

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PUSLINCH

BY-LAW NUMBER 027-2024

Being a by-law to authorize the designation of real property located at 6990 Wellington Road 34, Puslinch, as the property of cultural heritage value or interest under Section 29 Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18

WHEREAS the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18* authorizes a municipality to designate a property within the municipality to be of cultural heritage value or interest if the property meets the prescribed criteria and the designation is made in accordance with the process set out in the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18*;

AND WHEREAS the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Puslinch, in consultation with the Puslinch Heritage Advisory Committee, deems 6990 Wellington Road 34, Puslinch to be of cultural heritage value and interest in accordance with the prescribed criteria by the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18;

AND WHEREAS the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Puslinch did give notice of its intention to designate the property mentioned in section 1 of this by-law in accordance with subsection 29(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18*;

NOW THEREFORE the Corporation of the Township of Puslinch hereby enacts as follows:

1. That the property located at 6990 Wellington Road 34, Puslinch, and more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto annexed and forming part of this by-law, is hereby designated as property of cultural heritage value or interest under Section 29 Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act, 1990, c. O. 18*.
2. That the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized and directed,
 - a. to cause a copy of this by-law, together with reasons for the designation, to be served on the subject property owner and The Ontario Heritage Trust by personal service or by registered mail;
 - b. to publish a notice of this by-law once in a newspaper having general circulation in the Township of Puslinch.
3. That the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a copy of this bylaw, together with the statement of cultural heritage value or interest and description of heritage attributes set out in Schedule "B" hereto annexed and forming part of this bylaw, to be registered against the property affected in the proper land registry office.

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 20th DAY OF MARCH 2024

James Seeley, Mayor

Justine Brotherston, Interim Municipal Clerk

Schedule "A"
To
By-law Number 027-2024

6990 Wellington Road 34,
Puslinch

PIN: 71200-0068

Legal Description: PT LOT 19, CONCESSION 3 , TOWNSHIP OF PUSLINCH, AS IN RO672272
; TOWNSHIP OF PUSLINCH

Schedule "B"
To
By-law Number 027-2024

6990 Wellington Road 34,
Puslinch

**STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST AND DESCRIPTION OF
HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES**

The property located at 6990 Wellington Road 34, the former "School Section 5", holds significant cultural heritage value in the educational history of Puslinch Township and the social history of the community known as "The Third". This value is retained in the extant one-room schoolhouse on the property. This building represents the efforts of the constituents of School Section 5 to provide public elementary education to the local community. The school was constructed using building plans published by the Ontario Department of Education in the mid-nineteenth century. The residents of School Section 5 fulfilled these plans in 1868 according to their own resources and preferences. The vernacular fieldstone schoolhouse building is modest with little ornamentation, and has been repurposed as a residence. The property served as an educational and social centre for families living in the Third Concession of the Township until 1965. Today this property is regarded as a landmark due to its place in the history of "The Third" area and its location on County Road 34. The property meets the requirements for designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario as it satisfies at least three of the nine criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest under Ontario Regulation 9/06 (as amended by O. Reg. 569/22) under the Ontario Heritage Act. The property is listed on the Township of Puslinch Municipal Heritage Register and has received a plaque from the Township's Heritage Committee for its cultural heritage value.

Design Value

The property features an 1868 vernacular fieldstone schoolhouse built using local resources following designs prepared by the Ontario Department of Education. The building form follows elements representative of mid-nineteenth century Ontario schoolhouse design: front gable roof, single-storey rectangular form, and large rectangular window fenestrations on the side walls. This early representative example of schoolhouse design in Puslinch Township features coursed fieldstone walls constructed of stones quarried and transported by families from neighbouring properties. The large rectangular windows, initially three along each side, have stone soldier lintels. A cinder or cement block washroom addition was added to the front of the structure in 1947, obscuring the date stone and the front facade that held the original entrance. The entrance to the building was relocated to the east facade when the building transitioned into a private residence and one of the windows was removed to create a new entranceway. The washroom addition was covered with painted wood siding and repurposed. The bell and belfry are original.

Historical/Associative Value

As Puslinch was settled, it was divided into twelve school sections (SS). The residents of each section built their own school, which not only represented and defined the geographic community but also became a venue for community activities. This schoolhouse represented School Section #5, in an area of the Township called "The Third." The property, situated on Part Lot 19, Front Concession 3, was owned by Alexander McKay, who donated the southeast corner of his farm for the school. A log school house initially occupied the site. In 1868, the current stone schoolhouse was erected to replace the log structure, and was often referred to as "McKay's school." This schoolhouse functioned as a central educational and community space for the area designated as "The Third" [Concession] of Puslinch Township from 1868-1965.

At that time, all twelve School Section students were consolidated at the new school, leading to the closure of this historic schoolhouse.

Contextual Value

The property is surrounded by several other heritage properties, collectively known as "The Third" in the Township. These residences, including those owned by Alexander McKay, John McCormick, Peter Stewart, Donald Cameron, among many others, were built by Scottish masons and these individuals and their properties played a significant role in shaping and establishing the western part of Puslinch. The schoolhouse's strong connection to its surroundings is rooted in the stone and timber from neighbouring properties that were used in its construction.

The property holds the status of a landmark due to its rich and complex history within the Township, and its role as the structure marking the community that formed the "Third." Over the years, it has served numerous generations and families, playing crucial roles in both educational, social and religious activities.

Description of Heritage Attributes

The following are to be considered as heritage attributes to be protected by a heritage designation by-law for 6990 Wellington RD 34:

- Height, scale and form of the extant schoolhouse structure
- Exterior coursed fieldstone walls and quoins
- Front gabled roof
- Stone soldier lintels and stone sills
- Belfry with bell
- Extant original window and door fenestration