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THE TOWNSHIP OF PUSLINCH NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE 8 Brock Rd N, Puslinch

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Puslinch intends to designate at 8 Brock Rd N, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under section 29, Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18. as authorized by Township of Puslinch Council through Resolution No. 2024-336.

Description of the Property

The subject property is described as being Concession 7 Rear Part Lot 20, municipally known as at 8 Brock Rd N, Puslinch.



(Key Map Showing Location of 8 Brock Rd N, Puslinch)

Short Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The property at 8 Brock Road North, Puslinch, meets the requirements for designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the three categories of design/physical value, historical/associative value, and contextual value. Constructed c. 1860 this two-storey stone structure was built as a blacksmith shop and later accommodated a wagon and carriage shop on its upper floor. The building provided blacksmith services for Puslinch into the twentieth century. It is a landmark on the Aberfoyle Brock Road streetscape.

Design Value:

8 Brock Road is a large vernacular two-storey side-gabled fieldstone structure, built as a blacksmith's shop C.1860, and later renovated to incorporate a carriage-making and

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repair shop on the upper floor. These functional uses are reflected in the extant architecture; notably a wide central entrance on the front facade with paired windows at each side of the entrance used for a blacksmith shop. The rear of the building has a banked elevation designed to allow carriages into and out of the upper floor for construction and repair for a carriage making business. This function is evident in the extant foundation. The front facade has three original window fenestrations with replacement sash windows on the upper storey. Two original window fenestrations are under each side gable on the upper storey. Window and door fenestrations feature stone voussoirs and sills. The rear exterior of the building has undergone modern renovation and expansion.

Historical/ Associative Value:

The origin and evolution of this building is directly associated with the changing technology and commerce of the Township. Blacksmiths were essential services in the Township's villages during the 1800s and early 1900s and formed either the primary industry or were one of the core industries of the community. These craft industries were gradually subsumed by foundries. Likewise wagon and carriage making and repair was essential in a 19th century farming community. Presently the building is a custom home interiors and design store for the Puslinch and area community, reflecting recent residential expansion on former agricultural lands.

Records indicate the building was constructed circa 1860 by Alex McKenzie. Originally intended as a blacksmith shop, the property was operated as such by the Bickley family for a number of years and later by Walter Warren. By the 1880s the upstairs of the building had been repurposed for Mr. Hugh Campbell, who operated a wagon and carriage shop. In order to accommodate the construction and movement of wagons, significant renovations were carried out, including the addition of large double doors and windows, as well as raising the ground level at the back of the building.

In 1896, James Mason converted the former carriage shop into a residence for his family. The building continued to be used primarily as a residence for the next century. The property now houses a home interiors business and in 2005 a large addition was built adjacent to the south side and rear of the original building for this purpose.

Contextual Value:

The building holds a prominent position on Brock Rd and serves as a significant landmark at a major crossroad in the Township.

Description of Heritage Attributes

The following are to be considered as heritage attributes to be protected by a heritage designation by-law for 8 Brock Rd. N:

- Original/extant door and window fenestration on front and side facades
- Height, scale, and massing of the original two storey building
- Stonework on exterior walls
- Stone lintels and voussoirs

Notice of Objection

Any person may send a notice of objection to this proposed designation, before 4:00 p.m. on November 16, 2024. This notice must be sent by registered mail or delivered to the Clerk of the Township of Puslinch, and must set out the reason for the objection and all relevant facts. If a notice of objection is received, the Council of the Township of Puslinch shall consider the objection and make a decision whether or not to withdraw the notice of intention to designate the property within 90 days after the end of the 30-day objection period. If Council decides not to withdraw its intention to designate, a heritage designation bylaw must be passed within 120 days after the date of publication of the notice of intention to designate. Council must publish a notice of passing of the designation bylaw which is followed by a 30-day appeal period when appeals of the bylaw may be given to the Ontario Land Tribunal for a hearing and decision.

Dated October 17, 2024

Justine Brotherston,
Municipal Clerk
Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34, Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0

CC: Property Owner
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