.ca/85078/page/3?q=%22perryman%22&docid=OOI.85078>.

“Acton’s Oldest Citizen Gone: Thomas Perryman Died Last Saturday in His Ninety-Third Year – Came to Acton 61 Years Ago”. (September 2, 1909). *Acton Free Press*, p.2.

<https://news.haltonhills.halinet.on.ca/141069/data>.

“Bank of Montreal Marks 150th birthday Friday – Acton branch opened in 1900”. (November 1, 1967). *Acton Free Press*, p.18.

<https://news.haltonhills.halinet.on.ca/89015/page/281917?q=merchants+bank>.

“Death of Mrs. Thos. Perryman, Sr.”. (March 5, 1903). *Acton Free Press*, p.3.

<https://news.haltonhills.halinet.on.ca/2314147/page/3?q=%22harry+mainprize%22&docid=OOI.2314147>.

“East End Improvements”. (October 15, 1885). *Acton Free Press*, p.3.

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Research and Evaluation Report



(Town of Halton Hills 2023)

McKinlay Dentistry Building
50-52 Main Street South, Town of Halton Hills

December 2023

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1.0 Property Description

50-52 Main Street South	
Municipality	Town of Halton Hills
County or Region	Region of Halton
Legal Description	PT LT 1, PL 51, AS IN 184361 (SECONDLY); HALTON HILLS
Construction Date	c.1891
Original Use	Commercial/Residential
Current Use	Commercial/Residential
Architect/Building/Designer	Charles McKinlay
Architectural Style	Unknown at this time
Additions/Alterations	Interior; First storey front elevation
Heritage Status	Listed on the Town’s Heritage Register
Recorder(s)	Laura Loney
Report Date	December 2023

2.0 Background

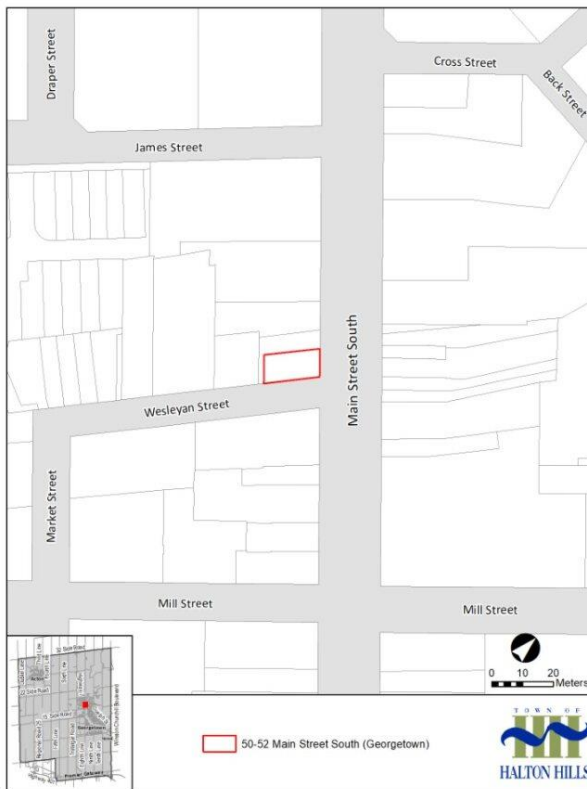


Figure 1: Location Map – 50-52 Main Street South



Figure 2: Aerial Photograph – 50-52 Main Street South

This research and evaluation report describes the history, context, and physical characteristics of the property at 50-52 Main Street South 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*.

2.1 Historical Background

Indigenous History Background

The enduring history of First Nation Peoples in Halton Hills can be traced back through time immemorial before contact with Europeans in the 1600s. Prior to the arrival of European settlers, the Credit River was central to Indigenous ways of life, supporting settlements, fisheries, horticulture, transportation, and trade. Iroquoian-speaking peoples, ancestors of the Wendat, occupied the Credit River Valley for hundreds of years until approximately the mid-1600s, establishing semi-permanent villages. There are numerous archaeological sites in Halton Hills dating from this period, ranging from village sites to burial grounds, which reveal a rich cultural heritage.

The Wendat were displaced by the Haudenosaunee around 1649-50 amid the conflicts that arose between European colonial powers and their First Nation allies. The Mississaugas (part of the Anishinaabe Nation) arrived in southern Ontario in the 1690s, settling in two groups along the north shore of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. The western group, occupying the area between Toronto and Lake Erie, became known as the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Until the early 19th century, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation followed a seasonal cycle of movement and resource harvesting along the Credit River (Missinnihe, meaning “trusting creek”), and other rivers. In the winter months, extended family groups hunted in the Halton Hills area, travelling south towards the mouth of the river in the spring for the salmon run. The Mississaugas’ fisheries and traditional economies were diminished as a result of increased Euro-colonial settlement, leading to a state of impoverishment and dramatic population decline.

In 1818, the British Crown negotiated the purchase of 648,000 acres of land from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, including present-day Halton Hills, under the Ajetance Treaty (No. 19), named after Chief Ajetance. This left the Mississaugas with three small reserves on the Lake Ontario shoreline. The legitimacy of early land “surrenders” to the Crown is questionable when considering the Mississaugas’ traditional understanding of property ownership. Unlike the British, the Mississaugas understood land in spiritual terms, and did not share the idea that access to land and resources could be given up permanently¹.

Archie and Charles McKinlay

Archibald (Archie) McKinlay (1855-1889) was a dentist, demonstrator, and teacher at the Royal College of Dental Surgeons. Dr. McKinlay established his dental practice in a house on Main Street (16 Main Street South) in Georgetown, in which he also lived. In 1884, the *Acton Free Press* advertised that McKinlay was now using the latest technology of “Vitalized Air”, or nitrous oxide gas (“laughing gas”), for anesthesia in his practice. McKinlay was also one of the first School Board trustees for the Georgetown High School Board which opened in January 1887.

¹ This brief overview of Pre-Treaty Indigenous Territory within the land now known as Halton Hills is taken from the Town of Halton Hills’ 2023 *Cultural Heritage Strategy*. This document includes additional recommendations relating to Truth and Reconciliation in Heritage Planning as part of the Town's commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation.

Charles McKinlay, L.D.S. (1846-1916) studied dentistry with his brother Archie, following several years of teaching in the Township of Erin. In 1886, C. McKinlay became licensed and soon began his practice. Archie McKinlay died following an illness contracted upon return from a trip to Europe. Following Archie's McKinlay's death, Charles took over the dental practice in Georgetown, and continued his brother's twice-monthly visits to Acton.

In 1890, Charles McKinlay purchased the subject property, and in 1891, McKinlay built what is known now as the "McKinlay Building". The *Toronto Daily Mail* reported in 1893 that the building was "... red brick, two storeys high, with basement and thirty by fifty feet in dimensions", while the ground floor was used commercially and the upper floors for McKinlay's offices and residential use.

In 1909, McKinlay sold the property to realtor Jonathan Harvey Lane (1856-1922). Following Lane's death, the executors of Lane's estate transferred the property to Lane's son, John Thomas Elmore Lane (1912-1990).

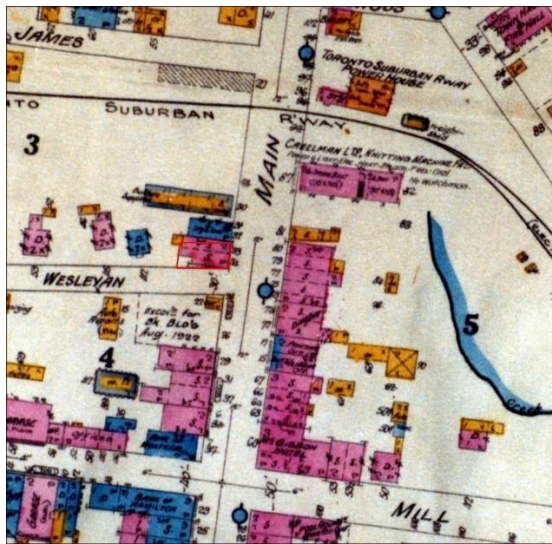


Figure 3: Subject property identified on the 1922 Fire Insurance Plan



Figure 4: Main Street South c.1925. Subject property identified on the right (EHS 00094)



Figure 5: Subject property identified on the 1934 Fire Insurance Plan

In 1946, Lane sold the property to M. (Marion) Sybil Bennett (1904-1956) and Leroy Dale (1889-1956). Law partners Leroy Dale and Marion Sybil Bennett were significant figures in Halton in the first half of the twentieth century. Bennett graduated from the University of Toronto (1926) and Osgoode Hall (1930) and was called to the Bar in 1930; she was the fourth woman to be named King's Council in the British Commonwealth. Bennett served as a solicitor for 6 years for the Agricultural Development Board at Queen's Park and later practiced law with partner Dale in Georgetown. Bennett was also President of the National Women's PC Association, life member of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire (IODE), honorary president of Esquesing Agricultural Society, and a member of the United Church, Georgetown Business & Professional Women's Club, Soroptimist Club, Law Society of Upper Canada, and the Women's Law Association of Canada. Bennett was a federal politician and was elected to Parliament as a Conservative in 1953.

Leroy Dale was the first mayor of Georgetown following village status in 1922. A fellow graduate of Osgoode Hall, Dale came to Georgetown in 1914 and opened his law practice on Main Street. Dale was elected to Council in 1919, elected Reeve in 1920, and elected Mayor in 1922. Like Bennett, Dale was a prominent politician however for the Conservative party, running provincially but unsuccessfully. Dale was named King's Council in 1934. In 1936, Dale and Bennett became legal partners and formed the law firm of Dale & Bennett.

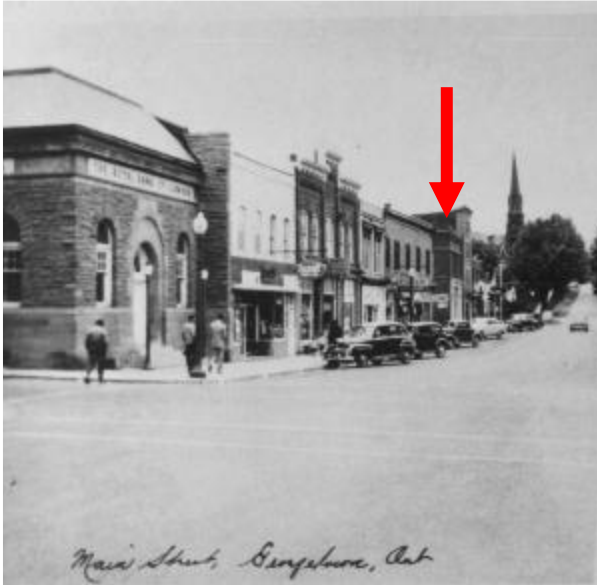


Figure 6: Main Street South in Georgetown c.1949. Subject property identified on the left (EHS 00634)



Figure 7: Main Street South in Georgetown c.1950. Subject property identified at the end of the commercial row (EHS 26094)



Figure 8: Subject property identified on the 1960 Fire Insurance Plan

In 1965, the property was owned by Richard (Dick) Licata. Dick Licata and his wife Tina owned a fruit business on Main Street in Georgetown, previously owned by his brother-in-law Tony Restivo. Licata was an important citizen of the community, as President of the Lion's Club, and fundraiser for the Salvation Army amongst other roles.

The subject property was home to various commercial uses throughout the years. In 1977, The Gift Ark was located at 52 Main Street South; in the 1990s, the building was home to Telehop Communications. In 2001, the property was transferred from the estate of Richard Licata to Thomas and Heather Best who owned the property until August 20, 2004.



Figure 9: Subject property identified along Main Street, date unknown (Ray Eckert via The Georgetown Vault)



Figure 10: 50-52 Main Street South identified on a 1994 photograph (EHS 10938)



Figure 11: Main Street in Georgetown, c.2007. Subject property identified on the right (Courtesy the Georgetown Vault)



Figure 12: Then and Now Feature of 50-52 Main St S (*Independent & Free Press*, August 6, 2020, p.7)

The property was purchased in 2004 by Judith Louis Grant-Horner. Grant-Horner opened Accountants on Main at the subject property in 2006. The property was registered in Grant-Horner's name until it was transferred to 1837383 Ontario Inc in 2012.

2.2 Property & Architectural Description

The property at 50-52 Main Street South is a rectangular-shaped parcel located along the southwest side of Main Street South in Georgetown in the Town of Halton Hills. The existing two-storey commercial building occupies almost all of the existing property with a small reveal at the rear corner and carport with above balcony and addition to the rear with a paved asphalt driveway.



Figure 13: Looking towards the subject property at 50-52 Main Street South (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 14: Looking up Main Street South towards the subject property (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The existing building features a flat roof with a slight slope towards the rear; above the stone string course beneath the parapet at the rear, slightly lighter brick is evident at the rear, suggesting repair or intervention to the existing roofline.

The front elevation is symmetrical in its appearance, representative of a vernacular late nineteenth-century commercial property as it has retained its scale, form, and massing over time. At the first storey,

the elevation has been overclad with what appear to be EIFS or stuccoed panels and applied architectural detailing to reflect a more traditional appearance. At the second storey, the elevation is divided into two bays with brick pilasters, and two single window openings are symmetrically placed within each bay, with a continuous stone course delineating the first and second storeys. At the parapet, brick dentils and detailing define the roofline, with metal flashing above. Rounded brick detailing defines the northeast corner of the building.



Figure 15: Front elevation of the existing building at 50-52 Main Street South (Town of Halton Hills)



Figure 16: Detail of the front elevation of the existing building at 50-52 Main Street South (Town of Halton Hills)

The side (southeast) elevation along Wesleyan Street is almost completely covered with a painted mural, however the architectural detailing remains defined on this elevation. The rubble stone foundation, partially parged, extends above the paved sidewalk. The side entrance, flat-headed with transom window and stone lintel, is accessed via a flight of concrete steps. Small rectangular window openings are extant towards the south end of this elevation. As with the front elevation, the first and second storeys are delineated with a stone course, with three flat-headed window openings between these courses. The slope of the roof is evident at the parapet above the upper stone course.



Figure 17: Side (southeast) elevation of 50-52 Main Street South (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

A reveal at the southeast corner features unpainted brick and a small, covered porch above a single flat-headed entrance. Above, a flat-headed window opening with stone sill and lintel is extant at the second storey. A small rectangular window opening is extant within the return. A modified window opening with stone lintel is visible adjacent to the rear addition, and a brick chimney extends above the roofline above the second storey. The rear (southwest wall) is partially obscured with a rear carport and upper storey addition. An additional entrance is accessed beneath the carport.



Figure 18: Rear corner of the existing building on the subject property (Google Streetview 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 property at 50-52 Main Street South in Georgetown has physical and design value due to the c.1891 commercial building known as the McKinlay Building extant within the property. The two-storey building height with red brick exterior, brick and stone detailing, extant window openings at the second storey, and detailing parapet reflect characteristics typical of many of the late-19th century commercial buildings within the downtown Georgetown core. While the front elevation at the first storey has been altered, the alterations have been sympathetic to the heritage character of the building and the downtown.

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 subject property and McKinlay Building have significant historical and associative value due to its associations with one of Georgetown's earliest dentists, Charles McKinlay, who constructed the building for his practice and for residential use. The subject property has also been owned by significant residents of Georgetown, including Leroy Dale and Sybil Bennett, as well as Richard (Dick Licata). Additionally, owner Judith Louis Grant-Horner has been recognized as an important member of the business community in downtown Georgetown.

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 McKinlay Building has contextual value as it is important in defining the built heritage character of the downtown. The existing two-storey building remains in its original location, physically and functionally linked to its surroundings as a commercial property on the Georgetown main street.

4.0 Summary

Following research and evaluation according to Ontario Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the property at 50-52 Main Street South 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 50-52 Main Street South are identified as follows:

- The setback, placement, and orientation of the two-storey, late-19th century commercial building within a commercial row in historic downtown Georgetown;
- The scale, form, and massing of the two-storey building;
- The materials, including red brick exterior and architectural detailing, stone detailing, and rubble stone foundation;
- The front elevation at the second storey, divided into two bays;
- The stone course above the first and second storeys;
- The extant flat-headed window openings at the second storey on the front and side elevations between the stone courses; and,
- The single entrance door at the first storey on the side elevation with stone lintel.

The rear elevation and interiors have not been identified as heritage attributes as part of this report.

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Research and Evaluation Report



Roe Block (John Mark Rowe 2023)

Roe Block

49-57 Main Street South, Georgetown, Town of Halton Hills

December 2023

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1.0 Property Description

49-57 Main Street South	
Municipality	Georgetown, Town of Halton Hills
County or Region	Regional Municipality of Halton
Legal Description	<p>49 Main Street South: PT LT 19, CON 9 ESQ, PARTS 2, 3, 4, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17 & 18, 20R5856; T/W & S/T 588702; HALTON HILLS</p> <p>51 Main Street South: PT LT 19, CON 9 ESQ, PART 5, 20R5856; T/W & S/T 574083; HALTON HILLS</p> <p>53 Main Street South: PT LT 19, CON 9 ESQ, PART 6, 7, 19, 20, 20R5856; T/W & S/T 618615; HALTON HILLS</p> <p>55 Main Street South: PT LT 19, CON 9 ESQ, PART 8, 9, 21, 22, 23, 27, 20R5856; T/W & S/T 657461; HALTON HILLS</p> <p>57 Main Street South: LT 27, PL 59, EXCEPT PM172; PT LT 46, PL 59, AS IN 546995; HALTON HILLS; PT LT 1, PL 37, E OF MAIN ST OR NW OF MILL ST; PT LT 19, CON 9 ESQ, PART 10, 11, 24, 25, 26, 20R5856; T/W & S/T 657459; HALTON HILLS.</p>
Construction Date	c. 1888
Original Use	Commercial
Current Use	Commercial
Architect/Building/Designer	Unknown
Architectural Style	Commercial Vernacular
Additions/Alterations	Alterations to storefronts; Rear alterations
Heritage Status	Listed on the Heritage Register
Recorder(s)	John Mark Rowe; Laura Loney
Report Date	December 2023

2.0 Background



Figure 1: Location Map – 49-57 Main Street South



Figure 2: Aerial Photograph – 49-57 Main Street South

This research and evaluation report describes the history, context, and physical characteristics of the property at 49-57 Main Street South in Halton Hills, Ontario, named The Roe Block, as recorded in the date stone. The report includes an evaluation of the property’s cultural heritage value as prescribed by the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

2.1 Historical Background

Indigenous History Background

The enduring history of First Nation Peoples in Halton Hills can be traced back through time immemorial before contact with Europeans in the 1600s. Prior to the arrival of European settlers, the Credit River was central to Indigenous ways of life, supporting settlements, fisheries, horticulture, transportation, and trade. Iroquoian-speaking peoples, ancestors of the Wendat, occupied the Credit River Valley for hundreds of years until approximately the mid-1600s, establishing semi-permanent villages. There are numerous archaeological sites in Halton Hills dating from this period, ranging from village sites to burial grounds, which reveal a rich cultural heritage.

The Wendat were displaced by the Haudenosaunee around 1649-50 amid the conflicts that arose between European colonial powers and their First Nation allies. The Mississaugas (part of the Anishinaabe Nation) arrived in southern Ontario in the 1690s, settling in two groups along the north shore of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. The western group, occupying the area between Toronto and Lake

Erie, became known as the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Until the early 19th century, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation followed a seasonal cycle of movement and resource harvesting along the Credit River (Missinnihe, meaning “trusting creek”), and other rivers. In the winter months, extended family groups hunted in the Halton Hills area, travelling south towards the mouth of the river in the spring for the salmon run. The Mississaugas’ fisheries and traditional economies were diminished as a result of increased Euro-colonial settlement, leading to a state of impoverishment and dramatic population decline.

In 1818, the British Crown negotiated the purchase of 648,000 acres of land from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, including present-day Halton Hills, under the Ajetance Treaty (No. 19), named after Chief Ajetance. This left the Mississaugas with three small reserves on the Lake Ontario shoreline. The legitimacy of early land “surrenders” to the Crown is questionable when considering the Mississaugas’ traditional understanding of property ownership. Unlike the British, the Mississaugas understood land in spiritual terms, and did not share the idea that access to land and resources could be given up permanently¹.

European Settlement

This property was part of the 200 acres purchased by Morris Kennedy in 1828, identified as Lot 19, Concession 9, in Esquesing Township. However, a village was not established until the arrival of the Barber family in 1837, who dubbed the mill seat Georgetown. By 1839, the village lots had been laid out (although not registered), surveying lands belonging to George, Morris and John Kennedy, Philo Dayfoot, James Young, and the Barber brothers. The building within the property at 49 to 57 Main Street South occupies 36½ perches (.23 acres) of the West half of Lot 19, Concession 9 East of Main Street, an unnumbered lot, as well as 26½ perches (.165 acres) of Lot East of Main Street in George Kennedy’s survey.

On the January 1854 map (Figure 3), Provincial Land Surveyor Charles Kennedy plotted the existing buildings. A rectangular building (likely frame construction) is identified within the subject property. The property was purchased in February 1845 by John Sumpter, who is credited with opening the first general store in the village in 1845. Sumpter sold the property in 1859 to William McMaster.

¹ This brief overview of Pre-Treaty Indigenous Territory within the land now known as Halton Hills is taken from the Town of Halton Hills’ 2023 *Cultural Heritage Strategy*. This document includes additional recommendations relating to Truth and Reconciliation in Heritage Planning as part of the Town's commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation.



Figure 3: Detail from 1854 map showing the subject Property outlined in red. EHS Archives: MG12 A3 #23



Figure 4: Detail from 1877 map in Halton Atlas showing the subject property in red.

William McMaster took over Sumpter's business, specializing in groceries for the community that was growing since the first passenger train in 1856. In 1862, McMaster started the spiral of debt that would plague him thereafter, taking out short-term mortgages, approximately every two years. It all came to a head in 1872 when both properties were seized and assigned to a partnership of Thomas Ruston, a druggist and William Walker Roe, an auctioneer.

William McMaster also purchased 26½ perches in the adjoining lot, being Lot 1, East of Main Street in George Kennedy's survey, now addressed as 57 Main Street South. This lot was similarly burdened several mortgages.

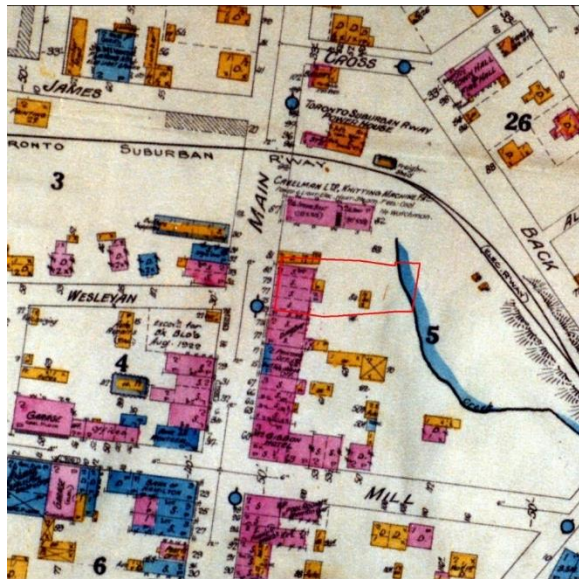


Figure 5: The Roe Block is outlined in red on this 1922 fire insurance survey. The colour red denotes buildings built of brick. Wood is yellow and blue is stone (EHS 00121)



Figure 6: The Roe Block is outlined in red in this 1960 fire insurance survey. (EHS MG12 A9 #2.04)

Thomas Ruston transferred the property to Dr. William John Roe in 1880 after the death of William Walker Roe in 1879. Unfortunately, Dr. W.J. Roe's property suffered a fire in 1887. The *Acton Free Press* reported the news in their Georgetown column in the 22 December 1887 issue:

"Last Friday morning, about four o'clock a fire broke out in Mr. Jackson's grocery, one of a wooden range of stores occupied by W.T. Jackson, grocer, Mrs. MacMaster, millinery and fancy

goods, and J. Cane, barber. The buildings were completely destroyed. They were owned by Dr. W. J. Roe and insured in the Caledonian and Norwich Union for \$600 each. The contents were insured in the Lancashire and Glasgow and London. They were mostly saved. An incendiary is believed to have inaugurated the destruction."

The limestone datestone embedded in the façade of the building reads "1888", which corresponds with the year William John Roe took out a mortgage on the property for \$7000.

It was not until May 1948 that an editorial in the *Georgetown Herald* called for street numbering, though street numbers would not start appearing in the newspaper until 1955. That 1950's street numbering on Main Street was changed with the creation of a regional government in 1974. Before 1974, the addresses would have been #25-33 Main Street North.

Early advertisements in the *Georgetown Herald* often included a unit number. Unit #1 (49 Main Street South.) has a notable list of tenants, the earliest being a dressmaking and mantle (sleeveless cloak) shop in 1891. In 1903, Lee Sing opened his laundry business in Unit #1 and operated there until he was found dead in his apartment in about 1943. By 1945, Calvin Clark had opened his electrical store and stayed until Simpson's opened their order office in 1950. Simpson's tenancy was followed by Towne Sewing Centre. Georgetown Stationery and Office Supplies moved in 1968 at which time Towne Sewing Centre had moved across the road. In 1994 Expert Shoe Repair by Victor Kovach occupied this shop and in 2022 it became Pink Nails and Beauty.



Figure 7: Advertisement for Lee Sing Laundry in Roe Block #1, now 49 Main Street South. (*Georgetown Herald* 4 March 1903)



Figure 8: Advertisement from the Foreign Fruit Store in Roe Block #3, now 53 Main Street South (*Georgetown Herald* 10 Oct. 1894)

Unit #2 (51 Main Street South) was Lillico beauty parlour for many years, as early as 1940. Bill Huffman also had a barber shop in the unit. In February 1964 it became McNamara Jewellers and was operated by Cecil McNamara until the summer of 1982. In 1994 Bob and Anne O'Neill opened a shop at this address, though they moved to Unit #5 (57 Main Street South) by 1991. Unit #2 was occupied by Jeanette's Dutch Deli in 1994 and as of 2022 it was home to Raman Noodles.



Figure 9: Santa Claus parade in 1949, shows #49 Clark Electrical, #51 Lillico Beauty Parlour and #53 Long's Restaurant (EHS 00018)



Figure 10: Detail from a Drummers' Snack parade in 1912 reveals signs for #57 Millar & Co. and #55 Wm. Scott, butcher (EHS 21578)

Unit #3 (53 Main Street South) was occupied by T.M. Graham fruits in 1894. By 1936 the large space had become Long's Confectionary. The restaurant and bus depot were carried on by Bill Long's family after his death. The unit was sold to Bob Caldwell and then sold again in 1949 to "Steamer" Emmerson who renamed it Steamer's Inn.

A glimpse upstairs was offered in November 1949 when Mr. and Mrs. Noel Reynolds took over Albert Tennant's apartment upstairs. The front room was sub-let to Albert Simson who opened a photographic studio there.

Jim Coleman took over from Emmerson in 1950 and the unit became the Rose Bar Restaurant. In April 1953 the premises were renamed by Stan Wade to The Corner Cupboard. In 1965, the unit was remodelled as Stan's Restaurant which operated until 1971. The unit became Highland Restaurant, later followed by King Wah Chinese restaurant in 1973. Three years later in 1976 it became Shangri-La Garden under Norman Lee. In February 1984 the Chou family opened the House of Buddha restaurant which still occupies the unit in 2023 albeit under new ownership.



Figure 11: Detail from a c. 1925 postcard shows Wm. Long Meals, Lunches & Confectionary (EHS 21556)



Figure 12: *Georgetown Herald* 22 Dec. 1948



Figure 13: *Georgetown Herald* 6 Feb. 1964

Unit #4 (55 Main Street South.) first appears in local papers in 1912 as William Scott's butcher shop. In 1915 W.J. Patterson opened his butcher shop in the same location. Patterson acquired Georgetown phone number 1, which was passed onto Robert Erwin and his son-in-law Harry Goldham, when they purchased the business in 1920. Erwin & Goldham operated here for years including use of the unit as Goldham's Butcher Shop. In 1965, the unit became Joe's Tuck Shop and by 1994 this unit as well as Unit #5 had become North Star Cleaners, which is still in operation in 2023.

Unit #5 (57 Main Street South) was Gibson, Millar & Co. in 1897, a clothing store for the family that also provided gentlemen's tailoring. Though they operated until 1925, John Joseph Gibbons purchased the entire Roe Block in 1919 and operated his Barber shop with Freeman Kersey in Unit #5 until he became the Town Assessor. Mervyn Cook took over operation of the barber shop through 1952. From 1966 until 1970 Wigo TV and Appliances operated in the unit.

Dorland Barranger leased space behind units 4 and 5 in 1946 to build a dry-cleaning plant. By 1991 the units' storefronts and the dry-cleaning plant had become North Star Cleaners.

In 1919 the 36½ perches (0.22 acres) that comprise the Roe Block, owned by Dr. William John Rowe, were sold to John Joseph Gibbons for \$9000. The *Georgetown Herald* of 19 July 1950 includes this news item:

"Painting and decorating and remodelling is very much in evidence on Main Street: Ted Bludd has just finished doing four store fronts owned by J.J. Gibbens – Goldham's, Merv Cook's, Lillico and Rose Bar Grill, the latter two in an unusual pink trim."



Figure 14: #49 Expert Shoe Repair and #51 McNamara Jewellers about 1980. S. McNamara photo



Figure 15: The Roe Block roof is outlined in red in this 1961 aerial view of Main Street (EHS 09031)

*Add
Enjoyment
to their Trip*

Grandma and Peggy just love a bus trip. They feel safe and happy in the care of a competent and friendly driver—and free to fully enjoy the delightful drive and all the interesting sights along the way. Next time, let your loved ones travel by bus. Add enjoyment to their trip.

TORONTO	\$ 1.45
OWEN SOUND	5.60
BARRIE	4.60
NORTH BAY	13.00

ROUND TRIP
(subject to change)

**ROSE BAR
RESTAURANT**

PHONE 89 MAIN ST.

Figure 16: Herald, 11 Oct. 1950

While this report does not include an exhaustive list of tenants and uses, the examples discussed illustrate the variety of services offered in the Roe Block during the last 136 years. The most consistent use of any of the units has been for Unit #3 (53 Main Street South) as a restaurant. The 40-year tenancy of Lee Sing, providing laundry services to the citizens of Georgetown, and the 40-year operation of the House of Buddha Restaurant providing Chinese food to an appreciative population is reflective of the local Canadian Chinese immigrant story.



Figure 17: The Roe Block in 1994 occupied by (L to R) Expert Shoe Repair, Jeanette's Dutch Deli, House of Buddha, and North Star Cleaners (EHS 10900)

Of equal significance reflecting the local history is the ownership of the building by John Joseph Gibbons. Gibbons started his career as a barber in Acton, moving to Georgetown in 1917 and operating here until 1949. His barber shop was a mayor's office before such an office was created. He became a councillor in 1931 and was Mayor from 1934 until 1944. He became the Town Assessor from 1949 until 1963 when he was re-elected Mayor. He announced his retirement in November 1968 and died of a heart attack eight days later. A street, a park, and a school are named in his honour.

2.1 Property & Architectural Description

The 1888 commercial building comprised of 49-57 Main Street South in Georgetown is located along the east side of Main Street South, north of Mill Street. The existing two-storey red brick building has running bond red clay bricks with a centre block wider than the flanking blocks. Along the front (southwest) elevation, the building has a raised parapet over the centre unit and a date stone engraved with “Roe Block 1888.”



Figure 18: Looking towards the southwest elevation of the subject property (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The parapet on all three sections of the building has a stepped, crenellated brick cornice. A brick buttress separates the centre block from each flanking block, and each flanking block has a brick buttress separating the blocks into two distinct sections each, creating a visual demarcation of the five units.



Figure 19: Roe Block at 49-57 Main Street South (John Mark Rowe 2023)

The upper storeys on the flanking units feature brick voussoirs over each window. The centre unit features a large centre window opening on the second storey with a single voussoir over the opening. Historically, there were three windows in the opening that were, at some point after 1949, reduced to two windows separated by red brick infilling. A cut stone sill sits under each window opening. Upon close inspection, traces of scrollwork on the central window heading are still visible. The second storey of the building has a total of seven window openings with a total of eight windows. Prior to exterior alterations, there would have been nine windows; the extant windows are of varying styles and materials.



Figure 20: Detail of the upper centre block, being #53 Main Street South in 2023 (John Mark Rowe 2023)

The ground floor facades are each headed with a large wooden fascia with tenant signage. The individual storefronts feature recessed entrance doors, glass display windows, and glass side panels in varying configurations. Unit #1 at 49 Main Street South retains most of the original design; one covered bracket remains under the cornice molding. The façade also retains the wood molding transitioning from the first to second storey. The 1949 photograph (Figure 9) shows the original decorative elements.



Figure 21: Looking along the front elevation of the subject building (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The north side of the building abuts an alley. Visible through the alley is a continuation of the running bond red brick pattern and the original stone rubble foundation. Three windows and a vent can be seen and appear to be later additions to the building based on style and material.



Figure 22: Looking along the north elevation of the existing building (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

On the back of the original building, Unit #1 has the most of its original structure visible. The unit has voussiors above openings for doors on both the first and second storey, as well as a first storey window that has been closed with plywood. The rear of the other ground floor units are obscured by additions. The rear of Units #2 and #3 are covered by a single storey concrete block addition with vinyl siding on the north face. Units #4 and #5 have a concrete block addition, built in 1946 by Barranger as a dry-cleaning facility.



Figure 23: Rear of #55 and 57 Main Street South, showing the 1946 addition in 2023 (John Mark Rowe 2023)



Figure 24: Rear view of House of Buddha addition in 2023 (John Mark Rowe 2023)

From the ground level the original rear brickwork is mostly intact, with some former rear windows being changed into doorways. A wooden balcony spans the building, with a metal fire escape stairway on the north side and a wooden staircase at the centre of the *House of Buddha* addition.



Figure 25: North alley wall in 2023. J.M. Rowe photo

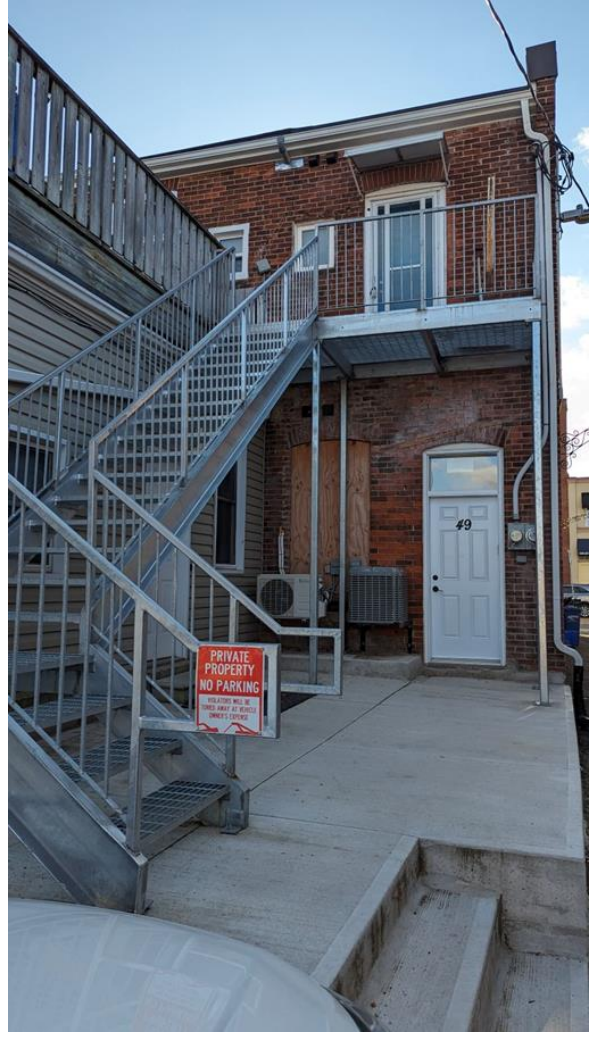


Figure 26: Rear of #49 Main Street South in 2023. J.M. Rowe photo

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.

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 Roe Block at 49-57 Main Street South has physical and design value as a representative 19th-century commercial structure within downtown Georgetown. The two-storey building height with a centre block, red brick exterior with stepped crenellated cornice, vertical second-storey windows with brick voussoirs and stone sills, and recessed entry doors, while reflective of typical commercial buildings constructed within Ontario during its period, incorporates several unique characteristics.

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 Roe Block at 49-57 Main Street South has historical and associative value as it relates to Georgetown's original merchant, John Sumpter. It is directly associated with the Canadian immigrant story of Lee Sing (local laundryman) and the Chou family (local restaurateurs). It is also associated with local politician John Joseph Gibbons and his roles as barber, town councillor, town assessor, and ultimately Mayor of Georgetown.

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 Roe Block at 49-57 Main Street South has contextual value as it is important in defining the built heritage character of the downtown. The existing two-storey building remains in its original location, physically and functionally linked to its surroundings as a commercial property on the Georgetown main street.

Heritage Attributes:

- The setback, placement, and orientation of the two-storey, mid-19th century commercial building within a commercial row in historic downtown Georgetown;
- The scale, form, and massing of the two-storey building with flat roof and red brick exterior, with a stepped crenellated cornice;
- The materials, including red brick exterior, brick detailing throughout, and rubble stone foundation;
- The balanced vertical window openings with voussoirs and stone sills on the second storey of the front (west) elevation;
- The date-stone, engraved with “Roe Block 1888”;
- Extant window openings along the second storey of the front elevation;
- The side (north) brick elevation; and,
- The recessed storefront configuration along the first storey of the front elevation.

The interiors and rear elevations have not been identified as heritage attributes of the subject property at this time.

4.0 Summary

Following research and evaluation according to Ontario Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the property at 49-57 Main Street South 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.

5.0 Sources

Primary Sources:

Land Records for Lot 19, Concession 9, West half, Esquesing Township
Land Records for Lot 1 East of Main, George Kennedy survey, Georgetown (Plan 37)
Georgetown Urban Inventory, Phase 1, Barbara Szczepanik, Heritage Halton Hills, 1994.
Various Photographs, Esquesing Historical Society Archives (individual citations in-text)
Various Photographs dated 2023 taken by John Mark Rowe
Census Records for 1881, 1891 1901, 1911, 1921 for Georgetown
Steve McNamara

Secondary Sources:

Advertisements from various issues of *The Georgetown Herald*
Small news items from various issues of *The Georgetown Herald*
"The Changing Scene," *Georgetown Herald*, 11 Jan. 1950, page 6
"The Changing Scene," *Georgetown Herald*, 20 Aug. 1952, page 8
"Pot Pourri," *Georgetown Herald*, 6 April 1955, page 6
"There's Been Changes," *Georgetown Herald*, 12 April 1973, page 12.
"Joseph Gibbons: The Barber who Became Mayor," John McDonald, *Halton Sketches Revisited*, Norval: 1996
"Georgetown in the 1850s," Elaine Robinson-Bertrand, *Georgetown Independent*, 15 January 1986

Historic Mapping:

"Georgetown in Esquesing," 1854 Esquesing Historical Society Archives MG12 A23
Historical Atlas for the County of Halton, 1877
"Georgetown, Ont.," Fire Insurance Map #1, August 1922, Revised to 10 Feb. 1934, Underwriters' Survey Bureau. Esquesing Historical Society Archives MG12 A3 #17.02
"Insurance Plan of the Town of Georgetown, Ont." Fire Insurance Map #6, May 1960, Underwriters' Survey Bureau. Esquesing Historical Society Archives MG12 A9 #2.05

Research and Evaluation Report



Armour Block
61-65 Main Street South, Georgetown, Town of Halton Hills

December 2023

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Hills 2023) 16

1.0 Property Description

61-65 Main Street South	
Municipality	Georgetown, Town of Halton Hills
County or Region	Regional Municipality of Halton
Legal Description	61 Main Street South: LT 28 & PT LT 45, PL 59, AS IN 856873; HALTON HILLS; 65 Main Street South: PT LT 1, PL 37, E OF MAIN ST OR NW MILL ST, AS IN 439680; T/W 439680; HALTON HILLS
Construction Date	c.1871
Original Use	Commercial
Current Use	Commercial
Architect/Building/Designer	Unknown
Architectural Style	Commercial Vernacular
Additions/Alterations	Alterations to storefronts
Heritage Status	Listed on the Heritage Register
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Report Date	December 2023

2.0 Background



Figure 1: Location Map – 61-65 Main Street South



Figure 2: Aerial Photograph – 61-65 Main Street South

This research and evaluation report describes the history, context, and physical characteristics of the property at 61-65 Main Street South in Halton Hills, Ontario, named the Armour Block, after the owner at the time of construction. The report includes an evaluation of the property’s cultural heritage value as prescribed by the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

2.1 Historical Background

Indigenous History Background

The enduring history of First Nation Peoples in Halton Hills can be traced back through time immemorial before contact with Europeans in the 1600s. Prior to the arrival of European settlers, the Credit River was central to Indigenous ways of life, supporting settlements, fisheries, horticulture, transportation, and trade. Iroquoian-speaking peoples, ancestors of the Wendat, occupied the Credit River Valley for hundreds of years until approximately the mid-1600s, establishing semi-permanent villages. There are numerous archaeological sites in Halton Hills dating from this period, ranging from village sites to burial grounds, which reveal a rich cultural heritage.

The Wendat were displaced by the Haudenosaunee around 1649-50 amid the conflicts that arose between European colonial powers and their First Nation allies. The Mississaugas (part of the Anishinaabe Nation) arrived in southern Ontario in the 1690s, settling in two groups along the north shore of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. The western group, occupying the area between Toronto and Lake Erie, became known as the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Until the early 19th century, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation followed a seasonal cycle of movement and resource harvesting along the Credit River (Missinnihe, meaning “trusting creek”), and other rivers. In the winter months, extended family groups hunted in the Halton Hills area, travelling south towards the mouth of the river in the spring for the salmon run. The Mississaugas’ fisheries and traditional economies were diminished as a result of increased Euro-colonial settlement, leading to a state of impoverishment and dramatic population decline.

In 1818, the British Crown negotiated the purchase of 648,000 acres of land from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, including present-day Halton Hills, under the Ajetance Treaty (No. 19), named after Chief Ajetance. This left the Mississaugas with three small reserves on the Lake Ontario shoreline. The legitimacy of early land “surrenders” to the Crown is questionable when considering the Mississaugas’ traditional understanding of property ownership. Unlike the British, the Mississaugas understood land in spiritual terms, and did not share the idea that access to land and resources could be given up permanently¹.

European Settlement

Lot 18, Concession 9 in Esquesing Township was part of the 200 acres purchased by George Kennedy in 1823, from patent holder John Moore. However, early efforts to attract settlers to the mill here were not successful; a village was not established until the arrival of the Barber family in 1837, who dubbed the mill seat Georgetown. By 1839, the village lots had been laid out (although not registered), surveying lands belonging to George, Morris and John Kennedy, Philo Dayfoot, James Young, and the Barber brothers. The building within the property at 61 to 65 Main Street South occupies 22.8 perches (.14 acres) of the West half of Lot 18, Concession 9 East of Main Street, part of Lot 1 as identified by George Kennedy’s survey.

¹ This brief overview of Pre-Treaty Indigenous Territory within the land now known as Halton Hills is taken from the Town of Halton Hills’ 2023 *Cultural Heritage Strategy*. This document includes additional recommendations relating to Truth and Reconciliation in Heritage Planning as part of the Town's commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation.

On the January 1854 map (Figure 3), Provincial Land Surveyor Charles Kennedy plotted the existing buildings. A rectangular building (likely frame construction) is identified within the subject property, with an outbuilding belonging to the hotel on Lot 2, encroaching on Lot 1. The property was purchased in May 1852 by John Freeman, who farmed the 200 acres of lot 17, which now includes Cedarvale Park. John Freeman, along with the Kennedy family, was a principal supporter of the Wesleyan Methodist Church built at the head of Wesleyan Street (across the road from the subject property) in 1840.

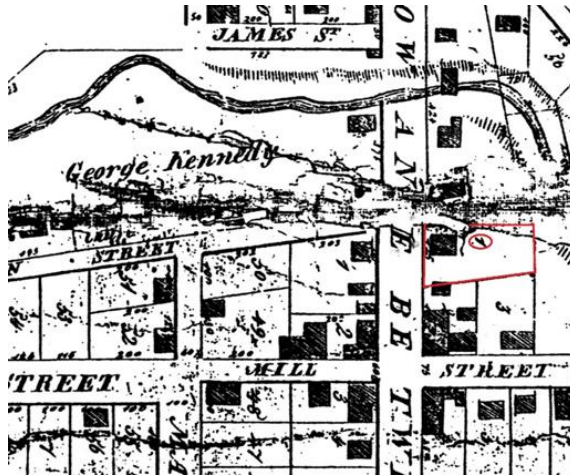


Figure 3: Detail from 1854 map showing the subject Property outlined in red. EHS Archives: MG12 A3 #23



Figure 4: Detail from 1877 map in Halton Atlas showing the subject property in red

The only confirmed business that occupied this building at the time was John Rue, a tailor and clothier. An advertisement in the February 25, 1864, issue of the *Canadian Champion* gives direction to the store as “opposite Culp and Mackenzie wagon shop.” Culp and Mackenzie’s shop is the square building shown on the 1854 map (Figure 3) at the corner of Main and Wesleyan.



Figure 5: Advertisement for Nicholas Armour from 4 Jan. 1866 issue of the Canadian Champion.

In 1864, Maurice Armour was a chronometer and watch maker in Milton. The 1861 census shows the married Irish-born Armour (then 28) living with brother Nicholas Armour (then 26). On January 4, 1866,

Nicholas Armour placed his own advertisement as a chronometer and watch maker in his new store on Main Street, Georgetown. On May 26, 1870, the *Canadian Champion* announced the awarding of a contract by Thomas Clark of The Exchange Hotel to build a substantial three-storey brick addition to his two-storey frame hotel on the corner of Mill and Main. Nicholas Armour purchased the frame building housing his store from John Freeman the same year, taking a mortgage with John Freeman for \$1500 in July 1870 and for \$800 in February 1871. In October 1871, a significant fire broke out along Main Street across from the subject property. Properties between Chace's Hotel (site of Old Bank) to Culp and Mackenzie's shop were destroyed, with fire catching for a short time on other buildings near the scene of operation.

The photograph shown in Figure 6 shows a man driving two oxen as they pull a wagon across Main Street from Mill to Young Streets. On the left of the photograph is Chace's Hotel with the double-balcony, and sundry wooden buildings, all of which were consumed in the fire of October 1871. On the right is the double-balcony Exchange Hotel (Clark House) with its three-storey brick addition. North of the hotel is the shorter brick building with the distinctive curved upper windows of Nicholas Armour. North of the Armour Block are the frame stores that were to be consumed by an incendiary fire in 1887, to be replaced by the Roe Block in 1888.



Figure 6: Main Street Georgetown, looking north from Young and Mill Streets in the summer of 1871. EHS00262

Local newspapers reported on April 13, 1879 that Nicholas Armour had died at the Bennett's Hotel:

"About seven o'clock on the morning of his death he arose and told one of the hotel girls not to get any breakfast for him as he was going to sleep, when he locked his door, and he was not seen again until the afternoon when his door was forced open, and to the surprise of those who entered, he was breathing his last. Drs. Starr and Standish were called in, but their assistance was of no avail, as his heart almost immediately ceased beating."

Armour's death was ruled an accident due to the Chloral-Hydrate he took habitually to induce sleep. Following his death, the building was sold by his executors to William Thompson in July 1879.

William Thompson was listed on the 1881 census as a 45-year-old grocer, married to Mary with two small children. The June 8, 1882 issue of *The Acton Free Press* reported the arrest of Thompson for violation of *The Scott Act* by selling liquor; Thompson was later acquitted but his employee James Moore was found guilty. Thompson died the following year, and on February 15, 1883, the *Acton Free Press* re-printed the following announcement from *The Georgetown Herald*: "The sudden death, on Saturday

morning of Wm. Thompson, grocer, of this place, familiarly known as “Billy Thompson,” surprised and saddened the entire community. He was buried on Monday with Masonic honors”.

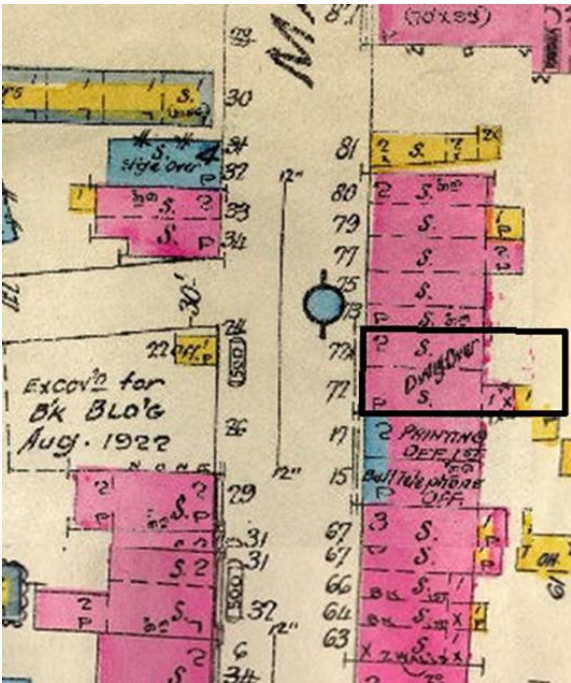


Figure 7: The Armour Block is outlined in black on this 1922 Fire Insurance Plan. The colour red denotes buildings built of brick, while wood is identified in yellow and stone in blue. “Dwg Over” is noted on the subject property identifying that a dwelling was located at the upper storey (EHS 00121)



Figure 8: Subject property identified on the 1934 Fire Insurance Plan

In February 1880, the property was sold to Thomas J. Wheeler and Mary Ann Wheeler. The 1880 purchase of the building was from William Thompson’s mortgage holders to Mary Ann Wheeler, wife of Thomas James Wheeler. T. J. Wheeler, an English immigrant, had come to Georgetown in 1855 at age 17, however he returned to Toronto to learn his trade of watch maker. He then returned to Georgetown and set up his business in part of Alfred Galbraith’s store, elsewhere on Main Street.



Figure 9: Mrs. Wheeler's advertisement from 8 May 1879 in The Herald.



Figure 10: A clock built by T. J. Wheeler. EHS02631



Figure 11: Paper pasted to inside of the clock reads, "Manufactured for and sold by T.J. Wheeler, Georgetown." EHS02630



Figure 12: Herald 22 Nov. 1909

In 1868, Alfred Galbraith died, leaving his widow with four children. The following year Mary Ann Galbraith married Thomas J. Wheeler, whose advertisements often appeared adjacent to those of his competitor, Nicholas Armour. After the purchase of the Armour Block by Thompson, Mrs. Wheeler appears to have occupied a portion of the building, along with Thompson, given that she placed her own advertisements for dolls and Christmas goods in 1879.

The January 2, 1890 issue of the *Acton Free Press* reports that "...[a]t an early hour on Tuesday morning of last week, the frame row on Main Street, situated between the brick blocks of Thomas Clark, innkeeper, and T.J. Wheeler, jeweler, was totally destroyed by fire....".

Mary Ann Wheeler was still in business in 1911 when the census listed the 71-year-old as a merchant, however she died a few years later on January 22, 1913. Wheeler had previously served in 1865 during the Fenian Raids; when Wheeler died in October 1910, he was the second last Fenian Riad veteran in Georgetown, outlived only by Joseph Barber. One part of the building had been let to J. F. Levinsky by 1909, who sold ready-made boys and men's clothing, boots, and shoes. By 1910 Levinsky had also opened a Milton store.



Figure 13: Detail of photo showing Levinsky's signs outside his store at 61 Main St. S. about 1910, from EHS00240.

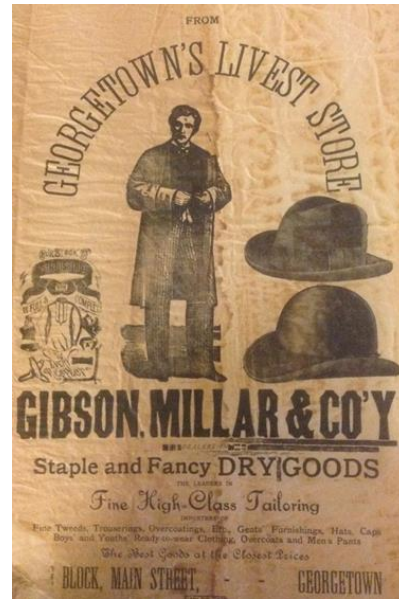


Figure 14: Advertisement for Gibson, Millar & Co. when they were in the Roe Block. EHS21512

Mrs. Wheeler's executors sold the property in Nov. 1913 to William A. Millar for \$5500. Millar was a well-known Georgetown local who started his career under William MacLeod at the Mammoth House, the department store at Main and Mill Streets. In 1897 he ventured into a partnership of Gibson, Millar, and Co., operating in the Roe Block next to the subject property, likely taking over the Levinsky premises before eventually buying the building. Millar died suddenly at age 65 in April 1925.

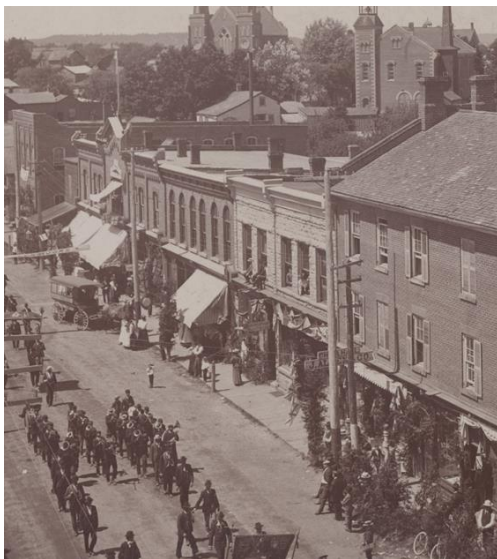


Figure 15: Detail from EHS00378 showing a parade on Main Street. From the right are the 1870 addition to the McGibbon Hotel, Herald Office, Bank of Hamilton, Armour Block and Roe Block.

HALT, FEBRUARY 22nd 1922

Dominion Stores Limited

The Chain of Grocery Stores of Canada
MAIN ST. GEORGETOWN

Announcement!

We have opened a store on Main street, Georgetown, with a full line of Staple and Fancy Groceries which we are selling at Greatly Reduced Prices. We will every article on the Money-Back Guarantee. Special Prices every day that will save you money on your Grocery Order.

Highest Cash Prices Paid for Butter, Eggs, Etc.
Come in This Week and See Our New Store.
You are Welcome.

LOOK	READ	Buy	
Special Price on Smeat. 100 pounds this week. Leave your order Nov.			
Watch Our Windows for Special Sales.			
Prunes, 2 lbs.	25c	Marmalade jars, 1 lb.	25c
Dates, New Park, per pkg.	10c	Toilet Paper, 6 for.	27c
Song Laundry, 10 bars.	60c	Corn Syrup, 5 lbs.	45c
Shredded Wheat, 2 lbs.	55c	Black & White Beans, large.	2c
Malted, 2 boxes.	25c	4lb.	24c
Brooms, 4 strips.	85c	Carrot Milk, 1/2 gal. tin.	17c
Cashin, pure, 7 cakes.	55c	Our own Coffee.	38c
Soda, fresh, per lb.	17c	Our Special Tea.	40c
Bolled Oats, 6 lbs.	24c	Chow, Canadian.	28c
Cream of Wheat, 4 lbs.	25c	Machine Sliced Bacon.	28c
Blue Rose Rice, per lb.	10c	Cottage Roll, sliced.	27c
Jam, pure, 4 lbs.	75c	Small Hams.	27c
Marmalade, 4 lbs.	60c	Toronto Bread, fresh daily, 2 lb. loaf.	15c

Fruit Cake Jelly Rolls Lunch Cakes

Dominion Stores Limited
Main Street Georgetown

QUALITY : LOWEST PRICES : SERVICE

Figure 16: Advertisement for the opening of Dominion Stores from The Herald 22 Feb. 1922.

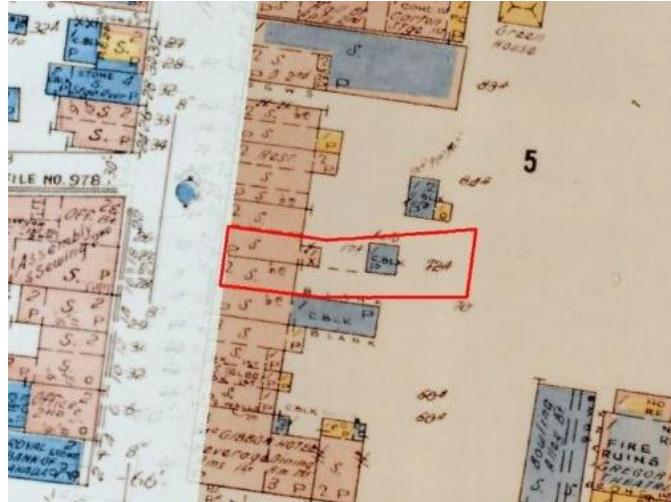


Figure 17: Subject property identified on the 1960 Fire Insurance Plan of Georgetown. A concrete block building is identified at the rear of the subject property.

Agostino (Tony) and Rosie Restivo purchased the subject property in 1925. The Restivo's came to Georgetown about 1916, opening their fruit and vegetable store in the Roe Block and later moving to 119 Mill Street before purchasing the subject property.

In 1930, Tony Restivo's son-in-law Dick Licata took over the fruit and vegetable store. Licata operated the store for several years until selling in 1951 to Enrico and Lennie Caruso of Brampton, where their father had operated since 1917. Caruso's was at 21 Main Street North with Dominion Stores at 19 Main Street North². In 1933, A.M. Nielsen ran his chiropractic office and offered x-rays within the second floor of the subject building. In 1959, Kay's Beauty Shop opened upstairs of Goldham's Meats at 19 Main Street and was still in business in the 1970s.

² In May 1948, an editorial in the *Georgetown Herald* called for street numbering, though street numbers would not start appearing in the newspaper until 1955. That 1950s street numbering on Main Street changed with the creation of a regional government in 1974. Before 1974, the addresses would have been #21 and #19 Main Street North.

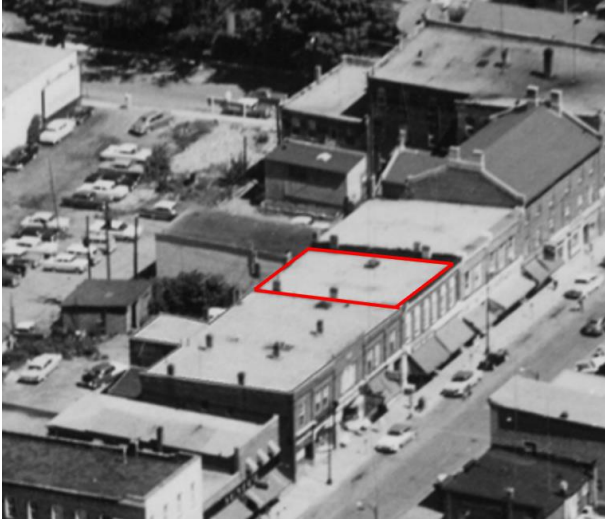


Figure 18: The roof of the subject building is outlined in red in this 1961 aerial view of Main Street (EHS 09031)



Figure 19: Detail from EHS21915 about 1975 with Caruso's Fruit Market at #61 and Georgetown Decorating at #65.



Figure 20: Armour Block c. 1970s (Georgetown Vault)

Caruso's Fruit Market closed with Enrico's retirement in 1976 (then addressed as 61 Main Street South), following which the property was sold to George Bergsma. George and Shirley Bergsma opened Georgetown decorating Centre in 1976 at 65 Main Street South. Kobe's Nook, a gift shop, opened that year at 61 Main Street South, and Quartet Music Centre opened a store at 65 Main Street South in 1978.



Figure 21: Front elevation of the existing building, c.1983 (The Georgetown Vault via Patrick Cummins)



Figure 22: Looking along the front elevation of the existing building, c.1983 (The Georgetown Vault via Patrick Cummins)

Vivian's Greeting Cards occupied the space in 1983, the same year Bergsma Decorating moved to the Georgetown Market Place Plaza on Guelph Street. In April 1991, My Generation opened at 61 Main Street South. By 1992, My Hometown Gift Shop was opened by Doreen Bergsma, which expanded in 1993 and which was still operating in 1998. Other businesses at the subject property have included Glazed Expressions Ceramic Studio (on site since 2004) and Barbara Ford's In Spirit Centre at 61 Main Street South since about 2017.

While this report does not include an exhaustive list of tenants and uses, those identified illustrate the variety of services offered in the Armour Block over the last 151 years since its construction, with several owners of significance.



Figure 23: Armour Block in 2022. EHS28490

2.2 Property & Architectural Description

The 1871 commercial building comprised of 61-65 Main Street South in Georgetown is located along the east side of Main Street South, north of Mill Street. The existing building is two storeys, with recessed storefronts and entrances above a single step at the first storey.



Figure 24: Looking southeast along Main Street South towards the subject property (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 25: Looking towards the subject property from the west side of Main Street South (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The first storey of the front elevation features two storefronts with panelled surrounds and large glazed windows. The building has a single entrance door in between the two storefronts allowing access to the upper storey from Main Street South. Above the storefronts is a panel that extends across the front façade with painted wooden signs for each business within the panel. At the second storey, six round-arched window openings with stone sills, brick voussoirs and keystones are evenly spaced; below the voussoirs, the windows are infilled with rectangular hung windows within the existing openings. The bracketed cornice adds visual interest at the parapet and defines the extent of the commercial building

within the commercial row. The façade at the second storey is red brick, similar to that of its neighbour, the Roe Block.



Figure 26: Front (west) elevation of the existing two-storey building (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

A large municipal parking lot is located to the rear of the existing building. The rear elevation features a small gable-roofed addition and wooden porch at the second storey, with a central chimney. The rear elevation is clad with vinyl siding.



Figure 27: Rear elevation of the existing building from within the municipal parking lot (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 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 Armour Block at 61-65 Main Street South has physical and design value as a representative 19th-century commercial structure within downtown Georgetown. The two-storey building height with red brick exterior at the upper storeys, round-arched windows with brick voussoirs, stone sills and keystones, and bracketed cornice, with dual storefronts recessed at the first storey, is reflective of typical commercial buildings constructed within Ontario during its period.

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	X
Demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer, or theorist who is significant to a community	N/A

The Armour Block at 61-65 Main Street South has historical and associative value due to its associations with builder Nicholas Armour, a local chronometer and watch maker, as well as the property owners and businesses located within the building since its construction in 1871, including William Thompson's grocery store, the Wheeler Family (selling dolls and jewelry), J.F. Levinsky (selling boys and men's clothing), William Millar's department store, and Agonstino and Rosie Restivo's (later Dick Licata's and then Enrico Caruso's) fruit and vegetable store. The existing building has also housed chiropractic offices, a beauty shop, Goldham's Meats, a decorating centre, gift shop, and spiritual gift and service centre over the years. The subject property is linked to over 150 years of commercial development and services in downtown Georgetown and its uses have evolved over time since its construction.

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 Armour Block at 61-65 Main Street South has contextual value as it is important in defining the built heritage character of the downtown. The existing two-storey building remains in its original location, physically and functionally linked to its surroundings as a commercial property on the Georgetown main

street. The scale, form and massing of the building helps to define the historic streetwall along Main Street South in the downtown.

Heritage Attributes:

- The setback, placement, and orientation of the two-storey, mid-19th century commercial building within a commercial row in historic downtown Georgetown;
- The scale, form, and massing of the two-storey building with flat roof and red brick exterior, with bracketed cornice;
- The materials, including red brick exterior and stone detailing;
- The balanced vertical, round-arched window openings with voussoirs and stone sills and keystones on the second storey of the front (west) elevation;
- The recessed storefront configuration along the first storey of the front elevation.

The interiors and rear of the property have not been identified as heritage attributes as part of this report.

4.0 Summary

Following research and evaluation according to Ontario Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the property at 49-57 Main Street South 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.

5.0 Sources

Primary Sources:

Land Records for Lot 1 East of Main, George Kennedy survey, Georgetown (Plan 37)
Georgetown Urban Inventory, Phase 1, Barbara Szczepanik, Heritage Halton Hills, 1994.
Various Photographs, Esquesing Historical Society Archives (individual citations in-text)
Various Photographs dated 2023 taken by John Mark Rowe
Census Records for 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891 1901, 1911, 1921 for Georgetown and Milton
William Watson Daybooks EHS Archive MG3 A2

Secondary Sources:

Cedarvale Designation Report, John Mark Rowe, 2010.
Georgetown: Reflections of a Small Town, John Mark Rowe, 2006
"Georgetown in the 1850s," Elaine Robinson-Bertrand, *Georgetown Independent*, 15 January 1986
Advertisements from various issues of the *Canadian Champion*
Advertisements from various issues of *The Georgetown Herald*
"Georgetown Poisoning Case," *Acton Free Press*, 24 April 1879
"Georgetown," *Acton Free Press*, 2 January 1890
"Shoebox Memories: Wheeler's of Georgetown," *North Halton Compass*, 28 Feb. 2002
Small news items from various issues of *The Georgetown Herald*
"The Changing Scene," *Georgetown Herald*, 11 Jan. 1950, page 6
"The Changing Scene," *Georgetown Herald*, 20 Aug. 1952, page 8
"Pot Pourri," *Georgetown Herald*, 6 April 1955, page 6
"There's Been Changes," *Georgetown Herald*, 12 April 1973, page 12.

Historic Mapping:

"Georgetown in Esquesing," 1854 Esquesing Historical Society Archives MG12 A23
Historical Atlas for the County of Halton, 1877
"Georgetown, Ont.," Fire Insurance Map #1, August 1922, Revised to 10 Feb. 1934, Underwriters' Survey Bureau. Esquesing Historical Society Archives MG12 A3 #17.02
"Insurance Plan of the Town of Georgetown, Ont." Fire Insurance Map #6, May 1960, Underwriters' Survey Bureau. Esquesing Historical Society Archives MG12 A9 #2.05

Research and Evaluation Report



(Town of Halton Hills 2023)

Barclay's Block
87 Main Street South, Town of Halton Hills

January 2024

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1.0 Property Description

87 Main Street South	
Municipality	Town of Halton Hills
County or Region	Region of Halton
Legal Description	PT LTS 4 & 5, PL 37, E OF MAIN ST OR S OF MILL ST, AS IN 845605; T/W 352338; HALTON HILLS
Construction Date	c.1852
Original Use	Commercial
Current Use	Commercial
Architect/Building/Designer	Built for Francis Barclay
Architectural Style	Commercial Vernacular
Additions/Alterations	Remaining portion of Barclay’s Block; Stuccoed exterior
Heritage Status	Listed on the Town’s Heritage Register
Recorder(s)	Laura Loney
Report Date	January 2024

2.0 Background

This research and evaluation report describes the history, context, and physical characteristics of the property at 87 Main Street South in the community of Georgetown in the Town of 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*.

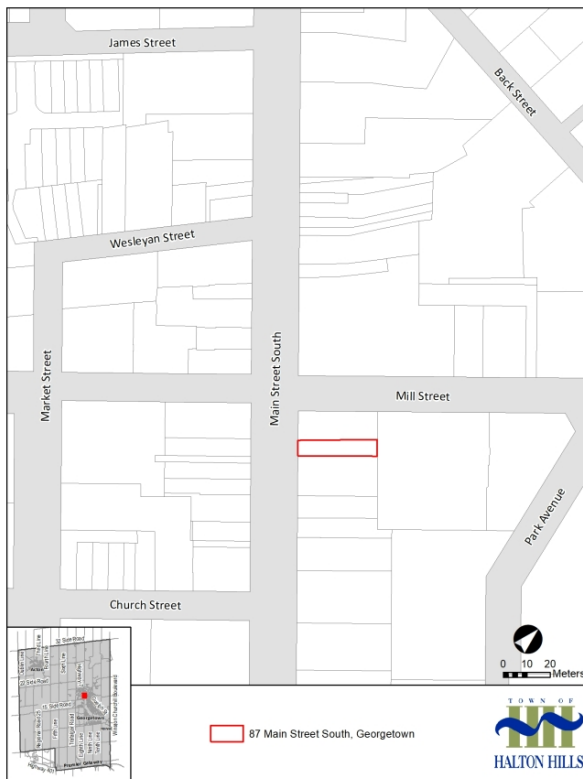


Figure 1: Location Map – 87 Main Street South



Figure 2: Aerial Photograph – 87 Main Street South

2.1 Historical Background

Indigenous History Background

The enduring history of First Nation Peoples in Halton Hills can be traced back through time immemorial before contact with Europeans in the 1600s. Prior to the arrival of European settlers, the Credit River was central to Indigenous ways of life, supporting settlements, fisheries, horticulture, transportation, and trade. Iroquoian-speaking peoples, ancestors of the Wendat, occupied the Credit River Valley for hundreds of years until approximately the mid-1600s, establishing semi-permanent villages. There are numerous archaeological sites in Halton Hills dating from this period, ranging from village sites to burial grounds, which reveal a rich cultural heritage.

The Wendat were displaced by the Haudenosaunee around 1649-50 amid the conflicts that arose between European colonial powers and their First Nation allies. The Mississaugas (part of the Anishinaabe Nation) arrived in southern Ontario in the 1690s, settling in two groups along the north shore of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. The western group, occupying the area between Toronto and Lake Erie, became known as the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Until the early 19th century, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation followed a seasonal cycle of movement and resource harvesting along the Credit River (Missinnihe, meaning “trusting creek”), and other rivers. In the winter months, extended family groups hunted in the Halton Hills area, travelling south towards the mouth of the river in the spring for the salmon run. The Mississaugas’ fisheries and traditional economies were diminished as a result of increased Euro-colonial settlement, leading to a state of impoverishment and dramatic population decline.

In 1818, the British Crown negotiated the purchase of 648,000 acres of land from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, including present-day Halton Hills, under the Ajetance Treaty (No. 19), named after Chief Ajetance. This left the Mississaugas with three small reserves on the Lake Ontario shoreline. The legitimacy of early land “surrenders” to the Crown is questionable when considering the Mississaugas’ traditional understanding of property ownership. Unlike the British, the Mississaugas understood land in spiritual terms, and did not share the idea that access to land and resources could be given up permanently¹.

Francis Barclay

The subject property was purchased by John Dolson in 1844 from George Kennedy, who in 1854 sold it to Francis Barclay. Francis Barclay was born to Mary (nee Fleming) and Matthew Barclay in 1822. In 1832, the family emigrated from Scotland to Canada and settled later in Trafalgar Township in 1837. In 1848, Francis Barclay partnered with Peter A. MacDougald to establish a dry goods business. Barclay constructed the existing building as part of what became known as “Barclay’s Block” in 1852. Wooden canopies (no longer extant) along the storefront were built to provide a more comfortable shopping experience. Barclay also purchased Lot 101 and 102 in the Young and Barber Survey in November 1858,

¹ This brief overview of Pre-Treaty Indigenous Territory within the land now known as Halton Hills is taken from the Town of Halton Hills’ 2023 *Cultural Heritage Strategy*. This document includes additional recommendations relating to Truth and Reconciliation in Heritage Planning as part of the Town’s commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation.

upon which he employed William Watson to construct his home (now 51 Edith Street). Watson used triple-wythe brick in a Flemish bond, the same pattern which was used for Barclay’s Block.

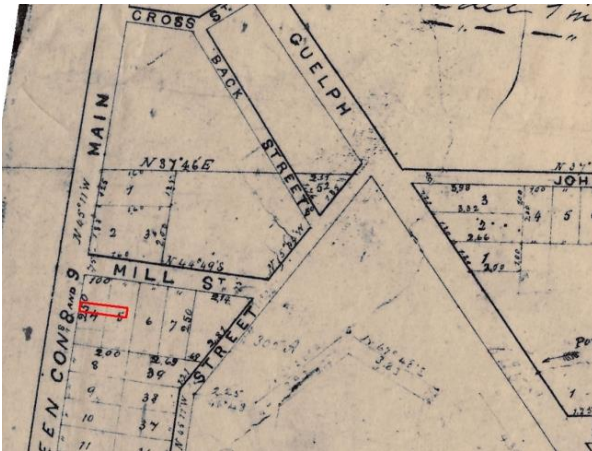


Figure 3: Subject property identified on an 1858 Map of Georgetown



Figure 4: Subject property identified on the 1877 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton

In 1863, Barclay partnered with both William McLeod and James McLean. When McLean died in 1865, their business known as “Mammoth House” continued under the ownership of Barclay & McLeod. Barclay was appointed postmaster of Georgetown in 1865 and was the Reeve in 1866. Barclay had married Isabella McKirlie in 1848 and had four children with her before her death in 1863. In 1864, Barclay married Helen McKirlie, a relative of his late wife, and they had three children together. Barclay retired in 1871 and the business continued under “McLeod, Anderson & Co” in a large brick two-storey building, employing between 25 to 30 people. Barclay then moved to Toronto and established a wholesale boot and shoe business on Front Street, however returned to the Milton area following a disastrous fire. In 1874, Barclay was elected to Esquesing Township Council as the Reform candidate. In 1881, Barclay became the registrar of Halton County, a position he held until his death in 1889.

MAMMOTH HOUSE.
M'LEAN, M'LEOD AND CO.,
 OF GEORGETOWN.
 Property is returned to the Commission at the
FAIR DAY, FRIDAY, OCT. 6th, '65
 Will be sold at the option of the Auctioneers to be made for the Cash, for Cash, and other and some things for Cash.
Mammoth house, Corner of Main and Mills,
 And has a fine large room for the sale of the best of the Goods and other.
MESSRS McLEAN McLEOD & Co.
 An Import of Goods from the City of Montreal
Stock is now Complete for the Fall Trade
 And for the Winter trade
 No House in the Trade West of Montreal can show a Stock equal to theirs
SEE MESSRS AND PRICES.
BUY THEIR DRY GOODS
 Being selling their wares at a very low price, and are well known to be a reliable
 and profitable to all who buy of them.
Stock comprises everything that the market can furnish
DRY GOODS, MILLINERY & CLOTHING
 Georgetown, October 4th, 1865.

Figure 4: Advertisement for Mammoth House, c. 1865 (*Canadian Champion*, October 4, 1865)

MONEY. MONEY WANTED, MONEY SAVED!
BARCLAY & McLEOD.
 In order to meet the present hard times half way, have determined to Sell Goods Cheaper than they have been sold in Canada for the last ten years. In addition to our Large Importations this Spring we have been tempted in consequence of their extreme Cheapness to purchase several large lots of WHOLESALE BANKRUPT STOCK in Montreal. We have too many Goods, so we call on Farmers, Mechanic, Professional Men, Ladies, Gentlemen, and in fact everybody, Money we want. Goods you shall have the cheapest in Canada. We call attention to the following Departments.
TAILORING.
 This Department is unsurpassed by anything in the Dominion for Largeness of Stock, Variety of Pattern, Excellence of Workmanship, Neatness and Exactness of Fit and Cheapness. Ready-Made Clothing to suit Everybody. Boys' Clothing in profusion. We call special attention to our Magnificent Variety of Hats and Caps.
MILLINERY.
 The Latest Novelties from the Leading Centres of Fashion in the World. We keep a Large Stock of Mantles, Ribbons, Feathers, Flowers, Bonnets, Hats, Parasols, Shawls, &c., &c.
CARPET.
 A Large Stock Imported direct, money saved on them, Great Bargains, Immense Variety. Boots and Shoes in all the different grades and sizes.
SPECIAL LINES.
 We bought all our Clothings before the 29th of January, so we can now sell them as cheap as the manufacturers. A large lot of beautiful Dress Goods from 8 cents upwards. A magnificent variety of the New Chinese Silk Dress Goods, One Dollar per yard; and further we would say, we have the Largest Store, the Biggest Stock, Sell the Most Goods, and afford to Sell the Cheapest of any house in this or the surrounding Counties. In fact we were never in a better position to give the public Unparalleled Bargains, and so previously stated, to make hard times easy.
BARCLAY & McLEOD, Mammoth House, Georgetown, April 1869.

Figure 5: Advertisement for Mammoth House, c. 1869 (*Canadian Champion*, July 8, 1869, p.4)

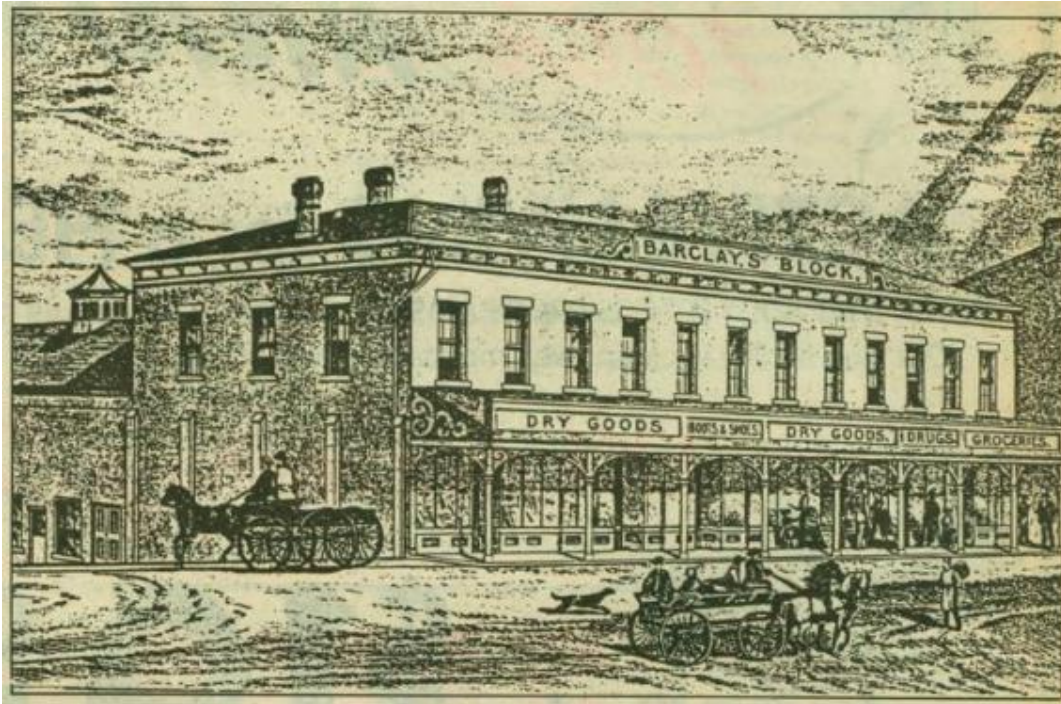


Figure 5: Barclay's Block depicted in the 1877 *Illustrated Atlas of the County of Halton*

In 1893, a fire broke out in the store of P.H. Laird, furniture dealer, in Barclay's Block. *The Georgetown Herald* reported that the balance of the block was saved and that Laird lost \$1,500 worth of stock, Mrs. Barclay lost \$1,200, and Mr. Thompson's stock was damaged by smoke.



Figure 6: Downtown Georgetown, n.d. (Georgetown Vault via George Marko)



Figure 7: Downtown Georgetown, n.d. (Georgetown Vault via Wayne Gougeon)

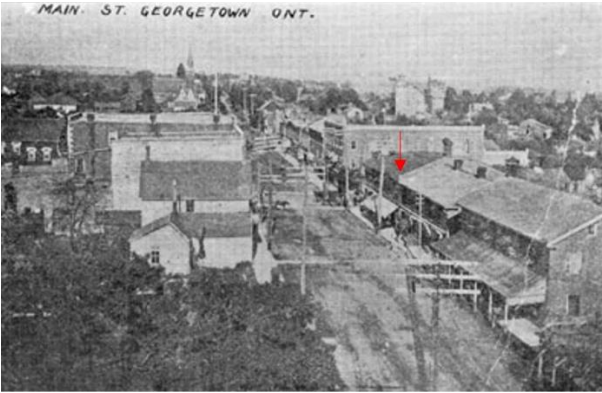


Figure 8: Main Street, Georgetown, c.1910; the existing portion of Barclay's Block is identified with an arrow. (TPL - Baldwin Collection of Canadiana, PCR-567) (EHS 00009)

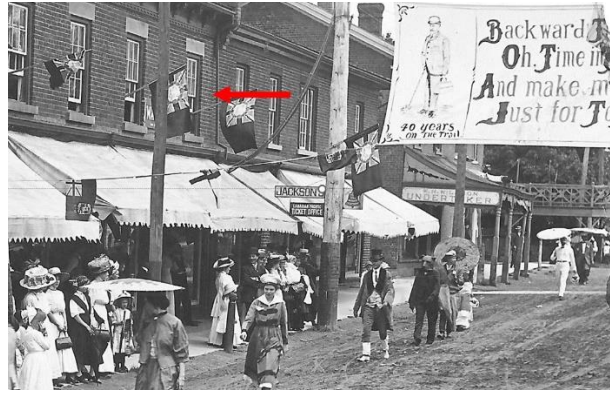


Figure 9: Crowds watch a Drummer's Snack parade in July 1912. The existing portion of Barclay's Block is identified with an arrow (EHS 21580)

Commercial Use and Services

The *Georgetown Herald* reported in October 1918 that the Barclay Block had been freshly painted, and that Brill & Co (later Brill's Department Store) would be moving into the building which had been most recently occupied by Adams & Co. In 1919, the Barclay Block was advertised for sale in *The Georgetown Herald* by William Barclay.



Figure 10: Main Street South, looking north; the existing portion of Barclay's Block is identified with an arrow (EHS 21524)

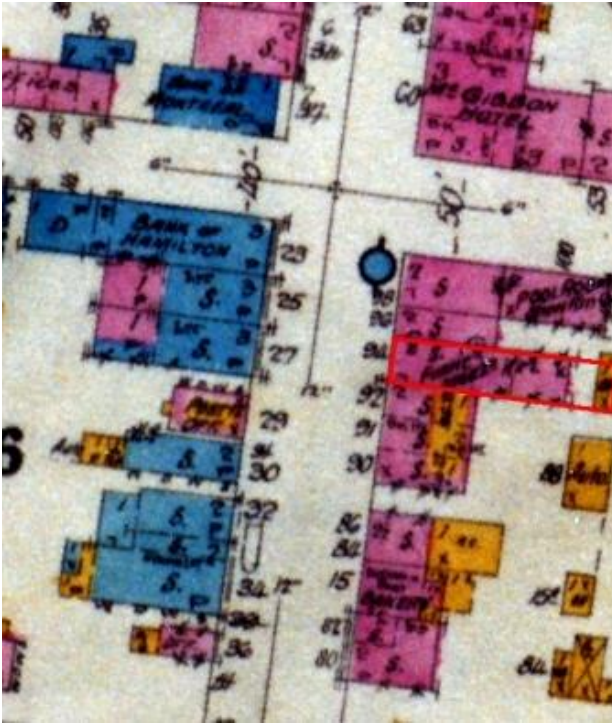


Figure 11: Subject property identified on the 1922 Fire Insurance Plan of Georgetown



Figure 12: Subject property identified on the 1934 Fire Insurance Plan of Georgetown

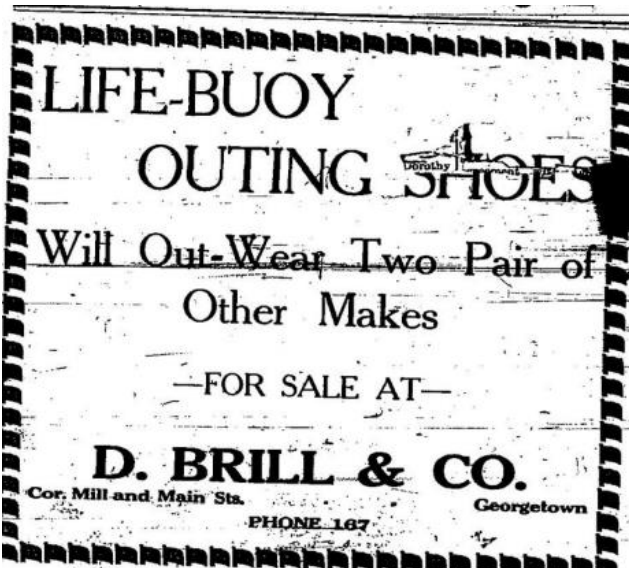


Figure 13: Georgetown Herald (Georgetown, ON), July 6, 1921, p. 3



Figure 14: Georgetown Herald (Georgetown, ON), December 9, 1925, p. 2



Figure 15: Advertisement for Hughey & McDonald (*The Georgetown Herald*, December 29, 1926, p.1)



Figure 16: Advertisement for Brill's Department Store (*The Georgetown Herald*, December 5, 1945, p.1)

Brill's occupied the majority of Barclay's Block for many years. In 1946, David Brill sold his department store to entrepreneur Jack Cotton, who operated a clothing store there until the 1970s. In 1948, Harold Hutchinson took ownership of Roy Magloughlen's barber shop, smoke business, and billiard parlor at the south end of the building (the extant portion), and continued to partner with Bob Murray following Magloughlen's retirement, renaming the business after himself.



Figure 17: Ready's 5c to \$1.00 Store on the left. Main Street South in 1949 (detail); the existing portion of Barclay's Block is identified with an arrow (EHS 00026)



Figure 18: Main Street looking north from Church St, c.1959 (detail); the existing portion of Barclay's Block is identified with an arrow. (EHS 04488)



Figure 19: Orange Parade in Georgetown, July 12, 1961. Subject property partially shown on the right, pre-removal of most of the building for the Royal Bank building. “Cotton Brothers” and “Hutch’s Smoke Shop” signs are visible; the existing portion of Barclay’s Block is identified with an arrow (EHS 00238)

In 1961 “Hutch’s Smoke Shop” was remodelled and renamed “The Snackette” and operated until 1972. Also in 1972, Cotton Brothers closed their doors (at which time the building was still owned by the Brill Estate). The majority of Barclay’s Block was soon demolished, leaving the existing portion, to facilitate the construction of the Royal Bank building (still extant) at the corner in 1973. The existing building was later the location of a Sears Catalogue store.



Figure 20: Georgetown Vault c.1961; the existing portion of Barclay’s Block is identified with an arrow.



Figure 21: Barclay’s Block shown to the left c.1961; the existing portion of Barclay’s Block is identified with an arrow (The Georgetown Vault)



Figure 22: Barclay's Block shown to the left c.1961; the existing portion of Barclay's Block is identified with an arrow (EHS 18401) (detail);



Figure 23: Photograph showing the corner of Barclay's Block prior to its demolition in the 1970s (Georgetown Vault, n.d.)



Figure 24: Advertisement in *The Georgetown Herald* (August 2, 1962, p. 8)



Figure 25: Subject property shown to the right of the Royal Bank building, c.1987; the existing portion of Barclay's Block is identified with an arrow (EHS 10472)

PRESTIGE retail location Downtown Georgetown, approx., 2200 square feet, clear 22 ft. glass front, newly refurbished building at 89 Main St.S., formerly Sears Catalogue Store, beside Royal Bank, available immediately, call owners at 416-932-1900.

Figure 26: Advertisement for the subject property (November 21, 1993)
(https://images.ourontario.ca/Partners/HHPL/HHPL002886049pf_0025.pdf)

In 1983 Marcia Dye opened a health food store by the name of “Foodstuffs” at 92 Main Street South in Georgetown. The current owner purchased the subject property 13 years later and continues to operate the health food store at this location.

VI'S TOMATO SOUP CAKE

- 2 tsp butter or margarine
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- Beat thoroughly

Dissolve 1 tsp. soda in 1 can tomato soup, add alternately to above mixture with:

- 1½ cups flour
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. cloves

Bake 35 to 40 mins. at 350°

SPECIAL

- PEANUTS**
(Blanched & Roasted)
95¢/lb.
- JUMBO PURE CHOCOLATE CHIPS**
***1.98/lb.**
- HOT CHOCOLATE POWDER**
Plain or with Marshmallows
(Just add water!)
***1.49/lb.**

Foodstuffs 92 Main St. S. Georgetown 877-6569

Figure 27: Georgetown Herald (Georgetown, ON), January 30, 1988, p. 7

Hello Friends

WHEN YOU SHOP AT FOODSTUFFS, you're part of the grassroots culture of small business. You're not helping to pay big salaries and bonuses to upper management and dividends to stockholders ... you're making a difference for about a dozen of your neighbours and their families.

And we thank you!

FOODSTUFFS
Specialty • Health • Bulk

89 Main Street South | Downtown Georgetown
FOODSTUFFS.CA 905.877.6569

Figure 28: Independent & Free Press (Georgetown, ON), 3 November 2023, p. 20

2.2 Property & Architectural Description

The property at 87 Main Street South is located along the east side of Main Street South within a commercial row. The existing two-storey building with rear additions has been modified at grade, as with many of the nineteenth-century commercial properties extant within Georgetown's commercial core.



Figure 29: Looking along Main Street South towards the subject property (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 30: Looking along Main Street South towards the subject property (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The first storey of the front (west) elevation features an angled, recessed storefront with single entry door and a large glazed storefront window. An entrance is located adjacent to the storefront providing access to the upper storeys. The brick façade of the existing building has been covered with stucco at the second storey. Two flat-headed window openings are evenly spaced on the second storey with shutters (not original) and painted stone sills.



Figure 31: Looking towards the front (west) elevation of the existing building (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 32: Looking towards the front (west) elevation of the existing building (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 33: Detail of the front (west) elevation of the existing building (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The rear elevation of the building shows a two-storey addition, also stuccoed, accessed via fire escape.



Figure 34: Rear elevation of the existing building from within the municipal parking lot (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 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 87 Main Street South has physical and design value as the last remaining portion of the mid-nineteenth century commercial building known as Barclay's Block within the community of Georgetown. Built for prominent entrepreneur Francis Barclay, the building featured architectural details and a form typical of nineteenth-century downtown commercial buildings in Ontario at the time. While the remaining section of Barclay's Block has been altered from the fine commercial building identified in the 1877 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton*, the scale, form and massing, the traditional storefront, and symmetrically placed upper storey windows reflect some of its original form. Restoring the original, Flemish-bond brick beneath the existing stucco on the front elevation would further contribute to its physical value within the community of Georgetown.

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 87 Main Street South has historical and associative value due to its associations with prominent entrepreneur, Francis Barclay. Barclay's Block has been the site of several department and clothing stores since its construction, with connections to Brill & Co., the Cotton Brothers, and several smaller business and services including a pool and billiards hall, barber shop, smoke and tobacco shop, and restaurant. Serving as a health food store since the 1990s, the subject property continues to serve as an important part of historic Georgetown's commercial core.

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 87 Main Street South has contextual value as it is important in defining the built heritage character of the downtown. The existing remaining portion of the two-storey building known as

Barclay's Block remains in its original location, physically and functionally linked to its surroundings as a commercial property on the Georgetown main street. The scale, form and massing of the building helps to define the historic streetwall along Main Street South in the downtown.

4.0 Summary

Following research and evaluation, the property at 87 Main Street South 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 87 Main Street South are identified as follows:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the remaining portion of the "Barclay's Block" along Main Street South in Georgetown;
- The scale, form, and massing of the remaining portion of the mid-19th century building with modified hipped roof;
- The traditional storefront layout at the first storey, including the solid base panels at grade beneath large display window openings, recessed entry, and sign band below the second storey;
- Window openings at the second storey; and,
- Red brick in Flemish bond pattern, covered with stucco.

The interior and rear elevation have not been identified as heritage attributes as part of this report.

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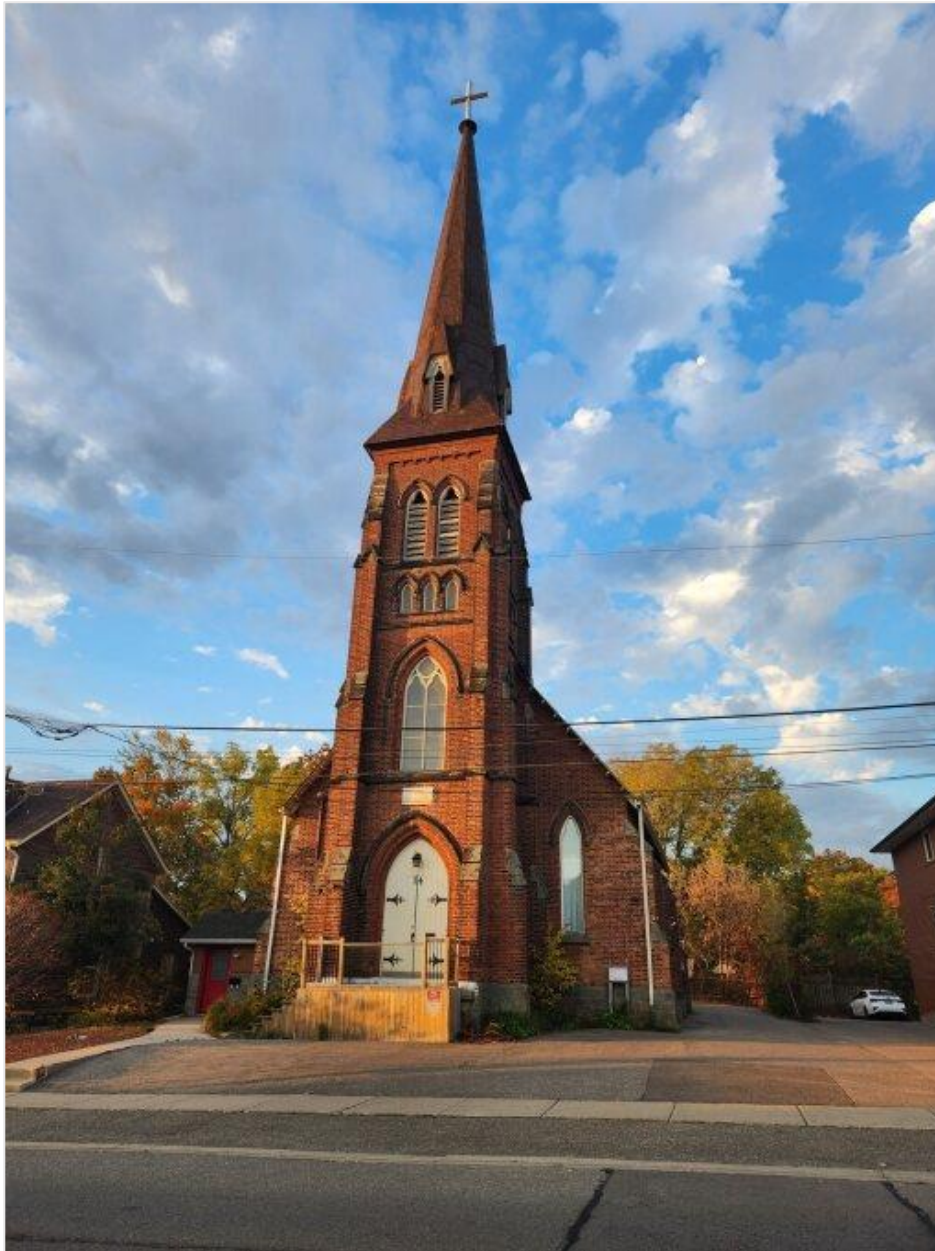
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Research and Evaluation Report



(Town of Halton Hills 2023)

First Baptist Church
14 Main Street South, Georgetown, Town of Halton Hills

December 2023

Project Personnel

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1.0 Property Description

14 Main Street South	
Municipality	Town of Halton Hills
County or Region	Regional Municipality of Halton
Legal Description	LT 5 & PT LT 16, PL 33, AS IN 596897; HALTON HILLS
Construction Date	c.1869
Original Use	Religious
Current Use	Mixed Use – Commercial/Residential
Architect/Building/Designer	Henry Langley (Architect)
Architectural Style	Gothic Revival
Additions/Alterations	Interior Alterations; One-storey addition on the east elevation
Heritage Status	Listed on the Town’s Heritage Register
Recorder(s)	Laura Loney with Madison Hendricks
Report Date	December 2023

2.0 Background

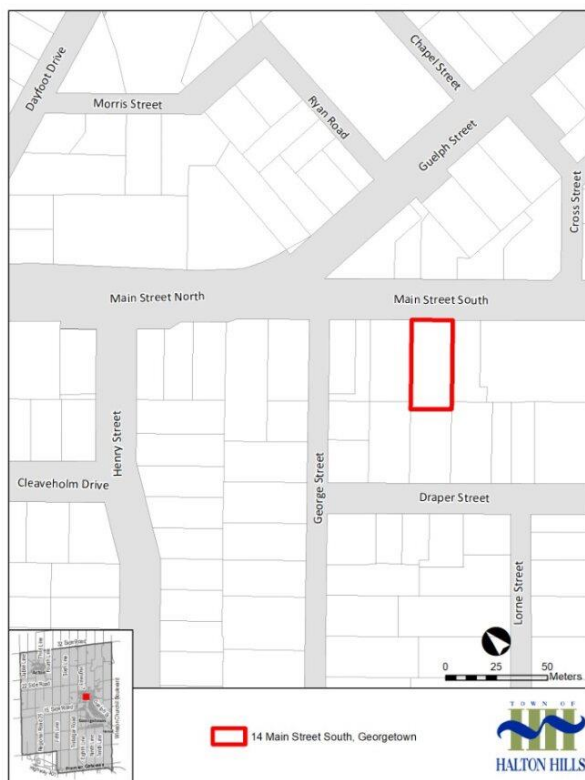


Figure 1: Location Map – 14 Main Street South



Figure 2: Aerial Photograph – 14 Main Street South

This research and evaluation report describes the history, context, and physical characteristics of the property at 14 Main Street South in Georgetown, 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*.

2.1 Historical Background

Indigenous History Background

The enduring history of First Nation Peoples in Halton Hills can be traced back through time immemorial before contact with Europeans in the 1600s. Prior to the arrival of European settlers, the Credit River was central to Indigenous ways of life, supporting settlements, fisheries, horticulture, transportation, and trade. Iroquoian-speaking peoples, ancestors of the Wendat, occupied the Credit River Valley for hundreds of years until approximately the mid-1600s, establishing semi-permanent villages. There are numerous archaeological sites in Halton Hills dating from this period, ranging from village sites to burial grounds, which reveal a rich cultural heritage.

The Wendat were displaced by the Haudenosaunee around 1649-50 amid the conflicts that arose between European colonial powers and their First Nation allies. The Mississaugas (part of the Anishinaabe Nation) arrived in southern Ontario in the 1690s, settling in two groups along the north shore of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. The western group, occupying the area between Toronto and Lake Erie, became known as the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Until the early 19th century, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation followed a seasonal cycle of movement and resource harvesting along the Credit River (Missinnihe, meaning “trusting creek”), and other rivers. In the winter months, extended family groups hunted in the Halton Hills area, travelling south towards the mouth of the river in the spring for the salmon run. The Mississaugas’ fisheries and traditional economies were diminished as a result of increased Euro-colonial settlement, leading to a state of impoverishment and dramatic population decline.

In 1818, the British Crown negotiated the purchase of 648,000 acres of land from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, including present-day Halton Hills, under the Ajetance Treaty (No. 19), named after Chief Ajetance. This left the Mississaugas with three small reserves on the Lake Ontario shoreline. The legitimacy of early land “surrenders” to the Crown is questionable when considering the Mississaugas’ traditional understanding of property ownership. Unlike the British, the Mississaugas understood land in spiritual terms, and did not share the idea that access to land and resources could be given up permanently¹.

Georgetown Baptists

The Georgetown Baptists were first formed in 1847. The first pastor of the congregation was Reverend Dr. Perren. Michael Dayfoot, father of the prominent local shoe entrepreneur J.B. Dayfoot, was the first Deacon of the church at its first meeting in October 1847 at a home in the village. The congregation later met in the Congregational Church in Georgetown (now the Georgetown Library and Cultural Centre). In 1850, the subject property in Plan 33 was transferred by John Kennedy to John Short, who sold the property to John Bessey in 1867. John S. Bessey, Esquire, was a prominent farmer in Georgetown and his farm and residence are pictured in the 1877 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton*. In 1869,

¹ This brief overview of Pre-Treaty Indigenous Territory within the land now known as Halton Hills is taken from the Town of Halton Hills’ 2023 *Cultural Heritage Strategy*. This document includes additional recommendations relating to Truth and Reconciliation in Heritage Planning as part of the Town’s commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation.

the property was transferred from John Bessey and his wife to the Trustees of First Baptist Church, the same year that the church, designed by architect Henry Langley, was finalized at the cost of \$8,000.

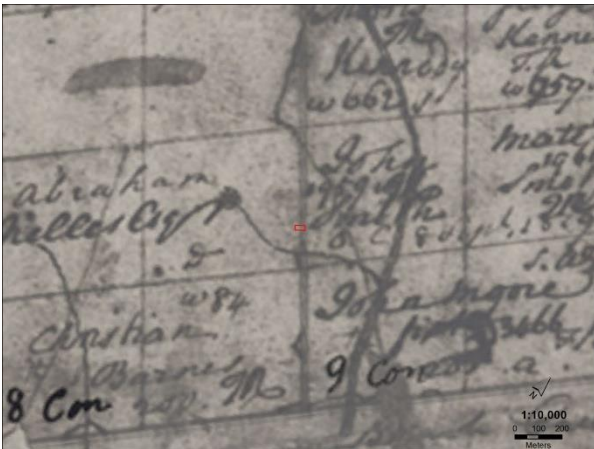


Figure 3: Subject property identified on the 1819 Patent Plan



Figure 4: Subject property identified on Tremaine's Map of the County of Halton, Canada West (1858)

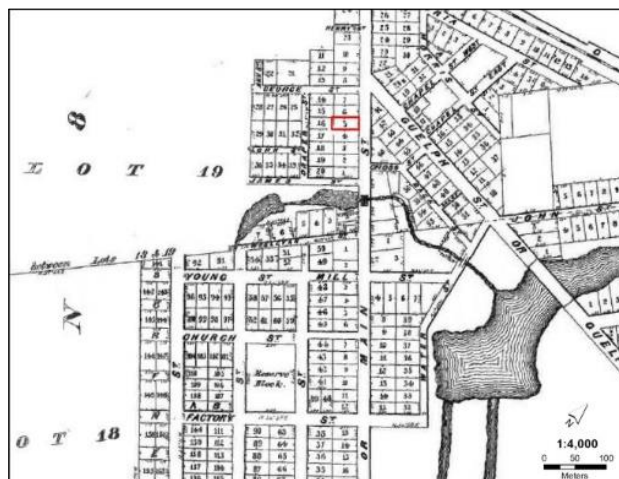


Figure 5: Subject property identified in the 1877 Illustrated Atlas of the County of Halton

Henry Langley

Architect Henry Langley (1836-1907) is described in the *Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Canada* as the “dean of ecclesiastical architecture in Ontario during the last half of the 19th century” and is known as one of the most prolific architects in the province in the nineteenth century. Born in Toronto to Irish immigrant parents, Langley attended the Toronto Academy where he was trained in drawing and was apprenticed with architect William Hay at age seventeen. Langley established himself as an architect in 1860 and worked on his own and with partners throughout his career until his retirement in 1899 when his son Charles took over the firm. Langley is the architect of record for over 70 ecclesiastical buildings in at least 16 communities throughout Ontario, in addition to numerous residential,

commercial, and institutional buildings within the province. Some of Langley's most notable commissions include Oaklands (1860), the former residence of John Macdonald and now De La Salle College, the Bank of British North America (1871), and Government House (1868), the residence of the Lieutenant Governor. Langley also altered and enlarged many more ecclesiastical buildings in Ontario. He trained 15 architects who themselves became prominent in the field and was a founding member of the Royal Canadian Academy and a member of the Ontario Association of Architects.

Candace Iron notes in her dissertation entitled "Henry Langley, a Man Who Built Churches: Religion and Architecture in 19th-Century Ontario" that the projecting central tower of the church was likely inspired by William Hay's 1857 design for St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Guelph, while the overall exterior was likely inspired by Langley's 1868 design of St. John's Anglican Church in Ancaster. Langley's plans for the church can be found at the Archives of Ontario (Figure 7). Iron also notes that the church building "with a soaring spire at the top of a hill . . . demonstrates a large degree of continuity with Langley's older designs".



Figure 6: Portrait of Henry Langley
(*Canadian Architect and Builder*, 1907,
Vol.20, No.1, p.14)

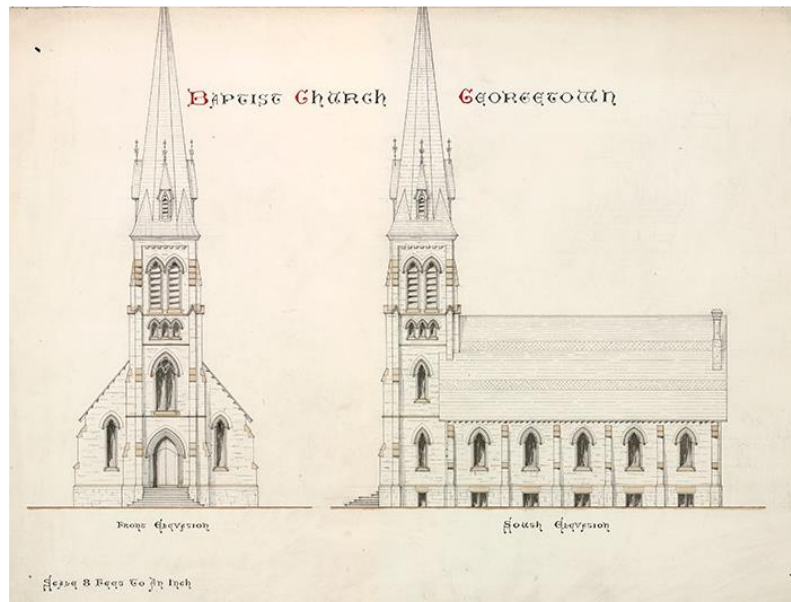


Figure 7: Langley, Henry. Baptist Church Georgetown. Architectural Drawing.
Archives of Ontario.

First Baptist Church

Walter Blackwell and Henry Tost worked on the building of the church, which was primarily financed by the Bessey family, John (J.B.) and George Dayfoot, and several of Dayfoot's employees. The church's steeple was 126 feet high and the stone for the church was quarried at Glen Williams. The church building was dedicated on January 30, 1870. The church has been photographed extensively since its construction and its steeple is visible in many photographs of downtown Georgetown.



Figure 8: Main Street looking north, Baptist Chapel steeple identified in the background, c.1890 (EHS 12241)



Figure 9: Intersection of Main and James Streets, Baptist Chapel identified in the background, c.1908 (EHS 11635)

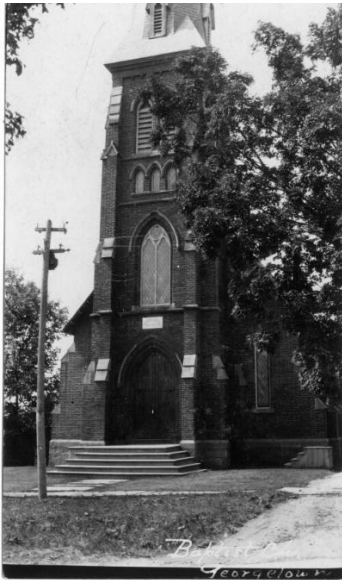


Figure 10: First Baptist Church on Main Street, c.1910 (EHS 21546)



Figure 11: Parade on Main Street, c.1912; First Baptist Church steeple identified in the background (EHS 00625)

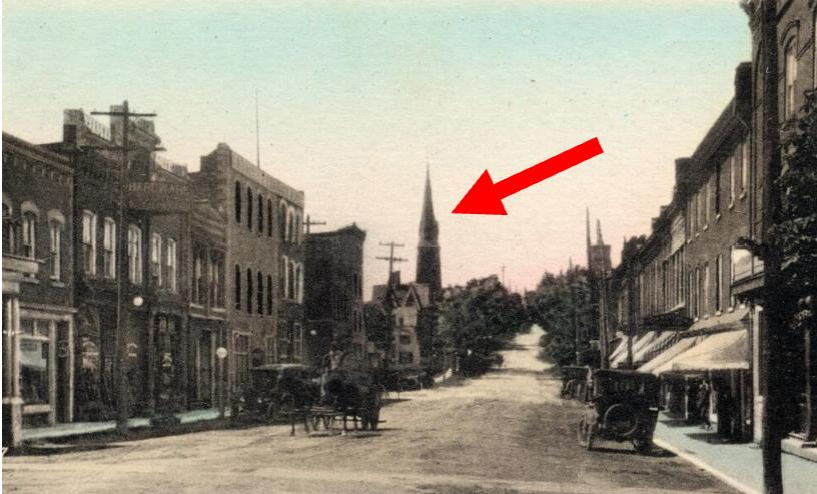


Figure 12: Main Street looking north, Baptist Chapel steeple identified in the background, c.1913 (EHS 12243)



Figure 13: Baptist Chapel, c.1914 (EHS 14403)

Several improvements were made to the building in its early years, including a new wood ceiling and electric chandeliers in 1904, carpeting and pews in 1906, a new entrance into the Sunday School room in 1919, and installation of the organ (purchased from the Stratford Baptist Church for \$600), and memorial windows in 1923. As a centennial project, the First Baptist church congregation rebuilt the steeple of the church.



Figure 14: Subject property identified on the 1934 Fire Insurance Map of Georgetown

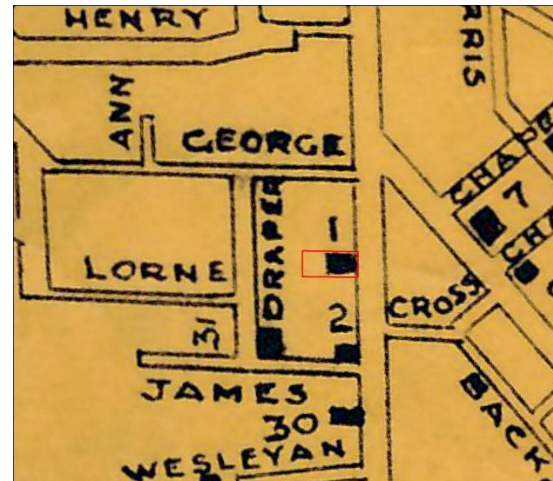


Figure 15: Subject property identified on the 1956 Survey of Georgetown



Figure 16: Main Street looking north towards the Baptist Chapel, c.1933 (Detail) (EHS 26096)



Figure 17: 14 Main Street South, c.1940 (EHS 26114)



Figure 18: Main Street looking south, c.1955 (EHS 13455)



Figure 19: New Hamburg steeplejack Michael Creane secures ten-foot-high gold cross in place atop the First Baptist Church steeple, c. 1961 (EHS 04768)

On September 24, 1970, First Baptist Church was officially closed, and the remaining congregation was consolidated with St. Paul's Baptist Church on Mountainview Road. In 1971, the property was officially transferred from the Trustees of First Baptist Church to the Trustees of Mountainview Baptist Church. The Georgetown Pentecostal Church rented the church building in 1971, and in 1974 the property was transferred to the Christian and Missionary Alliance, Eastern and Central Canadian District. By November 1981, the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church voted to relocate from the former First Baptist Church because of space.

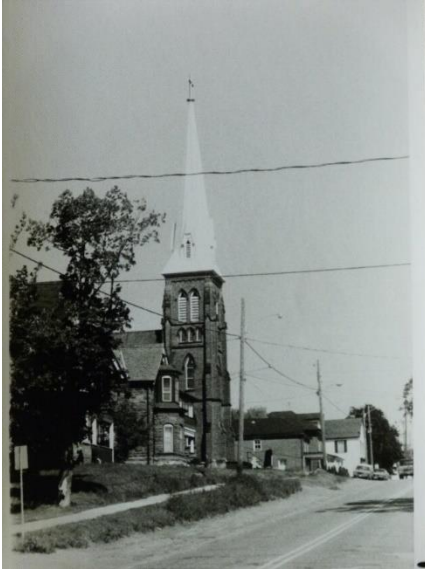


Figure 20: Baptist Church, c.1972 (EHS 20730)



Figure 21: First Baptist Church, c.1973 (EHS 13378)

Adaptive Re-use of First Baptist Church

The property was purchased by Colleen Hanson in 1982 from the church who converted the building into a nursery for students between two-and-a-half to six years old. The church building operated as a nursery school for several years as the Halton Hills Kinder School.



Figure 22: First Baptist Church, c.1980 (EHS 13021)



Figure 23: 14 Main Street South, c.1986 (EHS 18337)

Following a lien on the property in 1990 and a transfer of charge to the Adelaide Capital Corporation, in 1997 the property was transferred to Jay Donald McClennen and Tammy Mark-McClennen.

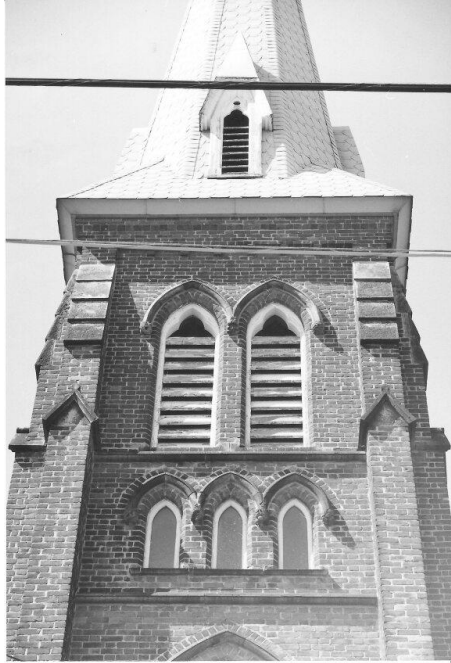


Figure 24: Detail of the bell tower at 14 Main Street South, c.1994 (EHS 11497)



Figure 25: Detail of the front door at 14 Main Street South, c.1994 (EHS 11496)



Figure 26: 14 Main Street South, c.1995. (EHS 10931)

In 2008, the property was sold to numbered company 1753693 Ontario Inc, and in 2021 to SII 5710 Inc., its current owners. The property has been used as a karate dojo and for martial arts and is now currently a private business.

2.2 Property & Architectural Description

The property is a rectangular parcel located at 14 Main Street South along the southwest side of the roadway in Halton Hills and contains a one storey brick residential building. The property is legally known as LT 5 & PT LT 16, PL 33, AS IN 596897; HALTON HILLS. The property contains a mid-nineteenth century Gothic Revival Church Building, formerly the First Baptist Church and now a mixed-use property.



Figure 27: Looking northwest towards the subject property along Main Street South (Google Streetview 2022)



Figure 28: Looking southwest towards the subject property along Main Street South (Google Streetview 2022)



Figure 29: Panoramic view of the subject property along Main Street South (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The front elevation is dominated by the central, red brick tower. The central entrance within the tower is currently accessed from the wooden porch, the floor of which currently meets the intersection of the red brick exterior and carved stone block foundation. The recessed, lancet-arched entrance with stepped brick surround and stone hood mould is prominently featured and flanked by brick buttresses at the tower corners with stone coping. An inset carved stone reading “Baptist Chapel A.D. 1869” is located above the entrance. A stone string course separates the tower storeys, and the front elevation of the tower at the second storey features a large lancet-arched window opening with stone hood mould and stone sill containing a wooden window with tracery. An additional stone course separates this window from a group of three, symmetrically placed, small lancet-arched window openings with continuous

stone sill beneath a continuous stone hood mould with brick voussoirs above. Continuing upwards, a pair of louvered, lancet-arched window openings are located beneath brick detailing along the base of the tower roof which features small gable-roofed dormers beneath the tower spire. The side elevations of the tower are similar to the primary elevation with smaller lancet-arched window openings at the lower storeys and the same window layout beneath the tower roof.

On either side of the tower, the gable roof of the church, featuring wooden brackets and soffit throughout, is visible above single lancet-arched window openings with stone sills wooden window tracery on either side, with stone hood moulds. Shallow pilasters flank the tower on these elevations.

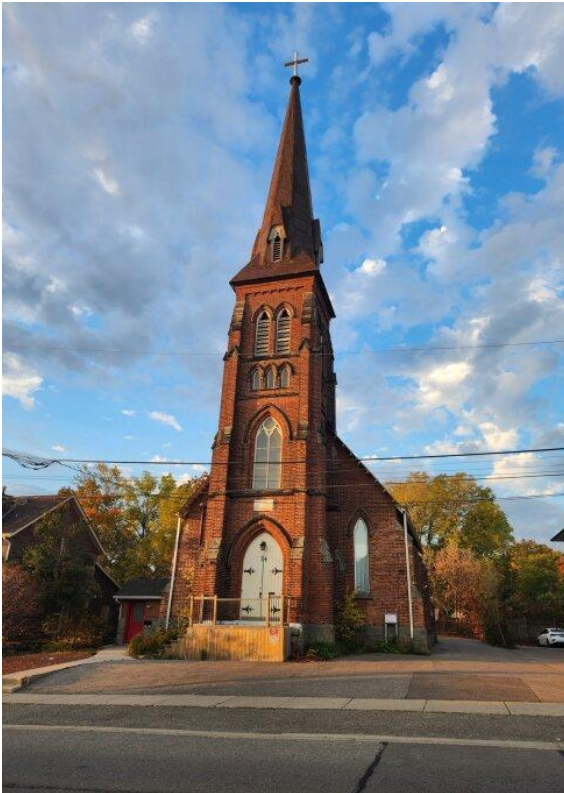


Figure 30: Front (northeast) elevation of First Baptist Church at 14 Main Street South (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 31: Detail of front (northeast) elevation of First Baptist Church at 14 Main Street South (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The side (northwest and southwest) elevations feature stepped brick buttresses dividing the walls into bays. Each buttress features stone coping. In each bay, a lancet-arched window opening with stone hood mould and sill is extant on both elevations. The southeast elevation features a one-storey addition towards the front elevation of the church. Flat-headed window openings with stone lintels are extant at the basement level within the stone foundation along each side elevation.



Figure 32: Looking along the northwest elevation of First Baptist Church from the rear (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

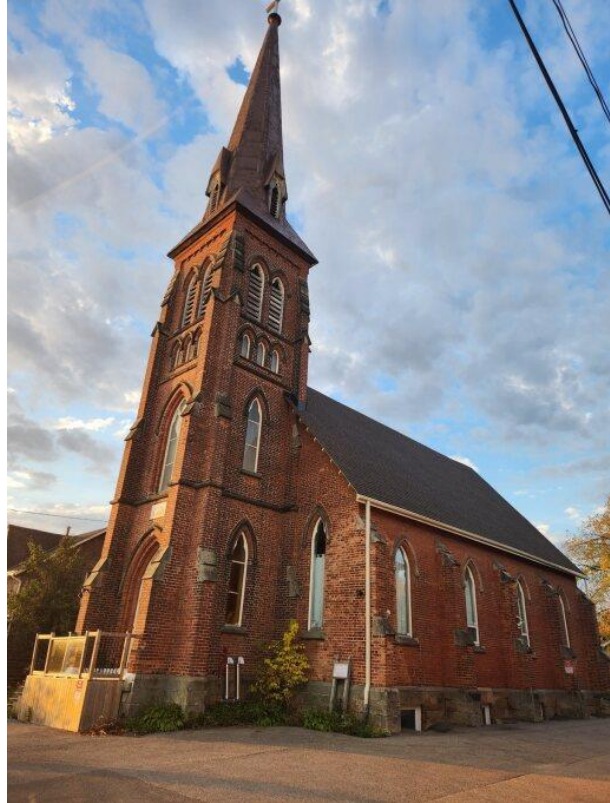


Figure 33: Looking towards the northwest corner of First Baptist Church at 14 Main Street South (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 34: Partial northwest elevation of First Baptist Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

A modest one-storey frame addition with gable roof is extant on the rear elevation of the church building, providing rear access to the former church building. A covered wooden porch extends beyond the one-storey addition and wraps around the south corner of the building. Lancet-arched window openings are extant on either side of the one-storey addition, separated by brick chimneys, one of which

has been removed above the roofline. A circular louvered opening is located above the one-storey addition, beneath a smaller triangular window opening.



Figure 35: Side (southeast) elevation of First Baptist Church at 14 Main Street South (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

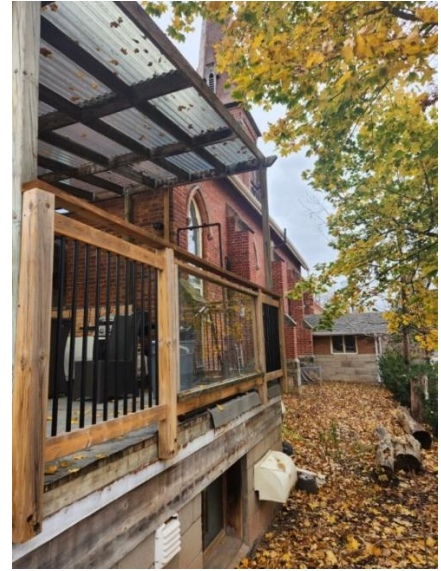


Figure 36: Partial southeast elevation of First Baptist Church at 14 Main Street South (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 37: Rear elevation of First Baptist Church with one-storey frame addition (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The interiors, which have been significantly modified as part of the long-term adaptive re-use of the former church building, have not been identified as part of this report.

2.3 Architectural Style & Comparative Analysis

Within Ontario there are several examples and variations of Gothic Revival architecture, popular within the province between 1830 and 1900. After 1850, Gothic Revival architecture became influenced by Augustus Pugin and his emphasis on medieval construction. In Gothic Revival church architecture in Ontario, many features help to articulate the style, including those extant within First Baptist Church: lancet, or pointed arch windows; architectural details such as string courses, moulding, and surrounds, steeply pitched roofs, dormers, oversized towers, and elements to emphasize verticality.

There are 8 churches currently identified on the Town of Halton Hills' Heritage Register as being in the Gothic Revival style. Of those churches, one is designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (St. John's Anglican Church) and one (Knox Presbyterian Church at 116 Main Street South) is subject to a Notice of Intention to Designate as of the finalization of this report. No other churches in Halton Hills are known to be constructed by prominent ecclesiastical architect Henry Langley at this time.

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 14 Main Street South has physical and design value as a representative example of a mid-nineteenth century Gothic Revival church building in the community of Georgetown, within the Town of Halton Hills. Indicative of the Gothic Revival style, 14 Main Street South features an oversized projecting central tower with a steeple 126 feet high, a steeply pitched roof, and several pointed arch windows, all of which emphasize the "soaring spire" and the overall verticality of the building. The building, designed by architect Henry Langley, also displays a high degree of craftsmanship and artistic merit. Langley was a prolific Ontario architect, known for his ecclesiastical architectural designs. In particular, he was renowned for his detail-oriented designs, which relied on principal drawings that he adapted to meet the requests of the Georgetown Baptists. The building, with its recessed, lancet-arched entrance, stepped brick surround, brick buttresses, and stone hood mould, reflects this attention to detail and craftsmanship.

Historical or Associative Value	
Has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization, or institution that is significant to a community	X

Historical or Associative Value	
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	X

Known as the First Baptist Church, the property at 14 Main Street South has significant historical and associative value due to its association with early Baptist Christian communities in Georgetown and the surrounding area, and with the growth of Baptist congregations within the Township of Esquesing. As the location of the First Baptist Church, featured prominently on Main Street, the property has a long association with the Georgetown community.

The property is also associated with significant nineteenth-century community members in Georgetown, including the Deacon of the church Michael Dayfoot, who was the father of J.B. Dayfoot, the local shoe entrepreneur who established his famous Bootmaking factory with his brother in 1843.

As well, the property is deeply associated with its designer, architect Henry Langley, a profoundly significant architect in Ontario in the nineteenth-century. Known as the “dean of ecclesiastical architecture in Ontario,” the First Baptist Church is one of seventy ecclesiastical buildings designed by Langley during his career, and one of many which he designed by adapting his famous principal drawings for ecclesiastical buildings.

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 property at 14 Main Street South has contextual value as a long-standing ecclesiastical landscape along Main Street in the community of Georgetown. A landmark along Main Street, the red brick church with “soaring spire” has been in this location for over 150 years. While the property has evolved over time and is now an example of adapted re-use in the community, the church remains physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings within Georgetown.

4.0 Summary

Following research and evaluation according to Ontario Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the property at 14 Main Street South 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 14 Main Street South are identified as follows:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the 19th century Gothic Revival church building along Main Street South in Georgetown within the Town of Halton Hills;
- The scale, form, and massing of the one-storey church building with central tower at the front elevation, including its stone foundation, red brick walls, and stone detailing;

- The materials, including brick exterior; stone foundation, sills, hood moulds, lintels, and detailing; wooden brackets, soffit, and louvres within existing openings;
- The central tower, featuring lancet-arched window and door openings, brick buttresses with stone coping, stone detailing and string courses, brick detailing, tower roof with dormers and spire;
- Lancet-arched window openings with stone sills and hood moulds throughout;
- Stepped brick buttresses delineating bays along the side elevations; and,
- Wooden brackets and soffits beneath the eaves.

The rear elevation, one-storey additions, and interiors have not been identified as part of this report.

The interiors of the building and rear elevation have not been identified as attributes of the subject property.

5.0 Sources

Primary Sources

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Research and Evaluation Report



(Town of Halton Hills 2023)

Wesleyan Methodist Church
77 Market Street, Town of Halton Hills

December 2023

Project Personnel

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1.0 Property Description

77 Market Street	
Municipality	Georgetown, Town of Halton Hills
County or Region	Region of Halton
Legal Description	PT LT 6, PL 51', PTS 1-5 20R7849 EXCEPT PT 1 20R9908 & PT 2 20R11534
Construction Date	c.1877
Original Use	Religious
Current Use	Commercial/Institutional
Architect/Building/Designer	Built by William Watson
Architectural Style	Gothic Revival
Additions/Alterations	Stuccoed; Porch on front elevation
Heritage Status	Listed on the Town's Heritage Register
Recorder(s)	Laura Loney
Report Date	December 2023

2.0 Background

This research and evaluation report describes the history, context, and physical characteristics of the property at 77 Market Street 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 – 77 Market Street



Figure 2: Aerial Photograph – 77 Market Street

2.1 Historical Background

Indigenous History Background

The enduring history of First Nation Peoples in Halton Hills can be traced back through time immemorial before contact with Europeans in the 1600s. Prior to the arrival of European settlers, the Credit River was central to Indigenous ways of life, supporting settlements, fisheries, horticulture, transportation, and trade. Iroquoian-speaking peoples, ancestors of the Wendat, occupied the Credit River Valley for hundreds of years until approximately the mid-1600s, establishing semi-permanent villages. There are numerous archaeological sites in Halton Hills dating from this period, ranging from village sites to burial grounds, which reveal a rich cultural heritage.

The Wendat were displaced by the Haudenosaunee around 1649-50 amid the conflicts that arose between European colonial powers and their First Nation allies. The Mississaugas (part of the Anishinaabe Nation) arrived in southern Ontario in the 1690s, settling in two groups along the north shore of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. The western group, occupying the area between Toronto and Lake Erie, became known as the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Until the early 19th century, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation followed a seasonal cycle of movement and resource harvesting along the Credit River (Missinnihe, meaning “trusting creek”), and other rivers. In the winter months, extended family groups hunted in the Halton Hills area, travelling south towards the mouth of the river in the spring for the salmon run. The Mississaugas’ fisheries and traditional economies were diminished as a result of increased Euro-colonial settlement, leading to a state of impoverishment and dramatic population decline.

In 1818, the British Crown negotiated the purchase of 648,000 acres of land from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, including present-day Halton Hills, under the Ajetance Treaty (No. 19), named after Chief Ajetance. This left the Mississaugas with three small reserves on the Lake Ontario shoreline. The legitimacy of early land “surrenders” to the Crown is questionable when considering the Mississaugas’ traditional understanding of property ownership. Unlike the British, the Mississaugas understood land in spiritual terms, and did not share the idea that access to land and resources could be given up permanently¹.

¹ This brief overview of Pre-Treaty Indigenous Territory within the land now known as Halton Hills is taken from the Town of Halton Hills’ 2023 *Cultural Heritage Strategy*. This document includes additional recommendations relating to Truth and Reconciliation in Heritage Planning as part of the Town's commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation.

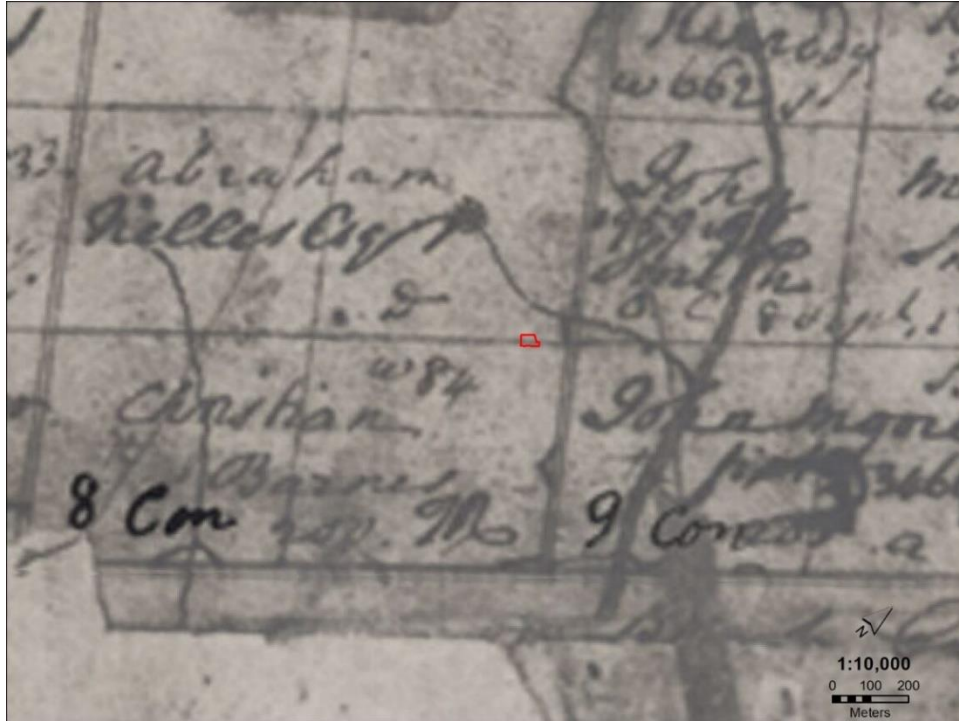


Figure 3: Subject property identified on the 1819 Patent Plan

Wesleyan Methodist Church

The Wesleyan Methodist Church was established in Canada in 1833 through the union of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Upper Canada circuits of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. This union dissolved in 1840 however resumed in 1847. By 1874, another amalgamation with the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Eastern British America and the Methodist New Connexion Church of Canada resulted in the establishment of the Methodist Church of Canada. The Wesleyan Methodists opened their first church in Georgetown in 1841. Figure 4 outlines the general evolution of the Methodist church denomination in the Township of Esquesing.

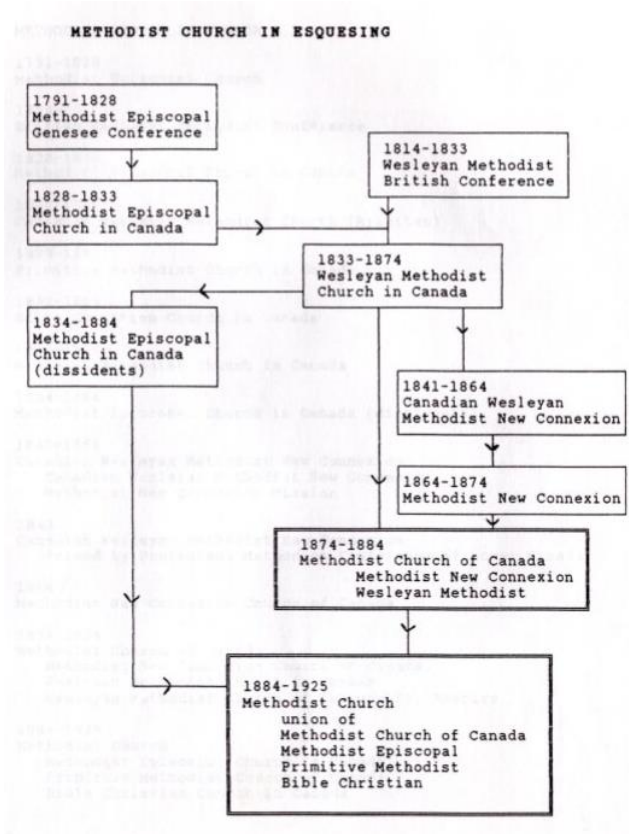


Figure 4: Evolution of the Methodist Church in Esquesing (Esquesing Historical Archives - MG8 A17 1.04a)

The subject property was granted to the Georgetown Congregation of the Methodist Church in Canada in 1875. In 1877, the existing church building was built by William Watson, replacing the original c.1841 church building. Watson (1826-1902) was a bricklayer, originally from England. Prior to establishing their own building, the Presbyterian congregation in Georgetown also worshipped in the Wesleyan church.



Figure 5: Subject property identified on Tremaine's Map of the County of Halton, Canada West



Figure 6: Subject property identified on the 1877 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton

Rex Theatre

In 1910, the Rex Theatre was established in the old Wesleyan Methodist Church. Owner Russell Gregory, a native of New York, had first established a nickelodeon on Acton. The silent movie house at the former Wesleyan Methodist Church was run by Harold McClure, with a Mrs. Byrne playing the piano to accompany the films. In the late 1920s, Gregory engaged local builder J.B. Mackenzie to build his new theatre, The Gregory Theatre, on Mill Street, which was completed in 1928, following which the subject building was vacant.



Figure 7: Subject property identified on the 1915 National Topographic Map

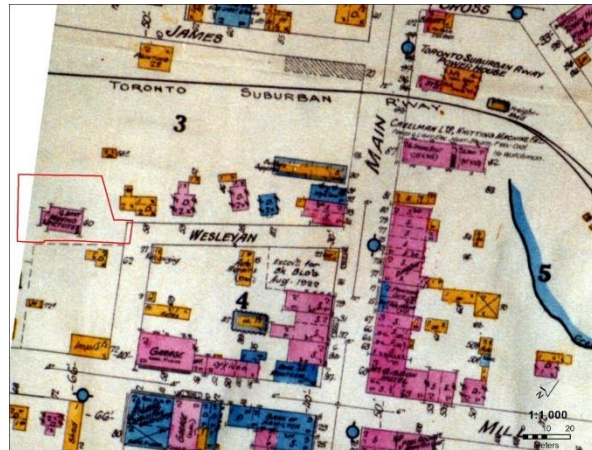


Figure 8: Subject property identified on the 1922 Fire Insurance Map; the existing building is identified with "Moving Picture"

The 1934 Fire Insurance Plan (Figure 9) identifies the subject property as vacant following the closure of the theatre at this location.

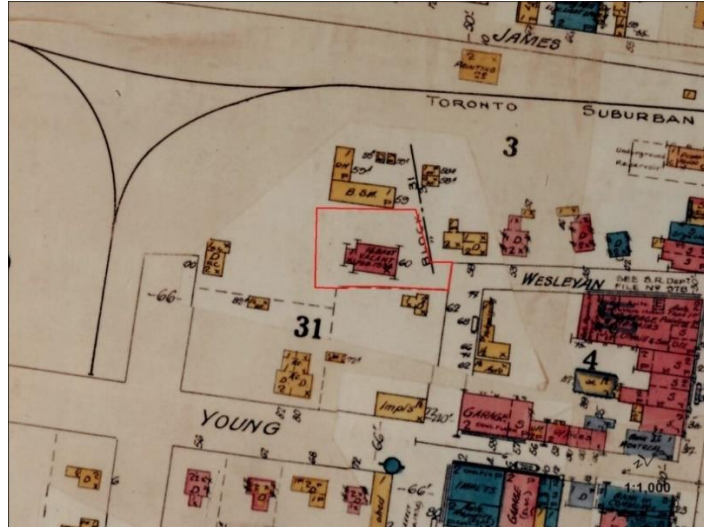


Figure 9: Subject property identified on the 1934 Fire Insurance Map

Oddfellows

The Oddfellows are one of the oldest fraternal societies, with many groups extant in England as of 1700 (although some believe its roots are in the 12th and 13th centuries). By the early 19th century, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in North America had been chartered, with the first Order organized in Baltimore, Maryland in 1819. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) has since spread throughout the world with over 10,000 lodges. In 1851, the I.O.O.F became the first fraternity in the United States to welcome women with the adoption of the Degree of Rebekah, led by then Vice President of the United States Schuyler Colfax; the group was chartered in 1878 in Bloomfield, Iowa and the first Ontario lodge was established in London in 1869.

In Canada, the first lodge was the Prince of Wales in Montreal, given its charter in 1843. The I.O.O.F as a fraternal organization are primarily committed to taking care of their own internal groups, however, also have a history of serving their communities. While it is unknown where the Oddfellows locally met before the turn of the last century, as of 1900 they were paying rent to the Louise Lodge, the Ancient Order of United Workmen. By 1914, the Oddfellows were renting rooms in the Bailey Block. When the Block was damaged by the adjacent fire at O'Neill Carriage Works in 1922, the Oddfellows relocated to the public halls that were being built as part of the arena building, including a space known as the Rose Room.



Figure 10: Independent Order of Oddfellows in Georgetown, c.1925 (EHS 11750)

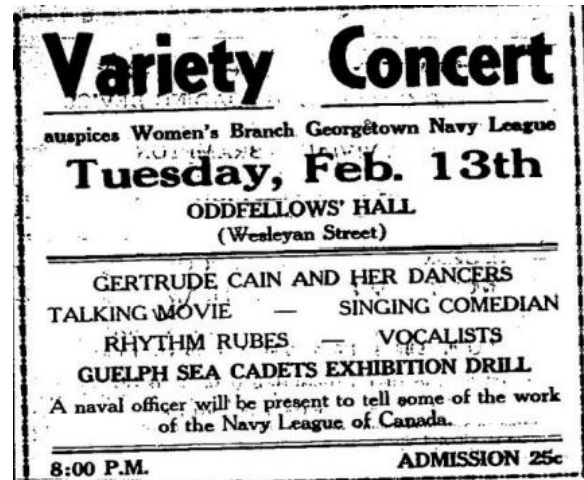


Figure 11: Notice in *The Georgetown Herald* (January 31, 1945, p.3)

The Oddfellows purchased the subject property from Russell Gregory in 1944 and began renovations shortly after, including dropping the ceiling, new windows, disassembling the existing balcony, electrical and heating work. In 1953, the Oddfellows celebrated having paid off their building, purchased from R.L. Gregory after it had been vacant for several years. The Oddfellow and Rebekah lodges modernized the church building for their own use, turning it into a widely-used meeting place for the lodges, dancing schools, religious groups, parties, rummage sales, and medical clinics.



Figure 12: Notice in *The Georgetown Herald* (December 31, 1952, p.5)

Credit to the Oddfellows

The achievement of the local Oddfellows Lodge and its associate, the Rebekahs, in buying and outfitting the splendid hall on Wesleyan Street, is worth noting.

When the town took over the arena some ten years ago the lodge, which had been meeting for several years in the upstairs portion of the building decided that a hall of their own would be more suitable under the new arrangement. They tackled a real job when they purchased an old building, once a church and latterly a movie theatre, and set to work to convert the dilapidated structure into a usefui, modern meeting place.

Their success does not have to be told. The Oddfellows Hall is used, not only for meetings of the two lodges, but for a wide variety of local activities.

The recent TB X-ray clinic had its headquarters there. Orange Lodge, firemen, unions, church groups use it extensively for public and private affairs. There have been dancing schools conducted there, rummage sales, Christmas parties, dances, Arts & Craft sales.

The Oddfellows have created something which goes far beyond their own needs for a meeting place. The Oddfellows Hall has been a real addition to the community and no one has ever been refused its use for any worthwhile community effort. The twelve members who underwrote the building fund have been recognized by their lodge, and they should equally be recognized by every citizen of Georgetown.

Figure 13: *The Georgetown Herald*, March 11, 1953, p.6

The 1960 Fire Insurance Plan identifies the existing buildings as “Lodge Hall” (Figure 14).

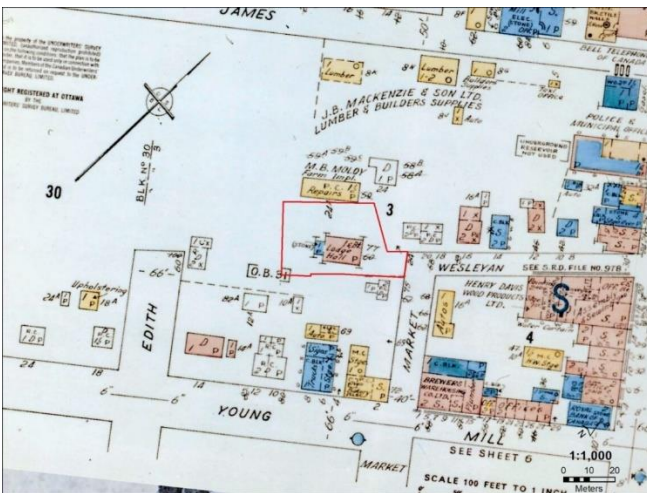


Figure 14: Subject property identified on the 1960 Fire Insurance Map



Figure 15: Former Wesleyan Methodist Church identified in 1961 aerial photography (EHS 08945)



Figure 16: A side view of the Odd Fellows Hall (former Wesleyan Methodist Church) at 77 Market Street (EHS 26132)



Figure 17: The Rebekah's executive, c.1976 (*The Independent*, October 6, 1976)



Figure 18: Subject property identified on the 1977 aerial photograph



Figure 19: Odd Fellows Hall, Wesleyan Street, c.1989 (EHS 00494)

In 1994, the property was transferred to Mark Lindauer, who sold in 1998 to Halina and Biagio Polsonello. Between 2003 and 2009, the property was owned by numbered company 1559174 Ontario Ltd., and from 2009 to present has been owned by 2197684 Ontario Ltd. and currently serves as a Montessori school.



Figure 20: Subject property identified on the 1995 aerial photograph



Figure 21: Former Wesleyan Methodist Church, c.1995 (EHS 16805)



Figure 22: Former Wesleyan Methodist Church, c.2010 (EHS 21148)



Figure 23: A view of the municipal parking lot off Mill Street; the subject property and former Wesleyan Methodist Church are pictured at centre, c.2012 (EHS 06211)



Figure 24: Subject property identified on the 2007 aerial photograph

2.2 Property & Architectural Description

The subject property is an irregularly shaped parcel located at the western terminus of Wesleyan Street, as it turns the corner to become Market Street, in downtown Georgetown. The property contains a large former church building surrounded and accessed by an asphalt parking lot.

Originally faced in brick, the exterior façades of the building, including buttresses, have been covered in a light-coloured stucco. The original gothic style entrance to the building has been maintained in the centre of the front façade. The entrance retains its original arched shape with a circular wooden tracery in the window above the door. On either side of the entrance are flat-headed window openings containing non-original sash windows. The front façade includes four, evenly spaced buttresses and culminates in a gabled peak with a narrow, lancet-arch window just beneath the peak.



Figure 25: Front elevation of the former Wesleyan Methodist Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 26: Partial front elevation of the former Wesleyan Methodist Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

This front elevation is partially obscured by an exterior, contemporary, two-storey porch and balcony addition that spans the building and extends to the southeast. The columns supporting the porch addition mimic the positions of the buttresses on the front façade of the building. The balcony is accessed via a door on the second storey of the building.

The rear façade of the building includes a single storey, enclosed addition, above which two lancet arched window openings can be seen. The addition is contemporary in style and material, indicating that it is not original to the building. One lancet arched window is located on the second storey of the building and has decorative wooden tracery similar to, but more elaborate than, the tracery that can be seen in the window on the front of the building. Just beneath the peak of the gable is the second lancet arched window opening that is currently covered with a protective metal grate. Remnants of two removed buttresses can be seen on the rear façade on either side of the single storey addition. The rear of the building also contains a single flat-head door opening that appears to be a later addition.

On the north and south façades of the building the original buttresses remain generally intact to varying degrees with some retaining their original shape and some having been modified. Lancet arched window openings are located between the evenly spaced buttresses on the north and south sides of the building. Contemporary flat-head windows have been added and the arched segments of the window openings have been filled.

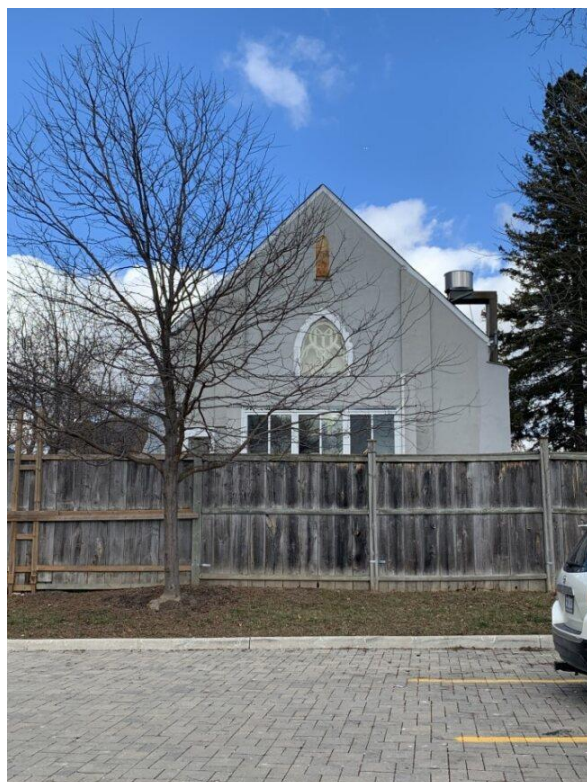


Figure 27: Partial rear elevation of the former Wesleyan Methodist Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)



Figure 28: Partial rear elevation of the former Wesleyan Methodist Church (Town of Halton Hills 2023)

The rear elevation features a small lancet window beneath the gable peak, with a larger lancet window opening with tracery below. The façade is obscured at grade by a one-storey, flat-roofed addition.

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.

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 77 Market Street has physical and design value as a representative example of a nineteenth-century Gothic Revival church building. Although modified with the addition of the stuccoed exterior and two-storey porch on the front elevation, the extant window openings throughout, buttresses along the side and front elevation, and gable roof reflect characteristics typical of the style.

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 77 Market Street has historical and associative value due its associations with the Wesleyan Methodist Church in the community of Georgetown as it was purpose-built for the community in the late 1870s. Used by the congregation for several years, the building was later used as a silent movie theatre under the management of Russell Gregory who owned several theatres in the area. After the silent movie theatre closed, the former church building became the home of the Oddfellows, one of the oldest fraternal organizations in the world. The building has also served as a Montessori school for several years.

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 77 Market Street has contextual value as it remains in its original location at the terminus of Wesleyan Street in the community of Georgetown within the downtown. The property with its 1877 Gothic Revival Church structure remains physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings since its construction almost 150 years ago.

4.0 Summary

Following research and evaluation according to Ontario Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the property at 77 Market Street 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 77 Market Street are identified as follows:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the late nineteenth-century Gothic Revival church building within the community of Georgetown;
- The scale, form, and massing of the existing building with gable roof and symmetrical façade;
- Brick buttresses along the side elevation and within the symmetrical front façade;
- Lancet windows along the side elevations and beneath the gable peaks at the front and rear elevations; and,
- The lancet window with tracery on the rear elevation.

5.0 Sources

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